

## SEPTEMBER MEETING

SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

MEETING No. 7 SATURDAY, 25th SEPTEMBER

### SYMPOSIUM AND EXHIBITION AT GUILDFORD

Organiser: K. W. E. GRAVETT, M.Sc.

The Symposium will be held on Saturday, 25th September, and a notice of this has been enclosed with this *Bulletin*. Due to the change this year to the Civic Hall, there will be plenty of room and tickets will be on sale at the door at 6/- each. Also tea has been arranged at 3/- per head. Special arrangements have been made for members of the Society (and also local societies who have been notified) to purchase tickets in advance at the following prices:

Member 4/-, Visitor 6/-, Tea 3/-.

Please apply for tickets, enclosing correct remittance, to:-

Mrs. R. K. Chiles, 38 Court Hill, Sanderstead,

and NOT to Castle Arch or the organiser.

There will also be a bookstall as another innovation at this year's Symposium.

Members are reminded that the exhibition of recent archaeological finds and material from recent excavations, etc., will be open free from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., 4th to 25th September, at Guildford House, High Street, Guildford.

## OCTOBER MEETING

SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

AND

MERTON AND MORDEN HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MEETING No. 8 SATURDAY, 23rd OCTOBER, 1965

JOINT LECTURE AT MORDEN

### THE ROMAN VILLA AT ECCLES, NEAR MAIDSTONE

EXCAVATIONS 1962-1965

To be given by A. P. DETSICAS, M.A., F.S.A.

This lecture will be given at Morden Library, Morden Road, S.W.19, and will start at 2.30 p.m. Morden Library is 1 min. walk north from Morden L.T. Station (Northern Line), near the junction of Kenley Road and Morden Road.

Tea will be served after the lecture to those who send notification in advance to:-

Miss E. M. Jowett, 12 Cranleigh Road, S.W.19.

(Telephone: CHerrywood 1153)

The cost of tea will be 3/6d.

Please do NOT apply to Castle Arch or to Mrs. Chiles.

## FUTURE MEETINGS

November: Lectures at Guildford.

4th December: Lecture with the Leatherhead and District Local History Society at Leatherhead.

## SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD

Number 9

BULLETIN

September, 1965

### EXCAVATION NOTICE

WESTON WOOD, ALBURY: LATE BRONZE AGE HOMESTEAD

(N.G.R.: TQ 053485)

Excavations will continue during the week-end of 11th-12th September. Details were given in the May *Bulletin*.

Enquiries to: Miss Joan M. Harding, 57 The Green, Ewell.

(Telephone: MUSEum 3644, ext. 330).

### NOTES AND QUERIES

#### Council for British Archaeology : Summer Meeting

The forty-second meeting of the C.B.A. was held on 9th July at Burlington House. The annual report and the accounts were adopted. This year's annual report includes for the first time separate reports from groups 11A and 11B. The Council discussed revised affiliation fees for universities, museums and societies, and revised subscription rates for C.B.A. publications. It was decided to increase both but also to introduce a larger saving for people or organisations taking out a consolidated subscription. These are the first changes since 1958. The use of bankers orders by affiliated organisations and subscribers was urged.

The Council also debated the question of the preservation of historic town centres. In the light of the Buchanan report a sub-committee of the Executive had been considering the question and reported to the Council. A list of important historic town centres has been drawn up with two grades of importance. The Council agreed that the Minister of Housing and Local Government should be informed of its views.

A one day conference has been arranged for Saturday, 23rd October. It will be held at the Institute of Archaeology, Gordon Square, and its subject will be "Mechanical Aids to Archaeology". Papers will be read on subjects ranging from the removal of top soil by earth shifting machinery to the methods for aiding the excavation of waterlogged sites. A fee of approximately 12/- will be charged: this will cover the cost of morning coffee and afternoon tea but not of lunch.

The meeting was followed by a stimulating, if controversial, paper by Prof. R. J. C. Atkinson entitled "Question and answer in field archaeology". Prof. Atkinson cast doubt upon the policy followed in Britain regarding rescue excavations. He urged that fewer such excavations be undertaken and that those rescue digs that did take place should aim to be larger in scale. He deplored the tendency to sample sites and suggested this technique often produced misleading results. A need for more non-excavational field work was stressed. The necessity for choosing project leaders whose scholarship as well as technical ability was suited to the work undertaken was a recurrent theme in the paper.

(D. J. Turner.)

#### **The Dead-board : a vanishing memorial**

These wooden churchyard memorials, found throughout the Home Counties and once common in Surrey, are fast disappearing. At it was formerly the custom to paint them at regular intervals, the life of the better preserved amongst them might be prolonged if this were done. In other cases wood preservative might be used. However, under present conditions, they are likely to become extinct within the next fifty years, either through natural decay or in the churchyard clearances that are now becoming rife. It follows that record at least, is urgent. Frederick Burgess is preparing a paper on this subject and would be grateful to receive any data to help him prepare a list of existing specimens in Surrey churchyards. The names of places where restoration is feasible would also be appreciated.

(F. Burgess).

#### **Albury : Weston Wood (TQ 053485)**

The ten month's work just completed has revealed a busy working floor on the crest of a slight ridge. There are two open furnaces on laid carstone and clay bases. Each has an ash pit beside it. The area around is burnt red. Dr. Tylecote agrees that we have a hearth that could have been used for melting but neither crucibles nor moulds have been identified. Near there is a blob of waste metal and several spindle whorls.

Much fragmentary pottery including black burnished wares with flared rims has been recovered. There is another "egg cup" with a 1½" base, and a complete pot in a pit. There is a three feet deep storage pit with possible post holes round it.

The mesolithic horizon, sealed by blown sand, nine inches below the L.B.A. floor, is being investigated. Blades, microliths and a Thames pick have been found.

Prof. Dimpleby and Dr. Cornwall have visited the site and taken samples from both floors for pollen analysis. Mr. Hawley from the research laboratory at Oxford has taken baked clay from the furnace for possible magnetic dating. Results of the analysis of eight pieces of metal are now to hand from Dennis Britton of Oxford.

The grant from the Carnegie Trust has been used to augment basic tools — buckets, shovels, trowels and barrows.

(Joan M. Harding).

#### **Caterham district : Bourne Society map of Local monuments**

In order to give maximum publicity to local antiquities, the Bourne Society has published, through the *Croydon Advertiser*, a map of monuments in its area, i.e. Caterham, Warlingham, Coulsdon and Purley. This is accompanied by a list of antiquities rather broader in scope than the County Council's list: it includes, for instance, churches, notable buildings up to the present day, and areas of antiquarian interest that unsuitable development might spoil. In addition, there is an illustrated article surveying the district's monuments and suggesting a common sense attitude towards their preservation. A reprint of two thousand has been largely taken up by schools. This will not be sold to the public but members of the S.A.S. with similar preservation problems may obtain a copy by sending a stamped addressed foolscap envelope and a shilling postal order to 156 Croydon Road, Caterham.

(J. C. Batley).

#### **Chertsey : St. Ann's Chapel (TQ 026775)**

Work on the reputed site of the Chapel of St. Ann, at Whitsun, exposed the north-western corner of a stone building. Two courses of

dressd Reigate stone about twenty feet long remain of the north wall, together with foundations of two buttresses about ten feet apart. One of the buttresses, at the corner of the building, is at an angle. About ten feet of the foundations of the west wall were also uncovered, terminating, it is thought, at a possible door opening. Surmounting the stone of the north wall are several courses of "Tudor" brickwork. Finds on the site were a few fragments of glazed medieval floor tiles and a late sixteenth century skillet.

Historical records give a chapel on St. Ann's Hill in 1334 and an eighteenth century scholar noted that a house was erected in the sixteenth century on the very spot where the chapel stood.

Work is proceeding,

(W. T. F. Bult).

#### **Guildford : Course on the archaeology of Western Asia**

At the time of going to press the full range of archaeological evening courses that will be available in Surrey and South London this winter is still not known. However there will be a W.E.A. course at Guildford, given by E. P. Uphill, M.A., on the archaeology of Egypt of Western Asia. The lectures will be on Monday evenings from 7.30 to 9.30 p.m. and will be given at the Royal Grammar School. There will be twenty-four lectures dealing with the periods from mesolithic times to the Persian conquest.

(E. S. Wood).

#### **Hookwood : Mouted enclosure at Moat Farm (TQ 266447)**

A second season of excavations were carried out at this site between 10th and 25th April. The work was organised by the newly formed Holmesdale Archaeological Group in conjunction with this Society.

The foundations of a medieval building were discovered. Ploughing had badly disturbed the site but it was possible to recover the line of one wall and an internal partition. The lines of other walls could be inferred from the presence of disturbed, and occasional undisturbed, stones. Construction was apparently one stage more advanced than that at Burstow where evidence of sleeper beams resting directly in the clay was found. At Hookwood sleeper walls consisting of a single layer of small boulders of local stone had been packed with broken roof tiles to form an approximately level base for the sleeper beam. The partition base was formed by a row of small slabs of local stone. The remains appear to be those of a rectangular building approximately 16 ft. by 30 ft. divided into two rooms. No hearth was found and it is possible that this was not the only building on the site. Another possible interpretation is that the remains were only one end of a building, 30 ft. wide, the rest of which had been destroyed by ploughing.

Much pottery was found associated with the building. It included several sherds of decorated jugs and many sherds of a glazed jug of cream-slipped pink ware it is proving possible to reconstruct partially. The pottery may be dated in general terms to 1250-1350, in particular the absence of buff Surrey ware apparently gives a terminus ante quem.

(D. J. Turner).

#### **Mortlake : Pottery kilns (TQ 208759)**

The evidence regarding the eighteenth and nineteenth century pottery manufactories in Mortlake has recently been summarised in the Thames Basin Archaeological Observers' Group's *Newsletter* No. 26 by Brian Bloice. The possibility of earlier potteries in Mortlake in the seventeenth century is also noted, as are the discovery of kiln wasters and furniture on the foreshore in 1964.

(T.B.A.O.G. *Newsletter*).