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SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD
BULLETIN

Number 126

April 1976

Edited by Nancy Cox, "Karm" 108 Westfield Road,
Mayford, Woking GU22 9QP

EXCAVATION NOTICE

EGHAM:

DAISY MEADOW, MANOR FARM (centred at TQ 015714)

Director: David Longley

Work on this site may still be in progress when members receive this Bulletin. Please contact David Bird (Guildford 32454) for up to date details.

VISITS

Saturday, 24th April

DARENTH VALLEY, KENT

Full details were given in Bulletin 125.

Wednesday, 12th May

GRAVETYE MANOR AND WEST HOATHLY, SUSSEX

Arranged by Mr. D. E. Booker.

By own transport, via B2036 which leaves A23 from Redhill just north of Horley.

11.30 a.m. Balcombe. Meet in old village, to view: The Ouse viaduct (1,475ft long. Built in 1839)
Tickeridge House (fourteenth century)
Gravetye Manor.

1.15-2.30 p.m. Lunch

Obtainable at Gravetye Manor, or snacks can be obtained at The Cat in West Hoathly.

2.30 p.m. West Hoathly Church, Manor House and Museum in Priest's House.

It is hoped that tea will be provided by the W.I.

Please contact Mrs J. Major, 3 Riversdale Road, Thames Ditton, KT7 0QL for further details.

OBITUARY

Mr I. D. Margary, MA, FSA

One of the Society's most distinguished members, Mr Ivan Donald Margary, died on 18th February 1976, aged 79. He was well-known for his pioneer, and indeed, unique, studies of the Roman Roads in Britain (the title of his book published in 1955/57); this had been preceded by his *Roman Ways in the Weald* of 1948. He was always ready to help any worker in this field, and will be long remembered by very many for his kindly, but very unobtrusive helpfulness.

Mr Margary joined the Society in 1927, and became a Vice-President in 1947. He was a valuable member of Council, and took a deep interest in the Society's welfare. His generous gift of £6,000 to the Society some years ago altered its financial position overnight; he wished this to be used for out-of-the-run publications. Over the years he followed this up by gifts of books and money for the Library at Castle Arch which was renamed the Margary Room in his honour.

He was equally generous to the Kent and Sussex societies (of which he had been President), and to the Society of Antiquaries and the RAI. The Nation itself is indebted to him for preserving the Fishbourne site.

(Eric Wood)

Since this Obituary was written it has been learnt that, in addition to his generosity during his lifetime, Mr Margary has ensured that the Society will benefit under the terms of his will.

(D. J. Turner)

NOTES AND QUERIES

New Members from 1.2.76

Mrs E. D. Tyrwhitt Drake, Walnut Tree Cottage, Effingham, Leatherhead, KT24 5QA

D. M. Barker, 9 The Crescent, Egham, TW20 9PQ

Miss C. C. White, 14 Florida Road, Thornton Heath, CR4 8EU

H. J. Duffus, Greenacre, 1 Manor Close, Pyrford, Woking

Mrs C.M. Bourne, 17 Parkhurst Road, Guildford GU2 6AP

Mr and Mrs D. Evans, 48 Guildford Park Road, Guildford GU2 5MF

T. W. Holmes, Hollister, 70 Reigate Road, Dorking RH4 1QB

Publications

Research Volume No 2, *Alsted: The Excavation of a Thirteenth-Fourteenth Century Sub-Manor House, with its Ironworks, at Netherne Wood, Mersham*, by Lesley L. Ketteringham, is expected to be distributed to members shortly.

Research Volume No 3, a miscellaneous volume, is now with the printers and will follow later in the year.

Research Volume No 4, *Brooklands, Weybridge: Excavation of an Iron Age and Medieval Site, 1964-5 and 1970-1*, by Rosamond Hanworth and David Tomalin, is in active preparation.

The Council has approved a decision of the Publications Committee that Vol 71 of the Collections should be postponed and priority given to the

Woking: Knaphill (SU 964594)

A Mesolithic flint axe or adze, which was found some years ago in a ploughed field off Warbury Lane, Knaphill, was loaned by the owner, Miss E. H. Lawson, of Lynbrook, Knaphill, for a record to be made.

The 6½ in long implement has a distinctly twisted appearance in profile. It is of patinated light brown/fawn mottled flint, with a few dark brown patches.

(Nancy Cox)

Information required

A member of the SAS is working on a volume for the Surrey Record Society on the Clayton Estate Papers, showing the build up of the estate, and the value of the collection of documents to any possible student or researcher. Anyone who can give information is asked to contact Mr E. A. Kernthaler, 82 Pine Hill, Epsom KT18 7BQ.

Correction: Bulletin 124. Excavations at Burford Bridge and Juniper Hill

It is regretted that incorrect map references were given for Sites B and C. These should have read TQ 17805340 (Site B) and TQ 17405310 (Site C).

(Editor)

Recent Publications

Christophers, R. A. (1976) The First Reference to Woking (AD 708/15) *Mayford History Society Newsletters* 36 and 37.

James, T. M. (1976) The George Inn, Croydon (now demolished, except for archway) *Croydon NHSS* 33.

Lindus Forge, J. W. (1976). Clews, formerly in Molesey Road, Hersham (TQ 11546423). (Notes on building now demolished). Ice House, Cottimore Lane, Walton. *Walton & Weybridge LHS Dial Stone* 64, 3.

Merton Historical Society (1976). Listed Buildings in the London Borough of Merton (cont.) *Merton HS Bulletin* 44, 4.

Pardoe, B. F. J. (1976). Lock Keepers' Note Books. (Wey Navigation. Notes concerning Oatlands House, and Thames Lock). *Walton & Weybridge LHS Dial Stone* 64, 3.

Pardoe, B. F. J. (1976) Ham Mills, Weybridge. *Walton & Weybridge LHS Dial Stone* 64, 5-8.

Sowan, P. W. (1974). Hearthstone Mining at Brockham. (A review, with bibliography, of evidence for nineteenth/twentieth century stone mining in Brockham Parish) *Pelobates* (Croydon Caving Club magazine) 25, 10-11 and 12-13. See *Bulletin* 122.

Stonebanks, J. A. (1975). An Account of the Electricity Undertakings supplying Weybridge and Walton-on-Thames 1900-1925. *Walton & Weybridge LHS Monograph* No 23. (Continuation of Monograph No 19—see *Bulletin* 119).

Thompson, Ann E. (1975). Thames Ditton Bronze Foundry—Some Further Notes. (See also *Bulletin* 119). *Esher District LHS Newsletter* 30, 224-228.

Walker, T. E. C. (1975). Esher Place. *Esher District LHS Newsheet* 30, 221.

Warren, S. (1975) Excavations at Putney Church (St Mary's) (providing outline of pre-1836 church). *The Wandsworth Historian* 13, 15.

West, I. J. (1975). "Town Trail" around Ewell. *Nonsuch AS Newsletter* June 1975 and *Bulletin* 118.

Reigate: Colley Hill Hearthstone Mine (TQ 24535193)

The hearthstone mine at Colley Hill was the last working mine to close and remained in production until 1960 or 1961. The galleries run above those of a building stone (firestone) mine thought by some to have been the source of Reigate Stone in medieval and early post-medieval times (see H. Pearman, 1963, *Secret Tunnels in Surrey*, 53). Blocked entrances to mines at a lower level can be seen nearby to the east (TQ 246519) and north-west (TQ 244520).

Mr R. P. Shaw, of the Croydon NHSS, has recently recorded in *Pelobates* (the magazine of the Croydon Caving Club) 28 (November 1975) 6-7, with plan, the result of an investigation of the mine that became possible in early 1974 following a small collapse near the blocked entrance of the hearthstone mine.

Some 900m of passage were found to be open, terminated by roof falls. A large number of timber props still supported the roofs of the open passages, but these were in poor condition. Originally entrance to the mine had been via two passages and in both a small stream fell from the roof and sank into the floor. This water entered the mine via a small fault and, in the main drive, had been diverted to the sides of the passage at roof level by a hood of sheet iron to enable the miners to pass through without getting wet. The passages had a height of about 1.8m, varied in width from 2 to 4m, and had a dip of 2° - 3° to the north. In places, fallen roof stone had been walled along the sides of the main drive and, in one of the side passages, a large number of old pit props had been dumped. Rails ran along the whole length of the main drive and along one of the side passages.

A crowbar(?), the remains of two mine trolleys, several "step-powder" packets and some candles were removed from the mine by the speleologists. A broken turntable and the remains of several other trolleys were left in the mine along with a candle-holder fashioned from a one gallon can.

The mine is unstable and dangerous and the entrance has been re-blocked.
(D. J. Turner)

Woking: Brockhill, near Parley Bridge, Horsell (SU 983595)

In the 1920s/1930s Sir Henry Lawson, now of "Churchmead", Pirbright, and his father, the late Mr H. P. Lawson, found over 1,500 flint implements and struck flakes in the ploughed soil of a small area of their land at Brockhill. At that time, these were ascribed to the Upper Palaeolithic period. (Smith, R. 1924 *Ant. J.*, 415. Reproduced *Sy. A.C. XXXVI*. (Hooper, W., 1933. *Sy. A.C. XLI*, 55).)

Sir Henry has very generously given the flints to the writer for eventual transmission to the Surrey Archaeological Society for use as a study collection.

In the late summer of 1975, the Mayford History Society carried out a trial excavation on the same area, prior to eventual development. As many of the flints in Sir Henry's collection would appear to be Mesolithic, a special search was made for microliths. Several were found, including two of rod type. Although numbers of flints were found, there was no evidence of great concentration in any particular spot, and no other features were found.

A report on Sir Henry's collection, and on the trial excavation, is now being prepared for publication.

(Nancy Cox, for Mayford History Society)

above. It is planned to issue it early in 1977 and material submitted for this volume should reach the Editor by the end of May 1976.

Joint Series of Publications with the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society. With the approval of the Councils of both societies, it has been agreed to issue a series of reports of excavations in Southwark, for distribution to the members of both societies. The first volume is now in preparation by an editorial team which includes Harvey Sheldon, Southwark Archaeological Excavations Committee; Hugh Chapman, Assistant Editor, LAMAS; and Joan Harries, Editor, SAS. It will cover excavations carried out in 1972-74.

(Marguerite Gollancz, Chairman, Publications Committee)

Dorking: (TQ 17305079)

Evidence for occupation around Dorking in the late Roman period has been discovered by Mr Dick Howlett, head groundsman for "Friends' Provident Life Offices, while digging a trench 45cm wide by 75cm deep for a water pipe. A quantity of tile, amongst which was at least one tegula and two box flue tiles with chevron markings, and pottery, including a sherd from the lid of a "Castor box" and a mortarium rim, was found at depths of up to 75cm in disturbed soil. Some scattered flint was also present, and areas of flint rubble and mortar were apparent in places in the trench bottom.

The site lies on raised ground immediately west of the confluence of the Pippbrook and the river Mole and about 450m east of the Ordnance Survey line of Stane Street. In 1649 it was part of a cultivated field known as Ston Hern. Mr S. E. Winbolt recorded that two coins of Constantine I and a small fourth century radiate were found in 1935 in the garden of Pixholme Court (TQ 172508).

(Vivien Ettlinger)

Merstham: Gatton Bottom Mine (TQ 280536)

Harry Pearman (1963, *Secret Tunnels in Surrey*, 19) records, under Gatton, an entrance to a mine in Gatton Bottom which is actually in Merstham parish. A well made, brick-lined passage leads to a large chamber with a series of short, blocked passages.

A test bore a short distance to the north-east made in 1971 in connection with the construction of the M25, pierced a gallery system at a lower level which was explored by Mr D. Musto of the Croydon Caving Club. Artefacts from this series were published by Mr G. Besant (*Pelobates*, the magazine of the Croydon Caving Club, 18 (June, 1972), 5) and comprised a wine bottle, c 1830; clay pipe bowl, 1810-50; a "spike" or "dog" hammered into a pillar; and several broken wedges. The impression obtained was of a mine no longer active after c 1830.

Mr Allan Ockenden, writing in *Pelobates* 28 (November 1975, 6) records, that during the early part of 1975, a new collapse occurred about 15m south of the bore hole excavated in 1971.

The collapse revealed a shaft about 2m diameter which led into the small series of galleries previously discovered. Marks on the wall showed that the shaft was probably used for hauling.

(D. J. Turner)

SYMPOSIUM

INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON DENDROCHRONOLOGY IN NORTHERN EUROPE

At the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, from Monday 11th to
Thursday 14th July, 1977.

Organised by the National Maritime Museum in collaboration with the Research Laboratory for Archaeology and the History of Art, Oxford University, and with the support of the Royal Society and the Council for British Archaeology.

This will be the first regional conference in Europe, and its purpose is to focus attention on the progress of dendrochronology in the temperate (transalpine) parts of Europe.

For further details apply **BEFORE 15th APRIL, 1976** to The Organising Secretary, Symposium on Dendrochronology in Northern Europe, National Maritime Museum, Greenwich SE10 9NF.

MEETINGS

APRIL

Wednesday 14th, 8.15 p.m.

VICTORIAN AND EDWARDIAN HOUSES IN WALTON AND WEYBRIDGE. R. Woollard to Walton & Weybridge LHS at Elmgrove, Walton.

Tuesday 20th, 8 p.m.

THE MEDIEVAL HOUSE AT BROOKLANDS, WEYBRIDGE. Rosamond Hanworth to Guildford Group SAS at the Brew House, Guildford.

Friday 30th, 8 p.m.

MINOAN PALACES AND OTHER SITES IN CRETE. Tony Shaw to Wandsworth HS in Friends Meeting House, Wandsworth High Street.

MAY

Monday 3rd, 8 p.m.

ROMAN ROADS. Rosamond Hanworth to Mayford HS in Mayford Village Hall, Saunders Lane, Mayford, Woking.

The next issue of the *Bulletin* at the beginning of May, will be a joint one for May and June. Copy is required by the 5th April.
