



SURREY  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD GU1 3SX

**BULLETIN**

Number 210

April 1986

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**MEMBERS' SUBSCRIPTIONS**

Members are reminded that subscriptions for 1986/87 are due on 1st April. The current rates are as follows:

Ordinary Member	£10.00
Associate Member	£1.00
Junior Member (with Collections)	£3.00
Institutional Member	£12.50
Junior Member living at same address as Ordinary Member (but without Society publications)	free of charge

If you have not already paid your subscription by standing order, would you kindly send your remittance to Mrs. Susan Janaway at Castle Arch. Please note that in view of the high postage costs, personal reminders are not issued to members.

**S.A.S. VISIT TO WALTHAM ABBEY AND WARE**

arranged by Mrs. Joan Major and Lt. Col. H. Deighton

**Wednesday, 11th June**

- 8.15 a.m. Coach departs Reigate, opposite the Red Cross public house.
- 8.30 a.m. Dorking Halls.
- 9.00 a.m. Esher B.R. Station.
- 10.30 a.m. A look at Sir Christopher Wren's Temple Bar, built in 1672 to replace the original gateway to the City destroyed in the great fire. In 1878 it was removed to its present site in Theobalds Park.
- 11.45 a.m. A guided tour of Waltham Abbey, founded in 1060 by King Harold and where he was buried. The present building is the nave of Harold's church, and the oldest Norman building in the land. The crypt contains a museum of local history.
- Lunch There are interesting old buildings in the streets near the Abbey including cafes and pubs, or picnic in the Abbey grounds. There is also a short country trail in part of the Lee Valley Regional Park near the Abbey.
- 2.00 p.m. Leave for Ware for a guided walk round the town ending with tea at either Place House with its medieval aisled hall, or at the old maltings. Please state if tea not required.

4.30 p.m. Coach leaves for return journey, calling at Broxbourne to visit St. Augustine's church with its many interesting memorials, brasses and carved flagstones.

Tickets: Members 50p, non members 60p, students half price, and accompanied children free, plus costs: £7.00 to include coach, gratuity, tea and donations. Please send cheques with a s.a.e. to Mrs. Jean West, 123 Ewell By Pass, Ewell, Epsom, Surrey KT17 2PX (tel: 01-393 8970) not later than 31st May to enable final arrangements to be made.

### **Captain M. A. Wilson, R.N.R.**

For many years, Captain Wilson has been a most valuable member of the Visits Committee, both as Chairman and as Treasurer. Unfortunately he has been obliged to resign from the Committee whose members will receive the news with regret. From him, they have always received understanding and excellent advice and help and he will be missed.

Members of the Society will remember with pleasure the many delightful visits he arranged, often to the historic buildings of the City of London which are not generally open to the public. In addition to the guides and experts there, Captain Wilson had always studied the area and was able to add further interesting information. We always enjoyed and appreciated his visits. We hope to see him again sometime on a visit.

### **Excavations Committee Annual Symposium 1986**

Two important sites recently excavated in the county provided the major theme for this year's annual symposium of the Excavations Committee held on February 22nd in the Dorking Halls.

The first was a hilltop enclosure at Nore Hill, near Chelsham, where the uncovering of a surrounding ditch was described by Andrew Shelton. Pottery and metal objects found in the silt date the site to the Late Bronze Age, and provide an unexpected and welcome addition to the evidence for this period in the county. The site was on gravel and no bone was recovered, and this point was used by the next speaker, Geraldine Done, as an example of the limitations faced by the bone specialist. However, she then went on to illustrate how informative and valuable even the smallest sample of bone can be.

In contrast, Chertsey Abbey is probably one of our best and longest known sites, and this was re-assessed by Rob Poulton. Using documentary and earlier excavation reports, he was able to show a convincing sequence of development from the Saxon to the pre-Reformation Benedictine Abbey. The medieval theme was continued by Scott McCracken speaking on his recent excavation at Kingston Horsefair. The medieval undercroft, last seen at the end of the 19th century, was re-located and found to be constructed in cut chalk blocks.

The second new site, Wanborough, was introduced by Martin O'Connell who followed a graphic description of the deprivations of metal detectors by a brief account of the consequent excavation of the Romano-Celtic religious site and its associated finds. The main speaker, Dr. John Kent of the British Museum, then discussed the coins from this site, their dates and provenance. He compared them with the distribution of Celtic and Roman coins in the southern half of the country, and suggested that the majority of the Wanborough specimens were not votive offerings but had formed part of a hoard dating from the second half of the first century A.D.

Vivien Ettlinger

### **The Margary Awards**

The first awards under the revised rules were made at the Symposium for displays mounted by S.A.S. members and affiliated groups illustrating work on a wide range of projects.

Ten displays were entered for the award and were assessed by a panel of judges who took into account such factors as worth of the project, effectiveness of presentation and whether the entry was by an individual or group, amateur or professional. The level of presentation was high, with effective use made of graphical, photographic and documentary material as well as models and artefacts. With several entries in close contention for the awards the judges finally awarded first prize of £50 for the display illustrating a number of rescue projects by the Surrey Heath Group. The second prize of £25 went to Unit 2 Cave Research Group — Subterranea Britannica in conjunction with The Croydon Natural History & Scientific Society. This was for their work in surveying and photographing the Chaldon–Merstham building stone quarry galleries.

The judges felt that the institution of the Margary Awards in this form had helped to foster the high standard of displays and hoped that support for the scheme would continue in further years.

Stephen Poulter

*Note for your 1987 diary:* the next symposium will be held at Dorking Halls on Saturday, 21st February, 1987.

### **Library**

Mr. David Barston and his wife Margaret are now installed at Castle Arch as Steward/Caretaker of the Museum. It would be a help to them if Society members would kindly show their Membership Cards when using the Library.

### **Correction: Bulletin 208 List of Accessions to the Society's Library**

One small letter, but a big error! In section 4 Surrey — Local the penultimate entry should read:

Taylor, David C. People of Cobham: the Pyports connection. (Barracuda 1985) gift of the author.

### **The Heathrow/Stanwell Cursus**

In the most recent issue of *Current Archaeology* (No. 99, February 1986). Martin O'Connell writes about the excavations carried out on this site between 1977 and 1985. It is not a long article but does have plans, drawings and photographs.

### **British Archaeological Awards, 1986**

Applications are invited for the following awards for archaeological work completed, or still in progress, in the past two years:

- |                                 |                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The Pitt-Rivers Award           | For the best project carried out by a voluntary group or individual. (Professional technical help is permitted.) |
| "Country Life" Award            | For the best project by a professional or professional/voluntary team or unit.                                   |
| "Illustrated London News" Award | For the best sponsorship of archaeology.                                                                         |
| Heritage in Britain Award       | For the best project which secures the long-term preservation of a site or monument.                             |
| B.P. Award                      | For the best non-archaeologist who finds artefacts or remains and causes them to be officially reported.         |

**The Young Archaeologist  
of the Year Award**

**The Legal & General  
"Silver Trowel" Award**

Open award for the greatest initiative and  
originality in archaeology

Full information and entry forms are available from: The British  
Archaeological Awards, 317 Norbury Avenue, London SW16 3RW.  
Entries must be in by 30th June.

**Red Rover Coaching Print**

The Society has recently acquired an aquatint showing the 'Red Rover' coach crossing the Mole at Cobham. This is the work of Charles Hunt senior, born 1806 and a prolific artist and engraver in early Victorian times. This plate was produced in the summer of 1836 and was published at first by W. Soffe of the Strand on 1st August that year. After the collapse of the coaching trade, however, there was a sentimental revival of interest in coaches and the impression which the Society has acquired is a later one re-issued by Barnett Moss & Co., in 1850 and 1851. These later re-issues added the words "after Pollard", referring to James Pollard (1792-1867), the most famous coaching painter of the age. Despite this inscription it is practically certain that the original 'Red Rover' painting was by Charles Hunt himself, and that the Pollard ascription was added either as an enticement to Pollard collectors, or perhaps on the assumption that all coaching paintings were by him. It is perhaps remarkable that this false ascription was actually given in Pollard's lifetime.

There have been several coaches known as the 'Red Rover', but the one depicted in the aquatint which ran from London to Southampton is the most famous. It was first owned by the eminent coaching proprietor Robert Gray (1758-1842) who was Carrier-in-Ordinary to William IV and Queen Victoria. He owned no fewer than 40 coaches but shared the running costs with a number of other proprietors. The 'Red Rover' in 1836 was also partly owned by William Bennet, Robert Pitt, and Thomas Burden who would have provided changes of horses and other services on the route. The 'Red Rover' would have departed from the Bolt-in-Tun in Fleet Street (demolished 1921) which was Gray's headquarters from 1807. It then travelled through Kingston, Guildford, Farnham, Alton, Alresford, and Winchester to Southampton, every day except Sunday. It would have changed its 4-horse teams at each stopping place and carried the normal number of passengers — 4 inside and 11 outside. The 78 mile journey took the 'Red Rover' 8 hours — 2 hours less than the rival "Times". There would have been two coaches in service each day, one making the 'down' journey and the other returning 'up'. In addition, there may have been two or more coaches under repair or in reserve. On Gray's death in 1842 the 'Red Rover' was acquired by Robert Dockwra & Co., but by that time the days of the stage were numbered. The 'Red Rover', in fact, was one of the last to be displaced by the railways, making its final run in 1847 by which time only a single coach was running on the route.

In the 1890s the remaining 'Red Rover' coach ran again, driven by gentlemen whose hobby it was to drive four-in-hand, and in 1950 it was acquired by Sanders Watney, of the brewing family, who ran the coach from London to Southampton at intervals between 1952 and 1963. The route he took avoided Guildford on account of the heavy traffic in the town centre. The 'Red Rover' is now on display in the carriage museum at Breamore House, at Fordingbridge in Hampshire. It is possible that this coach is the one depicted in the Society's print, although there would have been several individual coaches on the run, all painted identically.

The aquatint is a valuable addition to the Society's collections. There

are comparatively few prints depicting Surrey coaching scenes and this particular print is a rare one — perhaps surprisingly for one which had at least three issues. It is now on display in Guildford Museum as a reminder of the once important coaching trade serving Surrey.

Matthew Alexander

## EXCAVATION REPORT

### **Transverse axe/adze from Carshalton**

Close to the St. Philomena's excavation (see entry below) and also in the bed of the lake after desilting an early Mesolithic "Thames Pick" was found on a surface which is either a scatter from the Taplow Terrace or gravel brought down by a now dry watercourse from the chalk downs to the south. Although complete it is badly rolled and shows signs of extensive use both at the transverse blade and at the rounded hammer end. The centre portion is square shaped and there is a very noticeable "comfortable" hand-hold for use as an axe. The flaking is generally crude with several hinge fractures; the rolling has largely removed any striking marks and dulled the surfaces which also have slight patination. The flint surface is honey coloured with a high proportion of white crystalline intrusions. Maximum dimensions are 162 x 54 x 50mm and the weight 500g.

H. N. Waterhouse

### **St. Philomena's Convent, Carshalton (formerly Carshalton House)**

During an MSC programme, the desilting of the lake in the grounds of St. Philomena's brought to light traces of brick conduits and chalk foundations of buildings which had been noted by Peatling in 1921 but the extent of which was previously unsuspected. The owners, the Daughters of the Cross, kindly invited the Beddington, Carshalton and Wallington Archaeological Society to conduct a more detailed investigation which was undertaken during November 1984–May 1985. Preliminary results show that there appear to be two periods represented which may be roughly divided into brick conduits of early eighteenth century date and an earlier farm building. The open(?) conduits are considered to relate to the construction of the garden probably by John Fellows ca.1720 when the present bed of the southern part of the lake was either a formal garden or a low-lying marshy area between the natural spring-fed pond and the earliest artificial lake. The construction of the conduits is unusual in that the channels ca.1.5m wide are cut through gravel into the natural chalk, a layer of clay placed on the bottom, two elm sleeper beams are set longitudinally in the clay half under the line of the inner wall and a third in the centre of the channel, across these three beams are nailed transverse planks, after which the pierced 9in walls are built partly on this wooden base.

The earlier building is represented largely by one foundation course of chalk blocks although one short section of strong wall stands to ca.1m showing construction of mortared chalk, flint and brick with a knapped flint external face. The plan indicates a courtyarded complex, open to the west where a public road is believed to have existed until the mid-seventeenth century, with at least the northern building being in its later period a cattle shed. The roof of this building was supported by central split oak posts from which we are awaiting a dendrochronological date. Dating of the whole excavation has so far proved difficult as the construction of this part of the lake ca.1770 and at least one subsequent desilting has removed all but a few artifacts.

C. R. Orton  
H. N. Waterhouse

## MEETINGS, ETC.

### APRIL

**Tuesday 8th, 7.30 p.m.**

**FIRE, FLOOD & DEATH: MONTAGUE CLOSE IN THE MIDDLE AGES**, talk by Dr. G. Dawson to Southwark & Lambeth A.S. at John Harvard Library Hall, Borough High Street.

**Tuesday 8th, 8.00 p.m.**

**CIVIL WARS IN SURREY**, talk by Matthew Alexander to Egham-by-Runnymede H.S. at the Literary Institute, Egham High Street.

**Wednesday 9th, 7.45 p.m.**

**THE RESTLESS HOUSE**, talk by Joan Harding to Croydon N.H.S.S. at East Croydon U.R. Church Hall, Addiscombe Grove.

**Friday 11th, 7.45 p.m.**

**THE GUNPOWDER WORKS AT CHILWORTH**, talk by Prof. A. Crocker to Leatherhead & District L.H.S. at Red Cross Hall, Oakes Close, Leatherhead.

**Friday 11th, 8.00 p.m.**

**NO HORSES AT HORSEFAIR**, talks by Scott McCracken and Steve Nelson to Richmond H.S. at The Vestry House, 21 Paradise Road, Richmond.

**Tuesday 15th, 8.00 p.m.**

**DOMESDAY BOOK THROUGH THE AGES**, talk by Dr. Hallam to K.U.T.A.S. at the Heritage Centre, Fairfield West.

**Saturday 19th**

Coach outing to Oxfordshire arranged by S.A.S. Roman Villa Group. Details given in *Bulletin* 208.

**Saturday 26th April to Tuesday 6th May**

Open days at The Museum, Holmesdale N.H. Club, 14 Croydon Road, Reigate.

**Wednesday 30th**

S.A.S. Visit to Leatherhead. Details given in *Bulletin* 208.

### MAY

**Wednesday 7th, 8.00 p.m.**

**GUNPOWDER MILLS**, talk by Prof. A. Crocker to Nonsuch A.S. at St. Mary's Church Hall, Ewell.

**Tuesday 13th, 8.00 p.m.**

**SURREY FARM BUILDINGS**, talk by Mr. J. Oliver to Egham-by-Runnymede H.S. at the Literary Institute, Egham High Street.

**Saturday 17th**

S.A.S. Visit to Roehampton and Wimbledon. Details given in *Bulletin* 209.

### EXHIBITION

**The Evolution of the Window.** A display of windows and window ironmongery to show the development of the window over the past 300 years. The exhibits are from the Charles Brooking collection. Many of them are from Surrey, particularly the Guildford area. The exhibition is at The Building Centre, 26 Store Street, London, W1. Open from 16th April until 1st May. Monday-Friday 9.30-5.15 and Saturday 10-4.00.

## MEDIEVAL POTTERY WORKSHOP

**Saturday, 17th May, at Priory Middle School, Mountfield Road, Lewes, starting at 11.00 a.m.** A practical symposium of short talks and manned displays. Speakers/exhibitors include: Anthony Streeten (modern approaches to the study of medieval pottery from Sussex). Alec Down (kilns in the Chichester area), James Hadfield (the Ringmer kilns), Clive Orton (kilns in the Rye area and also those at Cheam), Con Ainsworth (kilns at Binsted and Streat), David Freke (the Hartfield kilns), Alan Vince (imported pottery).

Mountfield Road adjoins the southern side of Lewes railway station. Tickets £2 (please include a stamped, addressed envelope) available from David Rudling, 112 Hollingdean Terrace, Brighton BN1 7HE. (Cheques made payable to Sussex Archaeological Committee).

### **Next Bulletin**

Copy for No. 211 must be with the Editor by Wednesday, 9th April. This date is a few days later than that originally given. The issue will cover the two months of May and June.

**Surrey Archaeological Society  
&  
University of Surrey Dept. of Educational Studies**

**LOOKING OUT FOR THE PAST  
IN SURREY**

**Saturday May 24th, 1986**

This day school, to be held at the University of Surrey in Guildford, will consist of well known archaeologists describing the various sites of archaeological interest visible to the public in Surrey; a county that has far more to offer those interested in history and archaeology than appears at first glance. The lectures will be illustrated and there will also be exhibitions and a bookstall.

**PROGRAMME**

9.30 to 10.00 a.m.	Registration
10.00 a.m.	Introduction and welcome
10.10 a.m.	<b>PREHISTORIC AND ROMAN SITES IN SURREY</b> Rosamond Hanworth
11.00 a.m.	Coffee
11.30 a.m.	<b>CASTLES IN SURREY</b> Derek Renn
12.30 p.m.	LUNCH and an opportunity to view exhibition and bookstall
2.00 p.m.	<b>CHURCHES IN SURREY</b> Robin McDowall
3.00 p.m.	Tea
3.20 p.m.	<b>HOUSES IN SURREY</b> Ken Gravett
4.10 p.m.	<b>INDUSTRIAL HISTORY IN SURREY</b> Alan Crocker
5.00 p.m.	Close of day school

The cost for this day school will be: £6.50 with lunch or £4.30 without.

If you would like to attend please send your remittance (cheques made payable to Surrey Archaeological Society) to Mrs. M. Gower (Day School), Surrey Archaeological Society, 28 Gingers Close, Cranleigh, Surrey GU6 7JL. Please include your address and telephone number.