

-SURREY
 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
 CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD GU1 3SX

BULLETIN

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**SAS COACH TOUR
 THE ROMANESQUE IN SOUTH EAST ENGLAND
 TOUR OF SUSSEX CHURCHES
 Saturday, 30th June, 1984**

Following the Course of nine lectures at the University of Surrey on Tuesdays in April and May and the visit to the Hayward Gallery on 12th April, we are planning a coach tour of Sussex churches. Mr. Robin Milner-Gulland lectured on these churches at the University on Tuesday, 8th May and we hope he will come on the coach tour.

JUNE**Saturday, 30th**

- 8.30 a.m. Coach departs Reigate, opposite Red Cross Public House at the junction of West Street, High Street and Park Lane.
 8.45 a.m. Dorking Halls
 9.15 a.m. Guildford, rear of B.R. Station in Guildford Park Road.
 10.30 a.m. St. Botolph, Hardham, which features in an audio-visual presentation at the Hayward Gallery.
 Lunch Pulborough, where snacks are obtainable at the Swan Inn
 2.00 p.m. St. Mary, West Chiltington
 3.00 p.m. Coombes Church, near Lancing
 Tea at Church Farm, Coombes, price £1.00
 5.00 p.m. St. John the Baptist, Clayton

Tickets: Members 40p, Visitors 50p, Students half price and accompanied children free. Coach fare: £5.50. This is based initially on a low number of passengers. When a coach is well patronised, a refund will be made. On the other hand it is regretted that coaches cannot be run at a loss so if there are insufficient bookings within 10 days of the visit the coach will have to be cancelled. Please book early and give a telephone number. Please apply early for tickets to Miss Josephine Carter, Woolpit Hatch, Ewhurst, Cranleigh, GU6 7NR. Telephone 0483 (Cranleigh) 277340. Indicate if tea is required to help catering but pay on the day for tea.

EXCAVATION NOTICE

SUTTON PARK (South of Woking: TQ 005538)

Director: David Bird

The seventh season of excavation at this medieval site will take place from Monday, 16th July to Saturday, 4th August inclusive, except for the two Sundays, 22nd and 29th July. The excavation will be carried out by kind permission of the Sutton Place Heritage Trust. New diggers will be accepted for training in basic excavation techniques, but only if they can guarantee to attend for at least six days.

Previous work has located a complex of medieval ditches, parts of two medieval buildings and one early post-medieval structure associated with Sutton Place, and part of a possibly 17th century irrigation scheme. The medieval buildings will be further examined this year. Further details can be obtained from David Bird on 01-546 1050 (Ext 3665), or by writing to the County Planning Officer, Surrey County Council, County Hall, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, KT1 2DT, marking the letter for the attention of Dr. D. G. Bird.

Society Policy on Metal Detecting

The Council of the Society has agreed to accept the Council for British Archaeology policy on metal detecting as the formal policy of the Society. This course was recommended by the Excavations Committee who, after much deliberation, had already adopted the CBA policy. The statement reads as follows:

"In the view of the CBA treasure hunting constitutes a grave threat to the country's archaeological heritage and is thus contrary to the national interest. The concept of treasure hunting is totally at variance with the objectives and practices of archaeology in studying and safeguarding our tangible past for the public good of present and future generations. The Council recognises that many users of metal detectors are motivated by a genuine interest in the past and its remains. Such people are welcome to join the active membership of British archaeology but they must accept the methods and disciplines of archaeology".

Hon. Secretaries

Hand Delivery of Publications

In view of the high cost of postage, the Council of the Society has agreed that, for a trial period, publications will be hand delivered to members residing within the county of Surrey. The Publications Committee is at present organising the first delivery, and further details of the scheme will be available at a later date.

Hon. Secretaries

Alfoldean Roman Site (TQ 118330)

Help is required to assist in the drawing of sections exposed by the machine-dug trench at Alfoldean (see *Bulletin* 188). The work is being carried out on certain Sundays and for a whole week in July (July 7th–July 15th inc.). Anyone who would like to help with this work (previous experience not essential) should contact Mrs. Judie English, 61 Hailey Place, Cranleigh (Cranleigh 276724) or Dr. John Gower (Cranleigh 271454).

New Members

We welcome the following new members to the Society: From March 1984 — Mrs. H. Coombes, 24 Horsham Road, Dorking, Surrey RH4 2JA; Mrs. E. M. Sutton, Northacre, Deerleap Road, Westcott, Dorking, Surrey RH4 3LD; Mr. D. Sutton, Northacre, Deerleap Road, Westcott, Dorking, Surrey RH4 3LD; Miss N. J. Whitehouse, Pendarves, Birtley Road, Bramley, Surrey GU5 0JA. From April 1984 — Miss M. D. Holmes, 6th Form Centre, St. Catherines, Bramley, Guildford, Surrey GU5 0DF; Dr. M. A. Hewett, Little Spinners, 9 The Street, Frensham, Farnham, Surrey; B. V. Williams, High Winkworth, Hascombe, Godalming GU8 4AE; Miss A. C. Massey, Rudgwick Grange, Rudgwick, Horsham, West Sussex. C. H. Massey, Rudgwick Grange, Rudgwick, Horsham, Sussex. From May 1984 — Mr. R. Brown, 11 Caillard Road, Byfleet, Surrey KT14 7JA; Mr. P. A. Kirkup, 26 Martin Way, St. Johns, Woking, Surrey GU21 1RX; Mr. D. Tudor, Laurel Cottage, Lion Green Road, Coulsdon, Surrey CR3 2NL; Mrs. P. E. Bowley, Little Orchard, Silkmore Lane, West Horsley, Surrey KT24 6JB; Ms. J. M. Lloyd, 55 Elborough Street, Southfields, London SW18. Mrs. K. M. Elton, 107 Farnham Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5PF; Mrs. C. Webb, Farm Cottage, Thistleworth Farm, Dial Post, Horsham, West Sussex. Institutional Members — West Surrey Society, Hon. Treasurer: E. T. Godwin, New Way Cottage, Godalming, Surrey GU7 2JH; The Librarian, St. David's University College, Lampeter, Dyfed SA48 7ED.

Surrey Houses — Recorded and Dated

The Domestic Buildings Research Group (Surrey) has recently published a booklet (A5 format, 28pp) listing by parish the 2000 or more houses and other buildings in Surrey recorded by the Group. The grid reference is given for each building, and the probable date of construction, deduced from structural evidence. Copies may be ordered at £1 each from: Miss J. M. Harding, FSA, 11 Lintons Lane, Epsom, Surrey KT17 1DB.

SAS Excavations Committee Annual Symposium

The Symposium held on 28th April 1984 at Dorking Halls attracted a large audience to view a record number of exhibitions and to hear a well balanced programme of lectures beginning with John Gower's reappraisal of the Chiddingfold Roman villa excavations but spanning from the mesolithic at Slines Oaks, Chelsham by Michael Russell to the comparatively modern at the follies of Painshill Park by Lesley Howes. Conventional below ground archaeology was continued with Julia Arthur's excavations in Guildford while the discovery, and often the loss, of important sites was revealed by David Graham's aerial photography in the Farnham area. Excavations by the County Unit at Oatlands Palace was covered by Rob Poulton and for the SW London Unit Scott McCracken rounded off the lectures with the jigsaw of Merton Priory.

Lady Hanworth gave a vote of thanks to the splendid Chairman Elizabeth Eames who in characteristic fashion controlled the proceedings in her own disarming way, and to Jenny Moss who as usual whetted the appetites of the less academic parts of the body with copious supplies of liquid and solid refreshment.

On a personal note, I would like to thank the speakers and exhibitors for excellent presentations, Susan Janaway at Castle Arch for tickets and

finance, John Chapman for loan of the projector, everybody inside and outside the Committee for organisation and active participation before and during the event and finally of course, the audience who made complete a very successful day.

For your diaries the Symposium for 1985 will be on March 30th.

The Art and Architecture of the Conquest: The Romanesque in South East England

This series of lectures, arranged by the Society in conjunction with the University of Surrey and held at the University in Guildford, is still in progress at the time of going to print. The talks have been well attended by an appreciative audience. The organisers are to be congratulated on bringing together, in one course, such excellent lecturers. Mary Alexander reports below on the first four talks.

The opening lecture by Dr. John Lowerson was a general introduction to the Normans and to the effect they had on England. The duchy of Normandy was founded in 911 when Viking Rollo was made duke. It seems to have been a feature of the Normans that they quickly absorbed the culture of their new homeland, whether France, England or further afield, and went on to create buildings and institutions with great energy. The conquest of England in 1066 came at a time when the Norman church was being reformed, so England was swept up in this movement. Dioceses were reorganised, almost all the bishops were replaced by Normans and a huge building programme began. This was influenced by the new style of stone building called Romanesque in Europe, because it was based on round-headed Roman arches. In England we call it Norman, because the vast majority of churches in that style were built by the Normans. However, there were Romanesque churches built before 1066, such as Edward the Confessor's Westminster Abbey, which was based on the church at Jumieges — a key building for the Romanesque style. The Normans had to use Saxon workmen, so the French and English styles blended. The Norman Conquest changed many things, but there was an underlying current of continuity of the Saxon way of life.

The second lecture was given by Dr. Derek Renn from Bookham. He is the author of a book, "Norman Castles in Britain" and spoke on the development of the castle in south-east England. Dr. Renn began by emphasising the catalytic effect of the Norman Conquest on fortification as well as on artistic features in military architecture. The old communal defences were replaced by smaller strong-points built by the numerically smaller but better-equipped invaders. The separate elements of hall, gateway and personal tower were brought together in various ways. Early Norman defences were usually of earth and timber, being both cheap and quick to build. Stone walls followed when time and money were available. At Farnham, part of a unique timber hall and a curious stone tower had been encased in twelfth-century stone walling. At Abinger two successive timber towers had been built on top of the earth mound, and Dr. Renn argued that the tower of Guildford castle in a similar position could be dated to circa 1165 from its architectural features. After an account of the architectural development of 30 other surviving Norman stone castles in the south-east, he concluded with a rapid survey of Romanesque details remaining within them.

The Bayeux Tapestry was the subject of the third lecture. Mrs. Mary Alexander, of Guildford Museum, described the Tapestry, which is actually an embroidery, not a tapestry, and suggested that it was made in

South-east England soon after 1066. English artists and embroiderers were famous so that it would be natural to use them. The Tapestry was almost certainly designed for Bishop Odo of Bayeux, William the Conqueror's half-brother, who held land in Kent. Mrs. Alexander argued that the Tapestry was not a record of the Norman Conquest, but the story of King Harold of England. It has all the ingredients of an epic poem of the time and was more likely to have been made for one of Odo's castles than for his cathedral at Bayeux. It is first heard of at Bayeux in 1476.

The Winchester Bible was the subject of the fourth lecture which was given by Sir Walter Oakeshott, who has been studying the Winchester Bible for fifty years. It was worked on for about 30 years, between 1160-1190, but was never finished. Sir Walter suggested that the Bible was written out by one man, who left spaces for the illuminated initial letters. These were filled in by different artists at different dates. There were changes in the style of drawing and painting used over the 30 years. The work of several artists could be distinguished, to whom Sir Walter has given names such as "the Master of the Leaping Figures". Another artist worked in Sicily and Spain — showing the international nature of medieval art. The scribe left instructions in the margin for the artist, and some of these were left in, including one which said (in Latin) "do as you please"! The drawings were sketched in pencil, then the gold was applied and finally the colours.

The Winchester Bible is on display at the Romanesque exhibition at the Hayward Gallery.

MEETINGS AND VISITS

JUNE

Saturday, 23rd

SAS VISIT TO LEWES. See *Bulletin* 191 for full details.

JULY

Monday, 2nd

RECENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK IN SURREY. Talk by Dr. David Bird to Mayford & Woking District H.S. 8.00 p.m. Mayford Village Hall, Saunders Lane.

Wednesday, 4th

MATHEMATICAL TILES — AN EPSOM AND EWELL BUILDING TECHNIQUE. Talk by Maurice Exwood to Nonsuch Antiquarian Soc. 8.00 p.m. St. Mary's Church Hall, Ewell.

Thursday, 12th

SAS VISIT TO THURSLEY. See *Bulletin* 191 for full details.

Saturday, 14th

WEALDEN IRON RESEARCH GROUP. Summer Meeting and A.G.M. Includes a visit to Roman ironworking site at Beauport Park. Details available from the *Bulletin* editor.

Early notice — Saturday, November 24th

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Society will be held at the University of Surrey, Guildford, at 2.00 p.m.

Copy for the August issue of the *Bulletin* is required by Saturday, 7th July. For the following issue, September/October, copy is required by Saturday, 11th August.