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BULLETIN

Edited by Rosamond Hanworth, Folly Hill, Ewhurst, Surrey

S.A.S. VISITS

October 9th. Visit to Crowhurst.
Details were given in Bulletin 81.

NOTES

S.A.C. VISITS, 1972

The Visits Committee are considering the possibility of a 2 day visit to Wiltshire in July 1972, but would just like to know if there is likely to be support for this. Would interested members please contact the writer at 3 Riversdale Road, Thames Ditton, KT7 OQL. tel. 01-398 5446.
(Jean Major).

NEW MEMBERS

From 1st May, 1971

Miss M. Davey, Flat 8, Sutton Lodge, Clandon Road, Guildford.
Miss M. Pickard, 36 Vernon Way, Guildford.
Mrs. J. V. French, 16 North Acre, Banstead.
Dr. and Mrs. A. G. Crocker, 6 Burwood Close, Merrow, Guildford.
Miss R. M. Ogborn, B.A., 22 Nightingale Road, Guildford.
Mrs. M. K. Skelton, Street Farm, Tilford, Farnham.
Mr. and Mrs. P. J. Chamberlain, 27 Yardley Court, Hemingford Road, North Cheam.

Mrs. I. F. T. Martin, M.B.E., Kifri, Tadworth Street, Tadworth.
Miss Jill Harman, 14 Bramley Way, Ashtead.
Miss J. B. Wakeford, LL.B., 19 Woodcote Close, Kingston upon Thames.
Mrs. M. A. G. Collier, Woodbine Cottage, 7 Rusham Road, Egham.
J. W. Reading, Esq., 32a Lime Grove, New Malden.

From 1st July, 1971

H. J. Bocking, Esq., 6 The Elms, Church Road, Claygate, Esher.
Prof. K. B. Puttick, Physics Dept., University of Surrey, Guildford.
R. A. Michell, Esq., 24 Carleton Avenue, Wallington.
Mrs. J. M. Brown, 9 Paul's Place, Farm Lane, Ashtead.
Mrs. M. Rendell, 17 Western Avenue, Thorpe, Egham.
W. Davidson, Esq., B.Sc., Ch.Eng., M.I.E.E., 22 Brackendale Road, Camberley.
D. J. Miroylees, Esq., Clouds Hill, Miles Lane, Cobham.
Mrs. J. Ekins, Roffays, Coldharbour, Dorking.
A. J. Coombes, Esq., 25 Tynedale Road, Strood Green, Betchworth, RH3 7JD.
J. L. Edwards, Esq., Marchmont, Hollybank Road, West Byfleet, Weybridge.
Binscombe: Emergency Excavation of a Romano-British Site (SU 970455) (Bulletin No. 79)

Work on this site ceased on 9th June, after which torrential rain falling continuously for 36 hours flooded the whole area. By this time, however, the excavation had been substantially completed, apart from small details.

The ditch found by the late Dr. Nichols and Mr. A. J. Clark in the garden of "Eston", Binscombe Lane (S.A.C. LVII 42-71) was found to continue in a northerly direction across the site, and another ditch, almost parallel, occurred about sixteen metres distant to the south-east (phase 1). This second ditch had been filled in to provide for the foundations of a timber-framed building (phase 2), the post-holes of which had had to be packed very heavily with large stones. In one place the unstable nature of the filling had necessitated the use of wooden piles beneath the wall footings. A series of post-holes extending for about twelve metres at right angles north-westwards across the site are assumed to relate to this phase. There was evidence of burning connected with this building.

Much of the evidence for the timber building had been obliterated by phase 3, which was represented by a great deal of fallen stone and the foundations, at a considerably lower level than phase 2, of two small rectangular chambers, placed diagonally, adjacent to one another. One had a thick black deposit overlying a layer of chalk. A culvert extended beneath these chambers, draining into a leat walled with blocks of yellow sandstone and draining into the ditch on the north-west of the area. The bank of the ditch opposite the point of entry of the leat had been revetted. This phase 3 complex is presumed to relate to a more extensive building for which there is some evidence but now, unfortunately, built over.

There was also a slightly curved gully about two metres in depth and ten metres in length to the east of the leat and the post-holes relating to phase 2. This ditch yielded a quantity of samian ware as well as Romano-British pottery dating from early second century to the late third century.

The ditch on the south-east side of the site, and the phase 2 area produced first and second century Romano-British pottery, and the leat filling and the associated chambers contained pottery dating from early second century to the late third century.

(Clarke Smith).

Mickleham: Excavations near Cherkeley Court (TQ 182544)

By kind permission of Sir Max Aitken, limited excavations have been carried out at an earthwork in the grounds of Cherkeley Court, adjacent to Stane Street, as part of a course in field archaeology organised by the Juniper Hall Field Study Centre. The earthwork, first noted by S. E. Winbolt in "With a Spade on Stane Street", was shown to be a deeply rutted trackway of R.-B. or post-Roman date. A rough, flint-cobble pavement was found on the hillside immediately above the track and a sherd of decorated R.-B. pottery was found on its surface. The exact relationship
between the trackway, the pavement and a small, nearby, chalk pit was not determined but will be investigated on future courses. A partial section of Stane Street showed a compact but very thin layer of flint metalling on undisturbed chalk.

(D. J. Turner).

Clapham: Further Work on Stane Street (TQ 290741)

In the current research programme, further work to locate the course of Roman Stane Street was undertaken in 1970 in Clapham South. The site was occupied since World War II by prefabs and investigation was principally in the gardens of 81 Gaskarth and 82 Hazelbourne roads. A trench about 100 feet long was cut to section both Margary's Line and also one virtually parallel and marginally to the west, suggested by map evidence. A unique gravel feature accompanied by a shallow depression or ditch along its east side was recorded between these two lines. It was almost identical in width and material with that found in 1967 in the playing field of Henry Thornton School, half a mile further north, exactly on Margary's Line. In spite of attempts to locate any finds from these features, however, none were forthcoming. Thus, especially in view of the foot or so of brick-earth overlying them, and notwithstanding the remarkable coincidences with Margary's suggested alignment as well as their mutual resemblance, they both may perhaps be regarded as having been formed in similar natural conditions. There is nothing to suggest that they are Roman. Soil samples have been kept from all sites and it is hoped to examine these before long.

The gravel feature at Henry Thornton School was on average about 14 cms. thick. It was regularly about 12.52 metres wide (at least 24.4 metres long). Its "ditch" was about 1.37 metres wide and 35 cms. deep.

At Gaskarth Road, the gravel was about 10 cms. thick (in places with small pebbles on top and very large ones bedded into clay below—in one place with a layer of sand between the large and small stones). It was roughly 12.98 metres wide, but was intermittent in places, apparently due to ploughing. Its depression was about 2.5 metres wide by 35 cms. deep.

Other finds on the site included a fine nineteenth century red-brick drain and a few sherd of medieval pottery from the earliest layer which terminated in the 19th century. Further excavation for Stane Street is now under way at 283 Clapham Road, S.W.9.

Free copies of the full preliminary report, and of current excavations, can be obtained from the Cuming Museum in Walworth Road (Newington District Library), Telephone 01-703 3324 or 6514.

(D. J. Imber).

Carshalton: Neolithic Axe from Pampisford Road (TQ 635319)

A small axe, three and three-eighths inches by two inches was found by Mr. Jonathan Cotton in allotment No. 87, Pampisford Road, and handed to Mrs. Lilian Thornhill for recording. It will be published in the next issue of Croydon N.H. & S.S. Proceedings. It is of a brownish-grey flint and one side has patches of discoloured patination. It has a pointed butt and is roughly triangular in form. The flaking is rough and it is unpolished.

(Croydon N.H. & S.S. Newsletter 7).
Morden, Church of St. Lawrence

Having obtained the necessary authority the Parish Church Council put into operation their plans for the large-scale clearance of monuments in the graveyard and work commenced in April 1970. In the weeks that followed the east, west and south sides of the graveyard were cleared and some of the broken stones were used as hardcore for new footpaths. The work came to a temporary halt in September and it is not now expected to continue until 1972. The proper disposal of surplus stone and the financial situation are the key factors in this operation. The only monuments to be retained are those claimed by relatives and those of significant historical and scientific interest.

In order to make a valid claim for retention a comprehensive research programme is being undertaken by the writer into the history of the parish and its inhabitants. In addition he is carrying out a complete survey of the monument inscriptions for record purposes. Unfortunately insufficient evidence was available at the beginning of the work and a number of monuments were destroyed before a claim could be made. However, some successes were achieved. Of a total of about 810 graves and 31 cremation burials, some 183 graves have been cleared. 68 have been retained by relatives. 35 are of historical and 13 of scientific interest (includes 6 classified under both headings). Further claims for retention are still being made. The graveyard includes a number of graves without monuments. The cleared areas have now been roughly levelled and grassed over.

A by-product of the research has been the request by the Church Council for information prior to the reprinting of the booklet "The Story of Morden and its Churches" by Canon Livermore. (W.J. Rudd)

Recent Publications


COURSES

Southampton University, Department of Extra-mural Studies, with the Workers' Educational Association (Southern District)
The following courses, which may be of direct interest to members of this Society, are extracted from the University's brochure, "Classes in Archaeology and the Ancient World, 1971".

University Extension Courses

CELTs AND THE IRON AGE—Dr. Anne Ross, B.A., on Mondays at 7.30 p.m. from 11th October, 1971, at the Centre for Extra-Mural Studies, University of Southampton. 20 meetings.

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF WINCHESTER—M. Biddle, M.A., F.S.A., on Mondays at 7.30 p.m. from 17th January, 1972, in the Banqueting Hall, Guildhall, Winchester. 6 meetings.

ARCHAEOLOGY IN WESSEX—PROGRESS REPORT. Various tutors on Tuesdays at 7.30 p.m. from 15th February, 1972, at the University of Southampton. 6 meetings.

W.E.A. Courses

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF ROMAN BRITAIN—Mrs. M. Rule, F.S.A., on Mondays at 7.30 p.m. from 4th October, 1971, at the Midhurst Grammar School, Midhurst, Sussex. 20 meetings.

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE FIELD TECHNIQUES EMPLOYED IN ARCHAEOLOGY—D. J. Turner, B.Sc., F.S.A., on Thursdays at 8 p.m. from 7th October, 1971, at the Adult Education Centre, Crawley, Sussex. 20 meetings.

Apply for full details to Dr. J. Orton, Chairman, Crawley W.E.A. Branch, 5 Kitsmead, Copthorne Bank, Crawley (Copthorne 2362).

"DIRT" ARCHAEOLOGY IN WEST SUSSEX—A. Down, on Fridays at 7.30 p.m. from 14th January, 1972, at the East Wittering County Primary School, East Wittering, Sussex. 10 meetings.

Joint Courses with the W.E.A.

*THE ROMAN ARCHAEOLOGY OF SOUTHERN BRITAIN—J. R. Dockerill, M.A., on Thursdays at 7.30 p.m. from 30th September, 1971, at the Farnborough Technical College, Boundary Road, Farnborough, Hants. 24 meetings.

*THE ROMAN ARCHAEOLOGY OF SOUTHERN BRITAIN—D. F. Mackreth, B.A., on Fridays at 7.30 p.m. from 1st October, 1971, at the Farnborough Technical College, Boundary Road, Farnborough, Hants. 24 meetings.

* It has been decided to split this class into two owing to the large number of enrolments. The same syllabus will be used for both.

Bromsted Adult Education Centre Archaeological Weekend, 8th-10th October—F. Pemberton

(1) Excavation—its purpose and technique.
(2) The Archaeology of N.E. Surrey. Lectures. Friday, 8th October, 7.15 p.m. at Banstead Adult Education Centre, Nork Park School, Plaquetts Way.

(3) A visit to sites in Ewell and the Bourne Hall Museum. Meet at Ewell West Station, 2.30 p.m., Saturday, 9th October.

(4) Practical excavation. 11 a.m., Sunday, 10th October. £1.

MEETINGS

OCTOBER

Saturday 9th, 9.45 a.m.
S.A.S. Visit to Crowhurst.

NOVEMBER

Saturday 13th, 11 a.m.
Local History Symposium, Dorking. See details in leaflet enclosed with this Bulletin.

Thursday 18th, 7.30 p.m.
Fulham and Hammersmith. Talk by Mr. P. D. Whitting to Clapham Antiquarian Society at St. Luke's Hall, Ramsden Road, S.W.12.

Friday 26th, 8 p.m.
Visible Archaeological Remains in Britain. Talk by Mr. A. Shaw to Wandsworth H.S. at The Friends' Meeting House, Wandsworth High Street.

Saturday 27th, 11.15 a.m.
C.B.A. Conference. “Settlement and Environment in the South-East” at The Spa Hotel, Tunbridge Wells.
SPECIAL EXHIBITION

THE STORY OF HASLEMERE AND ITS MUSEUM

TO LAUNCH AN APPEAL FOR THE MUSEUM ENDOWMENT FUND

OPENING OCTOBER 29th AT THE HASLEMERE EDUCATIONAL MUSEUM