



## SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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# Bulletin 404

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**SAXON BROOCH FROM MITCHAM CEMETERY**

Probably the most intriguing aspect of London's long history was the period that saw the demise of the Roman city and the advent of King Alfred's London. Between these markers in London's history, which span some 300 years, we see the arrival, ascendancy and subsequent dominance of Saxon migrants over the indigenous population of Romano-Celts. An important aspect of this event, the mechanics of which have yet to be fully understood and explained, was the replacement of the native language by Anglo-Saxon (Old English).

The authority of 'English' over the native tongue is most evident in the distribution of Saxon place-names across England, which predominate over names of Roman or Celtic origin. This is well evident in the London region, where few names reflect a Romano-Celtic past. Yet archaeology has shown the abundance of Roman settlement activity around London. On the Surrey side, settlement activity has been located at a number of places, such as Croydon, Merton, Carshalton, Beddington, Putney and Peckham. Most likely these settlements were recognised by their own particular name, along with others places that are suggested by the scatter of Roman pottery, coin and tile etc., found across this part of London.

Evidently the names of these pre-Saxon places did not survive the settlement of Germanic people. Even so, in their naming process these newcomers did record a Celtic presence in South London. But whether these native groups were long established communities, or had coalesced as a result of Saxon settlement is uncertain. Nevertheless, the Saxon's recognised these enclaves of non-English speaking people and used the word 'wahl' (foreigner) to describe them; a name which also holds a further meanings, that of 'slave' or 'serf', alluding to people of lesser status and probably referring to native Celts.

The paucity of pre-English place-names around London and elsewhere is of particular interest. If there had been a substantial Romano-Celtic population occupying our local countryside, as the archaeological evidence suggests, one would expect a greater occurrence of Celtic and Latin based place-names recorded and seen today. But this is not so. Instead, we observe only a scatter of names like *Walworth*, *Wallington* and *Walton* (on the Hill), English place-names reflecting some form of native settlement and descending to us as place-name anomalies. Furthermore, we have some evocative field-names. At Battersea there is the recording of a field called '*Little Walworth*' and an associated furlong known as '*Walworth*'. Similarly, at Kingston there was the furlong of *Walehull* and the field *Waleport*. Nonetheless, we do find some Celtic word use in places-names such as *Penge*, a detached part of Battersea parish, *Leatherhead* and probably in *Caterham* and *Chertsey*. In the names *Addiscombe* and *Croydon*, we find a Latin word element, anglicised during the place-naming process.

So what did occur during these times? Archaeology offers some tantalising clues along with the writings of Bede and Gildas. Evidently, we shall never know the true sequence of events that saw the replacement of a Romano-Celtic culture by one of Germanic origin, in what subsequently became England. It is thought, although debatable, that from about the late 4th century groups of Saxons were being settled in the London region by the late Roman authorities. These settlers, given farming land in return for military service, were placed at strategic points around the Roman City. Often termed *feodarati*, these people appeared to have been placed at Mitcham, Croydon, and Tulse Hill and probably at Clapham, areas that covered the main entry routes from Surrey into the hinterland of London. The settlement of these soldier-farmers by the late Roman authorities, acknowledged the importance of this part of old Surrey.

Whether these proto-Saxon settlements developed into named communities is

unknown. Possibly over time they may have merged with existing Roman-Celtic communities, or were acknowledged by name, which may have been Roman, Celtic or Germanic. Possibly some of these *feodarati* settlements were recognized at later date, when the main movement of Saxon people into north Surrey occurred. Indeed, if these *feodarati* communities were identifiable and named, it is probable that the incoming Saxons would have adopted their names during the settlement process.

Unlike the Romans, the native Celts may not have encompassed the culture of naming all their settlements, but as Saxon colonisation progressed, there would have been some natural recognition and retention of Roman and Celtic settlement names and places. Yet this has hardly happened. Unlike Roman Gaul, where many Roman estate names are to be found in the make up of French place-names, in England we are endowed with a body of Anglo-Saxon names. Why this should be the case is uncertain. Possibly the Saxons had entered an abandoned countryside, bereft of a population that could impart the names of places once familiar to all. What were the names for example of the villa complexes at Beddington, Titsey, Ashted or the Roman settlements at Merton, Putney, Croydon or Ewell and of the numerous other settlements occupying the Surrey landscape during the Roman period?

We would expect, as the range of Roman discoveries and finds indicate, the existence of a reasonably sized population, occupying in particular the sweep of fertile and productive land of the Wandle valley and associated countryside, and where people have appreciated the habitation value of this area since early times. However, how was it that an active Romano-Celtic countryside in Surrey, with its villas, estates and farmsteads, disappear into history and not leave some tradition of native place-names behind? Evidently there appears to have been little transmission of native place-names into the Anglo-Saxon vocabulary. Could it be that Saxons settlement was expedited and aided, not only by military and political fortune, but also by a lack or absence of a local population?

Although there were many factors at play during this transitional period, one speculation often treated lightly or dismissed, was the effect of plague upon the events moulding post Roman Britain. History records a plague sweeping across the late Roman world during the mid 5th century, reaching the shores of Britain at around 445 AD. A later pestilence, known as 'Justinian Plague', descended upon Europe during the 540s, and is thought to have entered the British Isles. A debilitated and much reduced population plus the apparent Saxon avoidance of towns and built environments - a possible indicator of pestilence - would have hindered the survival of native place-names and encourage the ascendancy of English. Maybe, those enclave of foreigners named by the Saxons colonists in Surrey, were the survivors of a plague-ravished landscape.

Yet, there is some evidence that suggests a strong Celtic survival in Surrey, with the high incidence of people recorded with the blood Group O, the oldest of the blood groups and associated with Celtic people. More evidence of a strong Celtic survival comes from recent DNA studies on the Y - chromosome, which shows the genetic stamp of the Celts upon much of the British Isles. This is reflected in the Atlantic Modal STR Haplotype (R1b3), showing the distribution of Celtic genes across the country and along the western coastline of Northern Europe. However, on a local level there is suggestive evidence from the Saxon cemetery at Mitcham, where a culture of mixed burials of Celtic and Saxon people seems to have occurred. Did the native population almost disappear, or were they simply assimilated into the steady flow of Saxon migration; promptly acquiring the mantle of Saxon culture? One can expect some form of settlement continuity occurring at a number of places, with Roman villa buildings no longer supportable but their agricultural estates being worked jointly and renamed as fresh communities grew. These would become new focal points bearing new names, with some no doubt reflective of past habitation.

Take for an example the old Surrey village of Streatham. Along with its southern neighbour Croydon, Streatham has yielded evidence of Roman activity. Both places are sited by Roman roads running south out of London and contain Latin word elements in their place-name make up. As places they have also produced evidence of early Saxon activity, possibly attributable to *feodarati* activity. Although much is known about Roman and Saxon Croydon, and indeed along the nearby Wandale valley, such knowledge regarding Streatham is sparse. To the north of Streatham however, on the border with Lambeth at Upper Tulse Hill, archaeological finds have shown a Roman presence – but of particular significance has been the unexpected discovery of some early Saxon activity.

The village of Streatham claims an ancient origin being mentioned in early Saxon charters. The place carries a straightforward name, describing its location - the settlement (*hām*) by the street (*stært*), with the latter deriving from the Latin word indicating a paved way. Streatham is one of a cluster of interesting place-names found close to Roman roads leading south out of London towards the Surrey Downs. The others of note being Clapham, Mitcham, Balham, Leigham (north Streatham), and further south Cheam, Caterham and Mickelham. A commonality among these names is the use of the suffix 'ham', a word considered to indicate the early phase of Saxon settlement – but also a word which raises caution, bearing in mind the similarity with 'hamm', a word alluding to watery places. Nevertheless, when 'ham' is combined with a prefix indicating the physical setting of the place, witnessed in the above names, their early origin is further shown.

Returning to Streatham was this particular place-name a new name, or had it rested in previous times, given to an earlier community of Saxons settled by the road during the late Roman period? Furthermore, the use of the word 'street' may have lain in an old Romano-Celtic name. Similar thoughts could be directed towards Croydon where 'crocus', a word of Latin origin, has become part of this town's name. Likewise Addiscombe, situated not far from Croydon and where the Latin for a field, 'campus', is imbedded in this particular name. As noted these places and most of the above-mentioned settlements are located close to or alongside Roman roads, mainly Stane Street and the London-Brighton Road. The survival of long stretches of these two old routes running south out of London, across the Lambeth plain towards the North Downs and the Surrey Weald into modern times, reflects their constant use from Roman times. This evidently shows their use during the period of Saxon settlement, with the likelihood of Saxons moving from the Thames into Surrey using these established routes. Indeed, one might ask – who was maintaining these roads for them to have survived, particularly Stane Street, during the post Roman period? What is more, had Romano-British society survived longer in this part of the county than traditionally thought.

Possibly some of the above mentioned settlements have their roots running deep into the Roman period, stemming from those settled communities established during the troubled decades of the fourth century. As we observe where Saxons people settled, Roman occupation is likely to be nearby, showing the Saxons had an appreciation of local land use but not, as it seems, of local place-names: their language dominated. As we appreciate, for some 350 years Roman rule prevailed over lowland Britain, yet the vernacular was to remain predominantly Celtic until the *Adventus Saxonum*. Then, in a relatively short time, the language had switched to English.

Was this a result of native people retreating westward as Saxon settlement unfolded, yielding the land to waves of English speaking people, aided by visitations of plague, which may have played a bigger role than history tells. On the other hand settlement could have been protracted, finding its roots with the deployment of Romano-Germanic troops in Britain during the late empire, thereby inducing a creeping influx of Saxon people, who through their numbers began setting the cultural and linguistic

pattern. Indeed, was there really an *Adventus Saxonum* as we accept? Furthermore, was Germanic culture latent across south east England, blossoming forth as Roman control and authority collapsed? Was English being spoken at a much earlier date across lowland Britain than is generally thought? May be after all, some of our Surrey place-names might have origins older than we think.

But there again, do we really understand the ebb and flow of events that have come to mark the arrival of the English, all those centuries ago. Our perceptions of this period are often murky, with conjecture, surmise and speculation often flowing in our thinking and interpretation. Such is our knowledge that new ideas and approaches are not amiss in understanding a time most appropriately called – the ‘Dark Ages’. One avenue of approach, which may answer the central questions about this period, is ancestral genetics or heritage DNA. With the advances in ancestral DNA studies, a clearer picture should emerge of the genetic make up of England. This would show whether the gene pool is predominately Celtic or Saxon, and would enlighten us to the true extent of Saxon immigration. I suspect the gene pool will be Celtic!

Perhaps, we may find some of the answers in those areas of Surrey blanketed by the bricks and mortar of suburban London, particularly along the ancient Wandle Valley. Here clues to the beginnings of Saxon Surrey may well await discovery, and possibly place our thinking on a different course.

## **SPRINGS AND THERAPEUTIC WATERS**

*Helen Chapman Davies*

Since Roman times people have frequented sources of therapeutic waters seeking cures or simply relief from illness and affliction, often following prescribed treatments. From the mid-16th century the town of Spa in Belgium, famous for its waters, gave its name to the ‘spa’ – a place to which people travelled to take the waters prescriptively, either by drinking or bathing or a combination of both. Those who could afford it travelled to Spa or to the numerous other establishments on the continent to ‘take the cure’. However from the early 17th century certain springs and wells in Britain were being praised as offering equally effective qualities, giving rise to a multitude of natural spa resorts large and small, fashionable or local in nature.

Although cures were claimed for a wide variety of illnesses and afflictions, chalybeate waters (waters impregnated with iron salts) have been found to alleviate one particular ailment, *Colica pictonum*, brought about by lead poisoning from the use of lead water pipes, eating utensils, pewter ware, lead-glazed earthenware, food colorants, wine additives, cosmetics and household items. This severe, then undiagnosed, condition was widespread from the Roman period and throughout later centuries. Fortified wines in the 18th and 19th centuries were heavily contaminated with lead which had a toxic effect on the kidneys, leading to the retention of uric acid, causing gout and other associated ailments. Eating quantities of meat, the principal source of uric acid, increased the severity of the problem. The waters of Bath gained a reputation for relieving the ailment, as did the numerous other spas. The ‘cure’ centred on prolonged periods of submersion in the water and/or drinking vast quantities of the waters to purge the body of its affliction. The purging effect worked rather rapidly, so much so that a graphic description of the situation at Epsom tells of ladies and gentlemen disappearing quickly in opposite directions to relieve themselves behind the cover offered by the bushes and shrubberies surrounding the well. There were no sanitary facilities and with this activity taking place throughout the summer months, the countryside must have taken on a more than indelicate odour! At Scarborough the ladies retired to an upstairs room to await the purging effects, then into an adjacent communal lavatory with rows of holes, using leaves left in a heap at the door in a similar manner to that of toilet paper today.

In addition to the popular and fashionable spa establishments, there existed many



*Beulah Spa in 1830.*

local springs known for their medicinal value. A paper published by William Whitaker in 1912 in the 'Memoirs of the Geological Survey' discusses some of the springs and wells in the historic county of Surrey. A spring at Cobham was described as 'a strong chalybeate'. The Beulah Spa spring in Upper Norwood, a saline spring, is said to have been located in the grounds of 'The Lawns' between Leatherbottle Lane and Sylvan Road. A spring is mentioned at Biggin Hill, 'from which water gushed up at the rate of seven gallons per minute'. East Molesey had a spring reputed to have been in Spa Meadow, a field between the Mole and the Ember where Esher Road crosses the two bridges'. At East Sheen there was a well in the north-west corner of Palewell Common adjoining Palewell Park, the water from which was used 'for bathing the eyes and for the legs'. A chalybeate spring is mentioned at Frensham on Holt Common. Godstone had a well described as 'very efficacious in curing the Gout', described as being three miles below the village by the roadside near the foot of Tilbarstow Hill. At Newdigate 'in the eastern part of the Parish is a medicinal spring' which was deemed to be similar in properties to that of Epsom. At Witley 'in a field called Bonfield is a well which cures sore eyes and ulcers'.

An article of 1751 gives an *Extract of the Rev. Dr St Hale's account of the purging water of Jessop's well*. The well was described as being 'on Stoke common in Mr Vincent's manor, about three miles south of Claremont, Surrey'. The 'mineral virtue' of the water was deemed to be very similar to that of Cheltenham in Gloucestershire and would appear to have been a chalybeate spring with extremely strong purging qualities. It was said that when the well was cleaned on 16th October 1749, 'the man who stood about three hours bare-legged in the water to clean it, was purged so severely for a week, that he said he would not venture on any account to do it again. And it was the same with another man, who cleaned the same well about twelve years since'. It seems that Dr Adee of Guildford had long prescribed the waters, saying that 'some who drank them steadily and cautiously, had been cured of obstinate scurvies ... that when he had ordered them as a purge, they worked smartly, but without dispiriting; and he is satisfied, that if continued a proper time, and taken in a proper manner, they may be rendered very beneficial to mankind'. The thought rather makes one shudder!

A well mentioned in 1799, 'two mile beyond Godstone, on the road to East Grinstead,

near the south side of Tilbutter hill'. It seems that some fifty years earlier, 'a water was accidentally discovered at this place, which was found to be of sovereign use in the care of the gout'. A well was sunk by Mr Bonwick to use the water to brew beer at a small cottage that served as an alehouse. He suffered from gout and found that 'after using the water for some time, he lost his gout'. He also lost his customers unfortunately who, without knowing why, did not like the taste or effect of the beer he brewed from the water! However people were curious to learn about the cure for Mr Bonwick's gout and for a while sales of the water flourished. Interest eventually waned, to be revived a few years later when a local farmer, suffering from attacks of gout, was allowed to reopen the well and after drinking the water for twelve months, declared himself cured.

A 'medicinal well at Kingston' was noted in 1822. The source is described as 'At Coomb Farm, contiguous to the Earl of Liverpool's residence, and in the neighbourhood of Kingston, there is a well of water which possesses the most surprising qualities as a remedy against the distressing and severe malady, the stone in the bladder. Its virtues unfortunately are little more than locally known, but the astonishing cure which it has effected in the case of Mr Samuel Jackson ... merits that its restorative and sanative powers should be more universally diffused'. The water was said to be completely sediment-free and 'beautifully refined'.

In time the health properties of sea bathing and sea air became popular, with coastal resorts springing up. Medical knowledge and medicines were improving. Spending weeks at the spa went into serious decline from the early 20th century, and local medicinal wells and springs were forgotten. On the continent however 'taking the waters' is still extremely popular and has never ceased to be an important prescribed cure. Nevertheless, the spa heritage has been resurrected lately in luxury refurbished mode in Droitwich, Royal Leamington Spa and Bath. Fitness establishments have become popular offering their own interpretation of 'spa treatments', while health and beauty shops sell 'home spa treatments'. It has all come a long way from the local medicinal well and sources of therapeutic waters around which grew the popular spa establishments.

## References

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- Whitaker, William, BA FRS. *The Water Supply of Surrey, from Underground Sources, with records of Sinkings and Borings*. 1912. Memoirs of the Geological Survey, England and Wales.

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## COUNCIL NEWS

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### SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that a Special General Meeting of the Surrey Archaeological Society will be held prior to the Annual General Meeting of the Society at 2.30pm on Sunday 25th November 2007 at The Guildhall, High Street, Guildford, Surrey.

### Agenda for the Special General Meeting

To determine, in accordance with Article 9 of the Articles of Association, that the entrance fee charged to new members on joining the Society in accordance with Article 8 shall be reduced from £1 (one pound) to £0 (zero).

There are no other items.

**P E Youngs, Honorary Secretary**

## **REQUESTS TO THE SOCIETY**

Calling all willing Society members.

Are you thinking of making your will or, if you have already done so, are you perhaps about to change it? In either case, might you consider including a bequest to the Society?

In the past the Society's income has broadly matched its expenditure but in the future costs will increase, not least because we are going to have to pay substantially more for our accommodation. Expenditure generally will be reviewed critically but we need to look also for other sources of income. The value of legacies is that, by their nature, they provide additional income in future years that could help ensure that the Society's core archaeological and historical activities are not adversely affected by financial constraints.

Bequests may be for the Society's work generally or, if you so wish, be identified for a particular purpose, such as a contribution to the Fund set up in the Society's 150th Anniversary Year for the benefit of the Library. The Society is, of course, a charity and bequests to charities may have a beneficial effect on an estate if it is liable to inheritance tax.

Can I ask, please, on behalf of Council, that you do remember the Society in your will? If you are thinking of making or changing a will you are strongly advised to take legal advice.

*Peter Youngs*

## **RETIREMENT OF THE SOCIETY'S ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN SHEILA ASHCROFT**

Sheila Ashcroft was appointed Assistant Librarian in 1995. Brought up in Hull, Sheila gained professional qualifications at the prestigious College of Librarianship at Aberystwyth and worked in medical libraries and Christian bookshops. Sheila brought to her job with the Society a professional expertise and a cheerful and welcoming approach to all the readers at Castle Arch. As assistant to Gill Drew, the Honorary Librarian, she has initiated the computerisation of the library's card catalogue, now nearing completion, and its availability on the web. She has coped unflinchingly with the problems of accommodation which have seen some of the library's stock move from the Guildford Institute to Cranleigh, and back again to Castle Arch. She has also arranged exhibitions of library material at meetings organised by the Society as well as on Heritage Open Days and for the last ten years trawled a variety of general and specialist periodicals to discover and list in the Collections articles on Surrey matters which might otherwise have been undiscovered. Since Gill retired she has done sterling work in keeping the library up and running for two years with no Honorary Librarian. I have been a cataloguer in the library and a member of the Library Committee over most of her time as Assistant Librarian, and lately acting Chairman of the Committee, and, I am sure that, with all other helpers, committee members and users, we will now greatly miss her patience, good humour and hard work in often difficult circumstances. We wish her and her husband, Norman, a long, happy and fulfilling retirement.

*Richard Christophers*

## **SHEILA ROBERTS**

As some members may know, Sheila, our librarian for the past twelve years, has decided to retire. Those who use the library will remember her approachability, willingness to help and wide knowledge. Though I have known her only a short time I have realised how efficiently she has run the library and how much she has contributed to the library service over the years. She will be much missed.

Sheila has kindly agreed to work at reduced hours to help things going while we

appoint her replacement. During this time, and while the new librarian is finding his or her feet, it is essential that anyone wanting to consult research material, or requiring any help using the library, should make an appointment.

**Rosemary Hughesdon, Honorary Librarian**

## **CHANGE OF HOURS**

Further to the above, I should let members know that from 1st November I will no longer be working on Friday mornings. Members will, of course, still be able to use the Library for study and the return and issue of books, but research material will not be available and there will be no-one in the office to answer enquiries. My revised hours will be Tuesdays 9.30–4 and Thursdays 9.30–12 noon. My apologies for any inconvenience, but it will hopefully be short-lived with a new librarian in place.

**Maureen Roberts**

## **NEWS FROM THE TOOLS**

As a result of the flooding of the dig at Waynelete Tower last month we have bought an electric submersible dirty water pump with a 15m-long, flexible outlet hose. It is now available for loan to SyAS-accredited projects. It does, however, need a 230/240v 50Hz power supply of at least 6 amps.

If any member has, or knows of, the existence of a suitable portable electric generator 'going spare' please contact myself (01483 283885) or Pauline Hulse (01483 282917).

We have also added twelve stackable, plastic bakery trays suitable for carrying and drying finds.

**Geoff Stonehouse**

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## **EDITOR'S NOTE**

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*I apologise for the delay in getting Bulletin 404 to you, but I was asked to move the copy date to flag up the AGM at an appropriate time. Please note that the copy date for Bulletin 405 has been moved to 16th November, which will ensure delivery to you round about 12th December.*

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## **MEDIEVAL STUDIES FORUM AND VILLAGE STUDIES GROUP**

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### **JOINT MEETING**

The Medieval Studies Forum was launched at a joint meeting with the Villages Study Group on 9th June. The Forum heard first from Alistair Douglas of PreConstruct Archaeology, who gave a most interesting presentation on the recent excavations at Bermondsey Abbey. Among the points he made was that the limited 'key-hole' excavations initially thought most appropriate for this PPG16 developer-funded excavation had proved to be problematic and consent had then been obtained for an area excavation, which had been much more helpful in elucidating the development of the site over the centuries. The area excavation had also been more useful in helping the archaeologists and developer to redesign the pile foundations to avoid most of the surviving masonry remains. Study was continuing on certain carved stones found reused in the later walls. Unfortunately our second speaker, Dr Susan Kelly, had been taken ill on the previous day and it is hoped she may give her presentation on the Anglo-Saxon Charters of Chertsey Abbey to the Forum next

Spring. During the discussion on ways forward for the Forum, Mary Alexander outlined a project on medieval tiles where help would be welcomed.

The meeting under the Villages Study Group banner commenced with a talk by Richard Savage describing some of the conclusions drawn from the first five years of the Whittlewood project in the Midlands (as set out in "Medieval Villages in an English Landscape: Beginnings and Ends", by Richard Jones and Mark Page, published by Windgather Press, 2006). Although in the so-called 'Central Province' the parishes forming the study area consist not so much of the central Midland plain but of rolling hills, which are well wooded and in some respects similar to Surrey. A fuller report of these conclusions has been given in the second Medieval Studies Forum newsletter issued in August. The discussion of the presentation re-emphasised the large size of the teams and university-led structure of the cross-disciplinary Whittlewood studies and highlighted that our Village Studies here in Surrey are accordingly narrowly focussed on individual villages and not on parishes or larger landscape units.

After lunch, David Graham thanked Dennis Turner for all his efforts as Chairman of the Villages Study Group for so many years, including his work on the publication of many of the studies. Peter Gwynne then spoke on "Horley: Drove Roads and Hedgelines" illustrating the ladder-like north-south structure of the field systems and farms in this area. In the Village Studies round-up section of the day, Peter Hopkins gave an update on his continuing work into the documents illustrating the development of part of Morden, Ann Noyes and John Whitaker spoke on the work at Gomshall, and David Taylor on the work at Cobham. It is hoped that either later in 2007, or more probably now in 2008, the Society will be able to excavate on one or more medieval sites in Cobham Park.

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## ROMAN STUDIES GROUP

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### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Group members are reminded that the AGM will be held on Tuesday 9 October 2007 at soon after 7.30pm at the Dorking Christian Centre. The AGM will be followed by a talk to be given by Harvey Sheldon completing his account of Roman Southwark, as noted in the previous Bulletin.

### WINTER PROGRAMME OF TALKS

*\*Tuesdays 7.30 for 7.45 pm*

*Dorking Christian Centre*

- 13th November **The Romano-British Pottery of Hampshire** *Jonathan Dicks*  
4th December **Hampshire Hillforts; Current Thoughts** *David Allen*  
15th January **The Roadside Settlement at Neatham and the Wyck Roman Villa** *David Graham*
- 14th February **From Dining Rooms to Churches; the Ritual Use of Domestic Space in Roman Britain** *Dominic Perring*
- 11th March A report back session from the sub-groups about progress so far on projects concerned with **Roads, Ewell, Villas and Iron Age Settlement**

Doors open at 7.30pm at the Dorking Christian Centre, and the talks will start at around 7.45pm.

\*Please note that the talk on 14th February is on a Thursday and not a Tuesday like the others. This talk will be the annual 'special' lecture and a bigger room will be booked; please encourage attendance by as many people as possible.

*David Bird*

## PEOPLE, PLACES, LANDSCAPE

### REBUILDING STONEHENGE IN SURREY

*Abby Guinness*

Early on September 8th Julian Richards arrived at the Surrey History Centre in his Land Rover bursting at the seams with all the essentials needed to rebuild Stonehenge: long lengths of wood, mountains of cardboard in all shapes and sizes, wooden stakes, reams of wallpaper, paste brushes, several pre-prepared bluestones and a sun!

Julian ran three workshops over the course of the day and each group had enough time to complete one section of one trilithon – two large stones and the lintel across the top. This might not sound like much in a day, but they were half the actual size of Stonehenge, each part of the trilithon measuring over 2m in length. It gave an insight into the actual effort required to construct the real thing all those years ago.

So how did we rebuild Stonehenge? The trilithon frames arrived in flat pack form and were quickly assembled prior to each workshop. After a brief introduction to Stonehenge, the first task for each workshop was to cover the frame entirely in very large sheets of cardboard. Once this tricky task had been completed and the frame was deemed sturdy enough, the fun and very messy part could begin. The trilithon

had to be dressed to look like a stone using texture wallpaper stuck on with lots and lots of wallpaper paste.

Once the stone was completely covered, Julian chatted to each group about the significance of Stonehenge and what it might have been used for. Each group was then able to decorate the stone with symbols.

Each workshop tackled their stone differently. The first group produced a very smooth stone. The second group attached lumps and bumps, which secretly caused Julian to panic as he thought even the wallpaper paste would have a job to stick to that amount of parcel tape. It all worked well, and Julian was able to tell them that on the real thing, the trilithons have one well-made stone and





one rougher stone in each set, so by accident they had been historically accurate.

Although the final group of the day worked on constructing the smaller lintel, they had a real treat, as they had to get the lintel up on to the other two larger stones. To help with this Julian had some custom-made 'Lintel Lifters', wooden props to help hoist the stone up and onto the stones. They worked a treat, and the completed trilithon got a huge round of applause.

It was just very sad that after all that hard work, half an hour after the last workshop of the day had finished, Surrey Heritage staff had to help Julian 'de-build' Stonehenge, so he could flat-pack it back into his Land Rover for the drive home.

## **HERITAGE OPEN DAY**

*Abby Guinness*

For Heritage Open Day this year, the Surrey History Centre opened its doors with a special exhibition showcasing the hidden treasures of Surrey's archives. On display was a rich selection of manuscripts, parchment maps, rare printed books and early illustrations, bringing the county's history to life. This was a rare opportunity to see so many special documents and over 250 visitors came to the centre during the day. Whilst at the centre, visitors had the opportunity to try out 'Exploring Surrey's Past' with the project's Officer Giles Carey, and to browse through the local history book sale.

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## **GUILDFORD MUSEUM**

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### **DEVELOPMENTS AT GUILDFORD MUSEUM**

*Mary Alexander*

Members may know that Guildford Museum is hoping to expand on the site at Castle Arch with the help of a Heritage Lottery Fund grant, to provide more space for the Museum and the Society. This is a long process, and in the meantime Jill Draper, the Museum Manager, has re-vamped the main gallery to provide an area for temporary exhibitions, so there will be a continuous programme of changing displays. Some of these will be from the Museum's and the Society's collections, some will be brought in from outside.

The archaeology displays of prehistory and the Romans are being moved to the old Guildford Muniment Room (to the left of the entrance). The Saxon and medieval displays remain in the main gallery, though there is less space for the medieval section, which will be re-done in due course. This is a good opportunity to bring the prehistory up to date, and although there will be less space, it will be much easier to add new items as they are acquired. Obviously, we hope that this arrangement is temporary until we can extend into the garden.

If anyone misses the old figures (the Palaeolithic woman, the potter, the bronze-smith) they can see them at Bagshot, at the Surrey Heath Trust's premises.

The new displays should be ready by early November.

## **ANCIENT GODS:**

### **PREHISTORIC AND ROMAN RELIGION IN SURREY**

*22nd September 2007–6th January 2008*

*Monday–Saturday 11am–5pm*

The main gallery at Guildford Museum has been turned into a temporary exhibition area. The first exhibition was on Guildford in the 1950s, and the current display is about prehistoric and Roman religion in Surrey. The subject was chosen because there has been a lot of excavation of religious sites in Surrey in the last twenty-odd years, producing some important information. Many of these sites such as Wanborough, Farley Heath, Frensham and Betchworth are of national importance, so it seemed a good time to bring the information together in a museum display.

The exhibition looks at what religion was in the prehistoric and Roman periods. Ideas have changed about what we can know about prehistoric religion, and archaeologists are looking at objects and structures in a wider context to try to understand what they meant to the people of the time. There are a few main themes: building large ceremonial monuments, offerings in the earth and offerings in water. Some objects are being displayed for the first time, such as the Grooved Ware from Betchworth – the largest group of this pottery from the south-east - and an interesting group of a human skull, a horse's scapula and a red deer antler from the river Wey at Guildford. This is not dated, but it is typical of Neolithic finds from rivers such as the Thames.

The Roman material is easier to illustrate as we know much more about Roman religion, but again, the material has not been shown together in this way before. Some of the finds from Rob Poulton's investigations at Farley Heath are on display for the first time, along with items from the 1840s 'dig'. The best finds from Martin Tupper's investigations are in the British Museum and could not be lent, unfortunately. There are finds from both Wanborough excavations, and other religious items from villas or stray finds, illustrating the gods which were worshipped, how religion was a part of daily life, the many shrines without buildings and the three temples known in Surrey.

Many of the finds are from the Society's collections, which are housed in Guildford Museum. The display encourages visitors to think about religious behaviour in the past, and the echoes that it has with us today.

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## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE**

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### **ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM**

**Saturday 23rd February 2008, 10 am–5pm**

***Ashted Peace Memorial Hall, Woodfield Lane, Ashted***

The programme will include a presentation by Dr Mike Allen of Sussex University on

the prehistoric creation of the downlands, reports on some excavations in the county, including those at Waynelete Tower and the Roman sites at Ashtead and Hatch Furlong, talks on some landscape survey projects, as well as presentations by SCAU and the Finds Liaison Officer.

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: paulinehulse@g1mra.freeserve.co.uk, 01483 282917

Tickets: £8 in advance to members of SyAS, £10 to non-members and on the door. Full details and a booking form will be included in the January Bulletin.

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## **LIBRARY NEWS**

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### **LIBRARY SALE**

Agreement has been obtained to dispose of a number of items from the Library. These range from unwanted Patent Rolls to runs of discontinued journals. Any member interested in purchasing any of these volumes may contact the Assistant Librarian at Castle Arch for a list.

*Rosemary Hughesdon*

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## **MISCELLANY**

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### **ROMAN BATH HOUSE FOR SALE: YOURS FOR £300**

In the beautiful East Sussex town of Battle, site of the Battle of Hastings, a Roman bath house has been placed on the market with a guide price of £300. Described by the estate agent as 'one of the best-preserved small Roman buildings in Britain', the first-century AD baths were excavated in 1970 by Gerald Brodrigg, an amateur archaeologist, who found evidence for two steam rooms, three plunge pools and two changing rooms with lockers, as well as painted plaster walls. Paul Roberts, Ancient Monuments Inspector at English Heritage, said: 'the level of preservation in the baths is particularly high; they were buried by a landslide so, although the building is ruinous, we have all the material in pieces.'

The 3-acre setting of the baths includes the site of a Romano-British bloomery, described by the estate agents as 'one of the largest ironworks in the Roman Empire'. The whole site is a scheduled monument, so the owner's development options will be limited. Employing that extraordinarily pompous language that estate agents feel compelled to use in drawing up sales particulars, Freeman Forman ([www.freemanforman.co.uk/properties-sales-ffmrps-BAE70170-1189778591](http://www.freemanforman.co.uk/properties-sales-ffmrps-BAE70170-1189778591)) says that: 'It would be feasible for the status quo to be maintained which would merely require keeping the vegetation in check in the immediate vicinity of the Bath House, and occasional reports to English Heritage regarding the condition of the covering structure. However a discerning purchaser may wish (subject to planning permission) to construct some form of open covering in order to display the Bath House for their own satisfaction and interest, but with some limited access for interest groups. Alternatively a new owner may wish to see an educational/archaeological opportunity in building a permanent, bespoke open or enclosed cover for the Bath House (subject to planning and enabling public access thereby creating what would in effect be an independent Roman archaeological visitors' centre on the site.'

### **THE NIGHTHAWKING SURVEY**

A partnership of leading Heritage organisations are conducting The Nighthawking

Survey, a major investigation into the problem of nighthawking – the illegal search for and removal of antiquities from the ground using metal detectors, without the permission of the landowners.

Not only does nighthawking damage archaeological and historical sites, it can cause great distress and disruption to farmers and landowners, and it blackens the reputation of law-abiding metal detectorists, who contribute much to the understanding of our past.

The practice of nighthawking has been around for more than three decades, and there is plenty of anecdotal information about it, but attempts to stop it have been hampered by a lack of information on the extent of the problem. How widespread a problem is it? Where does it occur? How often does it occur? How many people are involved? What happens to the stolen material?

The survey covers the United Kingdom, Northern Ireland and the Crown Dependencies of the Isle of Man, Guernsey and Jersey and is being undertaken by Oxford Archaeology. The project is funded by English Heritage, Historic Scotland, Cadw, The National Museum of Wales and the Portable Antiquities Scheme, with support from Guernsey Museums, Jersey Heritage Trust, Manx National Heritage, National Museum of Scotland and Northern Ireland (Environment and Heritage Service).

The centrepiece of this survey is an online questionnaire, open now and open until the end of 2007, aimed at members of the public, metal detectorists, archaeologists, landowners, antiquities dealers – anybody who may have information on nighthawking. The questionnaire will be backed up by voluntary personal interviews, and a review of the current legislation and its effectiveness. The aim of the survey is to provide information that will help the political and law enforcement agencies to devise ways to combat nighthawking and help preserve our heritage. The questionnaire is available at: [www.nighthawking.thehumanjourney.net](http://www.nighthawking.thehumanjourney.net)

The questionnaire will remain open until the end of 2007. For further information enquiries should be directed to: [nighthawking@oxfordarch.co.uk](mailto:nighthawking@oxfordarch.co.uk)

## **PUBLIC SEMINARS ON THE ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORY OF THE SOUTH-EAST**

***Saturdays in Autumn 2007  
Institute of Archaeology***

The South East Regional Framework (SERF) project is a forum for re-examining the historic environment of Surrey, Kent, East Sussex and West Sussex, providing an opportunity for us all to take stock of what we currently know (and don't know!) about our Region's past. We can then begin to identify priorities for future research and plan how resources might best be allocated.

A series of day-long seminars, open to all, will be held on Saturdays in Autumn 2007 at the Institute of Archaeology, 31–34 Gordon Square, London. Each day will include speakers on various subjects as well as plenty of time for questions and discussion. There will be no fee for attending, and tea and coffee will be available.

|               |                                      |
|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| 13th October  | Palaeolithic & Mesolithic            |
| 20th October  | Middle Bronze Age and Iron Age       |
| 27th October  | Roman                                |
| 3rd November  | Saxon and Medieval                   |
| 17th November | Defence and Maritime                 |
| 1st December  | Post-medieval, Modern and Industrial |
| 8th December  | Neolithic and Early Bronze Age       |
| 15th December | Environmental Archaeology            |

The SERF project web pages at [www.kent.gov.uk/serf](http://www.kent.gov.uk/serf), provide further details of the seminars and indeed the project as a whole. If you would like to attend any of the meetings please advise Dr J Weekes, the Project Co-ordinator, by e-mail at [serf@kent.gov.uk](mailto:serf@kent.gov.uk) or phone 01622 2211367 or write to him at Kent County Council, Heritage, Conservation & Waste, Invicta House, Maidstone ME14 1XX.

## **TELEGRAPH HILL, CLAYGATE**

*Rose Hooker*

Telegraph Hill, Claygate (TQ 158 647) is an area of open and wooded land surrounded by urbanization, largely owned by Elmbridge Borough Council. Semaphore House (SMR 275) was built by the Admiralty in 1822 as a signal station on the hill and is now in private hands. There are visible earthworks in Hinchley Wood on the hill, which has been designated as an Area of High Archaeological Potential in the Sites and Monuments Records. A team of volunteers from KUTAS, Unisearch and Surrey Archaeological Society have been working on an analytical survey of this area.

Consequently much of the land on Telegraph Hill, which is owned and managed by Elmbridge Borough Council, has now been surveyed. The plans appear to confirm the survival of field boundaries and possible traces of the old track across the hill as shown by Rocque. The final season of survey work will recommence on September 30th when it is planned to complete the work on the large earthworks of the northern scarp slope.

Anyone interested in joining the survey team should ring Chris and Gay Harris on 0208 390 1000 for further information.

## **FOCUS ON DOWNLAND**

### ***CROYDON NATURAL HISTORY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY***

***Saturday 24th November at 2.30 pm***

An afternoon meeting, including tea, to be held at East Croydon United Reformed Church in Addiscombe Grove, almost opposite East Croydon Station.

**The Archaeology of Downland** *Peter Harp, Surrey Archaeological Society*

**The Natural History of the Downland** especially on rescuing it from the brink, at Dollypers Hill Nature Reserve in Croydon *Malcolm Jennings, Surrey Wildlife Trust*

All welcome, admission free.

## **SOUTH EAST HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT FORUM**

The South East Historic Environment Forum is hosting a networking event, to include the launch of Heritage Counts South East 2007 and discussion of the White Paper Heritage Protection for the 21st Century, at the newly restored Shaw House, Newbury, Berkshire from 12.30 pm on Thursday 1st November 2007.

Anyone engaged in heritage in the South East region and nearby is invited.

For all enquiries about this event contact Lyndsay Riddell, English Heritage Policy Officer for the South East. [Lyndsay.Riddell@english-heritage.org.uk](mailto:Lyndsay.Riddell@english-heritage.org.uk) Tel: 01483 252055.

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## **PUBLICATIONS**

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### **“Five Farnham Houses. The story of their Land, Buildings and People”**

by **Pat Heather** Farnham and District Museum Society, Occasional Publication, 2007. £7.95 from the Museum of Farnham, or by post from Peter Minett on 01252 721576 (please add £1 for p&p).

This is the second of a series of studies whose publication was made possible by funding provided from a bequest to the Farnham and District Museum Society by the late Miss Leni Grosset. She wished the Society to use the legacy to develop its aim of publishing works exploring aspects of the history of the Farnham district.

In an age when an interest in one's ancestors, together with a wish to find out more of the background of one's house and the land on which it stands, is becoming a national hobby, this book reveals what can be achieved in these disciplines with dedication and hard work.

The first thing to strike the reader of this book is the time frames of the properties concerned. The oldest dating from the twelfth century and with none being younger than the sixteenth, these are houses with a history. Their development is followed from small beginnings to, if not magnificence, houses of some stature.

Considerable detailed research has gone into the examination of each property and the changes that have occurred over the centuries have been examined and explained and the effects on the properties of the families of the various owners have been detailed with the findings presented in an attractive, but more importantly, very readable form. The book shows that houses and the people who live in them are inextricably linked, the development of the one being dependent on the wealth and vision, or the lack of them, of the other, and of course with the fashion demands of a particular age. The people linked with these houses have ranged from maltsters, ministers, engineers, a corset maker, through to a goldsmith, an inventor, even an ambassador, with many others, the list seems never ending. Each will, in their own small way, have had some influence over making the house in which they lived what it is today.

Two small points, a historical researcher becomes so used to using certain words that it is possible to forget that others may not be quite so familiar with them; a larger glossary would certainly help the non-historian. There are fifty-eight illustrations, generally of a very good and useful standard, though one or two would benefit from a few extra words of clarification.

I enjoyed reading this book and recommend it to all those who love Farnham. It is not only a history of houses with whose location and external features we are familiar and can associate but reveals much of the development of the town and district.

It is certainly good value for money and Pat Heather is to be congratulated.

**Mike Green**

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## CONFERENCE

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### **ARCHAEOLOGY 2008**

*The best of archaeology at home and abroad*  
**9th–10th February 2008**

**Archaeology 2008** will be held at the British Museum on the weekend of February 9th and 10th 2008 in the BP and Stevenson lecture theatres. The conference will showcase the year's best British archaeology as well as sessions on selected world archaeological projects. Organised by *Current Archaeology* and co-hosted by the British Museums' Department of Portable Antiquities and Treasure (Portable Antiquities Scheme), this will be the first of what will become the biggest annual conference in British archaeology, involving professionals, academics, amateurs, the general public and subscribers to *Current Archaeology*. Top archaeologists will present all the latest discoveries and new theories, and will reflect the full range of cutting-edge research.

## LECTURE MEETINGS

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### 1st November

Coverdale Lecture. "Tree-ring Dating Ancient Buildings in Farnham" by Rod Wild to the Farnham & District Museum Society in the hall of the United Reformed Church, South Street, Farnham at 7.30 for 7.45 pm.

### 1st November

"Roman Gardens" by Sheelah Davison to the Spelthorne Archaeological Field Group at Staines Methodist Church, Thames Street, Staines, and commence at 8pm. Members of the public are welcome, admission £1.

### 3rd November

"Merton Priory" by David Saxby to the Carshalton & District History & Archaeology Society in Milton Hall, Cooper Crescent, Nightingale Road, Carshalton at 3pm.

### 5th November

"The origins of festive food" by Anne Jones to Woking History Society in Mayford Village Hall at 7.45 for 8 pm. Visitors welcome £2.

### 6th November

"The Golden Age of English Clockmaking" by David Thompson, Curator of Horology at the British Museum to the Surrey Industrial History Group in Lecture Theatre F, University of Surrey, Guildford, 7.30–9.30 pm. Admission £5. Enquiries to Bob Bryson, 01483 302389.

### 6th November

"Timber Framed Buildings in Surrey" by Martin Higgins to Addlestone Historical Society at Addlestone Community Centre at 8 pm. Visitors welcome £2.

### 7th November

"Iron Age and Roman Settlement in Ewell and Stane Street Roman Road" by Frank Pemberton and Alan Hall to the Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeological Society at St. Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell, at 7.45 for 8pm.

### 8th November

"Reconstruction of Butser Round House" by Steve Dyer to Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society in the Upper Hall, United Reformed Church at the corner of Union Street and Eden Street, Kingston at 7.30 for 8 pm. Visitors welcome £1.50.

### 9th November

"Excavations at St Martins in the Fields" by Alison Telser to Richmond Archaeological Society at the Vestry Hall, Paradise Road, Richmond at 8 pm. Visitors welcome by donation.

### 10th November

"Old Shepperton in Photographs" by Nick Pollard to Walton and Weybridge Local History Society at Weybridge Library Lecture Hall at 3pm.

### 10th November

"John Hassell (1767–1825) and his son Edward Hassell (1811–1852), Early Recorders of Surrey Buildings", to the Domestic Buildings Research Group, at the Main Hall, Shalford Village Halls, Kings Road, Shalford at 2 for 2.30pm.

### 12th November

"Recent archaeological investigations in south-west Surrey" by David Graham to Guildford Archaeological and Local History Group in the Jubilee Room, United Reformed Church, Guildford at 7.30 pm. Visitors welcome £2.

**12th November**

"Tea on the dot of four: Richmond in the 20s and 30s" by Bryan Govett to the Richmond Local History Society at the Old Town Hall, Whittaker Avenue, Richmond at 7.30 for 8 pm. Part of the 'Book Now' festival - tickets required. Further information from Hon Sec Elizabeth Velluet, Tel: 020 8891 3825 or [www.richmondhistory.org.uk](http://www.richmondhistory.org.uk)

**13th November**

"Recent excavations at Bermondsey Abbey" by Alastair Douglas to Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society at The Housing Co-op Hall, 106 The Cut (almost opposite the Old Vic Theatre) at 7.30 pm. Visitors welcome £1.

**13th November**

"The Holly and The Ivy" by Chris Howkins to Westcott Local History Group in the Meeting Room, Institute Road, Westcott at 8 pm.

**16th November**

"The Lushingtons of Cobham" by David Taylor to the Leatherhead & District Local History Society in the Dixon Hall of Letherhead Institute at 7.30 for 8 pm. Members £1, non-members welcome £2.

**20th November**

"Old Malden" by Barbara Webb to the Friends of Kingston Museum and Heritage Service at 7 for 7.30 pm in Kingston Museum Art Gallery, Wheatfield Way, Kingston. A voluntary donation of £1.50 to cover expenses is suggested.

**20th November**

"Loyal servants of the East India Company" by Janet Bateson to the Surrey Industrial History Group in Lecture Theatre F, University of Surrey, Guildford, 7.30-9.30 pm. Admission £5. Enquiries to Bob Bryson, 01483 302389.

**20th November**

"Excavations at the shrunken medieval village of West Halton, Lincolnshire" by Dr Dawn Hadley. Seminar organized jointly by the Institute of Archaeology and British Museum, in Room 412 at the Institute of Archaeology, London at 5.30 pm. All welcome.

**21st November**

"An Estate for All Seasons" by David Taylor to Send and Ripley History Society at Ripley Village Hall at 8 pm. Visitors welcome £1.

**29th November**

"Surrey Privies" by John Janaway to the Farnham & District Museum Society in the hall of the United Reformed Church, South Street.

**29th November**

"Frost Fairs & Historic Winters" by Ian Currie to Egham-by-Runnymede Historical Society in the main hall of the Literary Institute, High Street, Egham at 8 pm. Visitors welcome £1.

**1st December**

"The Portable Antiquities Scheme in Surrey" to the Carshalton & District History & Archaeology Society in Milton Hall, Cooper Crescent, Nightingale Road, Carshalton at 3pm.

**1st December**

"The History of the English Seaside" by Hester Davenport to the Walton and Weybridge Local History Society at Weybridge Library Lecture Hall at 3 pm.

**3rd December**

AGM and members evening of Woking History Society in Mayford Village Hall at 8 pm.

#### **4th December**

Social Evening of Addlestone Historical Society at Addlestone Community Centre at 8 pm. Visitors welcome £2.

#### **10th December**

"Prince Frederick and his family at Kew" by Susanne Groom, followed by Christmas Party of The Richmond Local History Society at the Old Town Hall, Whittaker Avenue, Richmond at 7.30 for 8 pm. Visitors welcome £1.

#### **10th December**

"Antarctica" an illustrated talk by Peter Youngs to Guildford Archaeological and Local History Group a Group Meeting in the Classroom, Castle Arch at 7.30 pm.

#### **11th December**

"The Castles of Surrey" by Dennis Turner NS AGM OF Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society at The Housing Co-op Hall, 106 The Cut (almost opposite the Old Vic Theatre) at 7.30 pm. Visitors welcome £1.

#### **11th December**

"Recent research on late medieval alchemy" by Dr Marcos Martinon-Torres Seminar organized jointly by the Institute of Archaeology and British Museum, in Room 412 at the Institute of Archaeology, London at 5.30 pm. All welcome.

#### **13th December**

"Seasonal Celebrations" 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.

#### **13th December**

Christmas Social (Members Only). The 40th Anniversary of Egham-by-Runnymede Historical Society in the Main Hall, Literary Institute, High Street, Egham at 8 pm.

#### **13th December**

Presentation on Merton Priory by Lionel Green and Christmas celebrations at Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society in the Upper Hall, United Reformed Church at the corner of Union Street and Eden Street, Kingston at 7.30 for 8 pm. Visitors welcome £1.50.

#### **14th December**

"Living in an Ancient Egyptian Town: the Archaeology of Gurob" by Jan Picton to Richmond Archaeological Society at the Vestry Hall, Paradise Road, Richmond at 8 pm. Visitors welcome by donation.

#### **14th December**

"The Work of the Surrey History Centre" preceded by coffee and mince pies. Leatherhead & District Local History Society in the Dixon Hall of Letherhead Institute at 7.30 for 8 pm. Members £1, non-members welcome £2.

#### **19th December**

The Christmas Social of Send and Ripley History Society at Ripley Village Hall at 8 pm. Visitors welcome £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*.

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**Next Issue:** Copy required by 30th November for the January 2008 issue.

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