

SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD
BULLETIN

Number 154

February 1979

Edited by Lesley Ketteringham, 14 Court Road, Godstone
(Please note change of address)

Tel: Godstone 842660 until 1st March

EXCAVATION NOTICE

REIGATE: OLD VICARAGE SITE (TQ 25705036)

(Director: David Williams)

Excavation is now taking place on Sundays. Further details from David Williams, who can be contacted during the day on 01-223 3431.

NOTES AND QUERIES

Assistant Librarian

Mrs P. F. Ashworth, BA, has been appointed Assistant Librarian to the Society for an initial period of two years. She will be pleased to assist members with their enquiries, and to explain the working of the library system, as well as carrying out some reorganisation of the Research Material. She is to be found at Castle Arch in the mornings, from Monday to Friday, and on the first and third Saturdays of each month, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. During the first and third weeks, she will not be in the library on Thursday mornings. It would be appreciated if members requiring research material, or particularly wishing to see the Librarian could give advance notice of their visit by ringing the Museum—GUILDFORD 66551.

(Gillian Drew)

LAMAS/SAS Joint Publication No. 1

The above publication (in two parts) is now ready and those members who opted to collect their copies should do so during the two weeks 12th-24th March. The times at which the distributing centres will be open for collection are as follows:

GUILDFORD: The SAS Library, Castle Arch. Tel.: Guildford 66551.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 12th, 13th, 14th and 16th March, 9.30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Saturday, 17th March, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.

Monday, 19th March to Friday, 23rd March, 9.30 a.m.-1 p.m.

LONDON: The Museum of London, London Wall. Tel.: 01-600 3699.

Tuesday-Friday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

KINGSTON: Surrey Record Office, County Hall. Tel.: 01-546 1050.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 9.30 a.m.-4.45 p.m.

Thursday, 1.45 p.m.-4.45 p.m.

Saturday, 24th March (by arrangement before Thursday, 22nd March), 9.30 a.m.-12.30 p.m.

CHERTSEY: Chertsey Museum, The Cedars, Windsor Street. Tel.: Chertsey 65764.

Tuesday and Thursday, 2-5 p.m.

Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. and 2-5 p.m.

DORKING: Dorking Museum, West Street. (NB: No parking outside, but three public car parks nearby.)

Wednesday, 12 noon-5 p.m.

Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

CROYDON: Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society, 96A Brighton Road, South Croydon (entrance down passageway between 96 and 98, on west side of Brighton Road, between Haling Park Road and Avon Path, and almost opposite Jarvis Road).

Monday, 12th March, 8-10 p.m.; Wednesday, 14th March, 11 a.m.-

1 p.m.; Friday, 16th March, 2-4 p.m.; Monday, 19th March, 8-10

p.m.; Tuesday, 20th March, 7-8 p.m.; Saturday, 24th March, 2-5 p.m.

(Hon. Editor)

SAS Visits 1979 (see Bulletin 153)

17th March: This visit has been cancelled.

4th April: Details of the April visit will appear in the March Bulletin.

Interested persons please phone Joan Major, 01-398 5446.

Co-ordination of Site Codes

One matter arising from the Recording Workshop held in May (see Bulletin 149) was the suggestion that there should be a scheme to co-ordinate all site codes used for excavations in Surrey. This suggestion was taken up by the Excavations Committee of the Society which discovered that such a system was already in being for the Greater London Council area. Accordingly the Committee agreed to recommend to the Liaison meetings with local societies held in Sutton and Guildford that a system should be established in Surrey to avoid the duplication of site codes. This recommendation has now been accepted by both meetings and it is therefore intended to bring the scheme into operation throughout Surrey.

Codes should consist of three letters or numbers plus the last two numbers of the year in which the dig started (unless there were several separate seasons on one site when it will probably be best for each to receive the new year numbers). The site director should choose a code and then check with the County Archaeological Officer that it has not previously been used. Organisations in Greater London "Surrey" may check with Elizabeth Platts of the Inner London Unit (01-242 6620) if they prefer, as she is responsible for the system covering the GLC area and it is intended to co-ordinate codes in that area and in Surrey.

Societies and groups are requested now to send information about site codes currently in use to the writer. (It is hoped soon to circulate all local groups for information about past excavations in general, including old site codes.)

(D. G. Bird)

Lloyds Bank Fund for Independent Archaeologists

Lloyds Bank have agreed to establish a fund called Lloyds Bank Fund for Independent Archaeologists. The fund shall be of £1,000 a year, for five years in the first instance, the position to be reviewed after the fourth year.

The fund shall be used for grants to local archaeological societies and voluntary groups for the purchase of equipment. Equipment shall be defined broadly to include both items used in field survey, aerial photos, excavation and in post-excavation work leading up to publication.

The fund shall be administered by the Royal Archaeological Institute. Grants will be made on the advice of a Grants Committee, consisting of representatives appointed by the Society of Antiquaries, the Royal Archaeological Institute, RESCUE and Current Archaeology.

Applicants shall give details of the project for which the equipment is needed, together with a summary of what has been achieved so far. The applicants should state the estimated cost of the equipment and the amount needed from the fund. If the cost of the equipment exceeds the grant made they should state whether the excess is to hand, or if not, how they propose to raise it. Applications should be sent to Miss Winifred Phillips, Royal Archaeological Institute, 304 Addison House, Grove End Road, London, NW8 9EL. The recipients shall forward to the administrators receipts for the purchase of equipment within six months of presentation of the award.

The closing date for applications for the 1979 awards shall be 31st March, 1979. The Committee will meet in April.

Copies of the application form may be obtained from David Bird, CAO, Castle Arch, Guildford.

Safety and Behaviour on an Archaeological Site

The following suggested code of conduct is recommended to all Directors:

The Director of an excavation has a moral and legal responsibility to his staff and volunteers. Safety is of prime importance and the Director must make provision for the following:

1. adequate insurance for personal accident and third party liability;
2. proper first aid facilities on site, the whereabouts of which are known to all excavation members;
3. the location of the nearest doctor/hospital.

A code of conduct should be drawn up by the Director for each excavation and this should be made known to all persons working on site. It is expected that all staff and volunteers accept this, with one exception: should any worker feel that any operation involves personal danger, he should remove himself from that operation, make known his feelings to the Director, and not return until he is satisfied that the operation has been made safe.

A copy of the site insurance cover should be kept on site as well as the CBA booklet entitled **Responsibility and Safeguards in Archaeological Excavations**, ed. P. J. Fowler.

Suggested code of conduct (note: individual items will vary from site to site depending upon conditions).

1. The Director is in charge and all staff and volunteers are expected to carry out his instructions.
2. The Director must explain any work about to be undertaken and how it is to be done. Questions should be asked before any operation begins.

3. Wear suitable clothing. Footwear is most important and open-toed shoes should not be permitted on site.
4. Anti-tetanus injections are recommended.
5. A safety helmet should be worn when working in a standing building and in any situation when the top of a trench section is above the worker's head.
6. Never work alone in a situation when the top edge of a trench section is above head height.
7. Keep clear of all machines working on site. Never work behind a machine when it is in operation. It is best to carry out all machine work when volunteers are not present on the site.
8. Keep clear of areas where large tools, such as pick-axes, axes, jack-hammers, are in use. Check the heads of such tools regularly to prevent their coming off while in use.
9. Do not run on a site.
10. Do not walk on freshly trowelled areas.
11. Do not sit on sections/baulks as they may collapse.
12. Do not smoke on site as samples may be contaminated.
13. Replace all tools after use to their proper place; clean all tools after use. Keep the edges of trenches clear of all objects.
14. Always ask for instructions if in doubt about any task that has been set.

Processing Workshop II

Saturday, 24th March, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Committee Room 2, Central Library, St Nicholas Way, Sutton.

The Society is sponsoring a second workshop on the processing of material recovered from excavation. This will follow-on from the half-day processing workshop held 14th October, 1978 when discussion centred on the problems associated with pottery. It is hoped to discuss such topics as environmental sampling, conservation of materials, animal bones, record storage and museum policy for excavation material.

All local societies are invited to send representatives to the workshop and any member of SAS is welcome to attend.

Further details from J. S. McCracken, 21 Harbut Road, Battersea SW11. Tel. 01-223 2478.

Woking, Sutton Park, near St Edward's Church (RC): Medieval occupation site (TQ 00455380)

A first season of excavation was undertaken in August last year as a training dig for the Society with the aid of a small grant from the Department of the Environment. Work under the direction of the writer was carried out in advance of the eventual extension of the burial ground, with the kind permission of Canon Albion and the church authorities. The site is supposedly that of the pre-conquest manor recorded in Domesday Book, but preliminary analysis of the finds indicates that nothing discovered so far need be earlier than the twelfth century. Part of a ditch system of this period or earlier was found but its plan and function are not yet clear. There was also some indication of one or more timber buildings, not clearly associated, however, with the ditch. Later occupation was also

attested by pottery finds representing all periods up to the present day although at present no documentary evidence is known to indicate occupation of the site after the fourteenth century. Some of this pottery was presumably associated with a previously unknown brick building of which a corner was found and a late poorly defined hearth was located with a possible associated timber structure. Much work remains to be done in the following seasons.

The training side of the excavation seems to have been most successful, in spite of the bad weather and a commendable spirit was shown by all who took part. Much of the credit for this happy state of affairs must go to Nancy Cox, who acted as assistant director and to Canon Albion for his friendly interest and hospitality.

(D. G. Bird)

Ewell: Seymour's Nursery. Iron Age Brooch

A bronze fibula of La Tene I type has recently been recovered from the area of Seymour's Nursery, Ewell (TQ 2262). The fibula, which measures 39mm in length, has a slim, flattened bow ornamented with vesica- or almond-shaped decoration, a short catch-plate, and a snouted foot which meets the bow straight on. Unfortunately, only one and a half coils of the original four coil spring with external chord survive, and the pin is missing.

Despite the damage to the spring mechanism, this brooch probably belongs to a small but distinctive group of insular fibulae first defined by Prof Hodson,¹ and characterised by a skeuomorphic non-functional spring and vesica decoration on the bow, the distribution of which is largely restricted to the Thames valley and centred on the Hammersmith area. The Ewell example is the first of the group to have been found this far south of the river and is one of only four pre-Belgic fibulae from the county known to the writer—the others being the dubiously authenticated "leech" brooch from Farnham,² an incomplete Le Tene I fibula from Farley Heath, Albury³ and a La Tene II fibula from Warlingham.⁴

The presence of such a brooch in Ewell is especially interesting, as a number of local sites have produced the characteristic early La Tene, or "Angular" pottery (5th-3rd centuries BC), with which the fibula is likely to be contemporary. A fuller note is in preparation.

(Jonathan Cotton)

1. "Three Iron Age Brooches from Hammersmith" in G. de G. Sieveking (ed.), *Prehistoric and Roman Studies* (British Museum 1971), 50-57.
2. S. S. Frere, "Bronze Objects from Farnham", *Sy. AC*, 39 (1946), 103-4.
3. C. Fox, "A La Tene I Brooch from Wales: with notes on the Typology and Distribution of these brooches in Britain", *Archaeol. Camb.*, 82 (1927), 110, No. 55.
4. G. C. Dunning in R. E. M. and T. V. Wheeler, *Report on the Excavation of a Prehistoric, Roman and post-Roman site in Lydney Park, Gloucestershire* (Oxford 1932), 68-70.

Forthcoming Publications

Research Volume No. 6, the report on the excavation of the important site at Runnymede Bridge, by David Longley, is now being prepared for the press and should be available by early summer.

Research Volume No. 7 will be a composite volume of excavation reports, including the excavations at Guy's Hospital, by G. J. Dawson and at 199 Borough High Street, by D. J. Turner. Publication is expected later in 1979.

Meanwhile compilation of a cumulative Index to the **Collections Volumes 61-70** is well under way and its publication should follow soon after Research Volume No. 6.

(Hon. Editor)

Recent Publications

Barton, K. Sussex Medieval Pottery. Phillimore & Co. Ltd.

Baylis, D. A. Surrey Iron Railway. Railway Magazine 1978, 124, 328-331.

Anon. An unusual underbridge in Surrey (Lyne). Railway Magazine 1978, 124, 427.

Book Review

"Guildford As It Was", by Matthew Alexander (Hendon Publishing Co. Ltd., sponsored by the Guildford Group of the Surrey Archaeological Society, £1.80).

On the current tide of root-searching has come a flood of grainy sepia photographs where today's smelly thoroughfares appear, unbelievably peaceful and often empty, apart from a barefoot child or bowler-hatted labourer with a wheelbarrow. This book enables nostalgic imaginations to take a walk down almost every street in the Guildford Lewis Carroll knew (and after; 1860-1914). It contains 70 excellently reproduced photographs, all so fascinating it is invidious to mention only two: a crowd of gentlemen in top hats standing like Romans among the arches of the half-built reservoir on Pewley Hill (1866), and North Street in 1896 full of sheep (ba-ba variety). It is difficult to raise one's eyes and face Guildford's present—and future—with equanimity.

In a sense, however, the visual is the least important part of this booklet. Each illustration is accompanied by a text which answers—as far as is possible—the questions the photographs raise. We are provided with dates and details about Guildford industries and personalities, as well as buildings and events, which would otherwise be very difficult to find. Matthew Alexander has searched directories and newspapers and many other sources, including Henry Peak's memoirs, to produce an indispensable compendium of information. This is a valuable and illuminating book for anyone interested in the history of Guildford.

Obtainable from Guildford Group members, Guildford Museum and bookshops.

(Shirley Corke)

MEETINGS

Leatherhead & District Local History Society, Red Cross Hall, Oaks Close, near Leatherhead Station, unless otherwise stated, at 8 p.m.

23rd February

An illustrated talk by Mr K. W. E. Gravett entitled "Smaller Stuart and Georgian Houses".

16th March

Annual General Meeting—thanks to Mole Valley District Council will be held again in the Council Chamber, Bull Hill, Leatherhead.

20th April

Lecture by Mr T. R. Moore on "New Methods of Scientific Dating of Ancient Historic Events and Periods". Mr Moore is Headmaster of Fetcham Middle School and an authority on this fascinating subject.

10th October

Dallaway Lecture. We are pleased to have been able to secure Mr Peter Marsden, FSA, who will speak with authority on "Historic Treasure Wrecks". The meeting place we hope will be the City of London Freemen's School Hall at Ashted Park—to be confirmed.

Programme Secretary: Mr E. S. Barnwell, 16 Eastwick Park Avenue, Great Bookham

The Bourne Society at the Coulsdon Adult Education Centre, Taunton Manor High School, Coulsdon, on Tuesdays at 7.30 p.m.

"SURREY FAMILIES"

15th February

The Greshams of Titsey: Richard Leveson-Gower, Squire of Titsey.

1st March

The Howards of Reigate and Crowdon: James Batley, ex-Editor, Local History Records.

8th March

The De Clares of Blechingley: D. J. Turner, FSA, Vice-President of the Surrey Archaeological Society.

15th March

The Somers-Somersets of Reigate: Doris Ker of Reigate Priory, BBC Dramatist.

22nd March

The Keartons of Caterham: Cherry Kearton II, nephew of Cherry Kearton I.

Family Trees — Colour Slides — Cassette Recordings
Enquiries to J. C. Batley, 7a Burntwood Lane, Caterham

James Batley, BA, presents "Round the Other World" at the Coulsdon Adult Education Centre, Taunton Manor School, Coulsdon, on Thursdays at 7.30 p.m.

15th February

The World of Icons.

22nd February

Visit to an important collection of icons.

1st March

Moscow—in and outside the Kremlin.

8th March

Central Asia: Bokhara, Samarkand.

15th March

Russian Architecture—wood, brick, stone.

22nd March

Return to the West: Moscow, Poland, Berlin.
Colour Slides — Icons — Music

About this course

As a sequel to his voyage round the world happily completed in his autumn lectures, James Batley sets out to explore the other world—the strange cities, churches, kremlins and palaces behind the Iron Curtain. Travelling thousands of miles by ship, train, coach and plane, from Kizhi in the far north to the sun-baked splendours of Samarkand, he has fine pictures and odd tales to tell.

MARCH

Tuesday 6th, 7.15 p.m.

RECENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK IN SOUTHWARK AND LAMBETH. Results of recent excavations by SLAEC and SLAS at the John Harvard Library Hall, Borough High Street.

Friday 9th, 8 p.m.

ENGLISH MONASTERIES. Talk by A. Turner in the Lecture Room, Morden Library, Morden Road, Morden.

Friday 16th, 7.45 p.m.

MERTON PRIORY. Talk by Scott McCracken at Richmond Adult College, Parkshot, Richmond.

APRIL

Fieldwork School in Derbyshire—Prehistoric Peakland
27th to 29th April

This residential course, organised with the North Derbyshire Archaeological Committee will teach you to recognise the monuments of the upland region. Anyone with an interest in practical archaeology is welcome—beginners and the more experienced. Field visits, practical survey work and talks will be combined to give a background to the techniques of field archaeology.

Enquiries: Peter Townsend, Principal, Peak National Park Study Centre, Losehill Hall, Castleton, Derbyshire S30 2WB

Next Bulletin: March, for which copy is required by 6th February. Following **Bulletin:** April.