BOOKHAM COURTE 2017 (see p2)
**Bookham Courte**

Lyn Spencer

A fourth season of excavation at a property behind St Nicolas church in Great Bookham was undertaken by members of the Surrey Archaeological Society and involved extending the 2016 trench 7 and opening four new trenches.

The garden had once been part of the manor complex of Bookham Courte, which was demolished about 1720. Bookham Courte may have been the original abbey farm set up by Chertsey Abbey and is described in a 1614 document as consisting of a manor house covered in tile, a gatehouse, two great barns, a bakery, stables and other buildings surrounded by a great yard. There is a mention of Bookham Courte in the Chertsey Abbey Cartularies of 1332.

*Fig 1 Position of trenches*
One of the aims of the 2017 evaluation was to see if the mortared flints found in the 2016 trench 7 were part of a wall. Trench 10 was an extension of trench 7. The aim of trench 11 was to find an extension of the line of mortar which appeared to follow the line of high resistivity from an earlier geophysical investigation.

Trench 12 was sited near to last year’s trench 8 that featured robbed-out wall foundations. Trench 13 was a trial trench in the front garden and trench 14 was on the same alignment as trench 10 but further north. The trenches were excavated over a period of 6 days.

Trench 10 was to the south of last year’s trench and measured 3m by 2m with a 1m by 0.5m extension at the eastern end. The excavation uncovered a cobbled surface under a highly compacted 30cm layer of chalk and flint. At one end of the trench the line of large chalk blocks seen in 2016 and 2015 were seen to continue across the garden. The width of the upper chalk blocks was approximately 20cm, but the structure had little mechanical strength and may have been the base of a palisade or a flimsy internal wall. Unfrogged bricks by the chalk blocks suggested a post medieval date.

The chalk blocks were sitting on a thin layer of earth and under this was a flint mortared wall 1m wide on approximately the same alignment as the chalk blocks. A portion of this was seen in the 2016 trench.

Finds included shelly ware, early whiteware, post-Medieval redware, bones, a horseshoe and a sickle.

Trench 11 was initially 2.5m x 0.5m, near to the western boundary, but was extended after a heavily compacted chalk and flint layer was found at a depth of 70cm. The extension included part of the area of high resistance found in 2016. A later modern pit was found at the north-western end of the trench with post-Medieval and modern pottery.

The degraded lime-poor mortar area found in 2016 petered out in the extension to the east.

The hard chalk and flint area on the north-western arm of the trench was probably the floor of a building. This was found at a depth of 70cm and was about 17cm deep and lying on the natural soil.

Pottery in this area included shelly ware, grey/brown sandy ware, whitewares and post-Medieval pottery.
Trench 12 was 1.5m by 0.8m and approximately 6m from the tile-on-edge hearth found in 2015. Under the topsoil was pottery dated 1400-1700 and in the next context a few pieces of pottery dated between 1150 and 1400 were found. The natural was at 40cm.

Trench 13 in the front garden was 1m by 1m and had very few finds. There were one or two pieces of pottery dated between 1350 and 1800. Natural was found at 67cm.

Trench 14 was 2m by 0.7m and to the north of trench 10. A few centimetres under the turf a flint-packed surface was found with some later post-Medieval pieces. Underneath this surface was a thin layer of earth and under this another flint surface containing bone, roof tile and one piece of whiteware dated 1240-1400. This lower flint surface was resting on the natural.

Trench 10 showed that there had been various buildings or structures in this area. The large cobbled area is almost certainly part of the “Great Yarde” referred to in the 1616 description of Bookham Courte. There was evidence of several structures that had been built in this area before all the structures were demolished in the eighteenth century. Maps after 1730 show no buildings.

The medieval pottery assemblage consisted of shelly wares (1050-1250), sandy wares (1150-1250) and Surrey whitewares of Kingston, Cheam and Surrey Border types dating from early 13th century to the late 15th century together with post-Medieval pottery (dating taken from Phil Jones’s Medieval Pottery Type Series in ‘A Guide to the Saxon and Medieval Pottery Type Series of Surrey’ - £5 plus p&p from Castle Arch.)

Grateful thanks go to Angela Mason, Emma Corke and Nigel Bond as trench supervisors. The hardworking diggers were Christine Pittman, Geoffrey Gower-Kerslake, Chris Quinn, Kathy French, Irene Goring, John Felton, Liz Felton, Mike Edwards. Also thanks to the finds team – Fiona Grisdale and Jenny Newland and Jan Spencer who also provided all the tea, coffee and cake!
Fig 1: Plan of the pagan Saxon cemetery as currently understood, based on Lowther 1931, foldout opp 1 and text references, but subject to revision as a result of work in progress. Probable pagan burial locations within later graves are included where thought likely. The reference to burial 223 (top left) can now be augmented by three other pagan East-West burials from the same general area, excavated recently by Thames Valley Archaeological Services (Falys 2017, 2).
The previous notes in this series (Bulletins 464 and 465) considered the history of the excavation of the Guildown cemeteries and the nature of the evidence, giving some examples of problems with the recording and the publication process. This note concerns the pagan cemetery and offers some rather speculative suggestions that might be thought worthy of further consideration. Readers may need to refer to the previous notes for explanation of some details and for the plans.

The pagan Saxon cemetery is an important aspect of the evidence at Guildown. Apart from accompanying grave goods, Lowther’s criteria for defining burials as of the pagan period are that ‘earlier skeletons were all far more decayed than the later ones’ and they were ‘mainly over 2 feet in depth, and all except No. 78, orientated W-E’ (1931, 7). Examination of the report and the plan shows that these criteria are not always consistently applied. It is also probable that one or two burials listed as pagan are not and conversely some not so listed are. But in general one can be certain of most of those designated as pagans because of the grave goods found with the inhumations or the way graves relate to one another. An attempt to show only the pagan burials appears as Fig 1. To them can now be added at least three others from the most recent excavation (Falys 2017, 2; I am very grateful to Ceri Falys for information and wider ranging discussion).

There is also just enough evidence to confirm that it was a mixed rite cemetery with at least a few cremation burials. It is frustrating that the evidence is not more carefully presented and one must rely on general statements such as ‘fragments of a few large cinerary urns with pieces of calcined bone’ (Lowther 1931, 2) and the illustrations of cremation urns. Lowther notes specifically only a large urn and near it the base fragments of two others ‘found near the surface of the ground and towards the centre of the area excavated’ (1931, 26-9, urn 6, fig 7). These presumably came from one of the two find-spots marked ‘pottery’ within the area of burials 20-41. To them might be added the reconstructed pot illustrated in the later note (Fig 2; Lowther 1933, 120-1 and fig 1; cf 1931, 27 no 1 and pl 17, 5), although there seems to be no way to be sure of its approximate location on the site.

Some aspects of interest may be missed because of the burial numbering system. Thus although the two glass cone beakers come from burials numbered 56 and 109, they are in adjacent graves, which presumably could be of some significance. The distribution of accessory vessels seems to have some kind of patterning also: the four undecorated complete pots are all from burials relatively close together – 137, 139, 86 and 78. The two complete decorated accessory vessels are somewhat further west and next to one another (in line): 185 and 206. 215 is a little further west again but has just a plain ‘food vessel’ (see also previous note).

In this context burial 78 is of considerable interest. It is marked out by being the only certain pagan burial that is not approximately west-east, as Lowther noted, but the associated finds also single it out. Its accessory vessel was placed in the grave in an inverted position in contrast to the others. The finds included a disc fitting from a late Roman officer military belt set and a gold bead that is the only early period gold find between two widely separated zones in the South-East (Harrington and Welch 2014, 167; for its isolation see fig 50). The skeleton had two trefoil-headed brooches ‘on either breast, lying diagonally, with the head downwards’ (Lowther 1931, 20; recorded as though this was unusual on the site). Lowther notes that they are thought to be crossbow brooch derivatives, a suggestion still accepted as valid (pers comm John Hines).

‘Head’ down is of course the correct way to wear a crossbow brooch, which was a mark of authority in the later Roman period, and taken with the other unusual aspects of the burial and the military belt fitting must raise speculation about some form of continuity from late Roman arrangements in this general area. Guildown has produced just one fragment of...
Roman pottery, part of a samian base probably from a disturbed burial close to 78; it was found among the bones of burial 91 during processing but may well have originated from an earlier burial in this area (Lowther 1933, 120-2). If Lowther’s drawing of this base is accurate (as is likely to be the case) then his suggestion of Drag 29 or Drag 37 is unlikely to be correct; an East Gaulish Drag 36 is more likely (pers comm Joanna Bird). The sherd has not been located among the Guildown finds in Guildford Museum and it was probably never deposited there. Although Lowther suggests that it was lying around and incorporated in the grave fill, it is much more likely to have been from a ‘curated’ item and a deliberate part of grave furnishing.

This suggestion relies on the dismissal of some material held with the Guildown collection in Guildford Museum as having anything to do with the site. Following Lowther’s death, material recovered from his house included some finds loosely associated with a label ‘pieces of pottery Guildown Saxon cemetery’. This was a very mixed collection, by no means all of it pottery. It included two grass-tempered sherds but also several fragments of Roman, medieval and very modern pottery, as well as a piece of a box flue tile, three fragments of wall plaster and some other material including two Mesolithic worked flints. It is highly unlikely that these have anything to do with the cemetery site unless the label originally belonged just with the grass-tempered sherds. The writer’s own experience of involvement in the clearance of archaeological material from Lowther’s house was that much of it was hopelessly mixed. In his report Lowther noted specifically that ‘the site was not further complicated by any traces of Roman or pre-Roman occupation’ (1931, 5). He (and North) undoubtedly already had the experience to have recognised it if it was there.
It is of interest also to mention Keith’s original assessment of the skulls from the site. He noted that ‘the round skulls are the most mineralized and have apparently been buried for a longer period than the long Saxon skulls’ and suggested that they were ‘Gaulish round heads’, buried in the ‘cemetery of a Romano-British community’ (Lowther 1931, 46-7). While there may be little in this suggestion, it is worth noting that Keith was basing his comment on experience. Lowther had commented that the skeletons from the earlier burials were the most decayed (1931, 7) and this is supported by the most recent finds (Falys 2017, 2).

Roman finds are not unusual background noise in Saxon cemeteries and probably should not be as readily dismissed as irrelevant as they often are. Examples in the general area include Mitcham (eg Bidder and Morris 1959, 114-5), Croydon (McKinley 2003, 61, 104-5) and Droxford near Chichester where objects found included a crossbow brooch (Aldsworth 1979, 170; the site location is said to have similarities to that of Guildown: Harrington and Welch 2014, 88). Recent finds at the Croydon cemetery included one or perhaps two late Roman/early post-Roman burials at right angles to the pagan Saxon graves (McKinley 2003, 12-13). This cemetery had a mixture of burial practices and grave goods (cf Guildown and Lowther’s comment (1931, 15) that ‘each burial that had something with it seemed to provide a variation from what we had already found’) and the finds included fittings from a late Roman military belt set (McKinley 2003, 104).

Guildown’s pagan cemetery is usually spoken of as though it represents a ‘community’ but if so it was very small unless a great deal has been lost without record. There does seem to be evidence for plough damage on the site which would presumably also have applied to the area around it but there is no good reason to suppose episodes of deeper ploughing in the vicinity. One burial is known some distance to the west (Lowther 1931, 5; cf location plan) and there may have been others strung out along the ridge but if so they have not been recorded. Evaluations in advance of development on nearby sites have all been negative except for the most recent where evidence for both pagan and execution burials was found (Falys 2017 and Tony Howe pers comm). Although now in separate ownership the area concerned is in the north-western end of the original garden and must have been very close to the location of Lowther’s burial 223. It is likely that there were more burials between Lowther’s group and the new finds but probably not a great many. No burials are known north of the track along the ridge but Lowther notes that ‘these have only been probed in one or two places’ (1931, 3; it is not made clear who did the ‘probing’).

There can be little doubt that there was a continuation of the cemetery into the adjoining garden to the east; Lowther marked what he considered to be the likely area on his location plan (1931, 1-2, 4). A curious reference in a letter of October 1931 from D C Whimster to Lowther (SAS Research Material) hints at a possible extension further east still, into the area now occupied by the old Guildford Cemetery. After discussing various issues about Guildown, Whimster wrote: ‘Do you anywhere give the estimated total number of graves or skeletons that were unearthed, including those up in Guildford Cemetery?’ (my italics). It is difficult to read the last two words as anything other than a reference to the (then) modern cemetery but if so no record of finds made there has been discovered and there is no hint of anything relevant in the site report.

In terms of our present understanding therefore, a total of around 60 pagan burials is perhaps likely, several of them certainly women and children. They are also likely to have occurred over a period of more than just a few years, making the ‘community’ at any one time even smaller. Yet recent discussion can regard Guildown, ‘in an isolated and anomalous position’ as having ‘an early and deliberate strategic location for this key community’ (Harrington and Welch 2014, 100 and 192). While the related discussion is rather unsound (it appears to suggest that Guildford is sited on Stane Street) the general point may hold good, but the ‘community’ does not seem large enough for such a purpose.
It must be more likely that the cemetery actually represents the local elite in some way and that the prominent location applies to this aspect and is not necessarily related to an immediately adjacent settlement. It may be noted in passing that there is little to suggest that there is any intercutting of the pagan graves, which must imply some form of ‘curation’ of the cemetery. If its prominence mattered then perhaps it was marked in some way as well.

The prominence of the location may also have been the key factor rather than association with a road or a boundary. These could have been relevant to the position of the execution cemetery (Reynolds 2009, 241; cf Briggs 2010) but need not apply to the pagan one. The route along the Hogs Back may have had little if any importance before the establishment of an important settlement at Guildford. Before that, a route along the greensand to the south with a crossing of the Wey in the area of St Catherine’s chapel is more likely and may well be the origin of the name Guildford (‘golden ford’: Dodgson and Khaliq 1970, 38 [here = F G Mellersh]). The river crossing in this area would have been easier where there were probably several braided channels and would be marked by the prominent yellow (greensand) cliff edge below the chapel.

If the site of the pagan cemetery was chosen as a deliberate statement, associated settlement may be some distance away. Indeed there may have been more than one related settlement, and these are likely to have had their origins in the late Roman pattern, perhaps with a focus to the west of Guildford. David Calow’s important recent fieldwork at Flexford (a little over 5km from Guildown as the crow flies) has brought to light the only hint of Roman nucleated settlement in the area and one which can be said to have some late ‘military’ aspects. Finds include bustum burials, a unique late Rheinzabern samian vessel, a crossbow brooch copy and an early 5th century coin, perhaps significantly in a non-precious metal. Other finds also suggest some kind of military link, perhaps related to grain supply (David Calow pers comm, incorporating information from Joanna Bird, Dr Sam Moorhead and Dr Ruth Shaffrey; Calow 2012a; 2012b; 2013).

On the other side of the Hogs Back, and perhaps related to the through route along the greensand, recent metal detector finds from Artington (a little over 1km from Guildown) include a group of coins with a preponderance of Valentinianic coins from the period AD 364-78. The same area produced two joining fragments of a buckle of Hawkes and Dunning’s Type IIB (SUR-322AD4), a form rarely reported from Surrey and usually thought to be associated with the late Roman military, perhaps cAD 340-410 (David Williams pers comm, incorporating information provided by Dr Sam Moorhead). It may be relevant that the nearby villa at Compton has produced a coin of Valens (Stephenson 1915, 49).

These various scraps of information could be read as suggesting a late Roman ‘military’ presence in the area near Guildown, potentially dating into the 5th century. As such there would be little gap until the beginning of the Guildown burials and it does not seem to be a great stretch of the imagination to suggest that the latter could represent the descendants of late Roman officials of Germanic origin and their followers stationed in the area in the later Roman period. These people are likely to have had a mixture of origins and also to have been a mixture of military units and farmers, originally relocated under imperial authority. Over the course of one or two generations it seems reasonable to suppose that they could have morphed into ‘Saxons’, a later Roman catch-all term like Alamanni or Goth (see eg Burns 2003, 304-7, Swift 2000, 96-7 and Bird 2012).

References

(Page references are not given for the burial list (Lowther 1931, 34-46) as it is easy to look up the individual numbers cited).
A misplaced deposit? Some reflections

Mary Alexander

During the excellent SHERF conference on placed deposits in November I began thinking about a pit I had read about recently. In 2010 a ramp was built at Holy Trinity church to give access to the church and the streets behind it from the High Street, without using the many steps. A watching brief by Archaeology South East found (among other things) a roughly square pit with pottery, glass and CBM in its fill, in the narrow strip of land between the church and the street. Although narrow, this strip is significant because it was the only access to the church from the street for many centuries. Why would a rubbish pit be dug in it? In fact, ASE also suggested it could be ‘some kind of back-filled test-pit’ because of its shape. It was about three feet square, and I deliberately use imperial measurements because I can imagine the foreman saying ‘right, dig a pit, three-by-three’.

The finds suggest a date in the first half of the 18th century and records show that building work was going on from the 1690s to 1740, when over-zealous modernisation caused the church to collapse. It was rebuilt in the 1750s but the finds suggest that the pit is earlier than that.

The pottery in the pit is mostly red and white Border wares of the later 17th century but two significant vessels are most of a broken handled cup in tin-glazed ware of ‘early 18th century form’ (possibly a chocolate cup) and a less complete teacup in Staffordshire salt-glazed stoneware, probably after 1725. There were two clay pipe bowls, one c.1680-1710 and the other c.1730-80. The Border wares include two pipkin handles, part of a plate with trailed slip...
decoration, various odd sherds and a nearly complete small dish. One can imagine the sherds and pipes hanging around during the building work and getting into the fill of the pit but how did the cups get there? Builders didn’t drink tea in those days, and why would the unlucky lady who broke her precious cups walk up to Holy Trinity during the building work and put the remains in a pit? Or even two ladies, or their maids, at two different times? We cannot tell, but it doesn’t stop us wondering.

Kathryn Grant An Archaeological Watching Brief at Holy Trinity Church, Guildford, Surrey. ASE, March 2011.

**Hill-Peak engravings article**

Mary Alexander

An article by Donald Mason appeared in Bulletin 461, April 2017, about *The Hill-Peak Engravings of Surrey Churches* published in 1819.¹ It raised the question of the date of the engravings, given that the view of Holy Trinity, Guildford showed the church before 1740, when it collapsed, and the series is thought to have been drawn around 1760. The only dating evidence within the published engravings is on that of Compton church which has the words ‘T° Peak fecit 1758’.

Mason looked into the date of the engraving of St. Giles, Camberwell and concluded that it had been copied by Hill from an earlier drawing. He applied this reasoning theoretically to the Holy Trinity engraving also. This article shows that Mason was correct, and adds some more information about the Hill-Peak engraving of Holy Trinity and the other two Guildford churches, and about Henry Hill himself.

The views of Holy Trinity and St. Nicholas churches in Guildford were clearly copied by Thomas Peak from the views of the three buildings illustrated in vignettes at the side of the *The South West Prospect of Guilford in Surrey* drawn and engraved by John Harris, published in 1738 and dedicated to ‘The Right Hon. Arthur Onslow, Speaker of the House of Commons …’. Onslow was Speaker from 1728 to 1761. The *Prospect* has four drawings of important buildings down each side, with an extra one at the bottom of each side showing the house and garden of a notable inhabitant. Harris also engraved the *Ichnography* of Guildford, the town’s earliest map, surveyed by Matthew Richardson and published in 1739. He may have lived in Guildford because squashed into the long caption at the bottom is a couplet: ‘Joy to the Town I love, & equal Health; / Uninterrupted Peace & flowing Wealth!’, though this may just have been a poetical flourish. He is known as an engraver and draughtsman working between c.1680 and 1740, and may have been based in London. (There are several other engravers with the same name.) A John Harris was buried in St. Mary’s, Guildford in 1760 but we cannot tell if it is our man.

Peak’s engravings are clearly copied from Harris’s, but there are many small differences. Harris’s views are tighter, and neater, while Peak’s show that they were not done from life. They alter or exaggerate features: pointed windows at Holy Trinity become rounded, the spire is shorter and squatter, the railings and steps less clearly defined. There is a wider margin on either side of the church, and gravestones are shown at the east end where there are none in Harris’s view. The proportions of St. Mary’s are slightly different, with more space in the drawing at the sides, but less above the church. The steps down to Mill Lane at the west end, which probably made no sense to Peak, have been left out. His view of St. Nicholas shows similar differences: more space at the east, a smaller chimney on Cook’s Loft (a porch-like building on the north side, now gone: the church has been rebuilt).
All these views are signed ‘T’s. Peak f’t’, and the simple names of the churches on the *Prospect* have been lengthened to ‘Holy Trinity in Guildford’ etc, to suit a book about the whole county (though it only contains a small group of churches: 45, and 47 in a slightly later edition). In fact, Holy Trinity is called ‘Trinity Church’ by Harris. This was a time in Guildford when the word ‘Saint’ was often left out, and the three churches were usually called Upper, Middle and Lower Church (from their position on the hill). However, the other two remained saintly in this work. The lack of Hill’s name might suggest it was all Peak’s work, but the title of the book includes the sentence ‘Drawn by Hill and engraved by Peak’.

Henry Hill (1729-1774) was baptised in St. Nicholas’ church, Guildford, on 14th May 1729. He was the son of Henry Hill, clerk, and Elizabeth. According to the Freeman’s Book of Guildford, entry 434, Henry (born in 1729) was admitted as a freeman in 1764, by inheritance, being the eldest son of Henry, clerk, deceased, who was the only son of Henry Hill, D.D., deceased, who was eldest son of William Hill, deceased, who was mayor of Guildford in 1657. So, the infant Henry was very much a Guildford boy.

The entry in the Freeman’s book is likely to be correct because the freedom of the borough was tightly controlled. It was usually awarded to a tradesman whose father was a freeman, or who had served as an apprentice to a freeman. It was also given to local dignitaries, as a compliment, and this would have been the case with the Hill family. Despite the clear family tree it has not been possible to link the first Henry with William in the parish registers, but the links after him are clear.
Henry Hill DD, JP, was rector of West Stow in Suffolk and Letcombe Bassett in Berkshire (now Oxon). His four children were born in Letcombe Bassett but there seems always to have been a strong link with Guildford and St. Nicholas parish. I have found no christening or burial for him, but his wife was buried in Guildford, and at least one daughter married in Guildford. His son Henry Hill MA lived in Guildford and was described by his son as curate of St. Nicholas. That son, Henry Hill FSA, was born in St. Nicholas parish and became Windsor Herald in 1757 until his death, among other ceremonial positions.

Richard Gough in 1780 noted that ‘Henry Hill esq, Windsor Herald, had collected church-notes, and had most of the churches in the county engraved, but not faithfully, at the expense of the late speaker Onslow’. This was Arthur Onslow, nephew of the first baron Onslow, and father of the first Earl. He died in 1768 and has a handsome memorial in Holy Trinity church Guildford. He was very much involved with the town, and although a good
forty years older than Henry Hill he may well have known his father. Onslow lived in London and at his wife’s house in Thames Ditton, and it may be relevant that Henry took out a licence to marry a girl from Thames Ditton, Elizabeth Paget, when he was living in that parish, in 1751.⁶ In 1774, soon after Hill’s death when his effects were being sold, Gough offered to buy the plates of the engravings for Manning, who declined: he had seen the plates and was not impressed with them.⁷

As an educated gentleman antiquary from Guildford Henry Hill must have known William Bray, though Bray does not mention him in the published diary extracts from his carefree years in Guildford as a young man in the 1750s.⁸ He was only seven years younger than Hill. Hill could well have met Owen Manning, perhaps through his clerical father, and Richard Gough obviously knew about Hill and is likely to have met him. Hill was collecting information for a history of Surrey and the church engravings may have been part of this, though they are not included in the two bound volumes of his notes.⁹ The work was never finished, perhaps because of Hill’s early death at 45 in 1774. It seems that Bray was thinking of collaborating with Hill on a history of Surrey, so clearly Hill was part of that network, because when Bray asked Manning about his history of the county in 1767 he was invited to help Manning rather than ‘co-operating with Mr H.’ who must have been Henry Hill.¹⁰ Does this mean that Manning had doubts about Hill?

Hill’s manuscript notes contain a few sketches (but not of churches) which suggest that he could well have redrawn Harris’s views of the three churches and passed them on to Peak for engraving. This seems more likely than Peak taking them directly from Harris’s work, since Hill is credited with the drawings, and it would account for the slight alterations from the originals. Gough had noticed that the engravings were not accurate.

A question remains: why did Hill use a drawing of a church which no longer existed? He obviously knew it had been replaced, and the new church had been largely completed by 1754, though not opened for worship until 1763.¹¹ There was an engraving of the new church in a vignette at the side of The North-West Prospect of Guildford in Surrey by John Russell senior, published in 1759, clearly imitating Harris’s Prospect. The answer presumably is that, as an antiquarian, he wanted to show the ancient structure not a modern building. Other questions, of why he chose the churches he did for Peak to engrave, and exactly how Onslow was involved, and what Hill’s plan for the engravings was, are likely to remain unresolved.

Notes

1 The Ecclesiastical Topography of Surrey containing forty-five views of churches in that County. Drawn by Hill and engraved by Peak. London, Edward Evans, 1819.
2 Guildford Freeman’s Book 1655-1933 edited by Hector Carter, Guildford 1963
3 Ancestry.co.uk Oxford University Alumni
4 Britishhistoryonline, Windsor Herald
5 British Topography 1780, Vol. 3
6 Ancestry.co.uk LMA Marriage Bonds & Allegations 1597-1921. Ms 10091/91
7 Julian Pooley, Owen Manning, William Bray and the writing of Surrey’s county history, 1760-1832. SyAC 92, 2005, p.100.
8 Extracts from the Diary of William Bray … FE. Bray, SyAC 46, 1938, pp. 26-58
9 SHC 6953/1-2
10 Owen Manning, William Bray and the writing of Surrey’s county history, 1760-1832. Julian Pooley, SyAC 92, 2005, pp.91-123
11 Holy Trinity Guildford: A Georgian Parish Mary Alexander, Guildford 2013
The ‘Tin Tabernacle’ at Baldwins Hill in Lingfield

M J Leppard

Among the few places in Dr Moss's thorough and informative survey 'The tin tabernacles of Surrey' in Surrey History vol. 16 (2017) for which he apparently had little success in finding information is the one at Baldwins Hill (p.39), three and a half miles due south of Lingfield parish church and almost on the historic county boundary. The following outline chronology, based on material available to me, may therefore not be unwelcome until further evidence can be found.

Through the 19th century scattered dwellings on either side of the border gradually increased to form a distinct small community, for which in 1874 the charity of the Lowdell family of Baldwins Hill founded a National (Church of England) School and about a year later Sidney Poole Lowdell (1831-1922) provided a chapel served from Lingfield parish church. In 1925 it was named All Saints. Meanwhile a large brick Anglican church, St Mary's, designed by the architect William Thorold Lowdell, had been erected in stages from 1891 half a mile further south in East Grinstead. In 1954 the anomaly was rectified by transferring Baldwins Hill and its chapel from the diocese of Southwark into St Mary's parish in that of Chichester. The, effectively superfluous, chapel continued in limited use until 1961, when, because necessary repairs would be too costly, it was demolished and soon replaced by a residential cul-de-sac named Lowdells Close.

The chapel is the subject of Frith's postcard 63095 of 1911.

SHERF Autumn 2017 Conference Report

Nigel Bond

On 18th November the well-attended SHERF Autumn 2017 Conference on "Structured Deposits and Ritual Offerings" took place at Leatherhead. The morning session was chaired by David Rudling and the afternoon by John Manley. David Rudling noted that this conference is the first of two addressing the subject. This SHERF conference focusses on Surrey examples from Iron Age to modern. The CBA conference at Chertsey on 10th November 2018 will expand on the theme and consider a wider location and period range.

David Bird started his Introduction with cautionary words on the need for academic rigour in attempting to develop and test theories relating to structured deposits, emphasising the importance of subjecting hypotheses to "ruthless scrutiny". He drew our attention to the work of scholars including Ralph Merrifield, J D Hill and Richard Bradley and cited examples including foundation deposits, termination deposits, placement of partial or broken items representing the whole, and possible sky offerings such as Neolithic axes in later contexts. Merrifield stressed the importance of repetitive finds as indicators of continuity in behaviours over time and within and between sites which in turn might indicate ritual practices. However our excavated sample sizes are often too small for us to identify these patterns of behaviour with confidence. The evidence can only be partial and always uncertain in its interpretation.

Emma Corke described Stones and Bones: placed deposits at Cock’s Farm, Abinger. Two such deposits have been found at the Roman Villa close to the end of a 4th century retaining wall: a pot placed under the wall and, more tentatively, a slag deposit which may have been deliberately placed or may simply be back-fill. A large number have been found associated with the pre-Roman Iron Age and Roman features on the hill-top above the villa. These include pottery, quern stones and quern stone fragments, hammer-stones, ironstone ‘tubes’, imported stones, echinoids and potins placed in special locations in grain storage pits and vineyard trenches. At the junction of two large ditches finds included
a pit lined with jaw-bones, some samian and a Bronze Age cremation burial which had either been respected and left in-situ by the Romano-Britons or moved to this location by them. Elsewhere a Horsham slate saddle quern had been placed on top of a compact collection of animal bones. Much later, in the 17th century, young bovines were placed in individual graves with hind legs crossed and necks bent backwards. David Rudling commented that Emma has described a significant assemblage of Iron Age and Roman placed deposits and recommended comparison to Sue Hamilton’s detailed analysis of similar finds from over 100 pits at Mount Caburn hillfort, East Sussex.

David Graham discussed ‘Pot’ pots and potters: Roman ritual deposits on Surrey-Hampshire border from three sites: Frensham, Holt Pound and Alice Holt. At Frensham around 500 Roman coins were found, placed in approximately six separate deposition events or periods. In one area 50 to 60 skilfully-made miniature pots had been set in small pits. One contained possible cannabis seeds. Other finds from the site are consistent with a ritual function, in particular a priestly cap or headdress and what are probably parts of the bindings of a priestly sceptre. Finds from Holt Pound, allegedly a medieval circular earthwork, include Roman scissors, an eagle sceptre head similar to one found at Farley Heath temple and parts of several neck torcs. At Alice Holt 1 to 6 pots which had become misshapen during firing were placed in 4 or 5 pits close to a kiln. Evidently the potter had deliberately buried these rather than simply discarding them, perhaps as an offering to ask for a more successful firing next time.

David Calow presented Ritual deposits, casual losses or something else? – some examples from Flexford. Flexford is a large and complex Romano-British site covering 15 hectares. There are numerous examples of what appear to be structured or placed deposits including cattle jawbone at a ditch terminal and three pedestal jars found in a gulley in the iron-smithing area with a piece of pot placed between them. A rare semis of Trajan lay at bottom of a large central post-hole within a circle of smaller post-holes adjacent to the corner of a ditch. David described in detail four special deposits from the part of the site which has been tentatively identified as a shrine: (1) under the corner junction of two wooden sill beams Late Bronze Age pot sherds from several vessels, Reigate stone, and a heart-shaped flint – had these been redeposited at this location?; (2) tight against a stone surface a pit with an echinoid, a drilled and chamfered red deer antler and another pit beneath with 3 jars; (3) a large pit with a coin of Probus, a layer of charcoal older than the coin, a large number of bones, a skull shaped flint, quern stone and a very large piece of polished stone; and (4) a small pit with 4kg of pewter and tin fragments, two glass bowls and a rare Samian patera.
Nikki Cowlard discussed **Pits and shafts: deposition and ritual in Roman Ewell**. From at least as early as the Neolithic Ewell has been a culturally significant site focussed on the springs which are the source of the Hogsmill river. In the Roman period it also became an important crossroads. Nikki described nine or more sites within Ewell, all of which have yielded what appear to be placed deposits suggestive of ritual practice although these are often closely associated with the more mundane. Ritual activities are most apparent at the springs and at the King William IV and Seymours sites with offerings placed at the springs and in deep ritual shafts at the two named sites. The eight ritual shafts at Seymours were between 3.6 and 11.3 m deep and 1.6-2.2m diameter and contained layered deposits in a repeated sequence: animal bones, Samian, smaller animals and birds, pot, charcoal with burnt human bone and other objects. Elsewhere there were pits and wells with placed deposits.

Richard Savage’s theme was **Pigs in a pit: reflections on mid-Saxon practices**. With limited evidence available from Surrey, Richard reviewed evidence and scholarly interpretations of placed bone deposits from outside the county before discussing an example from Old Woking. Although funerary deposits were not on the agenda, as a proud medievalist Richard could not resist drawing our attention to the most remarkable structured deposit ever found in Britain: Sutton Hoo. Bone deposits might be specific ‘sacrifices’, the remains of feasting or general butchery waste. Helena Hamerow has found that Anglo-Saxon placed deposits sometimes included articulated piglets and parts of piglets placed in ditches, often near entrances to enclosures including those with later Christian churches. The Old Woking example, recovered from a test-pit, is a ‘single event' deposit of pig and cattle bones, apparently the remains of feast, placed in a ditch which may be the boundary of enclosure of the first Saxon church. The radiocarbon date of the bones brackets the c. AD 690 date of this church. The church may have been built within an earlier pagan Saxon ritual site.

Matthew Alexander gave more recent examples in his **Witch bottles and old boots: structured deposits in post medieval and modern Surrey**. Witchcraft was a universal belief in Britain until the late 19th century. Witch bottles can be considered an example of Early Modern medical practice, to cure ailments caused by malevolent witches. They are described in documentary sources dating from the 17th to the 19th century. Early examples were placed in Bellamine jars. The contents included urine, pins and nails. They are found buried beneath hearths and thresholds. Other examples of placed deposits include single shoes or items of clothing concealed in the fabric of buildings. Desiccated cats and rats are sometimes found under floorboards, possibly placed deliberately or maybe accidentally. To recent times horseshoes may be displayed on the outside of buildings to repel the devil or for luck. Coins are deposited at wishing wells and fountains. Time capsules are buried with foundation stones. ‘Ritual’ deposition continues to this day.

John Manley chaired a wide-ranging discussion. We noted structured deposits are sometimes placed above ground and so may not be found in their true context, mundane activities will also often create a patterned deposition when tasks have been carried out habitually in the same location, children’s play may lead to items being found ‘out of place’ tempting a ‘ritual’ interpretation, layering in pits most likely represent the end process of a whole series of rites, and deposits may be the result of one individual’s action or the product of group activities designed to reinforce social cohesion. Apparently mundane items may have special significant to an individual as souvenirs due to personal associations and therefore be kept in a special place. How do we differentiate between rubbish and structured deposition? Is it correct to class any items as rubbish from the perspective of earlier societies?

Thank you to the Roman Studies Group for developing the programme and to the many volunteers who helped with the smooth running of this stimulating day.
Exploring Surrey’s Past: 2018 Anniversary

February 2018 marks the 10th anniversary of the launch of the Exploring Surrey’s Past (ESP) website. The project started life as two very separate entities: Surrey County Council’s Strategic Conservation Advisory Group (as was) devised a project that was aimed at creating an online searchable version of the Historic Environment Record, and the Surrey Museums Service envisioned a project to provide online access to several local museums records and the substantial archives held by the Surrey History Centre (SHC). Bringing the projects together enabled both to move forward, but at the time, combining several such databases was in its infancy, and finding developers brave enough to design and develop the website was challenging! Thanks to a generous grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), both finance and support was forthcoming to take the idea and create something innovative and new.

These days, sites like ESP are more common, but at the time Surrey was at a pioneer in achieving HLF funding to create such a resource. Thanks to the commitment and efforts of firstly Giles Carey and latterly and currently Phil Cooper, the two principle officers involved in its creation and maintenance, the project has achieved more than could have been hoped for. During the last ten years ESP has developed from enabling text-based searches of the initial datasets, to allowing map-based searches and the ability to view images, photographs and documents held by the records. Articles, information pages and dedicated learning resources are now accompanied by blogs by the HER and SHC. Developments in social media have seen the addition of Facebook and Twitter feeds to the site. Who knows what future technological developments will add?

ESP has become a key resource for enabling popular access to the rich and diverse archaeology and history of Surrey, and has spawned a number of similar resource websites hosted by other organisations. We are very proud of what we created here however, and going forward, we’re planning a series of anniversary blogs, and a refresh of the site itself to mark the occasion. I look forward to the next ten years of ESP, and if you haven’t already, why not visit the site and take a look for yourself.

http://www.exploringsurreyspast.org.uk/

Historic Environment Record Officer, Surrey County Council, Heritage Conservation Team
Woking Palace and its Park

Many members of the Society will have participated in or visited the excavations at Woking Palace which took place between 2009 and 2015 and some will have visited the new permanent exhibition about the Palace and its surrounding deer-park at The Lightbox in Woking. The final stage of the HLF project has the production of a full report on these investigations at the Palace, which will provide much of interest to both archaeologists and those interested in the history of the medieval manor and its transformation into a Tudor palace. This will be followed later in 2018 by a shorter booklet aimed at the general public.

The full excavation report was published in November 2017 and those members of the Society who indicated prior to the publication that they were interested in purchasing a copy when it became available have been contacted directly.

Community excavations have revealed the development of Woking Palace. King Richard I granted the manor to Alan Basset and soon after he created a moated residence. By around 1300 the complex included stone buildings that thereafter always formed the core of the privy lodgings, a great hall, household and privy kitchens, and lodgings for courtiers. The aristocratic lifestyle is shown by stonework in Sussex marble, patterned floor tiles, grisaille window glass, and swan and deer consumption. In particular fallow deer must have come from the nearby hunting park, established in tandem with the manorial site.

Woking was always held by great families with close connections to the crown. In 1485 Lady Margaret Beaufort, mother of Henry VII, embarked on major construction work, all in the fashionable medium of brick. When Henry VII claimed the manor in 1503 the amenities were already suitable for a royal household, with suites of king’s and queen’s lodgings and plentiful other accommodation. His principal new work was the replacement of the great hall.

The later Tudors built little new, although documents show much was spent on modernisation and improvement. In 1620 the manor was granted to Sir Edward Zouch and soon after he carried out a thorough demolition.

For anyone else now wishing to purchase a copy the details are as follows:

‘The moated medieval manor and Tudor royal residence at Woking Palace’
by Rob Poulton, SpoilHeap Publications, Monograph 16, 2017. ISBN 978-1-912331-03-1 245 pp, 190 illustrations, price £15 + £3.50 p&p. Order from the Surrey Heritage online shop; or write to or visit Surrey County Archaeological Unit, Surrey History Centre, 130 Goldsworth Road, Woking GU21 6ND (tel: 01483 518779). Cheques should be made payable to "Surrey County Council".

The moated medieval manor and Tudor royal residence at Woking Palace
Excavations between 2009 and 2015
Rob Poulton
David Wynn Williams

All the many members of the Society who have worked with David over the years have been very shocked to hear of his sudden death on 9th December. An intrinsic part of Surrey archaeology for well over twenty-five years, David was the Portable Antiquities Scheme Finds Liaison Officer for Surrey since the start of the scheme here in 2003. He also directed many excavations, was seen on every SyAS dig, and identified countless finds for anyone who asked. He will be greatly missed.

A full obituary will follow in the next Bulletin.

New members

I would like to welcome the following new members who have joined the Society. I have included principal interests, where they have been given on the application form. If you have any questions, queries or comments, please do not hesitate to get in contact with me on 01483 532454 or info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk.

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Principal Archaeological and Local History Interests</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mr Roy Field</td>
<td>Claygate</td>
<td>History, Genealogy, Palaeography</td>
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Surrey Local History Committee

Annual Symposium 2018 – ‘The Changing Role of Women’
21st April 2018 at The Surrey History Centre

The Local History Committee Annual symposium for 2018 will take place on Saturday 21st April at the Surrey History Centre. The theme this year picks up on the centenary of Women’s Suffrage and will look at the role of influential Surrey women. Speakers will include Ros Black, who will talk about Lady Henry Somerset and her ground-breaking work with ‘inebriate women’; Carol Brown who will tell us about Surrey Women in the First World War; Linda Oliver will trace the history of the WI in Surrey and Dr Christopher Wiley will tell us about Dame Ethel Smyth, the composer, writer and suffragette. The day will conclude with a presentation form the Surrey History Centre on their new lottery funded project – ‘The March of the Women: Surrey’s Road to the Vote’.

See enclosed flier for full programme and how to apply for tickets.
On the track of Neanderthals in Jersey: The Ice Age Island Project

University of Sussex Archaeological Society lecture by Dr Matt Pope on Thursday 15th March 2018 (19:00) at Fulton Building Lecture Theatre A, University of Sussex, Falmer

Over the past decade a multidisciplinary team from the UK have focused filed and archive research on the Channel Island of Jersey. Situated just 13 miles form the French coast this landmass provides an important record of Neanderthal activity within the formerly submersed landscapes of the English Channel region. This record also includes the single site, La Cotte de St Brelade with its internationally significant record of Neanderthal occupation spanning in excess of 200,000 years. In this lecture we consider how the record of Jersey unlocks the wider region of the English Channel and how its palaeolandscape, which we have named La Manche, provided both opportunities and challenges to Neanderthal and early modern human groups occupying it.

In association with the Sussex Archaeological Society; all are welcome: entrance charges: US students: free; US staff and Members of the USAS and SAS archaeological societies: £2; others: £3.

From Sussex to Shetland: the archaeology of medieval coastal transport and trade (Holleyman Archaeology Lecture)

Lecture by Mark Gardiner on Thursday 12th April (19:00) at University of Sussex

How did sailors find their way around the coasts of Britain in the later Middle Ages? Newly discovered seafarers’ manuals or ‘rutters’ are beginning to give fresh insights into the changes which took place between 1200 and 1500 in the methods of navigation. Closely connected with this is a better understanding of how voyages were organized. With the increasing use of the magnetic compass, ships no longer needed to travel along the coast but could set a course on the open sea for places over the horizon. Voyages ceased to be a series of coastal hops from shore-based overnight camps but continued night and day. While the archaeological remains of ports have been studied for many years, the more elusive archaeology of coastal travel and trade is still little investigated. The remains of trading sites, fishing centres and victualling ports along the coast of Britain from Sussex northwards to Shetland are considered in this presentation.

Sussex School of Archaeology in association with University of Sussex Archaeological Society and Sussex Archaeological Society; entrance charges: £10 full price; £8 for SSA, SAS and USAS members.

Lecture Meetings

5th February
‘The Living Wandle’ by Rebecca Watts to Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society in the East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £2

‘Shall I go? Moving home in the 17th and 18th century’ by Sue Jones to Woking History Society in The Gallery, Christ Church, Jubilee Square, Woking at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3
**6th February**

‘Eric Alliott RFC, RAF and From Icarus to Airbus’ by Michael Alliott, son of an Aviation Pioneer, to the Surrey Industrial History Group at Church House Guildford, 20 Alan Turing Road, Guildford, GU2 7YF at 19:30. Visitors welcome: £5. Please note the new venue

‘The Tank Factory: Chobham’ by William Suttie to Addlestone Historical Society at Addlestone Community Centre at 20:00.

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**7th February**

‘Leith Hill Place’ by Patrick Newbury to Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society in St Mary’s Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

‘The life of a WRAF in the mid-20th century’ by Sheila Davidson to the West Surrey Family History Society in Friends (Quakers) Meeting House, Guildford at 14:40.

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**8th February**

‘The Dramatic Art of the London Underground’ by Mike Grundy to Farnham & District Museum Society at United Reformed Church, South Street, Farnham at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £3

‘Thames Watermen’ by Pat Hilbert to the West Surrey Family History Society in Woking Methodist Church Hall, Woking at 19:50.

‘Some thoughts on a visit to Stockholm’ by Richard Watson to Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society at Surbiton Library Halls at 20:00.

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**10th February**

‘Listed Buildings of Mitcham’ by Tony Scott to Merton Historical Society at St James’ Church Hall, Merton at 14:30. Visitors welcome: £2

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**12th February**

‘The Greenings of Brentford End: Royal Gardeners’ by Val Bott to the Richmond Local History Society, Duke Street Church, Richmond at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

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**15th February**

‘Education and Women’s Suffrage’ by Harriet Costello to Egham by Runnymede Historical Society in United Church, Egham at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £2

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**17th February**

‘The Social History of the Civil War Soldier’ by Alan Turton to the West Surrey Family History Society in Camberley Adult Education Centre, Camberley at 14:00.

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**20th February**

‘Heroes & Villains of the Basingstoke Canal’ by R Cansdale, Basingstoke Canal Society, to the Surrey Industrial History Group at Church House Guildford at 19:30. Visitors welcome: £5

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**22nd February**

‘The Story of the Lily Bell 11’ by David Rose to Farnham & District Museum Society at United Reformed Church, South Street, Farnham at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £3

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**26th February**

‘Camden Town: dreams of another London’ by Tom Bolton to Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society in the East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £2
27th February
‘Getting the best from the National Archives and its website’ by Simon Fowler to the West Surrey Family History Society in St Andrews United Reform Church, Hersham Road, Walton at 19:45

5th March
‘Common land in Dorking’ by Kathy Atherton to Dorking Local History Group in the Crossways Community Baptist Church, Dorking at 19:30. Visitors welcome: £2

‘The birdlife of Beddington farmlands since the 1960s’ by Derek Coleman to Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society in the East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £2

‘Surrey in the Great War’ by Imogen Middleton to Woking History Society in The Gallery, Christ Church, Jubilee Square, Woking at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

6th March
‘Shieldhall, thanks to the Heritage Lottery Fund’ by Graham Mackenzie, Chief Engineer of SS Shieldhall, to the Surrey Industrial History Group at Church House Guildford at 19:30. Visitors welcome: £5

‘From Brooklands to Africa, the search for the Locke Kings’ by John Pulford to Addlestone Historical Society at Addlestone Community Centre at 20:00.

7th March
‘JD’s doughnut and Iron Age London’ by Jon Cotton to Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society in St Mary’s Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

‘Putting the fizz into Guildford’s ginger beer and mineral water firms’ by David Rose to the West Surrey Family History Society in Friends (Quakers) Meeting House, Guildford at 14:40.

8th March
‘Menageries’ by Cherrill Sands to Farnham & District Museum Society at United Reformed Church, South Street, Farnham at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £3

‘The Breadwinner’ by Meryl Catty to the West Surrey Family History Society in Woking Methodist Church Hall, Woking at 19:50.

10th March
‘History of the Conservators of Wimbledon &amp; Putney Commons’ by Simon Lee to Merton Historical Society at St James’ Church Hall, Merton at 14:30. Visitors welcome: £2

12th March
'Shakespearean actor and Richmond Theatre manager Edmund Kean (1787-1833' by Prof Michael Gaunt to the Richmond Local History Society, Duke Street Church, Richmond at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

17th March
‘Sun Insurance Records & Lloyd’s Shipping Archive’ by Derek Morris to the West Surrey Family History Society in Camberley Adult Education Centre, France Hill Drive, Camberley at 14:00
20th March
‘Clandon House during the First World War’ by June Davey to Send and Ripley History Society at Ripley Village Hall, High Street, Ripley at 19:30.

21st March
‘Nonsuch Palace and Loseley Park’ by Prof Martin Biddle to Godalming Museum in The Octagon, St Peter and Paul, Borough Road, Godalming at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £5

22nd March
‘Secret Lives of Ladybirds’ by Andrew Halstead to Farnham & District Museum Society at United Reformed Church, South Street, Farnham at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £3

26th March
‘Owen Manning, William Bray and the writing of Surrey County History, 1760-1832’ by Julian Pooley to Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society in the East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £2

27th March
‘Making the most of online census records’ by Peter Christian to the West Surrey Family History Society in St Andrews United Reform Church, Hersham Road, Walton at 19:45

[Please note that lecture details may have changed from when first advertised]

DATES FOR BULLETIN CONTRIBUTIONS

There will be five more issues of the Bulletin in 2018. To assist contributors relevant dates are as follows:

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Articles and notes on all aspects of fieldwork and research on the history and archaeology of Surrey are very welcome. Contributors are encouraged to discuss their ideas with the editor beforehand, including on the proper format of submitted material (please do supply digital copy when possible).

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

Next issue: Copy required by 24th February for the April issue

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