

SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD
BULLETIN

Number 97

May, 1973

Edited by Rosamond Hanworth, Folly Hill, Ewhurst, Surrey

S.A.S. VISITS

June 30th Visit to Romsey Abbey and Mottisfont Abbey, Hants.

July 18th Visit to Allington Castle and Aylesford Priory, Kent.

Details of these and other meetings are given elsewhere in this Bulletin

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Surrey Archaeological Society, to receive and consider the Report of the Council and the Accounts for the year 1972, will be held, by kind permission of His Worship the Mayor of Guildford, in the Courtroom of the Guildhall Guildford, on Saturday, 16th June, 1973, at 3 p.m.

D. J. Turner, Honorary Secretary.

Agenda of Annual General Meeting

1. The Honorary Secretary to read the notice convening the Meeting.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. The Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting.
4. Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year 1972.
5. Election of President.

The Council of the Society have the honour to nominate Mr. J. L. Nevinson, M.A., F.S.A., for re-election as President for the coming year.

6. Re-election of Vice-Presidents.
7. Election of additional Vice-President.
The Council has the honour to nominate Mr. R. W. McDowall, O.B.E., F.S.A., for election as Vice-President.
8. Election of Honorary Officers.
9. Election of Council Members.

There are six vacancies to be filled under Rule 11. The following members have been nominated by Council for election: Dr. A. Crocker, F.Inst.P., F.I.M., Mr. K. D. Graham, Miss J. M. Harries, B.A., F.L.A., Mr. F. W. Holling, B.A., A.M.A., Mr. M. Morris and Mrs. M. P. Smith, B.A.

Further nominations should be accompanied by the signed consent of the nominee and must reach the Hon. Secretary not later than 9th June, 1973.

10. Election of Honorary Auditor.
11. Vote of thanks to the Mayor of Guildford.
12. Any other business.

NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that a Special General Meeting of the Surrey Archaeological Society will be held, by kind permission of His Worship the Mayor of Guildford, in the Courtroom of the Guildhall, Guildford, immediately after the Annual General Meeting on Saturday, 16th June, 1973. The Meeting will be asked to consider and vote upon the following resolutions:

That the Surrey Archaeological Society be wound up voluntarily on such date during the year 1973 as shall be nominated by the President of the Society.

That the Council of the Society immediately before the nominated date shall authorise the Trustees of the Society to realise so much of the assets as may be necessary to discharge the liabilities of the Society and shall transfer the remaining assets of the Society to Surrey Archaeological Society Limited which company has been formed to continue the objects of the Surrey Archaeological Society.

That the Memorandum and Articles of Association of Surrey Archaeological Society Limited shall be in the form a copy of which has been sent to the members of the Surrey Archaeological Society.

That the Council of the Surrey Archaeological Society shall take all necessary action to perfect the resolutions hereinbefore referred to.

Tea will be served after the meeting in the Old Council Chamber, at a price of 25p per head. It is not necessary to send any money in advance.

EXCAVATION NOTICE

ANSTIEBURY HILLFORT, COLDHARBOUR, SURREY

(TQ 153440)

Director: Mr. F. H. Thompson

A second season of excavation of the Iron Age hillfort of Anstiebury, four miles southwest of Dorking, will take place from 9th July to 4th August. Details of local accommodation to be had on request, a camping site is available without equipment. 20 Volunteers are required, own transport is desirable. Apply to the director at The Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1V 0HS.
For a further Excavation Notice see under Reigate

NOTES

New Members from 1.3.73

Mrs. E. A. Stazicker, 47 Canbury Avenue, Kingston-upon-Thames KT2 6JP

Mr. F. V. Child, 12 Alexandra Road, Epsom

Mr. R. F. Woodhouse, 6 Wray Park Road, Reigate

Mr. J. R. G. Slight, Lane End, Rowly Drive, Cranleigh

Mrs. K. Palmer, 18 Imber Grove, Esher

Leatherhead & District Local History Society, c/o 7 Burrows Close, Great Bookham, Leatherhead.

(small posts, with painted inscriptions which should not be confused with the more familiar traditional 'leaping-boards' or 'bed-heads') appear to be the only examples of their type known to survive in this part of the country.

Their importance lies in the fact that they are each situated at the foot (east) end of the grave, not at the head: they correspond to footstones, not headstones. Though small footstones in conjunction with eighteenth and nineteenth century headstones are of course commonplace, post-Tudor examples of footstones which were erected by themselves are practically unknown. There is, however, reason for thinking that it was sometimes the practice in earlier centuries to place the monument at the foot of the grave: three slabs found in the medieval graveyard at Old Sarum were associated with footstones only, and in Hamlet Ophelia says "At his head a grass-green turf—At his heels a stone". It therefore seems likely that the Leatherhead markers, though themselves of no great age, represent the last manifestation of an ancient, possibly medieval, tradition of churchyard monuments in the form of wooden foot-posts.

It is hoped that the best of the surviving examples, commemorating Caleb Musk (1863) will be offered on loan to Guildford Museum.

(W. J. Blair).

Reigate: Urban Archaeology of the town centre development

An archaeological co-ordination Committee has been set up in Reigate at the suggestion of S.A.S.

The Committee believes that development in the historic part of the town is inevitable, and realising that it will be the last opportunity for an archaeological investigation, is considering means to recover as much information as possible beforehand. The Committee is made up of representatives from S.A.S., the Borough Council, the Borough Planning Department and other interested Groups and Societies. It hopes to provide effective liaison between archaeologists, developers, contractors, owners, as well as local and national authorities, so that much of the friction between groups with opposing aims may be avoided.

Work has already started on the recording of historic buildings which appear particularly vulnerable and on historical research. The first of many trial excavations has started. This takes place behind the Congregational Church in the High Street, Reigate, every Sunday, 10.30-5.00. Volunteers for this and subsequent excavations are needed and should contact either Miss Mary Slade, Reigate 46078, Mr. D. J. Turner, Reigate 48158, or Mrs. Trier, Reigate 46475.

(Margaret Trier).

Woodchester, Gloucestershire: Orpheus Mosaic

The world famous mosaic pavement which lies buried in a disused churchyard at Woodchester, near Stroud, Gloucestershire, is to be put on show to the public for seven weeks from July 10th to August 27th, 1973. The general public will have a rare opportunity of seeing what is considered to be one of the finest and largest mosaics of Roman Britain yet to be discovered. This pavement has been uncovered only six times for public viewing since it was first completely excavated and recorded in 1793 by The Rev. Samuel Lysons.

The site is the property of the National Trust. Admission 10p.

COURSES

University of London Summer Schools

The following are available:

28th July—11th August

At Seale-Hayne Agricultural College, Newton Abbot, Devon
A COURSE ON NAUTICAL ARCHAEOLOGY—P. Marsden, F.S.A.

28th July—11th August

At Westonbirt, Nr. Tetbury, Glos.
COURSE ON ARCHAEOLOGY—J. P. C. Kent, Ph.D. (dealing with Mendips, etc.)

11th—25th August

At Wye College, Kent
COURSE ON SOILS AND SEDIMENTS (one week 11th—18th Aug.)
—C. P. Burnham, M.A., M.Sc.
GEOLOGY, LANDSCAPE AND MAN IN KENT (one week 18th—25th Aug.)—M. Bamlett, M.Phil.

Further information and booking arrangements from the Dept. of Extra-Mural Studies, London University, 7 Ridgmount Street, London W.C.1.

The following field courses in archaeology are available:

1st—31st July—COURSES ON ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD TECHNIQUES at Cambridge University. £9 per week for course fee includes Bed and Breakfast daily.

23rd—29th July—SURFACE ARCHAEOLOGY VACATION COURSE at Debden House, Loughton, Essex. Fee: £19.80.

Non residential COURSES IN ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD WORK are being held this summer at Highgate Wood.

Details of the above courses from the Dept. of Extra-Mural Studies, London University. Persons joining London University Summer School Courses are eligible to use the facilities of the University Library.

Field Studies Council Courses

Details of courses to be held this summer can be obtained from the Council, 9 Devereux Court, Strand, London WC2R 3JR.

MEETINGS

MAY

Saturday 12th, 10.30 a.m.

SAS VISIT TO CHARLWOOD. Full details were given in Bulletin 96.

Wednesday 16th, 8 p.m.

SAS VISIT TO CHERTSEY MUSEUM, The Cedars, Windsor Street, Chertsey. No tickets required.

Friday 25th, 8 p.m.

THE ROMAN SITE AT GODALMING. Talk by Clare Smith to Wandsworth H.S. at The Friends' Meeting House, Wandsworth High Street.

Horsell Secondary School, Morton Road, Horsell, Woking
Mrs. E. M. Henage, The Kaswell, Loxhill, Hascombe, Godalming
Mrs. M. Harnett, Llistowel, Dormans Park, East Grinstead, Sussex
Mrs. D. J. Whalley, Birtley House, Bramley, Guildford

Local Societies

The new secretary of the Leatherhead & District Local History Society is
Mr. D. Bruce, whose address is given above, who has succeeded Mr.
A. M. Edwards.

(D. F. Rean).

Grants for Historic Buildings

The February 1973 issue of the Bulletin included an item under the above heading which referred to a report prepared by the Conservation Committee. This report summarises the result of a survey of all local authorities in Surrey, enquiring into the budget provision and actual grants made towards the repair and maintenance of buildings of architectural and/or historic interest. The Bulletin mentioned that copies of this report are available to members of the Society by sending a stamped addressed foolscap envelope to Castle Arch. This offer was taken up by a few members but unfortunately a further copy of the Bulletin, and not the report, was sent in error. A note of these requests was not kept, so in order to regularise the matter it would be appreciated if any member who requested a copy of this report and did not receive one, would contact Castle Arch again by writing, or telephoning, Guildford 32454. Further copies of the report are now available to any other member who may be interested.

(George Gouly).

Guildford Muintment Room: Saturday opening hours

Starting on Saturday 5th May, the Search Room will normally be open only between 9 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. Prior notice of visits is essential (Tel. Guildford 66551). The Search Room will not open on the Saturdays before Bank Holidays.

(G. M. A. Beck).

Kertrum

Albert Embankment (TQ 30377807) is in Lambeth and not Southwark, as stated in Bulletin 95.

Godstone: Fiore House (TQ 361521)

During the construction of the Godstone By-pass brick walls were seen in the sides of a drainage trench. The Bourne Society excavated the site for three weekends at the end of January 1973.
The site was found to be part of the garden of Fiore House. The house is known to have existed in the seventeenth century when it was mentioned by John Evelyn. Towards the end of the seventeenth century the house seems to have become dilapidated and it was bought and repaired or rebuilt by Sir Robert Clayton. A map of the Clayton Estate dated 1761 (SRO 61/3/2) shows a plan of Fiore House with elaborately laid out gardens.

A water-colour drawing by John Hassell shows the house as it was in 1823. By about 1840 the house was left derelict or pulled down and the only visible sign of it was a well.

During the excavation, the footings of a brick wall, 34ins. thick in places, and a cobbled path were found, with a combined length of about 80ft. These were probably part of the stables.

The pottery consisted of parts of 12 large cooking vessels. They had thick rims with a reddish-brown glaze inside. Some of the vessels were burnt on the outside from use in cooking.

One piece of a large porcelain bowl was found, this was blue and white ware and was of Chinese manufacture. It was made in China and exported to Britain between 1720 and 1750.

There was part of a flat dish or plate in white salt-glazed stoneware of the type made in Staffordshire between 1720 and 1750. There were a large number of broken wine bottles of eighteenth century type.

The metal finds included an iron buckle 2ins. square and a selection of square shanked nails.

The food remains consisted of animal bones and oyster shells. A number of clay pipe stems were found, but no bowls.

(Mary Saaler).

Kingston-upon-Thames: Old Bridge Street (TQ 178694)

Excavation by Kingston Archaeological Society on behalf of Kingston Museum proceeded through most of 1972 on the riverside site immediately downstream of Kingston Bridge in advance of the proposed Phase I Ringway Scheme.

There was a great build up of modern rubble and gravel over most of the site and under the foundations of nineteenth century warehouse and offices, (roughly on the alignment of Old Bridge Street to the river), were found the massive masonry retaining walls of the approach ramp to the old bridge, demolished in circa 1830. Near the bank were the bases of two stone ribbed dry arches, roughly floored and faced with brick. There was evidence of much periodic repair but finds from stratified levels associated with the main work were not a variance with a late sixteenth century date known from the Bridge Wardens Accounts for this construction. Trenches to the south of the old bridge revealed foundations of a brick building of circa 1700, glimpses of which can be seen on prints of Kingston Old Bridge. There were successive depositions of river silt and gravel containing late medieval material, mainly Surrey off-white ware. An early seventeenth century pit group of Surrey white wares, stoneware and pipes etc. give a terminus ante quem for the final flood level.

It is hoped to resume work, after construction of the new road and before landscaping of the river bank, to investigate more of the old bridge masonry.

(Stephen Nelson).

Leatherhead: Wooden Monuments in the Churchyard

The recent discovery in Leatherhead churchyard of five wooden grave-markers may provide a clue to the type of memorial used in Surrey churchyards before the introduction of stone monuments in the seventeenth century. Wooden memorials naturally had a short life, and, though no earlier than the mid nineteenth century, the Leatherhead specimens

JUNE

Thursday 7th, 7.45 p.m.

ARCHAEOLOGY IN ORKNEY AND THE SHETLANDS. Talk by Lilian Thornhill to Croydon N.H. & S.S. in George Street Congregational Church, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon.

Friday 8th

ARCHAEOLOGY IN EWELL. Talk by N. Nail, I. West and F. Pemberton to Nonsuch A.S. at St. Mary's Church Hall, Ewell. Open meeting. All proceeds to St. Mary's Church Repair Fund.

Tuesday 19th, 8 p.m.

THE TRAMS COME TO KINGSTON. Talk by Mr. G. L. Gundry to Kingston upon Thames A.S. in the Lecture Hall, Fairfield West, Kingston upon Thames.

Saturday 30th

SAS VISIT TO ROMSEY ABBEY AND MOTTISFONT ABBEY, HANTS.

Arranged by Miss J. Carter

- 8.15 a.m. Coach departs Reigate Priory Car Park, rear of Woolworths
- 8.30 a.m. Dorking. White Horse Hotel (Free Car Park by Dorking Halls)
- 9.00 a.m. Guildford, rear of B.R. Station, Guildford Park Road, in which there is a free Car Park
- 11.30 a.m. Visit Romsey Abbey for guided tour. It is hoped to visit King John's House (circa 1210) nearby
Lunch in Romsey
- 2.00 p.m. Leave Romsey Market Place for East Wellow Church
- 3.00 p.m. Visit Mottisfont Abbey (National Trust. Admission 15p)
Tea available at Post Office nearby.

On the return journey it is hoped to visit at North Baddeley, the Church of the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem.

Tickets (members 15p, visitors 20p, students half-price and children under 16 accompanied by an adult, free). Coach fare £1.50 from Mrs. J. Major, 3 Riversdale Road, Thames Ditton, KT7 0QL, who will be unable to issue tickets from June 13th to 22nd approx.

JULY

Wednesday 18th

SAS VISIT TO ALLINGTON CASTLE AND AYLESFORD PRIORY, KENT

Arranged by Mrs. R. Chiles

- 9.15 a.m. Coach departs Guildford, rear of B.R. Station, Guildford Park Road
- 9.45 a.m. Dorking Post Office
- 10.00 a.m. Reigate, opposite Red Cross Public House
- 10.15 a.m. Oxted Railway Station

- 11.30 a.m. Visit Allington Castle (Admission approx. 15p)
Picnic lunch can be taken in the grounds of Aylesford Priory
- 2.30 p.m. Visit the Carmelite Priory
Tea can be obtained at the self-service bar
- 4.30 p.m. Coach will leave for a visit to Aylesford Church and for home, about 5 p.m.
- Tickets (members 15p, visitors 20p, students half price and children under 16 accompanied by an adult, free). Coach fare £1.05 from Mrs. J. Major, 3 Riversdale Road, Thames Ditton, KT7 0QL.
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KINGSTON PARISH CHURCH

DR. A. J. TAYLOR, C.B.E.

former Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments and Historic Buildings
at the Department of the Environment

will give an illustrated lecture on

CARING FOR HISTORIC MONUMENTS

at 8.30 p.m. on Tuesday 8th May at

Kingston Parish Church

Sherry will be served at 8.00 p.m.

Admission 50p

Proceeds in aid of the Mayor's Appeal for the Church Tower
Restoration Fund

Further details and tickets from:

The Vicarage, 23 Orchard Road, Kingston upon Thames

Next issue

The next issue of the Bulletin will be in June. Copy is required by
5th May.

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