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

Number 292

May 1995

COUNCIL NEWS

At the January meeting of Council it was reported that Mr G Stonehouse had agreed to become Local Secretary for the Clandons, Effingham and East Horsley.

Miss Gillian Drew, Chairman of the Library Committee reported the resignation of Mrs Janette White, Assistant Librarian. Council confirmed its intention to maintain the Library and its research material, and advertisements for a replacement would be placed in the appropriate journals. A small presentation was made to Mrs White in the Library on the 29th March, at which members expressed their thanks and appreciation to Mrs White.

Dr Moss, Chairman of the Publications Committee announced that Mrs Pat Nicolaysen had agreed to become archaeological editor of the Collections.

The Honorary Secretary reported that the Society had been congratulated by Dr Burnett of the British Museum on the production of the Wanborough Report.

Dr Renn, Chairman of the Lectures and Symposia Committee announced that the Committee was planning a series of meetings on various activities of the Society to be held at Salters, Guildford, in the autumn.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

GENERAL — LOCAL

Allan, JP, Medieval & post-medieval finds from Exeter 1971-1980. Exeter Arch Report Vol 3. Univ Exeter & Exeter CC 1984

- Bidwell, P & Speak, S, Excavations at South Shields Roman Fort. Vol 1 Monograph Series 4. Soc Ant N-u-Tyne 1994
- Boon, G & Hassall, M, Report on excavations at Usk 1965-1976. The coins, inscriptions and graffiti. Univ Wales 1982
- Crummy, N & others, Colchester Arch Report 9: excavation of Roman and later cemeteries, churches & monastic sites in Colchester, 1971-88. Arch Trust & English Heritage 1993
- EPNS, Cox, Barrie, The Place-names of Rutland Vol LXVII, LXVIII, LXIX 1989-90, 1990-1, 1991-2 EPNS 1994
- Fitzpatrick, AP & Morris, EL (Joint eds), The Iron Age in Wessex: recent work. Wessex Arch 1994
- Greene, K, edited by WH Manning, Report on the excavations at Usk 1965-76. Pre-Flavian fine wares. Univ Wales 1979

- Hunn, JR, Reconstruction & measurement of landscape change. A study of six parishes in the St Albans area. BAR 236. BAR 1994
- Luff, Rosemary, Colchester Arch Report 12. Animal bones from excavations. Colchester AT & English Heritage 1993
- Manning, WH, Report on the excavations at Usk 1965-76. The Fortress excavations 1968-71. UP of Wales 1981
- Manning, WH, Report on the excavations at Usk 1965-76. The Fortress excavations. Minor excavations on the Fortress & Flavian Fort 1972-4. UP of Wales 1989
- Manning, WH, Report on the excavations at Usk 1965-76. The Roman pottery. UP of Wales 1993
- Moore, CN & Rowlands, M, Bronze Age metalwork in Salisbury Museum. Salisbury & S Wales Museum Occ Paper pubn. Salisbury & S Wales pubn 1972
- Myres, JNL & Green, B, The Anglo-Saxon cemeteries of Caister-by-Norwich and Markshall Norfolk. Reports of Research Comm of the Soc of Ant XXX. Soc of Antiquaries 1973
- Philp, Brian, The Iron Age & Romano-British site at Lenham, Kent. Kent Special Subject Series No: 7. Kent Arch Res Unit 1994

Riley, Ray, A Short guide to the industrial archaeology of Hampshire. AIA 1994

Rudge, EA (ed John Cooper), The Lost trackway from Grime's Graves to Stonehenge. Pudding Stone Study Group 1994

VISITS COMMITTEE

11th June 1995 — Visit to Essex (see details in Bulletin 291 and reservation form with this Bulletin). Cheques and details to: Mr David Evans, 48 Guildford Park Road, Guildfotd, Surrey GU2 5NF — Tel 01483 564079.

Wednesday 14th June 1995 at 7 pm — Reading Past Landscapes, a 2 hour three mile evening walk over Norbury Park with Steve Dyer of the Landscape History Group. Meet at Young Street Car Park off the Leatherhead By-pass — just past the sign to Bocketts Farm. For further details contact Steve Dyer Tel 0181-890-0305.

Sunday 9th July 1995 — 2000 Years of Coastal History Part 1. A coach outing to the western half of Romney Marsh looking at the interaction between the changing coastline and the history of the area over the last 2000 years, visiting New Romney, Dungeness and Smallhythe. Coach pick-ups at Guildford, Dorking and Reigate. Details and booking form from Barbara Blatchford, 49 Minstrel Gardens, Surbiton KT5 8DX after 30 April.

NOTES

15-17 Brighton Road, Croydon: prehistoric and Roman Site

D J Turner

Archaeological investigation was undertaken by the Museum of London Archaeological Service in July 1993 at 15-17 Brighton Road, South Croydon. An interim report on the site has now been published by Geoff Potter in the *London Archaeologist* (7/9 (Autumn 1994), 232ff).

One or two prehistoric features of an indeterminate nature were found, possibly the remains of cultivation. Prehistoric material, especially struck flint, occurred in later contexts: most importantly a late Bronze Age copper alloy razor was found in a

water-laid deposit infilling part of a probably 2nd-century Roman ditch. The principal R-B features were two ditches aligned east-west, ie at right angles to the line of the postulated London to Portslade Roman road. The ditches were dated to 120-80 AD and the southern ditch ended eastwards in a sump-like feature measuring at least 7m by 6m A dispersed hoard of 58 bronze coins dating between 341 and 352 was found in the upper fill of the sump.

St Giles' Church, Camberwell

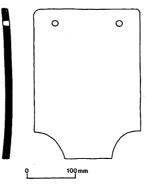
D J Turner

As recorded by Pevsner (Cherry and Pevsner 1983 *London South*) the ancient parish church of Camberwell was burnt down in 1841. Rebuilding was carried out by George Gilbert Scott under the direct influence of AWN Pugin, whom he had first met in 1838. The new building was started in 1842 and completed in 1844. It was well received and Charles Eastlake in *The Gothic Revival* (1872) remarked that no London church 'was considered purer in style'. The east window, by Ruskin, was the subject of an article by Martin Harrison in *Church Building* (issue 28, July/Aug 1994).

Works on the roof have recently been completed and an appeal has been launched for funds to restore the spire. To mark the launch, a further article has appeared in Church Building (issue 30, Nov/Dec 1994) by the Revd Rodney Bomford and Nigel Melhuish giving the history of the church and describing remedial works in the roof and spire. There is also an account by Arthur Davies of a photogrammetic survey of the spire.

Medieval Tile Kiln in Farnham Park (SU 8451 4808) Nicholas Riall

The excavation of this kiln was undertaken in 1982 and 1986 with further, minor, work on the site in the winter of 1994-95 to recover additional examples of the ceramic building materials from the site. A particular outstanding problem is the occurrence of an unusual form of peg-tile (fig) for which no parallels can be found. These peg-tiles were produced in the normal manner (moulded in frames on a sanded surface) and have two peq-holes near the head of the tile but, at the foot of the tile. the corners have been cut away. When laid on a roof this would have given a decorative appearance of semi-circular cuts along each line of the tiles. Each tile was approximately 320mm long by 220mm wide and 14-17mm thick (12.6 x 8.7 x 0.6-0.7 ins): no complete tiles were recovered from the excavation. Standard shaped. rectangular peg-tiles of similar size were also found in this kiln. A number of knife-cut crested ridge tiles, which have a design showing a comb of semi-circles along the top of the tile and further semi-circles cut through the crest, may also have been produced in the same kiln. The combination of the three types of tile would certainly have been most striking on a roof as is amply demonstrated by roofs tiled in the Victorian period. The date of the Farnham Park kiln appears to lie in the period 1300-50.



If any reader of this note knows of parallels to the decorative pegtile please would they contact Nicholas Riall, 1 The Ridgeway, ALTON, Hampshire, GU34 2RZ.

East Molesey, Hurst Park

Melanie Gauden Editorial Assistant, Wessex Archaeology

Excavation and Watching Brief

A large-scale excavation, covering about three hectares, was undertaken on the site of the former racecourse at Hurst Park which was scheduled for housing development and landscaping (centred on TQ 1450 6890). Most of the former racecourse occupies a slightly raised area on the edge of the Thames floodplain, with the present course of the river some 150m to the north. The site is of particular importance, both locally and regionally, for it has provided the first opportunity to excavate a large area in this part of the Thames Valley, between the Mole and Wey rivers, much of which is now built on or has been extracted for sand and gravel.

No archaeological excavation had taken place in the vicinity prior to an evaluation, though several important Bronze Age sites have been investigated nearby at Kingston Hill, Runnymede and Carshalton. The evaluation revealed indications of Late Bronze Age occupation, and the subsequent excavation produced evidence of activity from the Mesolithic up to the present. The principal archaeological remains dated to the early Bronze Age, the Late Bronze Age, the early Roman and the early Saxon periods. The Early Bronze Age and early Saxon evidence is of particular importance for Surrey and Greater London as discoveries of these periods have been very sparse. A channel, now infilled with alluvium, ran across the north of the site. and this may have been one of several watercourses or braided channels through which the Thames formerly flowed in this area. A number of amorphous and somewhat irregularly shaped features apparently confined to the northern half of the site may have been treeholes. These might be interpreted as representing prehistoric clearance of ground along the edge of the floodplain. A small assemblage of struck flint from the site has been assigned to Neolithic date, possibly Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age, and two shallow features containing Late Neolithic pottery were also found.

An Early Bronze Age ring-ditch containing a central burial within a collared urn lay at the east end of the site on what appears to have been a low promontory. There is circumstantial evidence to suggest that this was a bell-barrow. The urn contained the remains of two individuals, and three segmented faience beads. Various possibly contemporaneous features were recorded within the ring-ditch, but no further burials. However, the truncated remains of a satellite burial, in an urn, lay just to the north-west.

There was evidence for Late Bronze Age settlement in the eastern and central areas of the site, but truncation had resulted in only the bottoms of the deeper features surviving. It is possible that the Early Bronze Age barrow was still visible at this time, and served to mark the corner of an enclosure defined by a shallow ditch which had been recut on several occasions. To the west of this ditch were a number of shallow scoops (probably truncated pits). a few possible post-holes and gullies, and several irregular features which sometimes contained comparatively prolific quantities of Late Bronze Age ceramics, including fragments of perforated clay tablets. Although no clear structural plans survived, there seems little doubt that this was a focus of a small Late Bronze Age settlement. Clustered towards the middle of the site were several further scoops containing Late Bronze Age pottery, and one with a stone apparently used for burnishing copper alloy objects. There were also several post-holes and a group of approximately 20 small pits packed with burnt flint and ashy soil. The date

and function of these pits remain uncertain, though one produced a sherd of Late Bronze Age pottery; the contents may have derived from cooking activities. This central group of features suggests a second focus of related, but perhaps different, form of Late Bronze Age activity.

An early Roman corn drier lay towards the south-east corner of the site and in the central southern area were seven cremations, at least three of which had been placed in ceramic vessels. These had been badly truncated and others may have been destroyed entirely. It is suggested that these features were associated with a settlement which lay to the south, probably beneath present-day East Molesey.

Six early Saxon sunken-featured buildings lay in the east half of the site. Four were of two-post construction, one possibly of four-post, and one (the largest) had irregularly placed post-holes. Perhaps associated with these (though undated) were several shallow ditches which may have been plot or field boundaries, and four pits, one of which may have been used as a corn drier. The sunken-featured buildings produced varying quantities of pottery and a small assemblage of metalwork, and probably represent a small, single phase settlement. There was no evidence for associated timber halls.

From the late Saxon period, the focus of settlement shifted away from the edge of the floodplain to the slightly higher ground to the south east, now occupied by East Molesey. Hurst Park probably reverted to agricultural use, was later subsumed into one of Henry VIII's deer parks, and finally, following its use for various sporting activities, laid out as a racecourse during the late 19th century.

31 Lower Church Lane, Farnham

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David Graham

The house (SU 8398 4665) is located just off the lower end of Downing Street and lies 100m to the east of the parish church of St Andrews and ca 200m south of the core of the medieval town. The area is within the flood plain of the river Wey and, until recently, was subject to regular flooding.

The existing building forms an L-shape, with the short leg of the L facing on to Lower Church Lane. This front section, underneath its brick facing, is a jettied timber framed building dating to the late 16th century. The extension to the rear appears to be slightly earlier in date and may originally have been free standing.

The property was purchased recently by the Farnham Building Preservation Trust with a view to renovating the structure. Unfortunately, no archaeological watching brief was placed on the planning consent, but, during the course of lowering the floor levels in the kitchen, a number of features came to light and the author was called in to record them. On examination these proved to be the remains of a small mortar lined conical pit, with an associated area of reddened clay and ash. The pit contained solidified lead and must have formed part of a lead furnace associated with lead working activity. This structure cut an earlier, underlying post hole of uncertain date. A second area within the kitchen produced evidence of a stone floor, at a slightly deeper level than the furnace. The stone floor was covered by layers of ash, burnt daub and roof tile, perhaps indicating that the associated building had been burnt down in situ.

From the presence of pegged roof tile, the stone floor is probably of 13th century date and, in any event, is certainly earlier than the existing 16th century building, which overlies it. The date of the lead furnace is equally uncertain, but would appear to be later than the stone floor and again pre-dates the existing building. From evidence elsewhere in the town, it would seem possible that the lead working belongs to the early 16th century. A report has been deposited in the Society's library and with the County SMR.

Guildford Museum Volunteer Excavation Unit

John D. Boas

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These notes list work carried out by a small group of archaeologists working on a voluntary basis at Guildford Museum. Most of the sites are in the town centre though on two occasions the Unit was asked to look at sites elsewhere. They are nearly all sites which do not have an archaeological condition attached to the planning consent, but which nevertheless reveal useful information about the history and archaeology of Guildford. On a few occasions the Unit has been asked to help the S.C.A.U. in monitoring sites. The work involves frequent observation of the site and investigation of features where possible. Generally the builders have been very helpful.

93-95, High Street. Lakeland SU99674945

Study of the cellars showed that there are stone stairs leading to a brick vaulted cellar of the 18th-19th c. The main brick cellar could have been used by the Angel Hotel next door as there appear to be bricked-up passages between the cellar and the hotel. (The hotel bedrooms extend over Lakeland's shop.)

44, High Street, Endsleigh Insurance SU99584940

During building work a brick-lined well or pit built into a cupboard in the cellar was found. It could not be excavated but was probably of 18th c. date. Old wooden posts were seen built into the cellar wall next to the Star public house, possibly from an earlier structure.

143, High Street, now Crabtree & Evelyn SU99794949

Alterations revealed a section of 12th-13th c. undercroft fronting the High Street, with two windows recesses and part of the door. Part of a side wall was revealed after sand-blasting of the surface. All the mediaeval work was retained and plastered over. The cellar floor was lowered by 75 cm. A compacted chalk floor was found but no artifacts.

240, High Street, now Hogarth & Dwyer. TQ00064961

Extensive alterations, including lowering the floor level at the rear of the shop, removed areas of mediaeval pits containing 13th-14th c. pottery similar to nearly all 13th-14th c. pottery found on other sites in the High Street area, although this area was outside the mediaeval boundary of the borough.

A post-mediaeval pit containing 18th century Chinese porcelain was also found.

Behind the shop, a structure which seems to be a lime-kiln, was found, with the chalk wall of the entrance later used in the back wall of the property. The fire-slot and kiln area contained slaked lime. It was back-filled with pottery of c.1720-1800 including tin-glazed ware, Staffordshire salt-glazed stoneware, creamware, clay pipes and drinking vessels. It has now been completely dug away.

Close to the High Street a sealed bottle of the 1690s with a seal showing a coronet and tree was found. It may be the seal of the Earl of Ashburnham.

Seiko building, Walnut Tree Close SU99055023

This is an area awaiting development. During demolition a watching brief was undertaken and a small amount of post-mediaeval pottery and glass was found. This area was the site of the "Chiefe Lodge" shown on Norden's map of Guildford Park in 1607.

The White House, 8, High Street. SU99444935

During a watching brief while alterations were made foundations of earlier structures were seen, most probably parts of the timber yard that was here for most of the 19th century. The 1897 map shows many structures on the site, including the house where the owner lived.

During piling work one sherd of Surrey white ware, of 12th-13th c. date was found from a depth of 6 metres.

This area was an island in the Middle Ages, and the site of a watermill. It is next to the site of the ford across the Wey.

Westminster Bank, 151-153 High Street. SU99824951

During the excavation of two deep foundation bases a small amount of post-mediaeval pottery was found.

138-140, High Street, now Savoy Taylors' Guild SU99804948

During extensive building works a large strong room was found at the rear (and demolished). It was probably built for the solicitors, Smallpeice, in the 19th c. The two properties were rebuilt as one in 188? as shown by the date on the building. Smallpeice & Merriman still occupy the upper floors.

A small amount of the 19th c. pottery was found and one red clay pipe stem. Large cellars stretching under the road, previously recorded by Graham Bierton, were sealed up but left intact.

Towards the end of the contract an early mediaeval well was found at the rear of the premises, 21 metres deep with 3.2 metres of chalk block work at the head and 73 cm. wide. It has now been capped and left unfilled.

Raylea, Woodham Lane, Woking. TQ016606

At the request of the owner a small brick pit, revealed when a lawn collapsed, was investigated. It was rectangular but with one end semicircular, about 1 m. wide and 2 m. long. It was backfilled with 19th c. pottery and glass, and a Fenn trap (for trapping animals). It was identified by someone from Hampton Court as an early Victorian ice-house of the type used by gamekeepers, for storing game. The present, modern house is within the grounds of Woodham Hall, demolished in 1937, and a gamekeeper's cottage stood nearby.

Angel Hotel, 91, High Street SU99664946

S.C.A.U. monitored extensive building alterations behind the Angel. At the request of Rob Poulton, Guildford Museum's Unit also watched the site and observed post-mediaeval pits containing pottery, glass bottles and drinking glass, shoe leather, many locally-made clay pipes of 1600-1640, a small heart-shaped decoration probably from a jewellery box and a knife blade. Two coins were found built into the wall, a Russian kopek of 1878 and a coin of Napoleon III (1852-1870).

237-239, High Street, now Pizza Express. TQ00124969

Cellars had been mostly destroyed by bank vaults. A small section of chalk wall from an earlier construction and an old fireplace on the ground floor, of early 19th c. date, were seen.

149, High Street, Harvey's SU99804952

An early well was found during the excavation of an evaluation pit dug under the rear of the side wall between the shop and the next-door bank. The main part of the well had been back-filled, but it was very similar to other wells found nearby dating to the 13th-14th century. The back-filling had sunk down about 3m., revealing the usual chalk-block walling at the top. The well was 80cm. in diameter. A chalk capping remained suspended over the well, and some 18th c. finds came from a layer of soil between this and the base of a foundation wall above.

Guildford Castle SU99704926

G.M.V.E.U. assisted Rob Poulton of S.C.A.U. with evaluation trenches on the site of the proposed Museum extension. Few structures were found; a little 12th-13th c. pottery and more 18th-19th c. sherds.

Corner of Douglas Close, Jacobswell. SU9995529

At the request of the owner building work in close proximity to a 17th c. farmhouse was watched. What was first thought to be a well turned out to be a soak-away. A few sherds of post-mediaeval pottery were found, but mainly 19th-20th c. finds.

CableTel, work on cable laying in High Street. SU99754947

A watching brief whilst CableTel excavated a trench down the High St. revealed mainly badly disturbed gravel and chalk rubble. The only archaeological evidence came from an area outside the old Bull's Head public house on the corner of Market Street (now Goldsmiths). The top of a pit was seen but the only find was a clay pipe stem of c.1640.

Baldocks Solicitors, 59, Quarry St. SU99644935

Two trial trenches were dug in an area of possible future development. Beneath Victorian garden features, chalk block walls were uncovered in the first trench, chalk quarrying pits in the second, both dated to the 13th-14th century. Local 13th-14th c. pottery was found, of forms previously unseen in the area, and late 17th c. to present day pottery, including Chinese porcelain, London tin-glazed and stoneware. A piece of moulded Purbeck marble was found which may have come from St. Mary's church opposite. There is a full report in the S.A.S. library.

58, Quarry St. Carpet shop, now empty. SU99644934

In a survey of the cellar after the occupants left, large chalk block walls were found at the sides and front which show slots for a window and what may be a door. The chalk block dividing wall appears to be of double thickness with a rubble infill. The next property to the south has a similar cellar, photographed by the Guildford Group in the 1980s.

More work will be undertaken when the future of the building is known.

W.H. Smith, 56, High St. SU99624941

Whilst the base for a tower crane was being excavated a large chalk block cellar was found, with some re-used moulded chalk blocks. The County Unit was contacted but the cellar was totally destroyed before archaeological excavation could be undertaken. G.M.V.E.U. were able to record as much as was safe to undertake.

Mediaeval pits were found under cellar floors. G.M.V.E.U. were able to rescue large amounts of 13th-15th c. pottery including Surrey White Ware and Tudor Green Ware, before the soil was removed from the site.

The S.C.A.U was officially watching the site, but at the request of Rob Poulton of S.C.A.U., G.M.V.E.U. assisted with the watching brief.

STOP PRESS:

The King's Head, Quarry Street Mary Alexander & John Boas

The recent collapse of the King's Head pub has given Guildford Museum's Volunteer Archaeological Unit a chance to excavate beneath the pub. The pub was built c 1600 and is timber-framed with brick in-fill. The timbers have been badly eaten by death-watch beetle which has caused a main beam to sag. The Unit was able to excavate where the builders needed trenches for concrete foundations for the new floors. To our surprise we did not find the Castle walls which we expected but we did find a thick black layer containing pottery from c 1150 — 1350, bones and shell. Underneath was the natural chalk with several features cut into it. We are continuing to monitor the work and to study the building and the history of the site.

Recent work undertaken by Surrey County Archaeological Unit

| Site Name | Parish | District | NGR | Type of Work | Periods | Dates |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|----------|------------|
| Angel Hotel | Guildford | Guildford 18 | SU 996 495 | Watching Brief | Med | Various |
| Warren Farm | Ewell | Epsom & Ewell 11 | TQ 231 627 | Evaluation Excavation | IA | 10-16 |
| Farleigh Court | Chelsham & Farleigh | Tandridge 62 | TQ 372 610 | Landscape Survey | - | 19, 26-27 |
| Church Lammas | Staines | Spelthorne 46 | TQ 027 725 | Watching Brief | Pre | Various |
| SCC Estates | Various | Various | Various | Landscape Survey | - | Various |
| Botleys Mansion | Chertsey | Runnymede 43 | TQ 0215 6485 | Evaluation Excavation | Post-med | 9-11, 24-2 |
| Tapwood Sandpit | Buckland | Mole Valley 26 | TQ 235 510 | Evaluation Excavation | - | 17-20 |
| A3 Hindhead | Various | Waverley 68/70 | Various | Evaluation Excavation | | Various |
| West Street | Reigate | Reigate & Banstead 35 | TQ 250 503 | Watching Brief | Med ? | Various |
| Hurst Park | Molesey | Elmbridge 3 | 142 693 | Watching Brief | BA | Various |

| Site Name | Parish | District | NGR | Type of Work | Periods | Dates |
|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|----------|---------|
| Farleigh Court | Chelsham & Farleigh | Tandridge 62 | TQ 372 610 | Landscape Survey | Ro? | ? |
| Matthew Arnold | Egham | Runnymede 42 | TQ 027 711 | Evaluation Excavation | Med ? | ? |
| SCC Estates | Various | Various | Various | Landscape Survey | ? | Various |
| Red Lane | Limpsfield | Tandridge 61 | TQ 407 506 | Evaluation Excavation | ? | ? |
| Wey Navigation | Various | Various | Various | Landscape Survey | ? | Various |
| Warren Farm | Ewell | Epsom & Ewell 11 | TQ 231 627 | Evaluation Excavation | IA | ? |
| Church Lammas | Staines | Speithorne 46 | TQ 027 725 | Watching Brief | Pre | Various |
| Wey Manor Farm | Addlestone | Runnymede 43 | TQ 061 632 | Evaluation Excavation | ? | ? |
| Botleys Mansion | Chertsey | Runnymede 43 | TQ 0215 6485 | Evaluation Excavation | Post-med | Various |
| Ravenspoint, SGH | Walton-on-Thames | Elmbridge 9 | TQ 086 671 | Watching Brief | ? | 2 |
| St Luke's Hospital | Guildford | Guildford 18 | TQ 006 495 | Watching Brief | ? | ? |
| Angel Hotel | Guildford | Guildford 18 | SU 996 495 | Watching Brief | Med | Various |
| Milner Road | Kingston | Kingston upon Thames | TQ 178 687 | Watching Brief | 1. | 1 |

Surrey Museum's Archaeological Collections Survey

The Society has recently made a grant towards the costs of a major survey of the archaeological collections held by Surrey Museums. Funds are also being provided by Surrey County Council and the South Eastern Museums Service. The work has been commissioned by the Surrey Museums Consultative Committee and is being carried out by the Museum of London Archaeology Service, whose staff are currently visiting museums throughout the County.

The aim of the survey is to give museums without the relevant curatorial knowledge, access to specialist advice concerning documentation, conservation, storage and interpretation. The survey will also provide information as a basis for long term plans for storage and conservation needs and the information will be made available for students, researchers and members of the public by the end of the year.

The results of the survey should prove to be of great interest and will answer such questions as where best to see an Egyptian mummy (Haslemere museum), a Viking sword (Chertsey museum) and so on.

Wendy Rose Surrey Museum's Development Officer

PUBLICATIONS

"Living Stream — Pixham and its people", by Patricia Bennett. This well researched little book illustrates the history and changing fortunes of Pixham, which grew up where Pippbrook meets the R. Mole just to the east of Dorking. It traces the development of Pixham Mill, the impact of the Turnpike Road System in 1755 and later the railway. The resulting rapid growth of Dorking and its increasing trade and prosperity brought problems for Pixham — not least in the shape of the town's sewage which found its way to Pippbrook and became known locally as the Pixham Pong! A section is devoted to buildings and notable residents, particularly Miss Mary Mayo who settled in Pixham towards the end of the nineteenth century and who did so much for the welfare of the little community.

Pixham has retained its identity through to the twenty first century, despite its proximity to Dorking and this little book helps to explain why and how.

Published by Dorking Local History Group 1994. 48 pp, 7 maps and 26 B & W illustrations. Available from Dorking Museum or June Spong, 98 Fairfield Drive, Dorking RH4 1JJ. Price \pounds 4.95 + \pounds 1 p + p.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD COURSES

15th July – 6th August 1995. SAS Archaeological Research Committee Training Excavation. A full programme of training will be provided for students undertaking the University of London Certificate/Diploma courses in Field Archaeology or similar courses. A multi-period site in rural Surrey with evidence of prehistoric and Romano-British occupation. Application forms circulated with April Bulletin. Further details from Castle Arch. Telephone 01483 32454.

9th – 29th July and 6th – 26th August. 42 London Road, Bagshot. Final year of excavation of the later Iron Age, Romano-British and 16th Century Tannery site directed by G H Cole for the Surrey Heath Archaeological and Heritage Trust. Two technical training courses, each of three weeks, suitable for beginners or those with some experience. To include excavation techniques, recording of contexts, planning, section drawing, object identification, surveying, finds processing, on-site excavation and discussions. Tuition fees inclusive of daily lunch £40.00 per week. Camping site available. Further details from G H Cole, The Archaeology Centre, 4-10 London Road, Bagshot, GU19 5HN.

10th July – 20th August 1995. Courses in Excavation Techniques, Surveying, geophysical prospecting and drawing organised by the Field Archaeological Unit, University of London, based at Bignor Roman Villa. Further details from Natalie Barber, Field Archaeology Turner Dumbrell Workshops, North End Ditchling, Hassocks, Sussex. Telephone 01273 845497.

CONFERENCES

29th April. CBA South East Spring Meeting. An illustrated lecture by Paul Bennett, Director of Canterbury Archaeological Trust at the Dominican Priory, St Peter's Lane, Canterbury, Kent. 2.00 – 5.00 pm. Non-members welcome.

DAYSCHOOLS

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

29th April. "The Archaeology of Ships and Seafaring". Tutor Peter Marsden at Marlipins Museum, Shoreham. The 3000 year old boat found at Dover in 1993 is part of the evidence for the history of ships and seafaring so essential to Britain since earliest time, which provide vivid information on past trade, warfare technology and life. Fee £15.

13th May. "**The Wealden Iron Industry**". Tutor Jeremy Hodgkinson, Chair of the Wealden Iron Research Group. A look at the technology, products, locations and people associated with the industry. To be held at Fishbourne Roman Palace. Fee \pounds 15.

LECTURES

Guildford Institute Lunchtime Lectures in May 1995

Organised by the Surrey Archaeological Society at the invitation of the Institute. To be held in the Old Billiard Room, Guildford Institute, Ward Street, Guildford. Wednesdays 12.45pm to 1.45pm. Free admission.

3rd May 'HOLY TRINITY, GUILDFORD' Matthew Alexander, Curator, Guildford Museum 19th May 'GUILDFORD CASTLE AND THE ROYAL PALACE EXCAVATIONS' – an up-date Rob Poulton, Surrey County Council Archaeological Unit Manager

- 17th May 'THE LOSELEY MANUSCRIPTS' Mary Mackey and Isobel Sullivan of Guildford Muniment Room
- 24th May 'THE STORY OF GUILDFORD'S CHALK' Richard Williams, Surrey Archaeological Society

There will be an accompanying exhibition in the Assemby Room from 8th-19th May. Please check opening times at Reception.

MEETINGS

3rd May

"Clay sand and chalk: a study of Surrey from Leigh to the North Downs". A lecture by Charles Abdy to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 8.00 pm.

12th May

"Stonehenge — a World Heritage Site". A lecture by Dr G J Wainright, Chief Archaeologist, English Heritage, to the Richmond Archaeological Society at The Vestry Hall, Paradise Road, Richmond. Admission: members free; non-members £2.

12th May

Guided visit to the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts, Quality Court, Chancery Lane, organised by the British Association for Local History. Applications to The Administrator, 24 Lower Street, Harnham, Salisbury SP2 8EY.

19th May

"Epsom before the Wells". A lecture by Jeremy Harte, Curator of Bourne Hall Museum, to the Leatherhead & District LHS in the Dixon Hall, Leatherhead Institute at 7.00 for 7.30 pm. members 50p; non-members \pounds 1.

21st May

SAS visit to Blechingley (see Bulletin 291 for details).

26th May

"Medieval Putney Reviewed". A lecture by Nicholas Fuentes to the Wandsworth Historical Society in the Friends' Meeting House, High Street, Wandsworth at 8.00 pm.

31st May

"Saints and Symbols". A lecture by Pam Cowan to the Friends of Kingston Museum in the Baptist Hall, Union Street, Kingston at 8.00 pm. Donation £1.50 requested.

7th June

"60 years at the Ewell forge". A lecture by Gordon Ralph to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at St Mary's Hall, London Road, Ewell at 8.00 pm.