

SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD GU1 3SX Guildford 32454

Bulletin

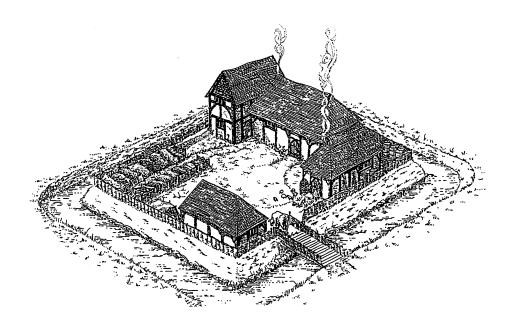
Number 297

November/December 1995

COUNCIL NEWS

SAS Annual General Meeting. A Reminder! 3rd December 1995 at Brooklands Museum. (See Bulletin 295 for details)

South Park Medieval Moated Site



An Artist's Impression The Moated Site as it may have appeared ca 1350 AD The moat and adjacent area of woodland was donated in 1991 to the Surrey Archaeological Society by Mrs D M Fedoruk, the owner of South Park Farm, so that the site could be researched, partly restored and opened to the public.

As members will have read in previous issues of the Bulletin a dedicated band of volunteers' led by Greta Turner, cleared the site and restored the moat, which was formally opened in 1994 (see *Bulletin* 284).

The stewardship of this site represents an exciting venture and challenge for the Society. It is intended to be a focus for long term archaeological and documentary research of the site itself and its influence on and relationship to the surrounding area.

The moat, which is a scheduled ancient monument in recognition of its archaeological importance, will be of particular interest to schools as it illustrates aspects of archaeology and man's use of the landscape. A teaching pack has been prepared to interpret the archaeology and natural history of the site, copies of which are available from the Society at Castle Arch, price £4.60 including postage and packing.

History

The identity of this medieval homestead is obscure. It probably was the manor house of the small royal manor of Ashurst but this may have later declined to become the keeper's lodge of Ashurst Park. Moated manors and lodges are not uncommon and most were constructed between the 13th and 14th centuries to emphasise, it is thought, the social standing of the house and its occupants, possibly imitating the great castle moats of the time.

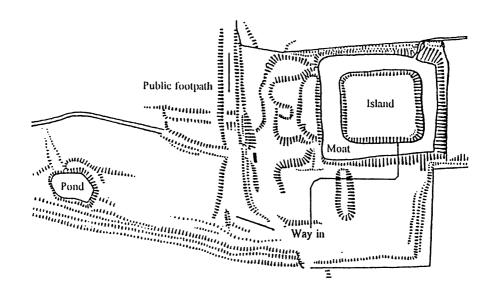
Ashurst manor is first mentioned in the early 14th century as a subsidiary holding of the royal manor of Witley, being granted, usually for life, to members of the king's household.

Parks were often the focus of local discontent and Ashurst was no exception. In 1378 when held by Philip Walwayn, Usher of the King's Chamber, there are references to the wasting of Ashurst park when the king's deer were unlawfully hunted and killed, to the intimidation of the park keeper in his lodge and to the repair of the manor house.

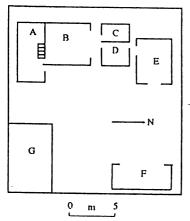
In 1464, both Ashurst and Witley manors were held by the Duke of Clarence (who drowned in a butt of malmsey) and it was probably around this time that they were amalgamated, Ashurst fading from history. Ashurst, which is thought to have lain near the southern end of Witley park, may therefore have occupied the area around the moat.

In 1599, Queen Elizabeth I sold Witley park to the Mores of Loseley after which — by then broken up into farms — it passed to the Salisburys of Hatfield. to the local Chandler family, to Lord Derby who used South Park Farm to house his weekend shooting guests, and finally, in the early years of this century, to Viscount Pirrie who enclosed with an iron fence an area corresponding more or less with the medieval deer park.

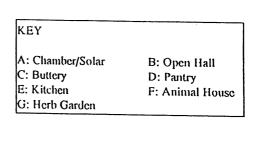
Finds indicate that the moat was occupied in the early 14th century. Other artefacts such as Saxo-Norman pottery and the late Saxon weight suggest that there was probably pre-moat settlement nearby. Flint implements dating from the Mesolithic period to the Bronze Age (7000-500 BC) indicate human activity around the moat from early times.



There are now no remains above-ground of a building at the moat but remote-sensing surveys indicated structures in the western half of the island, and the timber-framed house as it may have appeared ca 1350 AD is pictured above. The central 'hall' would have been open to the rafters, with smoke holes in the roof. The solar above the chamber was used as a bedroom or storeroom, and the pantry and buttery for the storage of food and liquids (in butts). The kitchen is shown as a separate building, a common feature of timber houses where fire was an ever-present hazard. Ancillary farm buildings such as barns, granaries and animal houses would have occupied the area outside the island.



Probable plan of the house at the moat



Although the moat is enclosed by the late medieval boundary or pale of Witley deer park (after its absorption of Ashurst) and may have been used as a keeper's lodge at some time, its position in a hollow favours its original construction as Ashurst manor house. Keepers' lodges were usually situated on high ground with an overall view of the park.

Both South Park and the moat are privately owned. The moat is a **scheduled ancient monument**. It is an offence to damage or disturb it or to use a metal detector. Please do not pick the wild flowers.

The work was undertaken with generous financial support from English Heritage and other organisations.

This article is based on the leaflet about the site originally prepared by Greta Turner.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

The Library Committee felt that members might be interested to know that the Library possesses a huge drawing covering most of the wall paintings from Fetcham Church, visible in the 1890s.

This is a considerably larger area than that illustrated in Surrey Archaeological Collections Vol XV by J L Andre. It constitutes a unique record as the paintings are, we understand, no longer visible.

Library Staffing

For an experimental period we are going to try staffing the Library until 4.30 only on Mondays and Wednesdays, it was agreed at the last Library Committee Meeting.

Mrs Sheila Ashcroft will be available for half an hour longer at lunchtimes, as she will only be taking a half hour lunch break. The change does not mean that members cannot have access to the Library after 4.30 pm, but is to ensure that the building can be vacated before the Museum staff wish to lock up. If any member finds that this change is causing them inconvenience, perhaps they could contact me.

Gillian Drew

Recent Accessions to the Society's Library

Archaeological evaluations and reports by MOLAS and SCAU have been omitted, but a current list of recent additions is available on request.

GENERAL

Archaeological site manual. 3rd edition. Museum of London 1994
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Brunskill, RW, Brick building in Britain. Gollancz 1990
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Cunliffe, B, English Heritage book of Iron Age Britain. Batsford 1995

- David, A, (Compiler), Geophysical survey in archaeological field excavation. English Heritage 1995
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- Foster, S, and Smout, TC, The history of soils and field systems. Yale 1993
- Fulford, M, and Nichols, E, Developing landscape of lowland Britain. The archaeology of the British gravels: a review. Vol 14 of Occasional Papers from the Society of Antiquaries of London. Soc of Ant of London 1992
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- RCHME/English Heritage, Thesaurus of archaeological site types. RCHME & EH 1992
- Rule, Margaret, The Mary Rose: the excavation and raising of Henry VIII's flag ship. Ring Pubns 1982
- Smith. RA, British Museum guide to early Iron Age antiquities 1925. Anglia 1994
- Southern History (Wells, R, ed), Volume 16. A Review of the history of Southern England. Alan Sutton 1994
- Spalding, P, and Jackson, EL, James Edward Oglethorpe: a new look at Georgia's founder. Univ of Georgia 1988
- Spencer, B, Pilgrim souvenirs and secular badges: Salisbury Museum Medieval Catalogue Part 2. Salisbury & S Wiltshire Museum 1990
- Spoerry, P. Archaeology and legislation in Britain. Rescue 1993
- Stringer, C and Gamble, C, In search of the Neanderthals: solving the puzzle of human origins. Thames & Hudson 1994
- Swain, H, (ed), Rescuing the historic environment. Proc of conference held at Leicester Univ Jan 1993. Rescue 1993
- Welfare, H, and Swan, V, Roman camps in England: the field archaeology. RCHME. HMSO 1994

GENERAL — LOCAL

Alcock. L, Cadbury Castle, Somerset: the early medieval archaeology. Univ of Wales Press 1995

- Barclay, A et al, Excavations at the Devil's Quoits, Stanton Harcourt, Oxfordshire 1972-3 & 1988. Thames Valley. Vol 3. Oxford Arch Unit 1995
- Barnwell, PS and Adams, A, The house within: interpreting medieval houses in Kent. RCHME 1994
- Buchanan, Meg (ed), St Kilda: the continuing story of the islands. HMSO 1995
- Burl, A, From Carnac to Callanish: the prehistoric stone rows and avenues of Britain, Ireland and Brittany. Yale 1993
- Cool, HEM and others, Finds from the fortress. Arch of York Vol 17/10: the small finds. York Arch Trust 1995
- Countryside Commission, The North Downs Way. Historic buildings and archaeology. Pamphlet. C Comm/Surrey CC/Kent CC 1995
- Cracknell, S, and Mahany, C (joint eds), Roman Alcester Series. Vol I. Roman Alcester: southern extramural area 1964-66 excav. Part 2 Finds and discussion RR97 CBA 1994
- East Anglian Archaeology, Report No 11: Norfolk, Spong Hill Part II. Norfolk Arch Unit 1981
- East Anglian Archaeology, Report No 21: The Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Spong Hill, North Elmham Part III: Catalogue of inhumations, by C Hills, K Penn & R Rickett. Norfolk Arch Unit 1984
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- Domestic Buildings Research Group (Surrey), Surrey houses recorded and dated 1995. DBRG(Surrey) 1995
- English, Judie, Archaeological Research Committee, Unpublished excavations index (Abstracted from Surrey Excavations List compiled by RCHME Jan 1993) 1995 Janaway, John, Surrey, a County History. Countryside Books 1994
- Scheduled Monuments in Surrey. Conservation South East 1994

West Surrey Family History Society, (Webb, C, compiler), Surrey and deponents in the Court of the Exchequer 1561 – 1835. Record Series 19. Loan Copy and Reference Copy. WSFHS 1994

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

1996 Bulletin Publication Dates

Issue:		Copy Date:	Dispatch:	
299	Feb/mid-March	30th Dec	29th Jan	
300	Mar/Apr	9th Feb	11th Mar	
301	May	23rd March	22nd April	
303	June/mid-July	26th Apr	27th May	
303	July/Aug	7th June	8th July	
304	September	19th July	19th Aug	
305	October	23rd Aug	23rd Sept	
306	Nov/mid-December	21st Sept	21st Oct	
307	Dec/mid-Jan 1997	1st Nov	2nd Dec	

Editor's Note: Contributions from all parts of the historic County are welcome. It may not always be possible to include them immediately but we try to cover a wide range of topics and to include items of general interest and information, including requests for information, as well as reports of excavation and research undertaken. So please do contact me.

NOTES

Sidney and Beatrice Webb and English Local Government Charles Abdy

In the course of recent research I needed general information on local government in relation to parishes and manors and found it in a remarkable work by Sidney and Beatrice Webb, a work so comprehensive and informative that I cannot resist bringing it to the attention of members of NAS who may not have come across it.

Sidney Webb (1859-1947) and his wife Beatrice (1858-1943) were both writers on social reform and prominent members of the Fabian Society. Sidney entered the Civil Service at 19 and quickly rose to senior positions. Beatrice was the serious-minded daughter of a wealthy family and studied philosophy, economics and politics. She helped to collect material for Charles Booth's famous survey, Life and Labour of the People in London. After their marriage in 1892, Sidney was able to give up his work as a civil servant and concentrate on social reform. He helped found the London School of Economics. The Webbs were responsible for numerous joint publications on social questions of the day.

They wished to make a survey of local administration in the 19th century as a basis on which to build new political and social organisations. They found that they could not do so without first making a study of the period between the 'Bloodless Revolution' of 1688 and the reforms of 1832-35. It is that study that provided me with so much fascinating material. The Webbs employed research assistants to collect facts, which were recorded on separate sheets of quarto paper; they accumulated many tens of thousands of these sheets. Their method of working was to sit down together at a table, Sidney writing and Beatrice selecting and manipulating the sheets.

The result was English Local Government, a series of eleven volumes covering subjects such as The Parish and the County, the Manor and the Borough, The King's Highway, Prisons, Poor Law and the History of Liquor Licensing. The explanations of the changes in administration are supported by a wealth of examples from all over England, an amount of detail that is almost overwhelming. On many pages the footnotes occupy more space than the main text. In spite of its shortcomings it remains the definitive study of the subject.

The Webbs laboured for more than thirty years on this epic work. By the time it was completed they were in their seventies, and it was too late to undertake the major part of the survey of local administration in the 19th century.

(Reprinted with acknowledgement and thanks from Nonsuch Antiquarian Society Newsletter September 1995)

SURREY COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT

Site Name	Parish	District	NGR	Type of Work	Periods	Dates
Church Lammas	Staines	Spelthorne 46	TQ 027 725	Full Excavation	Pre	Various
Milner Road	Kingston	Kingston upon Thames	TQ 178 687	Watching Brief	IA	14
Farleigh Court	Chelsham & Farleigh	Tandridge 62	TQ 372 610	Evaluation Excavation	Ro	20-24,31
Farley Heath	Albury	Guildford 22	TQ 050 449	Full Excavation	Ro	24-30
Milner House	Ashtead	Mole Valley 24	TQ 181 568	Evaluation Excavation	?	5
Home Farm	Lalcham	Spelthorne 46	TQ 055 687	Evaluation Excavation	-	5-30
Kingston Road	Staines	Staines 48	TQ 039 717	Evaluation Excavation	7	28
St. Peter's Convent	Woking	Woking 74	TQ 018 591	Evaluation Excavation	?	28

Site Name	Parish	District	NGR	Type of Work	Periods	Dates
Milner Road	Kingston	Kingston upon Thames	TQ 178 687	Watching Brief	IA	Various
Farleigh Court	Chelsham & Farleigh	Tandridge 62	TQ 372 610	Evaluation Excavation	Ro	11-29
Farley Heath	Albury	Guildford 22	TQ 050 449	Full Excavation	Ro	1-31
Home Farm	Lalcham	Spelthorne 46	TQ 055 687	Evaluation Excavation	- 1	1-9
Kingston Road	Staines	Staines 48	TQ 039 717	Evaluation Excavation	-	28
St. Peter's Convent	Woking	Woking 74	TQ 018 591	Evaluation Excavation		3
149 High Street	Guildford	Guildford 18	SU996 495	Watching Brief	EM/LM/PM	19-31

List of archaeological fieldwork carried out in June 1995.							
Site Name	. Parish	District	NGR	Type of Work	Periods	Dates	
Farleigh Court	Chelsham & Farleigh	Tandridge 62	TQ 372 610	Watching Brief/Evaln	Ro	Various	
Farley Heath	Albury	Guildford 22	TQ 050 449	Full Excavation	Ro	1-22	
149 High Street	Guildford	Guildford 18	SU 996 495	Watching Brief	EM/LM/PM	1-2	
Warren Farm	Ewell	Epsom & Ewell 11	TQ 231 627	Full Excavation	IA	15-30	
Red Lane	Limpsfield	Tandridge 61	TQ 407 506	Evaluation Excavation		20-22	
Church Lammas	Staines	Spelthorne 46	TQ 027 725	Watching Brief	Pa	Various	
St James' Chrch Hall	Weybridge	Weybridge 9	TQ 647 073	Watching Brief	?	28-30	

List of archaeological fieldwork carried out in July 1995.						
Site Name	Parish	District	NGR	Type of Work	Periods	Dates
Farleigh Court	Chelsham & Farleigh	Tandridge 62	TQ 372 610	Watching Brief/Evaln	Ro	Various
Warren Farm	Ewell	Epsom & Ewell 11	TQ 231 627	Full Excavation	lia .	Various
Church Lammas	Staines	Spelthorne 46	TQ 027 725	Watching Brief	Pa	Various
St James' Chrch Hall	Weybridge	Weybridge 9	TQ 647 073	Watching Brief	?	3
Botleys Moat	Chertsey	Runnymede 43	TQ 215 648	Evaluation Excavation	ЕМ	24-28
			1			

Definition of type of work

Watching brief Observation of construction or other work for

non-archaeological purposes

Geophysical Survey Non-destructive methods for locating and defining buried

remains

Fieldwalking Systematic examination of ploughed fields for evidence of

ancient activity

Evaluation Excavation Normally opening of trenches to assess the presence,

character and quality of buried remains

Full Excavation Excavation on a substantial scale undertaken to provide a

detailed record of an archaeological site

Landscape Survey Observation and recording of visible elements of the man-

made landscape including individual monuments

Period Abbreviations

Pa	Palaeolithic <i>Ro</i>		Roman
Me	Mesolithic	Sa	Saxon (c425-1066)
Ne	Neolithic	EM	Early Medieval (c1066-1350)
BA	Bronze Age	LM	Late Medieval (c1350-1500)
IA	Iron Age	PM	Post Medieval (c1500-present)
PR	Prehistoric	?	Date Uncertain

Site Visits

Access to sites may be restricted or dangerous. Intending visitors should always check with SCAU before visiting any site.

Assistance with Fieldwork

SCAU welcomes the assistance of volunteers with its fieldwork programme, and those interested in participation should contact us in advance. Please note that voluntary assistance is not normally practical on Watching Briefs, Geophysical Surveys or Evaluation Excavations. Contact: Rob Poulton 01306 886478.

PUBLICATIONS

Anne of Cleves, by Mary Saaler. Anne of Cleves was the fourth wife of Henry VIII. Because there was so much gossip about the king's treatment of previous wives — 'divorced, beheaded died' — women were not keen to become his next wife.

Anne was chosen largely on the basis of her portrait, painted by Holbein. As soon as the choice was made, she travelled quickly from Germany to England, looking forward to being the next queen.

The surprise meeting between Anne and Henry at Rochester was a disaster. These were two totally incompatible personalities. They were married at Greenwich but divorce soon followed. Anne was queen for just six months. After the divorce, Anne spent much of her life in Surrey, mostly at Richmond Palace and at Blechingley.

When I began to investigate the history of her house at Blechingley, I became intrigued with Anne's life story and how she dealt with being an ex-queen. She did not disappear into obscurity but was a resourceful, wealthy, independent woman who kept her status as the king's 'sister'.

This biography of Anne was written as a thanks to the members of Bourne Society's archaeological group, whose painstaking work at Blechingley has uncovered the foundations of the house where she lived. It is also an expression of gratitude to the residents of Blechingley, who have shown great kindness to Bourne Society members.

Anne of Cleves, fourth wife of Henry VIII, by Mary Saaler, is available from local bookshops or from the Rubicon Press, 57 Cornwall Gardens, London, SW7 4BE. Price: £9.95 + £1.50 p&p.

DAYSCHOOLS

Latin for Local Historians. Two Saturday Seminars

There will be two seminars on Latin Palaeography run by Guildford WEA on Saturday 11 November 1995 and Saturday 2 March 1996 from 11am to 4pm, at Sydenham Road Adult Education Centre, Guildford. The tutor will be Mary Saaler M.Phil, an experienced University teacher of this subject.

This course may interest former members of Isabel Sullivan's class, and also anyone with a knowledge of Latin to GCSE/O-level who wishes to brush up their skills in reading Medieval scripts. Fees will be $\mathfrak{L}7$ (full) and $\mathfrak{L}5.40$ for concessionaries. You can enrol for one or both days, but enrolments for the first day will have to be in to the Treasurer by October 15th to make sure that members are viable.

So do come and join what should be a stimulating session, and tell anyone else who might be interested. There will be a lunch break from 1-2pm, and the centre has a coffee lounge; or else there are many pubs and cafes in Guildford.

TO ENROL: Apply to WEA Treasurer, Orchardleigh, Roseacre Gardens, Chilworth, Guildford GU4 8RQ.

The following are organised by the Centre for Continuing Education, University of Sussex, in association with the Sussex Archaeological Society. Further details may be obtained from CCE, University of Sussex, Brighton. Telephone 01273-678527.

25th/26th November. "Archaeological Field-walking". An introduction to field

URGENT NOTICE

Volunteers are urgently required for a rescue excavation at Betchworth. The site, which is to become a sandpit, has already been stripped of topsoil and shows evidence of Neolithic and Roman occupation, and possibly also Bronze Age. The Neolithic is particularly important with pottery and charcoal spreads. The dig will take place for up to five weeks commencing on Saturday October 28th.

Access to the site will be via the entrance to JJ Franks sandpit on the south side of the A25 between the Happy Eater and the Betchworth roundabout. The entrance is at TQ203 505. The right turn may be dangerous and eastbound travellers are advised to travel on as far as the roundabout and return. When in the sandpit entrance proceed downhill then turn left past the sandpit offices. Our site office and store will be in a red metal container and there should be parking space available in this area. From here the route is very wet and gumboots are essential. The route will be signposted.

Volunteers may turn up on the site or they can contact the Director beforehand.

walking including setting up a project, identifying finds and analysing the results. One day will be spent fieldwalking. Tutor: Chris Butler. To be held at Sussex University. Fee: £30.

2nd December. "Sussex Churches". The history of Sussex churches through their art and architecture from Anglo-Saxon and Norman churches to Victorian Gothic revival and twentieth century Modernish. Tutor: Graham Mayhew. To be held at the University. Fee: £15.

9th December. "Archaeology: What it can tell us about Hunter-Gatherers". An appraisal of recent archaeological work in an attempt to reconstruct the original ecological niche of our species. Tutor: Liz Somerville. To be held at the university. Fee: £15.

CONFERENCES

28th October

CBA South East Autumn Conference "Maritime Archaeology" (See Bulletin 295 for details)

MEETINGS

1st November

"Aspects of Haslemere History". A lecture to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society by Mr Richard Muir at St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 8.00 pm.

2nd November

"Wanborough: From White Barrow to World War". A lecture by Gillian Drew to Farnham and District Museum Society at the United Reformed Church Hall, South Street, Farnham at 7.30 for 7.45 pm.

2nd November

"The History of the Kitchen". A lecture by Tricia Dawson to the Spelthorne Archaeological Field Group at Staines Methodist Church, Thames Street, Staines at 8.00 pm.

4th November

Annual General Meeting of the Merton Historical Society, followed by a Quiz, at the Snuff Mill Environmental Centre, Morden Hall Park, Morden at 2.30 pm.

10th November

"Boxgrove — Site of the Oldest European?" A lecture by Dr Mark Roberts, Institute of Archaeology to the Richmond Archaeological Society at the Vestry Hall, Paradise Road, Richmond at 8.00 pm. Admission: Members free; non-members £2.

11th November

Council for Kent Archaeology Conference "Recent Archaeological Discoveries in Kent" (See Bulletin 295 for details).

11th November

"Barnes Wallis and the adventures of the Research and Development Department". A lecture by Mr Bernard Russell, who was closely associated with Barnes Wallis for many years, to the Walton & Weybridge LHS in the Elmgrove Meeting Room, Walton at 3.00 pm.

13th November

"Surrey Villages". An illustrated lecture by Charles Abdy to the Leatherhead & District LHS in the Dixon Hall, Leatherhead Institute at 7.30 for 8.00 pm. Admission: members 50p; non-members £1.

14th November

"George Abbot". A lecture by Father Brian Taylor to the West Surrey Branch of the Historical Association in the Friends' Meeting House, North Street, Guildford at 7.30 pm.

16th November

"Esher Area". A presentation of slides bequeathed by Mr E Royston Pike, a former President, to the Esher District LHS, given by Miss Joan Harlow at St Nicholas Church Hall, Summer Road, Thames Ditton at 7.30 pm.

16th November

"Ramblings through Weybridge History". A lecture by Jean Smith to the Farnham and District Museum Society at the United Reformed Church Hall, South Street, Farnham at 7.30 for 7.45 pm.

16th November

"In an Apothecary's Garden". A lecture by Miss Sue Minter, Curator of the Chelsea Physic Garden to the Barnes and Mortlake History Society in the Main Hall at the Sheen Lane Centre at 8.00 pm.

21st November

"The East Surrey Regiment and its connections with Kingston". A lecture by Dan James to the Friends of Kingston Museum and Heritage Service in the Antechamber of the Market House, the Market Place, Kingston at 8.00 pm. Voluntary donation of £1.50 is suggested.

24th November

"Conservation in Wandsworth Borough". A lecture by John Webb to the Wandsworth Historical Society in the Friends Meeting House, High Street, Wandsworth at 8.00 pm.

3rd December

SAS Annual General Meeting at Brooklands Museum (see Bulletin 295 for details).

7th December

"Recent Archaeological Work". A lecture by David Graham to the Farnham and District Museum Society in the United Reformed Church Hall, South Street, Farnham at 7.30 for 7.45 pm.

FUTURE EVENTS

23rd March 1996

The 16th West London Local History Conference. To be held at Montague Hall, Hounslow. Subject: One hundred years of Cinema in West London. The programme will include films and videos as well as talks, and will cover the Ealing, Lime Grove and Twickenham studios, films made in London Streets, early Bioscopes, projectionists, audiences, etc. Full programme to follow.

23rd March 1996

The 33rd Annual Conference of London Archaeologists to be held at the Museum of London.

Editor: Audrey Monk, Bryony Bank, Beech Hill, Hambledon, Surrey GU8 4HL
Next Issue: Copy required by 3rd November for the December 1995/Jan 1996 issue.