SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD

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BULLETIN

Edited by Rosamond Hanworth, Folly Hill, Ewhurst, Surrey

Purchase of L.B.A. Sword from Limpsfield: Appeal for Contributions

The fine late bronze age sword found at Limpsfield in 1965 (S.A.C. 63 (1966), 168) was later sold and went to the United States. The Society have now been given the chance to buy this sword from its American owner for £200 which is, we are assured, less than its market value in the U.S.A. It is hoped that members may be willing to contribute to a fund for its purchase as it is important that this provenanced sword should return to Surrey and be available for study and exhibition.

All contributions will be appreciated and should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer at Castle Arch. A mere 20p from each member would cover the cost but it is hoped that some members may be willing to contribute more.

S.A.S. VISITS 1972

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Subscriptions for 1972

Members are reminded that all subscriptions for 1972 are due on 1st January, irrespective of the date when members joined the Society. Please note that current subscriptions are as follows:

- Ordinary Members: £2.00
- Associate Members: 50p
- Junior Members: 50p

or £1.25 if a copy of the Collections is required.

EXCAVATION NOTICES

M23/25 RESCUE EXCAVATION
CROYDON, MERSTHAM AND GODSTONE RAILWAY (TQ 22945395)

Director: Mr. J. Shenton

Work on this site has slowed down temporarily because of lack of access to land which is still in use by the farm. Evidence of the railway has been found 50 yards further south than expected, it is now traced to a point very close to the entrance to an old mine working. Part of a cast iron waggon wheel has been found. Work will be resumed as soon as the land becomes available and in the meantime a nucleus of volunteers is still retained and they are working in the grounds of Glade House, next to Priory Mead (TQ 288536). Anyone interested should contact the Director, 49 Green Lane, Shepperton, Middx. Walton-on-Thames 24396.
NOTES & QUERIES

New Members from 1st November, 1971
Miss H. F. Rendle, Durley Close, Upper Park Road, Camberley.
C. J. Belcher Esq., The Old Crown, 1 High Street, Great Bookham,
Mrs. M. A. Rice-Oxley, Sturminster, Effingham Common Road, Effingham.
P. R. Smith Esq., 33 Mid Street, South Nutfield,
Mrs. J. E. Frankcom, B.A., Hons., 67b Epsom Road, Guildford.
Mrs. W. D. Ashton, Leybourne Cottage, Hascombe, Godalming.

New Members from 1st December, 1971
Miss H. M. Spencer, Mount Rose, Ockham Road North, West Horsley.
The City Librarian, Manchester Public Libraries, Central Library, St.
Peter's Square, Manchester M2 5PD.
Gipsy Hill College, Kenry House, Kingston Hill, Kingston upon Thames.
The Chief Librarian, The Library, Sheffield University, Sheffield, S10 2TN.
Miss J. Gumbrell, 39 Harts Gardens, Stoughton, Guildford.
Fulham and Hammersmith Historical Society, Hon. Secretary Mr. P. H.
Evans, 43 Hawards Lane, Putney, London, S.W.15.
F. H. Thompson Esq., M.A., Old West Street House, Reigate, Surrey.
Mrs. J. M. Crockett, B.A., 68, Sendbarns Lane, Send, Woking.
Mrs. B. M. Blatchford, B.A., 11 Thornbank, Onslow Village, Guildford.
R. L. Ellaby Esq., 117 Earlsbrook Road, Redhill, Surrey.
R. S. Lea Esq., 36 Penwortham Road, South Croydon.
H. Johannsen Esq., Oaken Hill, Burnhams Road, Little Bookham.

New Junior Members
Miss M. T. O'Grady, 211, Albert Drive, Sheerwater, Woking.
M. P. Francis, Esq., 20 Vernon Walk, Tadworth.

M.23 and M.25 Rescue
Following the Society's decision to employ a professional full-time
archaeologist for observation work on the motorway construction, the
Surrey County Council, the Godstone Rural District Council, the Dorking
and Horley Rural District Council and the Reigate Borough Council were
approached for support. Discussions have been taking place with officers
and committee members of the Surrey County Council. The Godstone
Rural District Council has promised a grant of £100 in the financial
year 1972-73.

Lord Sandford, a Parliamentary Secretary for the Department of the
Environment, announced on 16th December that there is to be an increase
in the Ancient Monument Inspectorate vote, a substantial part of which
is to be allocated to rescue work on the motorways. Accordingly a new
approach for support is to be made to the Inspectorate. Lord Sandford's
announcement was made in response to a question raised in the House of
Lords by Viscount Hanworth.

(D. J. Turner).

RECENT ACCESSIONS TO THE SOCIETY'S LIBRARY

1. GENERAL
Anderson (F. I.), The story of the Royal Garrison Church, All Saints',
Aldershot, Aldershot, 1924.
Boardman (J.) and others, editors. The European community in later
British Museum. Surrey heading from the catalogue of printed maps.
Photocopy.
Brunskill (R. W.). Illustrated handbook of vernacular architecture. London,
1971.

2. LOCAL

3. NEW PERIODICALS

4. NEW ACCESSIONS—previously noted as Recent Publications.
Down (A.) and Rule (M.). Chichester excavations I. Chichester, 1971.
Local History Research in Surrey

To complement the records of archaeological activity maintained by the Society, the Library is to compile a register of local history research in progress in Surrey. We would welcome information on any theses, books, pamphlets, local histories, scrapbooks, and collections currently in progress, whether intended for publication or not, and appeal to individual members, societies and libraries to inform the Hon: Librarian at Castle Arch of any such projects. It is felt that much work must be undertaken unknown to anyone else, and it is hoped that such researchers will not be too reticent: on the other hand, we would not wish to list and publicize any work without the permission of the person undertaking it.

The addition of the Crook collection of prints and drawings to the Society’s already extensive holdings of illustrative material has given a splendid coverage of historic material, and as new roads and redevelopment are changing the face of the county at an ever growing rate, the Library is seeking to add more recent and current illustrations of countryside, roads, buildings, etc., as a record for the future. The Hon. Librarian will be very pleased to hear from any member who may have such illustrative material for disposal in the form of prints, drawings, photographs, postcards or cuttings, but as we do not wish to duplicate our own stocks or unfairly rival existing collections in libraries and museums in the county, a note of what is being offered would be appreciated before actual items are sent.

(R. Christophers).

Merstham: Priory Mead (Church Meadows). (TQ 288536)

Excavations in the copse alongside Priory Mead, Merstham have now stopped. Through this copse ran the old Merstham road continuing its way from Quality Street across Gatton Bottom and up through Marling Gap. It used to be the High Street of Merstham, and was closed when the Croydon-Reigate Turnpike road was built in 1807. Earlier maps show houses or cottages along it, and it was hoped to trace them by excavation. Small sherds of medieval pottery had been found in the area and a site was chosen as free as possible from trees and undergrowth.

In the first of twenty-two trenches three features were revealed which have since dominated the whole excavation.

Feature 1. A wall, stone based and topped by two courses of brick in English bond, 69 metres long, interpreted as the remains of a boundary put up by Thomas Joliffe when he closed the old Merstham road. Both ends are well finished off. There was no trace of any other walls.

Feature 2. Dumped soil, which was found in most trenches. Pottery associated with it ranged in date from late medieval to nineteenth century, but without true stratification.

Feature 3. Below the dumped soil an occupation layer rested over a floor of large flints, Merstham stone and chalk packed hard together. Beneath the floor was the grey clay of the subsoil.

Another interesting feature was a clay-lined gully filled with rubbish and which turned out to be a slit-trench from the Second World War. In the soil dumped alongside the trench by the soldiers was a coin of George III, 1775. Four other coins have been found—a jeton of the late sixteenth century in the top soil, another, also sixteenth century, west of the wall, a George II coin of 1754 in the garden of the adjoining property which was part of the garden of Merstham House until the 1920’s, and a silver penny of Edward I (1272-1307) east of the wall and in association with oyster shells, iron slag and medieval pottery.

A disused driveway leads through the site, towards Merstham House, now destroyed. It had very solid rubble foundations, topped with pebbles. Beneath it were several stratified layers, the bottom one containing articulating sherds of post-medieval combed Staffordshire ware.
Two structures were noted quite near the site: a grotto, presumably built with the first Great House by Thomas Joliffe in 1790—which will be destroyed by the motorway, and a small brick garden shed, probably originally an outside closet of the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century.

(Margaret Trier).

Ewell: St. Mary’s Churchyard (TQ 222631).
The excavation of this site, on behalf of the Nonsuch and Ewell Antiquarian Society and Bourne Hall Museum, (see Bulletin No. 79) was completed on the 8th August 1971. In total, three squares were laid out, on a 25ft. grid system.

Stane Street was known to cross the site diagonally on the London Road alignment, and was, indeed, sectioned. The road itself had been worn remarkably flat and extensively robbed along the eastern edge. A section dug through the metalling revealed 3 layers; large flint nodules packed in yellow gravel formed the upper layer or surface, which rested on a thin layer of pebbles. Both these layers of metalling had been set on a base of light grey soil. Although the eastern ditch was located, the position of the opposite edge and ditch could not be substantiated, even though the section was over 40ft. in length.

At the southern end of the site, flint footings of an oblong building were found. The foundation trench for this structure had been cut into the silt of the eastern ditch of the road. Although the use of this building is at present unknown, postholes found running parallel to the north wall suggest either a verandah or timber superstructure, bounded to the north by a cobbled yard, which had a base of yellow clay and was covered with a thick greasy soil. Immediately adjacent to the yard a large pit was discovered, filled with charcoal. At its base was a flue, facing south-west. By the pit was a tumbled wall foundation, of sandstone and tile, producing 4th century pottery and animal bones. The building and surrounding area produced pottery provisionally dated to the second century including Samian ware cups (Form 27), Amphorae Castor ware, and coarse ware. Several small personal objects were also associated with this group of material, bone pins, fibulae and several coins.

(F. F. Pemberton).

Putney, Seton Street. (TQ 232760).
This excavation previously reported on in Bulletin 71 was completed in November. Small sherds of Neolithic pottery found consisted of nine pieces of girt ware five pieces of leached out shell ware, and two possible wall sherds of Peterborough ware. Additions to the flint assemblage include some wedge shaped knives one having a 90 degree curved edge, some fine central sections of snapped blades maybe parts of a composite sickle or knife. A number of awls, one utilised from a broken flake blade and another made from a piece of a polished implement.

The area excavated appears to have been a chipping floor sloping down to the Beverley Brook, but as the concentration of potsherds increases in the uphill direction we hope shortly to open up an exploratory trench in a garden at a higher level than the existing site.

Mudlarking expeditions along the Thames foreshore produced an early Neolithic flint axe completely undamaged and with a rounded, trancheted bit in perfect condition. An early Iron Age sword with part of its scabbard was also retrieved, this is presently being processed by the London Museum.

(S. E. Warren).

A Woking Diary from the 1830’s
Several loose sheets of a diary, written in Woking in the early 1830’s, were found recently in a local antique shop.
Although short (about 5,000 words) the diary contains much of topographical interest. Its descriptions and sketches include Guildford High Street, Woking "Palace", Woking itself (now Old Woking), and the nearby villages of Goldsworth and Mayford. Mayford is particularly well covered.

The writer was a girl of about 18-20, living with her parents at The Orange, High Street, (Old) Woking. Her identity is not yet known.

The Mayford History Society will be reproducing extracts from the diary in its newsletter during 1972. It is also hoped to publish the complete version later in the year.

(Mayford History Society).

Woldingham: Flint Axe from Park View Road (TQ 368557).

Mrs. A. Atherton of The Hermitage, Park View Road, has reported the finding of a polished axe of pale grey unpatinated flint, about 4 inches long and convex in shape. It is slightly worn at the cutting edge. The butt end is not polished. It is a fine example of a Neolithic axe. Mrs. Atherton found it in January 1971, while gardening, near the surface, and reported it to the Bourne Society in July.

Other Neolithic flint tools have been discovered in Woldingham, some on The Green (NGR TQ 3695587), which is near Park View Road. (Ordnance Survey Records).

(Bourne Society Bulletin 66).

Old Coulsdon: Masonry and pottery (TQ 317577)

Mr. K. Raffield of 113 Waddington Avenue, has reported the discovery of flint walls and pottery in his garden. The walls are probably the boundary wall of Taunton Farm House, which is adjacent to Waddington Avenue. This was the manor-house of the sub-manor of Taunton, and the present buildings may date in part from about 1230. The Knights of the order of St. Thomas of Acre established a hospice there at about this date. (See "Short History of Coulsdon" by U. Broadbent). The pottery dates from about 1250 to Victorian times. It consists mostly of local wares, but includes some German stoneware of the type imported from Cologne in the 16th century.

The owner of Taunton Farm House also reported the finding of about 150 glass beads, some unfired, in his garden. It is thought they may have fallen from the rosaries of the monks. The Maltese cross of the order is carved on the remains of the kingpost roof of the Great Hall.

(Bourne Society Bulletin 66).

Charter Flight to Lebanon

Are there any members interested in making up a charter flight to Beirut in the Lebanon sometime in August or September 1972? Anybody interested please contact Mr. A. N. Talbot, 17 Holly Hedge Road, Frimley, Surrey. Tel: Camberley 26747.

Recent Publications

Anon (1971) Walton Grove (Details about a house whose demolition order is not opposed on account of extensive Victorian alterations) Walton & Weybridge L.H.S. Dial Stone 41, 4-5.


Anon (1971) Coulsdon Downs Nature Trail 1, includes archaeological and historical information) Croydon Parks & Education Department Booklet, 5p from Taberner House, each of Croydon Public Libraries or Welcome Tea Rooms, Farthing Down.

Anon (1971) The Church in the Community, Croydon Parish Church 1870-1970. 40p from the Parish Church or good local booksellers.
Anon (1971) 1911-1971, Sixty Years of Service to the Travelling Public in East Surrey. 9pp, 18 figs. London Country Bus Services, Bell Street, Reigate.
Anon (1971) Polesden Lacey. 40pp, 17 plates, 1 map. Published by The National Trust and on sale at Polesden Lacey.


Harvey, J. (1971) A History of the Parish Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Wimbledon. 19p, 8 figs., 1 plan. Obtainable at the church.


Pike, E. Royston (1971) When "Telegraph" was more than a name. (Note on semaphore stations at Chatley and Hinchley Wood). Esher District L.H.S. Local History News 14, 71-2.


Short, M. (1971) Windmills in Lambeth. 96pp, 70 illus. £1.95 plus 15p postage and packing. Published by London Borough of Lambeth, obtainable from Director of Library and Amenity Services, Lambeth Central Library, Brixton Oval, London SW2 1JG.

Saaler, Mary (1971) Archaeological Notes (Ashtown Park Hotel, TQ 294582 and 6 Sanderstead Way TQ 333631 both being observed by members of the Bourne Society) Bourne Society Bulletin 65, 2.


Epsom Town Centre Plan

The public enquiry into Epsom's town centre plan, originally scheduled to open on 29th February, 1972, is now postponed until 25th April. Fifteen local societies, including the Nonsuch and Ewell Antiquarian Society, have joined together to set up the Action Committee for Epsom. A detailed summary of the situation and of Nonsuch and Ewell Antiquarian Society's objections is contained in N.E.A.S. Newsletter for December, 1971. They are objecting, inter alia, on the following grounds:

The nature of Epsom as an historic town has not been taken into account. Problems of historic buildings and conservation have been given scant or cavalier treatment. There are more historic buildings not listed than listed and the conservation area has been so drawn as to exclude much of the old Spa town central area.

The possibilities of Epsom as an historic town to be visited and as a tourist attraction and the problems of Epsom as a racing centre are not dealt with at all in the proposals, but will be affected adversely by them.

The effect on the open spaces in and around the town has not been seriously considered.

(Norman Nail).

S.A.S. Symposium Bookstall

Organisations or members wishing to sell publications at the S.A.S. Symposium bookstall should send particulars of title, price and number of copies being brought to The Rev. C. Dedman, Borough Librarian, County Library, Bridge Street, Godalming, before March 27th. No late entries will be accepted.

MEETINGS

FEBRUARY

Saturday 5th, 2.45 p.m.
A.G.M. BEDDINGTON, CARshalTON & WALLINGTON A.S. Followed at 4 p.m. by Excavation of Bishop of Argyll's Castle on Lismore, Talk by D. J. Turner. At Darby and Joan Club, Cooper Crescent, Nightingale Road, Carshalton. Visitors 5p. Tea 10p.

Wednesday 9th, 8 p.m.
ST. MARY'S PUTNEY, THE STORY OF PUTNEY PARISH CHURCH. Illustrated talk by Mr. M. Bull to Wandsworth Historical Society at West Hill Library, S.W.18.
Friday 11th, 8.15 p.m.
THE ROYAL MAUNDY CEREMONY. Talk by a member of the Royal Almonry, Buckingham Palace, to Merton Historical Society at the Lecture Room, Morden Library, Morden Road, Morden.

Friday 11th, 8 p.m.
MEDIEVAL HOUSES IN SURREY. Talk by Miss Joan Harding to the Holmesdale Natural History Club at The Museum, Croydon Road, Reigate.

Saturday 12th, 3 p.m.
HERALDRY. Talk by Mr. J. W. Lindus Forge to Walton & Weybridge L.H.S. at the Lecture Hall, Weybridge Library.

Saturday 12th, 2.30 p.m.
THE EVOLUTION OF THE FARM FROM NEOLITHIC TIMES TO THE PRESENT. An afternoon School led by J. R. Armstrong at The Museum, High Street, Haslemere. Two sessions from 2.30-4.30 p.m. and 5-6 p.m. with a tea interval from 4.30-5 p.m.

Tuesday 15th, 8 p.m.
SOME KINGSTON HILL HOUSES AND THEIR INHABITANTS. Talk by Mr. F. E. Manning to Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society at the Lecture Hall, Fairfield West, Kingston.

Thursday 17th, 7.30 p.m.
HISTORIC BUILDINGS IN SOUTH LONDON. Talk by Mr. J. H. Ashdown to Clapham Antiquarian Society at St. Lukes Hall, Ramsden Road, S.W.12.

Friday 18th, 7.45 p.m.
COMMERCIAL FARNHAM IN 1872. Talk by Mr. Ashton Booth to Farnham Museum Society at the Institute of Further Education, Potters Gate, Farnham.

Friday 25th, 8 p.m.
THE WORK OF THE NONSUCH & EWELL ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY. Talk by Mr. N. Nail to Wandsworth Historical Society at The Friends' Meeting House, Wandsworth High Street.

Saturday 26th, 2.30 p.m.

MARCH

Thursday 2nd, 8 p.m.
THE CAREER AND INFLUENCE OF THOMAS HENRY HUXLEY. Talk by Professor Andrew Huxley to Oxted and District H.S. at the Oxted County School, Bluehouse Lane, Oxted.

Friday 3rd, 7.45 p.m.
ENGLISH COUNTRY POTTERY. Talk by Mr. P. D. C. Brears to Farnham Museum Society at the Institute of Further Education, Potters Gate, Farnham.

Sunday 5th

S.A.S. VISIT TO A VICTORIAN ESTATE

East Horsley, home of Lord Lovelace and his wife, the daughter of Lord Byron—Arranged by Miss J. Carter

10.45 a.m. Meet at Horsley Towers, built by Sir Charles Barry. The tour of the house will be conducted by the Warden, Mr. K. H. Donovan.
Luncheon snacks may be bought at the Duke of Wellington public house opposite the entrance to the Towers. After lunch, Mr. W. J. Davies, Head Forester, will lead a walk of about 5 miles through the Green Hill and Dick Fock's Common to see the bridges which Lord Lovelace built over the paths which were Rights of Way. It is advisable to wear strong footwear or better still rubber boots.

Horsley Towers is about a mile from Horsley Station. London Transport Bus 408 stops nearby. Tickets (members 15p, visitors 20p, students half price, children under 16 accompanied by an adult free) from Mrs. J. Major, 3 Riversdale Road, Thames Ditton, KT7 OQL.

Monday 6th, 8 p.m.
THE WEY NAVIGATION. Talk by Mr. W. Hicks to Mayford History Society at Mayford Village Hall, Saunders Lane, Mayford.

Saturday 11th, 3 p.m.
EXCAVATION OF THE IRON AGE AND MEDIEVAL SITE AT BROOKLANDS, WEYBRIDGE. Talk by Rosamond Hanworth to Beddington, Carshalton & Wallington A.S. at Darby & Joan Club, Cooper Crescent, Nightingale Road, Carshalton. Visitors 5p, Tea 10p.

Friday 10th, 8 p.m.
EXCAVATION OF THE BISHOP OF ARGYLL'S CASTLE ON LISMORE. Talk by Mr. D. J. Turner to the Holmesdale Natural History Club at the Museum, Croydon Road, Reigate.

Tuesday 14th, 7 p.m.
ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM OF SOUTHWARK & LAMBETH A.S. Recent Archaeological Work in Southwark and Lambeth. (10 years after the start of the present series of excavations), at North Peckham Civic Centre, Canal Bridge, Old Kent Road. Visitors are welcome.

Wednesday 15th, 8.15 p.m.
SOURCES OF LOCAL HISTORY. Talk with exhibition by Mr. M. Blackman to Walton & Weybridge L.H.S. at Elm Grove, Hersham Road, Walton-on-Thames.

Thursday 16th, 7.30 p.m.
COLLECTING ANTIQUES. Talk by Mr. R. Baxter to Clapham Antiquarian Society at St. Lukes Hall, Ramsden Road, S.W.12.

Friday 17th, 7.45 p.m.
FARNHAM RECORDS AT WINCHESTER. Talk by Miss Cash to Farnham Museum Society at the Institute of Further Education, Potters Gate, Farnham.

APRIL

Saturday 8th, 3 p.m.
THE VALE OF THE WHITE HORSE, BERKSHIRE. Talk by Mrs. Enid Butler to the Beddington, Carshalton & Wallington A.S. at Darby and Joan Club, Cooper Crescent, Nightingale Road, Carshalton. Visitors 5p, Tea 10p.

Wednesday 12th, 8.15 p.m.
BROOKLANDS RACE TRACK. Talk with films by Mr. D. Gahagan to Walton & Weybridge L.H.S. at the Lecture Hall, Weybridge Library.

Saturday 15th
S.A.S. SYMPOSIUM, at Charterhouse School, Godalming. It has been decided to hold a full-day symposium this year. Theme: Rescue and Conservation. Principal Speakers: Peter Fowler (Honorary Secretary, Council for British Archaeology) and Sir John Verney, (Chairman, The Farnham Trust). See separate leaflet enclosed with this Bulletin.
Tuesday 18th, 8 p.m.
MEDIEVAL POTTERY KILNS. Talk by Mr. J. W. G. Musty to Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society at the Lecture Hall, Fairfield West, Kingston.

Friday 21st, 7.45 p.m.
THE ROMAN ROAD FROM SILCHESTER TO CHICHESTER. Talk by Dr. G. Rolston to Farnham Museum Society at the Institute of Further Education, Potters Gate, Farnham.

Friday 28th, 7.45 p.m.
METAL WORK IN BRONZE AGE ENGLAND. Talk by Mr. Ashton Booth to Farnham Museum Society at the Institute of Further Education, Potters Gate, Farnham.

Next Issue
The next issue of the Bulletin will be in April, there will be none in March. Copy for the April issue is required by 5th March.

Farnham Potteries
by P. D. C. BREARS, L.S.I.P.

A little over 100 years ago Absalom Harris commenced potting at Charles Hill, Elstead, and after a few years moved to the Holt Pottery, Rowledge, and then to Clay Hill, Wrecclesham in 1873, where his grandsons Arthur and Reginald Harris still produce 'Farnham greenware'.

Peter Brears, (author of English Country Pottery) has written a history of this Pottery which complements and brings up to date George Sturt's account of an earlier country pottery at Farnborough (George Smith, Potter and Farmer). 19pp Large quarto, 6 illustrations, plans, sections, etc.

It shows interesting aspects of the economy of a small country pottery in the 19th century, for Absalom Harris, like George Smith, was a farmer as well as a potter and his accounts include the income from sales of barley, straw, potatoes, etc.

A liaison with the infant Farnham School of Art, which celebrates its centenary this year, is another feature brought to light.

There are chapters on technique as well as history, and the booklet may be had from Farnham Museum at 30p by post (25p to visitors).