



Surrey Archaeological Society

No 20 August 2022

E-newsletter

Welcome to the Society's August e-newsletter, which highlights a few of the various events – conferences, lectures, training sessions, news items, etc – which we hope to be of interest to our members. Although general queries should continue to be directed to Hannah (info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk), those interested in volunteer opportunities or general outreach can contact me at outreach@surreyarchaeology.org.uk. Please also keep up-to-date via the website and social media ([@surreyarch](https://www.instagram.com/surreyarch)) for group and event updates.

Anne Sassin (*SyAS Outreach Projects Manager*)

Medieval Pilgrimage in Surrey – a self guided walk



Tying into this year's Festival of Archaeology theme of 'journeys', the Medieval Studies Forum has put together a self-guided heritage trail leaflet themed around medieval pilgrimage. While the leaflet incorporates some of the limited evidence we have for pilgrimage taking place in Surrey during the Middle Ages, it focuses in particular on two ecclesiastical sites with evidence as pilgrimage sites: St Martha's and St Catherine's, near Guildford. This includes a

self-guided walk between the two sites, walking along the 'Pilgrim's Way', with a suggested starting point in Guildford and alternative train connection at Chilworth. Other points of interest along the way, including Guildford Museum, are highlighted. The leaflet is available as a downloadable pdf (both the print version and read-only) from the [website](#).

Local History Symposium

On **Saturday 8 October** (9:55-15:30) at Surrey History Centre, the Surrey Local History Committee will hold its annual local history symposium, this year themed on Poverty ("You have the poor with you always").

Talks include Catherine Ferguson on "Those that "pinch and suffer want" – the treatment of the poor in post-Restoration Surrey: a tapestry of local variation', Judy Hill on 'Rethinking the Old Poor Law once seen as profligate, extravagant and grievously flawed in 1834 – fact or fiction?', Viv Bennet on 'Spike Lives – stories of inmates at Guildford Workhouse in 1881' and Martin Stilwell 'Quality housing for deserving workers. Building high quality council housing for the ex-servicemen and workers of Surrey after WW1'.

Tickets are priced at £15. For full programme and booking form, please visit the [website](#).



Medieval Graffiti recording day, St Andrew's, Cobham

On **Saturday 10 September** (approx 10:00-15:00), the Medieval Studies Forum will be working with Dr David Taylor to offer a trial workshop on medieval graffiti, using St Andrew's Cobham as a case study. The day will include a talk and tour of the church from David Taylor, overview of medieval graffiti and its recording, and group sessions to record some of the graffiti within the church. Spaces will be limited, due to the confined areas. Please contact medforum@hotmail.co.uk to reserve a place.

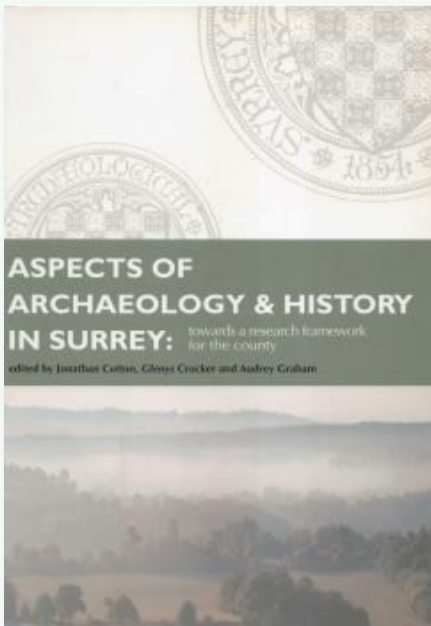
Medieval Studies Forum pottery study day

On **Saturday 1 October** (10:00-15:20) at East Horsley Village Hall, the MSF will be hosting a study day on medieval pottery, covering topics from the clay used, the techniques of pot making, pottery identification and the impact on the people of medieval society. Confirmed speakers include Duncan Brown (English Heritage), Jacqui Pearce (MOLA), Lorraine Mephram (Wessex Archaeology), Lisa Backhouse, Mark Eller and Lyn Spencer. Nikki Cowlard will also pay a tribute to the late Steve Nelson.



Further details, including the application form, will be circulated to MSF members and then posted on the Events page of the Society's website when the programme is finalised.

New uploads of SyAS publications onto website



Two benchmark Society publications have recently been uploaded onto the website as searchable PDFs: *Aspects of Archaeology and History in Surrey* and *Early Medieval Surrey: landholding, church and settlement before 1300*.

Aspects is now out of print but continues to be highly relevant to students of Surrey's archaeology and history. Published to coincide with the sesquicentenary of the Society, it gathers together a number of papers read at a conference held at the University of Surrey in June 2001, and in practical terms updates and expands the scope of the Society's 1987 volume *Archaeology in Surrey to 1540*.

John Blair's *Early Medieval Surrey* was originally published in 1991 and is a study of the institutions and the economy in Surrey during the early and central Middle Ages.



Society for Museum Archaeology annual conference



A two-day annual conference, themed this year on 'the museum as a resource', will be held at the University of Nottingham and live streamed on **Thursday 15 and Friday 16 September**. A full

programme and booking info is available via [Eventbrite](#).

The Afterlife of Roman Britain: Reuse & Recycling in Early Medieval England

On **Wednesday 21 September** at 19:30 the University of Sussex Archaeological Society will be hosting a lecture by Richard Best, a PhD student at Canterbury Christ Church University, on how Roman material was actively reused and recycled as a dynamic practice which facilitated interactions between the Anglo-Saxon present and the Roman past. Although free, you must [register](#) for this lecture in advance.

The Diggers of St George's Hill talk

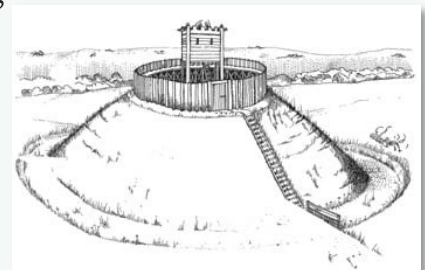
On **Saturday 19 November** at 15:00, Dr David Taylor of Cobham will tell the story of Gerrard Winstanley and the Diggers at Saint Mary Oatlands Church Hall, Weybridge. In 1649, at the end of the English Civil War, a group of men and women from Cobham and Walton took over some common land on St George's Hill to build houses and plant crops, living in community. Their leader, Gerard Winstanley, claimed God had spoken to him and called him to lead the group. To register, please visit the [website](#).



Surrey Historic Environment Research Framework 2022

On **Saturday 26 November**, the Society will host its annual SHERF conference, this year on the theme of 'Defensive structures: symbols of power?' This will be an online conference, with a range of speakers, including Barney Harris on linear earthworks, Krysia Truscoe on oppida, Stuart Brooks on Anglo-Saxon burhs, William Wyeth on timber towers, Peter Mills on Civil War defences and Paul Ferris on WW2 defences.

A full programme and booking information will be available soon, but for now, please save the date.



Abinger motte reconstruction (drawing by David Williams)



Finds from the FLO



5 August is the anniversary of the defeat of the Vikings at Tettenhall by king Edward the Elder, a battle which helped pave the way for the unification of England. Here is one of his coins, [SUR-6BA925](#), a fragment of a silver penny of Edward the Elder, dating to AD 899-924, from West Horsley.

12 August is the anniversary of the suicide of Cleopatra VII Philopater of Egypt in 30 BC, allegedly by snake bite. There appears to be only one Roman period coin of hers recorded by the PAS, which is this incomplete silver denarius ([SUR-205CA1](#)), dating to 34 BC, found in Merstham, Surrey.



Surrey Heritage online talks

Surrey Heritage will resume their online heritage talks this autumn, which run on Wednesdays from 17:30 and are available to purchase for £5 [online](#).



Wednesday 7 September – Where there's a will

Wednesday 21 September – A Burden on the Parish: sources for the history of Poor Relief in Surrey

Wednesday 5 October – The book that changed my life (Julian Pooley)

Wednesday 26 October – John Evelyn in Surrey

Wednesday 9 November – In the Shadow of the Great War: Surrey 1914 to 1922

Heritage Open Days

A HOD event at the Society's offices in Abinger will take place on **Thursday 15 September**. This will coincide with an AARG working day, with other groups invited to set up displays. The library will also be open to browse, with free admission for members and non-members alike. Contact info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk if you wish to participate.

For more information on opportunities in your local region, be sure to follow SCAU (education.scau@surreycc.gov.uk and [@diggingsurreypast](https://twitter.com/diggingsurreypast)), as well as the Council for British Archaeology South-East (www.cbassouth-east.org and [@CBASouthEast](https://twitter.com/CBASouthEast)).