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## SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD GU1 3SX

Tel/ Fax: 01483 532454

E-mail: [info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk](mailto:info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk)

Website: [www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk](http://www.surreyarchaeology.org.uk)

# Bulletin 386

August 2005



**THE BIG BLETCHINGLEY STRIP**

## EXCAVATIONS AT NORTH PARK, BLETCHINGLEY:

### First Field Report

As I write, five weeks of fieldwork have been completed at Surrey County Archaeological Unit's big project at Bletchingley, and by the time you read this in mid August, we will have become fully engaged in controlled excavations with a small team of SCAU staff and contract archaeological fieldworkers, a rolling roster of trainee excavators and as many volunteers as we have been able to muster. Us dirt archaeologists will also be complemented by a team of environmental and other earth science specialists from Archaeoscape, part of Royal Holloway College, in a pioneering endeavour of inter-disciplinary investigation into the head-water hollow of 1.1h that represents 'the site'. Its Mesolithic archaeology will be the focus of our activities, but we will not be ignoring the subsequent development of this small scrap of Surrey landscape that raised such high expectations from preliminary evaluations.

The area under investigation lies on the southern edge of the narrow east-west Gault vale that runs 2km north of Bletchingley village; and, perhaps even more significantly, immediately west of a slight spur in the surface morphology of the Folkestone Beds sands from whence streams flow west and east. This minor high point probably owes its existence to a superficial layer of re-cemented chalk debris, part of which is exposed along the north-eastern crest of the hollow, and which has been recognised as glacial slumping from the adjacent North Downs.

The first three weeks of work involved the stripping of up to almost a metre of ploughsoils, both ancient and modern, from a series of 'dark deposits', which required a big machine and a big dumper. The Del-boy digger of the first day was sacked on the second, and the quarry company's excellent stand-in for two days was replaced



*MOLAS staff surveying the site*



*Geophysical survey underway*

by another, on hire, who had not driven for some time and had no experience of archaeological requirements, We did what was possible, but the site still looked a mess. That's not to say that it had been easy to do, however, since it meant stripping baked ploughsoils from loose sands around the fringes of the hollow, and, at least in the first day of work, an attempt that proved impossible to perform, to peel off the ploughsoils to within 5cm or less from the underlying 'dark deposits' This was one of the stipulations for the efficacy of one or more of the geophysical surveys being undertaken, although no serious suggestions as to how this could ever have been possible were made. Another requirement of the geofizz bods, and one that will become an increasing irritant, is that, because no substantial metal was allowed within 30m of the

survey area, our site huts are a long way to barrow equipment, finds and samples from the site, which will include the c60% of all excavated deposits to be wet-sieved. Not only that, but the geofizz boffins cannot work at the same time as the staff from MoLAS that have been contracted to put in a grid and create a digital terrain map. This is not, I should add, because of any personal bad feelings; just that the metal used by the one group interferes with the readings of the other. Ho-hum.

The first week of stripping had been largely uneventful and under blue skies until a storm on the Friday, but the generally dry conditions continued for the rest of the



*Base of a Late Bronze Age vessel being cleaned for photography*

preparatory work, whilst the rest of the world seemed to change around us. The following Thursday the bombers struck, and it was surreal driving back round the M25 reading the big black digi-signs that read 'LONDON AREA CLOSED, TURN ON RADIO'. The following Thursday all work paused at 11am in respect, even the digger and dumper drivers. And just in passing, most of us working here need to come to and fro the M25, which is, at best, a nightmare lottery in which chance dictates whether we get here or home on time: two staff from Archaeoscape took five hours getting back to Egham one particularly horrendous Friday afternoon.

The final results of our strip were more than we expected. In addition to the full exposure of the series of 'dark deposits' that filled the hollow, we have located clusters of later features on both sides of the shallow valley; one of seeming Late Bronze Age date, including at least two pot burials, ie probable human cremations; and the other, nearly opposite, appears to be of early medieval date and may relate to a pre-park settlement along Place Farm Road. Leading north from the medieval features is a causeway, loosely constructed of local stones, that traverses the potentially boggy ground of the hollow. It overlies a ditch that ends in an early medieval pit, so it could have been constructed then or in the post-medieval period.

I hope that many people will become involved in this daunting project, which is not likely to be completed before the end of October. If you would like to become involved, as volunteer or trainee excavator, then please get in touch with Nowal Shaikhley back in the SCAU office in Woking, Tel: 01483 518 779.

## **CHRIS CURRIE – AN APPRECIATION**

*David Graham*

Many of you will have heard the sad news that Chris Currie died in May, whilst carrying out a field survey on the Isle of Wight. This comes as a considerable shock as Chris was fully active, had just completed a survey of Hindhead Common for the National Trust and was in the process of quoting for a survey of Blackheath, near Guildford. As Phil Jones wrote in the last *Bulletin* our thoughts must be with the family.

Chris started his career virtually pioneering Garden Archaeology as a subject – an interest which started when he was a Leverhulme Research Fellow in the 1980s. In the 1990s he set up his own company – CKC Archaeology and expanded his interests to cover fishponds, general archaeology and more recently landscape surveys.

It was in this latter area that Chris became widely known throughout Surrey, as he tended to be the contractor of choice employed by the Society and County Council as part of our joint Community Archaeology Project. Under this heading Chris led teams of volunteers, carrying out landscape surveys across the County, usually examining places that had been put forward as potential Areas of Special Historic Landscape Value; locations such as Frensham Common, Banstead Heath, Chelsham and Chobham to mention but a few.

The result of this work can be seen in the Society's library and is listed on the online database. Chris was a reliable and prolific author and never failed to produce a full report within a short time of completing each survey. He contributed articles to the *Collections* as well as to many other publications. He was also generous in giving up his time to run workshops and training sessions for volunteers and, in the field, was always cheerful and encouraging as he led his teams through brambles and bracken and whatever other obstacles lay in the path of the survey.

To all his helpers he was a friend who will be greatly missed and it is, in some ways, very fitting that his newly published book on Garden Archaeology will act as a memorial to him.

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## COUNCIL NEWS

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### GILLIAN DREW

#### *Our Honorary Librarian from December 1978 to August 2005*

As many members know, Gillian has resigned as the Society's Honorary Librarian – for the best of all reasons – she is shortly to be married and is moving to Hertfordshire. We all owe her a great debt of gratitude for her careful stewardship of the library and its research material for over more than twenty-five years.

It is difficult to choose her most important contributions to the Library but perhaps the following demonstrate her influence on the unique resource we now have.

It was John Nevinson, SyAS President from 1970-1975, who first forecast that professional part-time assistance would be needed and it was Gillian, who on being approached in 1978 to see if she would take on the post of Honorary Librarian, said she would only do so if paid professional help were made available. Since then first Pat Ashworth, then Janette White and now Sheila Ashcroft, as assistant librarians, under Gillian's guidance have transformed the library.

More recently, following a successful application by Gillian to the British Library for a grant, the Society's catalogue has been computerised, and is now available on the web – and this is of enormous benefit to all members and specially those living on the eastern side of the county.

Gillian has always made every effort to publicise the Society, its library and collections and to bring them to the attention of a wider audience by lectures and attending meetings across the county; she and her mother, Trudie Drew, who sadly died only last year, were familiar figures at all Society events. More recently she has arranged two exhibitions of some of the Society paintings at the East Surrey Museum, the first featuring Ernest Christie and the second Arthur Keen, more of which may be read elsewhere in this *Bulletin*.

Many members asked if they could tangibly express not only their thanks to Gillian but also their good wishes for her future happiness; a collection was therefore organised for those who wished to contribute. At a meeting of Council on the 15th July and at a subsequent meeting of the Library Committee on the 13th August, the President was delighted to record the thanks of the Society to Gillian and to present her with a painting of Castle Arch together with a cheque, in recognition of her contribution to the Society.

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## ROMAN STUDIES GROUP

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### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

*David Bird*

Notice is hereby given that the Roman Studies Group AGM will be held on Tuesday 4th October 2005 at soon after 7.30pm at the Dorking Christian Centre. The meeting will receive and consider the Chairman's and Treasurer's reports and elect officers together with up to three committee members. Nominations may be made to the Secretary, Alan Hall, c/o Castle Arch. The existing officers and committee are standing for re-election except that Stuart Sweetman has had to resign as Treasurer and Frank Pemberton has been nominated in his place. Nominations at present are therefore: David Bird, Chairman; David Graham, Vice-Chairman; Alan Hall, Secretary; Frank Pemberton, Treasurer; Audrey Graham, Rosemary Hunter and Joyce Herve committee members.

The AGM will be followed by a talk by Joanna Bird on

### **MITHRAIC RITUAL AND THE USE OF “SPECIAL EFFECTS”**

Although there is little documentary information on mithraic practices, finds from mithraea (including the London temple), particularly sculpture, mosaics, pottery and small objects, suggest the dramatic use of special effects in the rituals, including the ordeals undergone by initiates.

The rest of the winter programme is being established, with the following dates: 1st November; 6th December; 3rd January; 7th February and 7th March. Doors open at 7.30pm and the talks will start at around 7.45pm. All talks will be at the Dorking Christian Centre except that the February talk will probably be at the Baptist Church Hall in Junction Road, Dorking. Further details will be provided in due course, but please note the dates now. It is anticipated that there will also be at least one half-day meeting in April or May 2006.

### **CONTINUED EXCAVATIONS AT COBHAM**

*David Taylor*

*with excavation notes by Alan Hall*

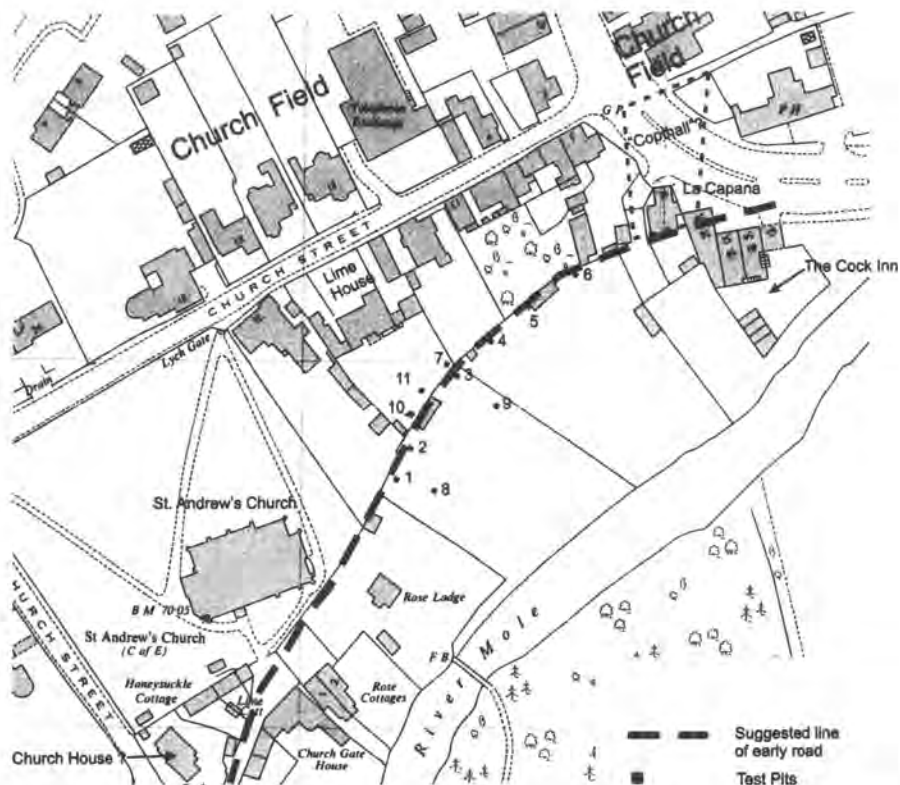
Cobham was once a Chertsey Abbey manor. Recent work suggests that the core of the settlement at Church Cobham may have been laid out as a single row in the mid 12th Century.<sup>1</sup> The church may have been built or rebuilt at the same date. If, as suggested, Church Street was part of this planned settlement, it raises the question of the position of the original road from Bookham, another Chertsey manor, into Cobham.

The boundary of the properties on the south side of Church Street runs in a curvilinear manner from the eastern corner of the churchyard through to River Hill and could well indicate the position of an earlier road. In fact, this is shown as such on the plan of Church Cobham in Dennis Turner's chapter "Manors and other settlements" in *Aspects*<sup>2</sup>. This proposed route would naturally follow the line of the existing road from Downside Bridge to the church and run at a height just above the flood plain of the River Mole.

There are three other indicators that strongly suggest this to be the route of the old road.

1. The roads would have provided immediate access to the south entrance to the parish church. It is known the priest's house stood across the way from the church on the site now occupied by "Rose Lodge".
2. The route would have lined up with a property on River Hill now called "La Capanna". Although much rebuilt and enlarged, La Capanna has at its core a timber-framed house. The Domestic Buildings Research Group report states that this property originally "faced south and the River Mole"<sup>3</sup>. A continuation of the suggested former road would have provided the necessary access to the main front of this property. However, herein lies a dilemma. The DBRG state that the core of La Capanna is "a two bay mediaeval house built with re-used timbers". The house must predate the suggested timing for the laying out of Church Street by Chertsey Abbey. Does this mean that La Capanna was rebuilt as a hall house in the mediaeval period still facing south? This might raise a question as to whether Church Street was, in fact, laid out at a later date than has been supposed or, of course, the original road may have continued in use as a back lane to Church Street.

La Capanna was once part of a larger holding called *Copthall*. In the eighteenth century *Copthall* was also used to describe a separate property immediately across the road from La Capanna, next to The Old Bear. It had long been a



### Excavations at Cobham 2005

mystery that the name *Copthall* should be used for properties on either side of the road. However, this could easily be explained if the road originally ran between La Capanna and the river, allowing the holding known as *Copthall* to extend back to the lane leading to the common field known as Church Field.

3. In addition to the position of La Capanna it is also necessary to take into account the position of another timber framed property that once stood on River Hill backing onto the river. This property was demolished in the 1960s and photographs seem to indicate that it dated from the seventeenth century. This was almost certainly the former "Cock" inn that is known to have stood hereabouts in the eighteenth century. This property would have stood immediately to the south of the suggested extension of the way through from the church in the direction of Cobham mill.

Lime House in Church Street dates from the early part of the eighteenth century. It is set well back from the road and stands next to Church Stile House, a timber framed medieval house rebuilt in the 17th century. Lime House stands on the site of a property recorded in the 1598 survey of Cobham as "Christmas". It had been suggested that "Christmas" stood against the street, level with Church Stile House, and that it was demolished after Lime House was built leaving the site as a front garden.

An opportunity arose to carry out a limited excavation within the front garden of Lime House in 2004. However, this failed to reveal any evidence for an earlier house having stood there<sup>4</sup>.

In April of this year a team from the Society were able to return to Cobham and sink a number of test pits in the paddock against the southern boundary of the Church Street properties along the suggested route of the earlier road. The opportunity was also taken to put in three test pits in the rear garden of Lime House.

The pits in the garden of Lime House revealed a build-up of dumped earth to a depth of 1.5m before hitting undisturbed natural soil.

Those in the paddock of Lime House were each similar showing at a depth of 1m below surface level a thin scatter of flints lying on an undisturbed surface of sandy silt which appeared to be natural. The flints appeared in varying densities of scatter but in no case did their conformation suggest either construction or road surfacing.

## NOTES

- 1 Taylor, DC, & Turner, DJ 2003 The origins of Cobham village, SyAS Bull, 366, 2-7.
- 2 Turner, DJ, 2004 Manors and other settlements in Aspects of Archaeology & History in Surrey p137
- 3 BDRG Report No 1253 (1976).
- 4 Hall, A 2004 An Excavation at Church Street, Cobham, SyAS Bull, 379, 6-7.

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## GUILDFORD MUSEUM

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### RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

*Mary Alexander*  
*Curator of Archaeology*

In February this year Guildford Borough Council's Executive agreed to pursue developing the Museum on the existing site and to continue discussions with the Heritage Lottery Fund about a grant aid bid. In view of the close relationship between the Society and the Museum this will be of interest to all members, because it means we can expand the Museum and the Society's rooms there.

In case anyone has missed out on the background to the Society and the Museum: the Society started collecting objects as soon as it was formed in 1854. It also took over the collections of the Chertsey Literary and Scientific Society which had recently folded, so some of the collections date back earlier than the 1850s. The collections were mainly of archaeology, but also of local history including prints and maps, copies of medieval seals, brass rubbings, documents and ethnography and the occasional curiosity such as a stuffed alligator. After an unfortunate interlude at Croydon when the collection was not well cared for, the Society came to Guildford in 1898 as its first, and only, permanent headquarters.

They rented Castle Arch from Guildford Council, following the long, but misguided, tradition that an old building is a suitable place for old objects. The rent was low, on condition that the public was admitted free on half a day each week. The collections were displayed in the room below the library. In 1907 Gertrude Jekyll gave her collection of social history items to the Society, which was a marvellous asset, but created space problems. The Town Council had taken a decision in 1905 to collect objects on its own account, with the idea of setting up its own museum. Due to a legal technicality about leases, the solution to the Society's space problem was for the Town Council to build an extension and the Society to use it. This saved the Society from paying a market rent. The new gallery opened in 1911 and was a great success. It encouraged more donations and the Town's collections were also displayed. In 1933 the imbalance between the two parties was addressed. The Town took over the running of the museum and the Society loaned all its collections (except for graphic material). The Town now had even more financial responsibility, but presumably the



greater freedom to organise the museum was thought to make up for this. An honorary Librarian and Curator had been appointed in 1903 and after his death in 1944 the Town appointed a professional curator.

The idea of a county museum had been discussed from 1871 and the move to Guildford was made in the light of this. For some years there was a feeling that Castle Arch would be a temporary home and that a county museum would be created elsewhere, but this never happened. The management of the museum has changed over the years and has been the responsibility of the Town Council alone for some time. Changes in local government rules meant that the Society could not be represented on the committee, and in any case borough council committees are now concerned with general policy, rather than day-to-day management as was the case in the 1930s.

Guildford Museum has been a county museum since the beginning because of the collections and the link with the Society. Nowadays a 'county museum' implies county council involvement, though county councils are younger than the Society, and much younger than Guildford Borough Council! Unfortunately museums are not something that local government is obliged to provide, so there is a huge mixture of county and district council, and private provision. Each museum has its own history and its own collections, which are never quite the same as those in an apparently similar town.

The development being pursued at Guildford is overdue, but is hugely welcome. There is a long way to go, but we can now plan seriously for larger premises on site that will include larger and better facilities for the Society. We hope it will include shared facilities such as a lecture theatre, meeting rooms and space for finds processing. More accessible storage on site would allow more people to use the collections. In conjunction with the Museum's catalogues and files and the Society's library we could provide a centre for archaeology on the lines of the LAARC.

There are all sorts of consultations to go through, and documents to be written, but the only sensible way forward is to build on what we already have – a partnership between the county archaeological society and the county town to provide a museum of the county's history and archaeology.

## **STAFFING**

There have been some changes in staff structure at the Museum over the last few years. It has now been decided to create a new post of Manager. The post has been advertised and interviews are due to be held in September.

Although we may regret losing the old way of doing things, it is no longer feasible for a subject specialist to run a museum on the side. The huge increase in government intervention (interference?) means that there is too much paperwork. The head of a museum now needs to take a more overall view of things and to develop strategies, particularly to attract visitors. There is a danger in concentrating on audiences and forgetting the collections but the new arrangements will mean that there is someone to concentrate on the audience and others to work on the collections.

The government expects museums to be a social service and a provider of education, to actively encourage people who aren't interested to visit, and to be far more 'pro-active' than has been the case in the past. It is no longer enough to be there for the people who are interested. Of course, many local museums have been trying to encourage visitors for years, but with small budgets it isn't easy. The new Manager should be able to give the Museum a focus and provide leadership and encouragement for the staff in this brave new world.

The maze of buildings at Castle Arch does not help the smooth running of the place, either for the Society or the Museum. One of the Manager's main tasks will be taking forward the lottery bid, and one of the aims of the bid will be providing better working conditions for the staff and the Society. We have already been helped by Guildford

Borough Council's new Head of Cultural Services, Chris Bunting, who is one of those rare managers who can actually manage, and we are sure that the new Museum Manager will continue to lead us out of the current shallows where we have sometimes run aground, into sparkling fresh streams!

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## RECENT WORK BY ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNITS WORKING IN THE LONDON BOROUGH OF SURREY

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The fieldwork projects listed below were undertaken by archaeological contractors operating mostly during the early part of 2005. A key to the acronyms is provided below, and, where given, the bracketed letters and numbers at the end of each entry is the site code.

AOC	AOC Archaeology
CA	Compass Archaeology
GCMS	CGMS Consulting
MoLAS	Museum of London Archaeology Service
<i>NSFF</i>	<i>No significant features or finds</i>
PCA	Pre-Construct Archaeology
PH	Posford Haskoning
RAS	Richmond Archaeological Society
SuAS	Sutton Archaeological Services
WA	Wessex Archaeology

### CROYDON

**Selsdon**, Sainsbury's Supermarket, Addington Road/Farleigh Road (TQ 3500 6215).

Watching Brief by LAS. Four struck flints of Mesolithic to Early Bronze Age types, including a scraper. (OSL 03).

**Croydon**, Overtons Yard (TQ 3221 6546). Watching Brief by MoLAS. *NSFF*; probably open ground prior to 19th century buildings. (OVY 02).

**Croydon**, 212-214 Pampisford Road (TQ 3195 6315). Watching Brief by PCA. *NSFF*. (PMP 04).

### LAMBETH

**Lambeth**, 33 Stannary Street (TQ 5313 1780). Watching Brief by WA. Heavily disturbed; post-medieval ditch with residual Roman sherd. (SSY 04).

**Lambeth**, London Nautical School, 61 Stamford Street (TQ 3142 1803). Evaluation by MoLAS. A previous auger hole found deposits on top of the gravels that dated to the late Glacial period, c13000 years ago; an unusual survival for this stretch of the Thames floodplain. A new auger hole in the vicinity of the original was sunk and although similar deposits were retrieved the salient organic deposits over the sands were not, and the organic material within the sands dated to the late Holocene. The original material was concluded to exist either as a very small remnant of the glacial past, or as a redeposited fragment of these sediments. (NAU 04).

### MERTON

**Colliers Wood**, 1-11 High Street (TQ 2703 1707). Evaluation by MoLAS. Late Roman NE/SW ditch in west, 'following the line of the route of Stane Street', with a succession of gravel and silt layers on its west side 'which may represent the truncated surface of the Roman Road lying a little further to the west'; 'possible location of the River Gravenley' channel in north-west; alluvial deposits in the east. (HCW 04).

**Wimbledon**, Ricards Lodge School, Lake Road (TQ 2460 1714). Watching Brief by AOC. A large rectangular feature was identified and map regression suggests it

was the robber trench and demolition fill of part of Marlborough House, built 1733 and burnt down and demolished in 1785. Probably contemporary with a NE/SW tunnel identified earlier, and which linked it to servant's quarters somewhere north-east of the development area. Four boxed or arched brick culverts made of the same brick types as the tunnel and demolition material were also recorded, and were likely part of the water and waste management system for Marlborough House. (AUR 04).

### **RICHMOND (south of the Thames)**

**Mortlake**, 20 Mortlake High Street (TQ 2057 7592). Watching Brief by SuAS. NSFF. (MKG 02).

**Richmond**, land adjacent to 5 James Terrace, Vineyard Path (TQ ). Watching Brief by AOC. 17th/18th century well; foundations of cottage demolished in 1930s. (VTP 04).

**Kew**, Herbarium, Royal Botanic Garden (TQ 1875 7768). Evaluation by MoLAS. Stripping over much of site, possibly related to when Hanover House was turned into a herbarium in 1851; late 19th century building, brick culvert and series of make-up deposits of demolition material; ash and clinker yard or path surface. (HBG 05).

**Richmond**, Richmond Palace (TQ 1738 7488) Building Recording by RAS. The length of the riverside wall of the Great Orchard, near the south side of the gardens of Trumpeter's House, was measured. The surviving section of Tudor wall was 50.5m long, with short stretches of later brickwork at either end. This later masonry had been mistakenly included as part of the Tudor wall, and the digital plan has been amended accordingly. Several subterranean features, probably of medieval or post-medieval date, were detected by resistivity survey. Two medium resistance anomalies in the gardens of no 5, Trumpeters Inn and Asgill House were respectively identified as the northern and western arms of the Tudor palace moat. The positions of the features accord with the predicted alignment of the moat as shown on the 2001 plan. Two high resistance N/S linear features in the communal garden of Trumpeters Inn and the garden of Trumpeters House, ran up to the south side of the northern arm of the moat. The features, which are probably the remains of walls, were parallel to each other and about 2m apart. Another high resistance anomaly at the southern end of the linear features may represent the foundations of a building. In the garden of Asgill House, a high resistance anomaly aligned east/west may represent a wall, possibly associated with the medieval manor or palace of Shene. (OPD 01).

### **SOUTHWARK**

**Southwark**, The Floral Hall, Stoney Street, Borough Market (TQ 3258 8025). Excavation by MoLAS. *Roman*: Several quarries, a timber-lined well and dumped deposits dated AD 70-100, possibly a levelling prior to development of clay and timber beam slot buildings that were aligned with the postulated road from the bridgehead to another river crossing at Lambeth. Levelling deposits associated with the construction of these buildings contained large amount of building materials associated with a hypocaust system', such as box flue tiles, wall tiles and bricks for pilae construction, as well as many black, red and white tesserae. Robbing trench backfills of two masonry structures contained late 3rd century pottery. *Medieval*: Saxo-Norman pottery sherds suggest that a dark loam layer over a metre thick was still being worked into the early 13th century. A 10m length of substantial, nearly N/S, masonry-arched foundation, 0.8m thick, with the arch of Kentish Ragstone and the main body of chalk, is probably part of Rochester House. Documentary sources mention that land within the garden of Winchester Palace had been sold for the construction of Rochester House, south of the palace, in 1299. *Post-medieval*: Fragmentary brick walls, a brick-lined drain, several brick-

lined pits and a pit with an important assemblage of early English lead glass. The presence of a possible rolling-out surface within one of the post-medieval buildings may indicate the property was directly associated with the glass industry. (BKT 01).

**Southwark**, 193-197 Long Lane (TQ 3305 7953). Evaluation by CGMS. Basal peat overlain by alluvial clay and sands; mixed soil with mostly 16th to 18th century finds; one sherd of redeposited Roman pottery; large late 19th century building. (??).

**Southwark**, London City Mission, Paradise Street (TQ 3484 7965). Excavation by PH. Prehistoric soil; 16th century E/W ditch; early post-medieval N/S gullies; 18th century rubbish pits, 18th century brick building modified in late 18th/early 19th century and a brick-lined well; 19th century basemented buildings. (LCM 04).

## **SUTTON**

**Beddington**, land to the east of Beddington Farm Road and south of Stirling Way (TQ 3027 6661). Excavation by CA. A small assemblage of Mesolithic to Bronze Age type struck flints; two Late Iron Age to Roman ditches running E/W and NE/SW. The larger ditch is carbon dated 100BC to AD 70, and the other appears to be slightly later although perhaps contemporary in use. (BFO 03).

**Sutton**, 48 Throwley Way (TQ 2592 6454). Watching Brief by MoLAS. One late medieval pottery sherd in colluvium; 19th and 20th century wall foundations and dumps. (TWY 03).

## **WANDSWORTH**

**Wandsworth**, The Maltese Cat PH, Aubyn Square (TQ 2225 7485). Evaluation by SuAS. *NSFF*. (AUB 04).

**Wandsworth**, Frogmore Depot, Dormay Street (TQ 2540 7501). Evaluation by MoLAS. Borehole survey found gravels overlain by three phases of organic silts overlain by clays dating from around 2300 BC to 1150 AD, capped by disturbed ground. Pollen analysis provided evidence of scrubland, marsh taxa and cereal production that was likely to have taken place within a few hundred metres from the site. Diatom analysis provided clear indications of the changing riparian environment along the River Wandle, including indications of the increasing influence of the River Thames upon the site over time. Other auguring revealed sediments characterised by bright colours from a nearby post-medieval dye factory. (FDD 04).

**Wandsworth**, land to the rear of 19 Lyford Road (TQ 2704 7368). Evaluation by CA. *NSFF*. (LYF 04).

**Wandsworth**, Southfields Community College, 333 Merton Road (TQ 2545 7333). Evaluation by MoLAS. *NSFF*. (MER 04).

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## **SURREY HISTORY CENTRE**

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### **NONSUCH PALACE: a Virtual Reconstruction**

**30th June – 19th November**

A virtual reality model of Henry VIII's palace, using contemporary paintings, manuscript descriptions and archaeological evidence. The model allows people to experience the amazing splendour of the Palace that once stood in Nonsuch Park but has been lost in obscurity for many years.

The model with the contextual research is presented using standard web technology. It is on display in the foyer at Surrey History Centre, 130 Goldsworth Road, Woking and can be viewed during normal opening hours: Sundays and Mondays Closed, Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9.30-5.30, Thursdays 9.30-7.30, Fridays 9.30-5.00 and Saturdays 9.30-4.00. Also closed on Bank Holidays 27th and 29th August.

## **TUDOR HEROES: Pirates and Explorers**

**2nd August – 3rd September**

Free activities for the family. Come and see who the Pirates were, where they went and who they attacked. Find out which Surrey pirate's head was kept in a leather bag by his wife. Follow treasure maps and make your own pirate flags and parrot (wooden legs not supplied).

Not suitable for children under 5. Parents or guardians are responsible for supervising their children. Please phone 01483 518737 for more information or check the website at [www.surreycc.gov.uk/surrey historieservice](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/surrey-historieservice)

## **HERITAGE OPEN DAY 2005**

**10th September**

A chance to have a look behind the scenes at Surrey History Centre. There will be free tours at 12 pm and 1.45 pm; to book a place on a tour call 01483 518737. There will be a second hand local history book sale throughout the day in the foyer of the Centre.

Interested in learning more about archaeology? Julian Richards will be running free short workshops for children throughout the day:

5-10 years old	11-11.30am (parent or guardian must be present)
11-14 years old	2-2.30pm (parent or guardian must be present)
15-18 years old	3-3.30pm

Places are limited for these sessions so booking is essential. Please call Trudie Cole on 001483 518772 after 22nd August.

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## **MISCELLANY**

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### **POSTSCRIPT ON ROMAN NEWINGTON CAUSEWAY** *Graham Dawson*

Further to the article about Newington Causeway republished in the last *Bulletin*, immediately after its original publication a Roman cemetery was discovered to the west of it at 52-55 Lant Street (see *Archaeology Matters*, Summer 2005 and *Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society Newsletter* 102, June 2005, p5-6) so my words in the last paragraph were prophetic though no actual trace of the Roman road has yet to be discovered; clearly my faith in the ability of Victorian labourers to recognise human skeletons will have to be modified!

However, this discovery does not finally settle the matter since it lies 100' west of the present Newington Causeway, and a road that far west would be rather peculiar. Indeed the excavator says that the cemetery is different from the others found in Southwark in being 'more central, away from roads', though this is presumably based on the belief that the Roman road lay along the line of Newington Causeway.

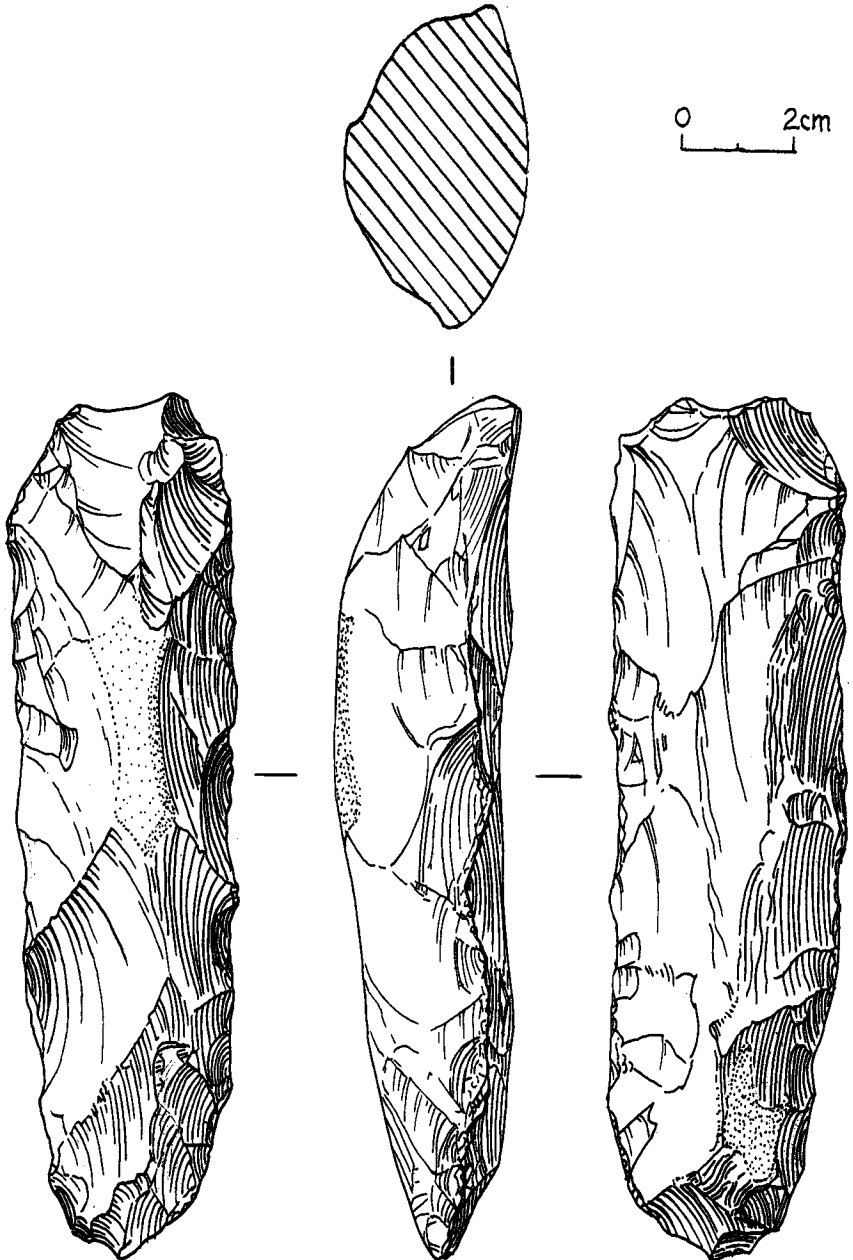
It does, indeed, seem possible that the cemetery runs east/west rather than north/south since no burials were found on the site immediately south from it, or on the site to the north opposite it on the other side of Lant Street. Could it then possibly be alongside the postulated east-west road between the 'Bricklayer's Arms' and Lambeth? It would be rather to the north of the usually suggested line, but there was a boggy area north-east of the Elephant and Castle (Tewsfen), and it might have been diverted northwards to avoid this; all very speculative, but there does not seem any topographical reason why a road continuing the line of Kennington Park Road should diverge so far west of the line of its medieval successor.

As so often happens, new discoveries raise more questions than answers.

**MESOLITHIC ADZE FROM POLEDSEN LACEY**

**Gabby Rapson**

This chipped axe was found by Fizz Chattin on a footpath at the edge of a hilltop field (TQ 133 526), and brought to the attention of Jon Cotton, who kindly passed it on for



*Mesolithic Adze from Polesden Lacey*

recording. He suggests that it is an adze rather than an axe, because of its D-shaped section.

Measuring 11cm long by 4cm wide and 3cm deep, it is fashioned from blue-grey flint with a small amount of thick chalky cortex present on both sides, suggesting a North Downs origin for the source of the flint. Slight iron staining is present on the flake scar ridges. The adze is complete and relatively undamaged. The blade and side edges are crushed and blunted, probably from both utilisation and plough damage, but few recent scars are visible.

Both sides show evidence of re-sharpening. The left hand view shows what appears to be re-sharpening of a *tranchet* flake on the lower right hand side of the piece, whereas the right hand view (the flatter side) shows removal of cortex with steep flaking on the opposite side and end of the piece. This would have thinned the blade end evenly. There is the possibility that this re-sharpening may have altered the original angle and profile of the blade and made the piece more axe-like towards the end of its life.

The butt of the piece is very curved and ungainly, giving the impression that a sharp blow would neaten it up. Perhaps the owner was more willing to find a suitable haft for the piece, than make any last minute alterations and risk ruining the tool.

Many thanks to all involved.

## **ARTHUR KEEN, RIBA at East Surrey Museum**

Among the Society's many treasures is a collection of drawings by Arthur Keen of buildings he illustrated in the Oxted/Limpsfield area and, with the co-operation of the East Surrey Museum these are now on display at the East Surrey Museum until the end of September.

The Exhibition was viewed by a small gathering of Society members, members of the Bourne Society and Friends of the Museum on Saturday, 2nd July. Audrey Monk, President, paid tribute to the work of the Museum and its volunteers, and welcomed the opportunity to co-operate with them in enabling items from the Society's collections to be displayed locally. Gillian Drew, the Society's Honorary Librarian, then gave an informative talk about Arthur Keen and his work

Arthur Keen was born in 1861 and educated at the City of London School. On leaving school he entered the offices of Norman Shaw to train as an architect, later establishing his own practice. Among his other work, he designed a number of country houses in the Home Counties including Limpsfield Village Hall in 1919 and the Oxted War Memorial Hospital.

Arthur Keen was a member of the Society and the drawings, which were presented to the Society on his death, were completed during his retirement. They are drawn with an architect's eye and represent an interesting and valuable, as well as charming, record of local houses. Some of the drawings were produced for a book on Oxted and Limpsfield, edited by Lewis G. Fry and published in 1932, in which Keen contributed a chapter on local architecture as well as some of his own illustrations. (A copy of this book is held in the Society's library).

Sir Bannister Fletcher, the architectural historian, describes Keen as having a lovable personality, sincere and modest, which earned him the affection of fellow architects and those who worked with him. He died at his home at Snatts, Uvedale Road, Limpsfield in 1938.

Keen was elected a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects in 1904, becoming its Honorary Secretary from 1919-21 and a Vice-President from 1925-27.

The Exhibition is well worth a visit as is the East Surrey Museum, which has been established for nearly 25 years. The Museum, at 1 Stafford Road, Caterham, aims to collect and conserve suitable items of local interest and to interpret them for the enjoyment and benefit of the public. It is open throughout the year on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 10am until 5pm, and on Sunday afternoons from 2-5 pm.

## **SURREY DENDROCHRONOLOGY PROJECT – A CORRECTION**

There were two omissions from the article in the last Bulletin (No. 385 – July 2005). Firstly, the chart on page 4 needed a title: "Tree-Ring Sequences: 1, Church Street, Godalming." (It shows the sequences for the seven cores taken and the good visual match.)

Secondly, The Museum result was missing from the list on page 7: "109 Church Street (The Museum) Spring/summer 1445, spring 1446."

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## **PUBLICATION**

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### **BOOK LAUNCH**

***St Nicolas' Church, Guildford***

***Monday 17th October 2005 7.30-9.30 p.m.***

As part of Guildford Book Festival Week, Rob Poulton will be launching "***A Medieval Royal Complex at Guildford – Excavations at the Castle and Palace***", the report of the excavations at Guildford between 1990-94. Tickets will be on sale from mid September from the Festival Book Office at Guildford Tourist Information centre.

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## **CONFERENCES**

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### **'ASPECTS' AND AFTER**

**SyAS Autumn Conference 2005**

***Saturday 1st October 10am- 5pm***

***Bourne Hall, Ewell***

- 10am Registration and coffee
- 10.30 Welcome by the Chairman ***Jon Cotton***
- 10.40 ***Investigating Sussex Villas in Research and Training Frameworks David Rudling*** (University of Sussex).
- 11.50 ***Past and Present Environmental Archaeological Research in Surrey: Setting an Agenda for the Future Nick Branch and Lucy Farr*** (Royal Holloway College).
- 12.20 ***Palaeolithic Surrey: Moving from Dots on Maps to Peopling the Landscape Peter Harp*** (Plateau Group of SyAS)
- 12.45 Lunch
- 2pm ***The Surrey Dendrochronology Project Rod Wild***
- 2.25 ***The Extractive Industries: Quarrying for an Agenda Paul Sowan***
- 2.50 ***Agenda Case Study: Cobham David Taylor***
- 3.15 Tea
- 3.45 ***Research and Development-led Archaeology Rob Poulton*** (Surrey County Archaeological Unit).
- 4.10 ***Setting the Agenda: A Timetable for Action David Bird*** (Surrey County Council).



4.30 Discussion and Summary

5pm Disperse

Fee: £12.50

Enquiries and booking form from the Membership Secretary at Castle Arch, Tel: 01483 532454.

## **NELSON AND TRAFALGAR COUNCIL FOR KENTISH ARCHAEOLOGY**

**Autumn Conference 2005**

***Christchurch University College North Holmes Road, Canterbury***

***Saturday 5th November 2005, 2–5.30 pm***

**Victory and the Road to Trafalgar** *Richard Holdsworth*, Museum and Heritage Director, Chatham Historic Dockyard

**Nelson and the Trafalgar Campaign** *Professor Richard Harding*, University of Westminster

**What if Nelson had lost at Trafalgar?** *Andrew Saunders*, Leading Authority on Medieval and Later Fortifications

Tickets: £4 available from CKA, 7 Sandy Ridge, Borough Green, Kent TN15 8HP. Cheques payable to CKA, SAE please. Further information can be found on CKA website: [www.the-cka.fsnet.co.uk](http://www.the-cka.fsnet.co.uk)

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## **COURSES**

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### **UNIVERSITY OF SURREY**

#### **ENGLISH LOCAL HISTORY DEGREE PROGRAMME**

Local History is the study of a particular place or group. This course, rather than concentrating on one particular area, ie Surrey, studies 'places' generally. It is also possible to study the history of a community, a family or an individual. Local History demands skills such as the ability to read old documents, interpret the landscape and record histories orally, as well as an understanding of history. The content of the course currently includes:

- **Specialised courses on the sources used in the study of local history** – including documents such as parish records, the Census, maps, taxation records, diaries etc.
- **Landscape courses** – study the physical landscape as developed by the human race from 1500 onwards. In addition to the countryside, towns, villages and London are considered. These courses involve several external field trips.
- **Skills courses** – such as palaeography, Latin, oral history.
- **History courses** – offered at all levels of the programme, developing knowledge of British history, and how it is interpreted, from 1500 to the present day.
- **Visits** – form an important part of the programme and include local archive centres and libraries, and fieldwork visits to towns, villages and other sites.

English History can be studied full or part-time, allowing study to suit the individual. Within the Department of Adult and Continuing Education there is an understanding of the need to balance other life commitments with study, so courses run both in the daytime and evening. Most teaching takes place on the University Campus at Guildford.

**Entrance Requirements:** Those over 21 require no formal academic qualifications to enter the programme, but will be invited to attend an interview to discuss the programme before a formal offer is made. Applicants under the age of 21 should contact the course administrator on the number below for further information.

**Student Support:** All students on the programme are assigned a personal tutor, who will provide academic advice and guidance and monitor progress for the duration of studies.

**Teaching:** Most courses are taught in weekly face to face sessions. Some courses have a large fieldwork component. There is also some distance learning.

**Open Days:** Open Days will be held throughout the summer. Details are available at the contact below, who can also arrange meetings with tutors and members of staff.

For further information contact the BA English Local History Course administrator, Tel: 01483 686153; Fax: 01483 686171; email: localhist@surrey.ac.uk or see [www.surrey.ac.uk/Education/ace/history.htm](http://www.surrey.ac.uk/Education/ace/history.htm)

## **RESEARCHING THE PAST**

### **Certificate Course**

Each course listed below carries University credits and forms part of a Certificate in a particular subject. A Foundation Certificate requires 60 credits, a Certificate of Higher Education 120 credits or individual modules may be studied without further commitment. All students are required to undertake some form of assessed work. Appropriate credits gained on the former UniS Open Studies programme can be transferred to the part-time BA in Combined Studies. For further information contact the Department by telephone or email, or send an A4 sae marked 'Certificate Regulations' for the full regulations.

### **Introduction to Tracing the Ancestors**

*8 meetings on Wednesdays*

*28 September to 23 November 2005, 7pm to 9pm.*

*Guildford Institute, Ward Street, Guildford*

The course aims to develop skills needed in tracing ancestors and in understanding the place of the family in society. Suitable for total novices or those with some experience.

Tutor: Anne Milton-Worssell MA MCLIP

Reference: UG1-5356-RX3 Credits: 10, Fee: £57

### **Tracing the History of the Domestic House**

*8 meetings on Thursdays*

*29 September to 14 November 2005, 10 am to 12 noon*

*Surrey History Centre, 130 Goldsworth Road, Woking*

Traces the history of domestic houses – farms, cottages, terraces, semis, etc, their architecture, how they were recorded in documents and what life was like for the people who lived in them.

Tutor: Anne Milton-Worssell MA MCLIP

Reference: UOHC-5359-RX5 Credits: 10, Fee: £57

### **An Introduction to Reading Old Documents**

*8 meetings on Wednesdays*

*25 January 2006 to 22 March 2006, 7 pm to 9 pm*

*Guildford Institute, Ward Street, Guildford*

The course is specifically tailored to the needs of those who cannot read old

documents. Working with an experienced tutor, English written documents from the sixteenth century to date will be studied.

Tutor: Caroline Ferguson MA PhD PGCE

Reference: UG1-5357-RX1 Credits: 10, Fee: £57

### **Parish Churches and their Community**

*8 meetings on Thursdays*

*26 January 2006 to 23 March 2006, 10 am to 12 noon*

*Surrey History Centre, 130 Goldsworth Road, Woking*

Explores the ways in which the parish church, and to some extent the parish, can be traced historically through the use of records and buildings. Aims to help understand some of the social changes that affected the churches and their parishioners by studying the different periods and times of the parish church,

Tutor: Anne Milton- Worsell MA MCLIP

Reference: UOHC-5360-RX4 Credits: 10 Fee: £57

### **Remembering the Past**

*8 meetings on Wednesdays*

*26th April to 21st June 2006*

*7 pm to 9 pm*

*Guildford Institute, Ward Street, Guildford*

This course offers practical methods for recording and utilising individual memories of events and experiences to augment information derived from documents and books.

Tutor: Anne Milton-Worsell MA MCLIP

Reference: UG1-5358-RX2 Credits: 10, Fee: £57

### **Tracing the History of the English Country House and its Household in the 16th and 17th Centuries**

*8 meetings on Thursdays*

*27 April to 22 June 2006, 10am to 12 noon*

*Surrey History Centre, 130 Goldsworth Road, Woking*

This course looks at all aspects of the English Country House from source materials in the 16th and 17th centuries. It examines the buildings and the lifestyle of those who lived in them. Relevant history of the period will also be included. A visit is included as part of this course.

Tutor: Anne Milton-Worsell MA MCLIP and others

Reference: UOHC-5361-RX6 Credits: 10 Fee: £57

Please enrol for courses two weeks before the start date. Places are sometimes available after this but availability cannot be guaranteed. Occasionally courses may have to be cancelled or modified. Enrolment forms can be downloaded from the website on [www.surrey.ac.uk/Education/ace/index.htm](http://www.surrey.ac.uk/Education/ace/index.htm) or obtained from Jane Bradford, Tel: 01483 683151 or email [j.bradford@surrey.ac.uk](mailto:j.bradford@surrey.ac.uk)

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## **LECTURE MEETINGS**

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### **5th September**

“A Tudor Gentleman in Surrey, Sir William More of Loseley 1520-1660” by Mike Page to the Woking History Society at Mayford Village Hall, Saunders Lane, Mayford at 8 pm. Visitors welcome £2.

### **6th September**

"Surrey and the Motor Car" by Gordon Knowles to the Leatherhead & District Local History Society in the Dixon Hall of the Letherhead Institute, High Street, Leatherhead at 7.30 for 8 pm.

### **6th September**

"History of Croydon Airport" to the Dorking Local History Group in the Friends' Meeting House, Butter Hill, off South Street, Dorking at 7.30 pm. Visitors £1.

### **7th September**

Epsom & Ewell History and Archaeology Society's Members Evening, with short presentations by Society members in St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 7.45 for 8 pm.

### **8th September**

Annual General Meeting and Presidential Address by Angela Evans to the Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society in the United Reformed Church Hall at the corner of Union Street and Eden Street at 7.30 for 8 pm.

### **20th September**

"The Iron Age in Surrey" by Trudie Cole to the Surrey Heath Archaeological and Heritage Trust at the Archaeology Centre, Bagshot at 7.30 pm. Members £1; non-members £2.

### **24th September**

"George Jackson's Memories of Bramley in the 1850s" an illustrated talk to the Bramley History Society in the Holy Trinity Church Room at 2.30 pm. Members £1; non-members £2.

### **27th September**

"Heady Days: Brewing History and Archaeology" by Mike Bone to Surrey Industrial History Group in Lecture Theatre F, University of Surrey, Guildford , 7.30 – 9.30 pm.

### **3rd October**

"The History of Mouchel's West Byfleet" by Ken Bewsey to the Woking History Society at Mayford Village Hall, Saunders Lane, Mayford at 8 pm. Visitors welcome £2.

### **5th October**

"Some Recent Studies in Epsom by Surrey Industrial History Group" by Alan Thomas to the Epsom & Ewell History and Archaeological Society in St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 7.45 for 8 pm.

### **5th October**

"An Appreciation of Vice Admiral Horatio Viscount Nelson, Duke of Bronte" the Evelyn Jowett memorial lecture for 2005 by Pat and Ray Kilsby at St Mary's Church, Church Path, Merton Park at 7.30 pm.

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The Council of the Surrey Archaeological Society desires it to be known that it is not responsible for the statements or opinions expressed in the *Bulletin*.

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**Next Issue:** Copy required by 26th August for the September/October issue

**Editor:** Phil Jones, 5, Hampton Road, Newbury, Berks RG14 6DB. Tel/Fax: 01635 581182 and email: INTERNET: [crockpot@ukonline.co.uk](mailto:crockpot@ukonline.co.uk)