

SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
BULLETIN

Number 160

September 1979

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that a Special General Meeting of the Incorporated Surrey Archaeological Society will be held at 2.00 p.m. on **Saturday, 3rd November, 1979**, in the Central Lecture Theatre Block (Lecture Theatre L) at the University of Surrey, Guildford. There is an adjacent car park (No. 1 East). The Annual General Meeting will be followed by the President's Lecture.

G. P. Moss
Honorary Secretary

Agenda for Annual General Meeting

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. To read, and if appropriate, to sign as correct the minutes of the meeting of 2nd December, 1978.
3. To receive and consider the Annual Report, the Statement of Accounts, and the Auditor's Report for the period 1st April, 1978, to 31st March, 1979, and, if approved, to adopt them. (These will be distributed with the October **Bulletin**)
4. To elect the President for 1979-80.
5. To elect Honorary Vice-Presidents for 1979-80.
6. To elect Vice-Presidents for 1979-80.
7. To elect Honorary Officers for 1979-80.
8. To elect six Ordinary Members of Council to retire in 1983 under Article 21a.
Nominations have already been received in respect to Mr A. J. Clark, FSA.
(Nominations for election under items 4-8 should be sent to the Secretary not less than seven days before the meeting. All nominations require a proposer and seconder who must be members of the Incorporated Society and nominations must be accompanied by a signed statement by the nominee of his or her willingness to stand for election. Institutional members are not eligible for election.)
9. To appoint the Honorary Auditor for 1979-80.
10. Any other business.

PRESIDENT'S LECTURE

The Annual General Meeting will be followed at about 2.30 p.m. by a lecture entitled

Surrey Churches and the Hassell Drawings
By Mr R. W. McDowall, CBE, MA, FSA.

EXCAVATION NOTICE

REIGATE: OLD VICARAGE SITE (TQ 25705036)

(Director: R. J. Poulton)

There will be a full-time excavation on the above site for one month from the 3rd September onwards. The work will be directed by Rob Poulton for the County Archaeological Unit and the Reigate and Banstead Archaeological Co-ordination Committee. It is hoped that the excavation will confirm that the town originally developed around a nucleus near the Parish Church. The work will continue that directed by David Williams. Volunteers are required and financial help may be given to those with experience. Inexperienced volunteers will be welcome by arrangement and training will be given. Anyone interested should telephone Rob Poulton on 01-546 1050 extension 3039 or write to County Planning Officer, Surrey County Council, County Hall, Kingston upon Thames KT1 2DT heading the letter Reigate Old Vicarage and marking it for the attention of R. J. Poulton.

CHEAM: REAR OF WHITEHALL

(Director: Norman Nail)

Excavation work on the medieval levels in the garden to the rear of Whitehall (now open to visitors) has recommenced and will continue for the next few months. Volunteers are needed. Norman Nail can be contacted on 01-643 6610.

SAS VISITS 1979

Saturday, 13th October

EWHURST—Alteration

Arrangements as published in the August Bulletin No. 159 are unchanged except for the following:

2.15 p.m. Meet on Ewhurst Green (NOT at Somersbury Manor).

New members, January 1979

The following names should have appeared in the January Bulletin. Apologies for the omission.

Miss S. E. Minnis, 11 Fort Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 3TB.

Mr T. S. Jennings, "Hillcrest", High Lane, Haslemere, Surrey, GU27 1AZ.

Mr P. R. Welch, 1 Victoria Cottage, Gole Road, Pirbright, Woking, Surrey, GU24 0QF.

Mr G. E. Swade, "Miranda", The Highlands, East Horsley, Surrey, KT24 5BG.

Mr D. R. Rudling, BSc, MA, 6 Crewes Avenue, Warlingham, Surrey, CR3 9NY.

Mr P. W. Jorrett, "Merrylands", Farley Green, Albury, Guildford, Surrey, GU5 9DN.

Mr C. R. Jessel, 34 Holford Road, Guildford, GU1 2QF.

New members from June 1979

Mrs K. F. Jessel, 34 Holford Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 2QF.

Mrs S. Wightwick, 34B Coombe Road, Croydon, Surrey, CR0 1BP.

Mr C. K. Wightwick (Associate).

Miss E. C. Arthur, 269 Basinghall Gardens, Sutton, Surrey, SM2 6AP.
Mr J. M. Gould, Warden's House, Staghill Court, University of Surrey,
Guildford, Surrey, GU2 5XH. (Junior 2.8.63—with Collections)

New member from July 1979

Mrs P. Johnson, 1 Shere Court, Hook Lane, Shere, Guildford GU5 9QH.

Application forms for new members

Members are reminded that with the new financial year starting in April, and the revised subscription rates, it is important that only the new proposal forms should be used for applying to join the Society. All old proposal forms should be destroyed. Copies of the new proposal forms may be obtained from Castle Arch (Guildford 32454) or any local Secretary.

Honorary Secretary

NOTES AND QUERIES

Abinger Roman Villa (TQ 10624746)

Some years ago Mr H. T. Corke, the owner of the site, found a small statuette, in two pieces, very close to the site of the Villa. This statuette has now been proved to be of Bes, a minor Egyptian god of fertility. The statuette, as remaining (the head-dress and feet are missing), is about 19 cm high. It is of terra cotta. The back is completely flat, suggesting that it was not free-standing.

This is the best provenanced find of Bes, so far, in England. It is hoped to offer a fuller account and description for the Collections.

(Richard Steel)

Croydon: A summary of work by the CNHSS on Medieval Croydon (TQ 340686 area)

The best pointers to the extent of medieval Croydon are the four crosses which marked the extent of the town. It is not known for certain when they were erected, but must at one time have contained the whole town as distinct from the parish.

The crosses stood somewhere near or at, i) the southern end of Handcroft Road (Handcross Road in eighteenth century), ii) Pump Pail, iii) the Catherine Wheel (near Coombe Road and High Street cross-roads), iv) Stake Cross (the corner of Wellesley Road and George Street—once Pound Street). Therefore all Croydon within that area could contain medieval sites. A tremendous amount of redevelopment has taken place in nineteenth and twentieth centuries, and a great deal of gravel and sand extraction has also been carried out, destroying any site in its path. Old Town, which one would consider the most promising area, underwent much alteration from 1850 onwards when ponds and marshes were drained, streams culverted underground, and low lying areas deliberately built up.

CHNSS has carried out excavations and held watching briefs within the medieval town as and when opportunities arose, in an endeavour to trace the history and development of the town from a small Saxon settlement by the side of the Wandle. Unfortunately the Society has not been in

the position to explore large areas such as is currently being undertaken in other towns, since the necessary resources were lacking. This is a pity for much can be missed when digging trenches. The area around the Parish Church has had particular attention and the following excavations yielded medieval material. a) Parish Hall site 1959, b) No. 2, Rectory Grove 1968-69, 1970, 1972-73, c) No. 1 Rectory Grove 1971, d) No. 9 Rectory Grove 1971, e) No. 28 Church Road 1970, f) Nos. 72/74 Church Street 1971, g) No. 41 Church Street 1971, h) Parish School site 1970, i) Nos. 23/31 St John's Road 1972-3, j) No. 2 Waddon Road 1973. Medieval material was also excavated in Surrey Street 1967 and the undercroft of a medieval merchant's house was discovered in Surrey Street in 1890, forgotten, and rediscovered in 1972, when one of its arches was destroyed by the mains carrying electricity cables to the new switching centre.

Medieval finds were made by observers during the building of Tesco's 1969 and during the destruction of tanning pits on the west corners of Church Road circa 1875, and in a narrow strip of land in Old Town which would once have been on the banks of the Wandle but was then under the road.

Nothing was found on an excavation on the site where the Old Town Fire Station was to be built, but that was probably too far west.

When Croydon "without" the crosses is considered, medieval occupation could obviously be expected to have occurred near the early manor sites of Bensham and Haling and in all the seven boroughs—Coombe, Selsdon, Whitehorse, Addiscombe, Woodside, Shirley and Croyham. To these must be added Waddon Manor acquired by the Archbishopric in 1391 and those areas which only became part of Croydon in the twentieth century, namely Addington, Sanderstead and Coulsdon. Of these Addington has been particularly rich, finds having been made by R. D. Hore and R. I. Little in 1956-7 at Shepherds Cottages (now under the roundabout at the east end of Gravel Hill), Lower Farm (now the Electricity Sub-station west of the Cricketers Inn), under the Bulwarks (the spring to the west of Spout Hill), the south-west corner of Church Meadow and in Birch Wood. These were not excavations but the result of fieldwork. CHNSS has carried out four excavations in Church Meadow all of which yielded pottery, 1970-1 and 73-4. Two trenches were excavated in Barn Croft (the site of the new Police Station) in 1976, where only a few finds were made and a well was excavated near the southeast corner of Addington Court Golf Course, the fill of which contained only medieval material, in 1977-8. A medieval moated site was partly excavated on South Norwood Sewage Farm, about 400m over the border into Kent.

Other ancient sites are Ham, Palmers or Tylehurst and Selhurst, which had been associated with Haling from the thirteenth century. Norbury Manor was a division of Bensham and was owned by the Carew family in the fourteenth century.

(Lilian Thornhill)

Farnham: 20 and 21 The Borough. Search for the town ditch. (SU841469)

The area trenched lies to the rear of the premises of Courts (Furnishers) Ltd.—20 and 21 The Borough—at the corner of the Borough and Bear Lane on the east side of the town centre. It is above the flood plain of the river Wey and is underlain by the terrace "E" gravels.

Documentary evidence from the Winchester "Pipe Rolls" indicate that the eastern line of the medieval town ditch must have crossed the Borough somewhere in this vicinity. A trench was therefore opened in the rear yard of the shop, prior to development, in an attempt to locate the ditch. In the event no sign of it was found and indeed the earliest occupation of the site appeared to date to the seventeenth century. It would thus seem that the site is outside the medieval town and that therefore the ditch probably crossed the Borough in the region of nos. 17 or 18. A full report will appear in the forthcoming F&DMS Newsletter.

(David Graham)

Staines and Egham: Clay pipe manufacture (TQ041712 and TQ008713 (approx))

Recent work in Staines and Egham has produced evidence for clay pipe manufacture in the two boroughs. Detailed research on the makers of previously excavated material from the area has also revealed much of interest about makers in the rest of the county, and particularly those of Guildford.

Among numerous unstratified pipes from Staines are three bowl and stem fragments with STANES (sic) in a circular die on the stem and the simple surname initial M on the heel. Typologically these date to the first half of the eighteenth century. A well stratified group from Egham High Street, TQ008713, also has pipes with the simple surname initial M but without a town mark. This group can be securely dated to c.1760 on stratigraphical grounds and the pipes to 1740-1770 on typology. Comparison of actual kiln material suggests that Guildford makers were the main suppliers to north-west Surrey at this time, the products of Charles Wattleton being particularly well represented. Current documentary research at the Surrey Record Office and Guildford Muniment Room has added further detail to the known Guildford makers and extended the working life of several of them, although a positive identification of the "M" maker is still uncertain. Possible candidates are members of the Meddin family of St. Mary's who were working silversmiths and pewterers from c.1705 to c.1770. At least four generations are known to have been involved in the trade and it is clear from contemporary references that they were brass-founders as well. It is suggested that, as Richard Meddin III, working c.1725 to c.1765, was the son-in-law of Charles Wattleton, the pre-eminent pipe maker, the maker mark M may refer to the mould maker and not a previously unknown pipe maker. It is known that other silversmith-metalworkers at Plymouth, Bristol and Newcastle had direct contact with pipe making and it seems probable that pipe mould making at this time was carried out by those trades already making and using non-ferrous moulds in their day-to-day business.

The writer would welcome information on any finds of M initial pipes from Surrey and surrounding areas together with references to Guildford makers not in B.A.R.14.

(D. Baker)

Wallington: Bandon Hill Cemetery (TQ 299644)

Romano-British finds (further to Bulletins 116, 134, 145)

On 21st June, 1979, a large number of sherds were discovered at the bottom of a new grave cut in the south-west sector of the Cemetery. They were 7 feet below the modern ground surface, but only 3 feet below the original surface, since there is about 4 feet of made ground in this part of the Cemetery. The sherds were collected by a gravedigger and delivered to Mr K. A. Pryer of the Beddington, Carshalton and Wallington Archaeological Society, and thence to the writer. On examination they were found to constitute the major part of a large Romano-British storage jar, from the Alice Holt kilns in west Surrey. It is decorated with two zones of latticed combing and a burnished wavy line, and is thought to be of fourth century date. Because of the size of the vessel and the worn condition of many of the sherds, reconstruction and drawing of the jar is likely to take some time.

This jar is the first find of late Roman date from the Cemetery (except for a few very small sherds found in the trench dug in 1977, which were interpreted as field-scatter). In contrast to the other large jars found in the Cemetery, it is not likely to be a cremation urn—there was no trace of bones or ashes, and cremation was rare at this date. It must therefore be seen as evidence of occupation, presumably close by as the jar is almost complete. Keulemans (*New Light on the Roman Bath Building and Villa at Beddington, Surrey Archaeol. Collect.* 60 (1963) 37-44) has suggested that the Beddington villa (less than a mile to the north) was abandoned in the mid-fourth century, and the present writer has put forward the hypothesis that the abandonment of the villa and the possible re-occupation of sites at Bunkers Field and Stag Field at this time may be part of a dispersal of local occupation in the fourth century (report submitted to the Hon. Editor). This new evidence supports that hypothesis.

(Clive Orton)

MEETINGS

Surrey Roman Villa Study Group

The Group developed as a continuation of a series of evening class lectures given by Rosamund Hanworth in Dorking last winter. Several of the "students" decided that they would like to continue their study of Roman Surrey and as there is no society specifically studying this aspect of archaeology, it was suggested that a "Villa Study Group" should be formed.

The prime object of the Group is to carry out a study of the Surrey Roman Villas with reference to all other Roman sites and finds in the county. The study of other villas in England is to form an integral part of our activities, especially villas in Kent, Hampshire and Sussex. Work will take the form of both the study of existing villas and the search for and study of new villas. We do not see ourselves as a group set up to carry out excavations, but rather as a pool of interested and informed archaeologists who would be available to assist in any Roman excavations if required. We hope to include lectures and visits to sites (both in Surrey and elsewhere in Britain) and to publish newsletters and reports of our work.

At present monthly meetings are held in Dorking and we hope to start work very soon on a Roman sites and finds index. Anyone interested please contact J. L. Gower, 28 Gingers Close, Cranleigh, GU6 7LJ.

OCTOBER

Friday, 12th, 8 p.m.

THE PLACE OF ETHELRED THE UNREADY IN HISTORY. Talk by Prof. H. A. C. Davies, President Historical Association, to the S.W. London Branch at the Lecture Hall, New Malden Library.

COURSES

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON EXTRA-MURAL STUDY COURSES

The following is a selection of archaeological courses. The full schedule is held at Castle Arch and most libraries. Enrol at the centre concerned at the first meeting unless otherwise stated.

Ancient Technology

Wednesday, 26th September, 7.30. 28 meetings incl. four visits. £10.
Tutor: Miss O. S. Farrington. Croydon, Coombe Cliff Centre.

The Anglo-Saxons

Wednesday, 26th September, 1.30. 28 meetings incl. four visits. £10.
Tutor: Mrs E. S. Eames. Kingston and Surbiton AEC, St. Peter's, 6 Cambridge Road, Kingston.

Celtic Britain 800 BC-AD 1000

Wednesday, 19th September, 10.00. 28 meetings incl. four visits. £13.
Tutor: Mrs E. S. Eames, Sutton College of Liberal Arts.

Small Finds in Medieval Daily Life

Thursday, 20th September, 8.00. 13 meetings incl. one visit. £4.50.
Tutor: John Cherry. Goldsmith's College, New Cross, SE14 6NW.

Animal Bones in Archaeology (Post Diploma Course)

Monday, 24th September, 6.30. £10. Tutor: A. J. Legge. Apply Extra-Mural Dept., 26 Russell Square, W.C.1.

Certificate in Field Archaeology

Field Archaeology and the Pre-history of S.E. England (Course 1)

Monday, 24th September, 7.30. £9. Tutor: A. R. F. Martin. Croydon, Coombe Cliff Centre.

Field Archaeology and the Romano-British period in S.E. England
(Course 2)

Monday, 24th September, 7.15. £10. Tutor: Mrs E. S. Eames. Kingston and Surbiton AEC, Surbiton Hill Road.

The following courses will be held at Morley College, London, S.E.1

England under the Normans and Angevins

Thursday, 20th September, 6.30. 24 meetings. Tutor: R. T. Timson.

New Discoveries of Roman, Saxon and Medieval London

Monday, 17th September, 6.30. Tutor: Peter Marsden.

Introduction to Archaeology

Tuesday, 18th September, 6.30. Tutor: Norman Hodgson.

Archaeology Diploma (First Year)*

The Archaeology of Palaeolithic and Mesolithic Man

Wednesday, 19th September, 6.30. 24 classes. Tutor: Emily H. Moss.

Archaeology Diploma (Second Year)*

Archaeology of Western Asia

Wednesday, 3rd October, 6.30. 24 classes. Tutor: David Price-Williams.

Archaeology Diploma (Third Year)*

Prehistoric Europe

Wednesday, 19th September, 6.30. 24 classes. Tutor: R. T. Schadla-Hall.

Archaeology Diploma (Fourth Year)*

Roman Britain

Wednesday, 19th September, 6.30. 24 classes. Tutor: Harvey Sheldon.

All courses at Morley College average £8.80 per year. Enrolment week beginning 10th September. Enquiries: Morley College, 61 Westminster Bridge Road, London, S.E.1. Tel.: 01-928 8501.

*University Extension Courses.

Next Bulletin October, for which copy is required by 6th September. If insufficient information is received the October Bulletin will be combined with the November issue, for which copy should arrive by 6th October.