

SURREY'S PAST

Cocks Farm Abinger 2022 season p3

Ashtead in 1928: Mr Fellows p10

**Medieval and post-medieval pottery
from sites excavated by Phil
Jones p12**

**Nonsuch Park brick culvert
p14**

**Possible Romano-
British temple
site south of
Caterham
p16**



Note from the Editor

By Anne Sassin

Welcome to the Summer edition of *Surrey's Past*, which we are pleased to now be sharing with members digitally, in advance of the paper copy. If you would prefer to receive an electronic version only in the future, to help reduce both our carbon footprint and printing costs, please do let Hannah know.

This edition features a selection of research pieces and key news from Society members, with select events highlighted at the end. We look forward to more excellent contributions, including write-ups of recent fieldwork, in the forthcoming Autumn publication. In the meantime, I hope everyone has an enjoyable summer ahead, whether relaxing or taking part in a local dig. For more on upcoming events and opportunities, do subscribe to our monthly e-newsletters, emailing Hannah (info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk) with any queries.

Welcome to new members

By Hannah Jeffery

I would like to welcome the following new members who have joined the Society. I have included principal interests, where they have been given on the membership form. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to get in contact with me on 01306 731275 or info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk.

Name	Town	Principal Archaeological and Local History Interests
Andrew Barr	Guildford	Medieval, World War One and Two
Judy Bonikowski	Weybridge	Roman, Iron Age and Medieval history and archaeology; excavated at Vindolanda
Paul Dewey	Dorking	Stane Street and Ermyrn Street, Roman occupation in Dorking
Alfie Hance	Caterham	Roman and Early Medieval
Kazuko Harris	Addlestone	Archaeology
Maddison Hopkins	Feltham	Classical Archaeology, particularly Ancient Greece and Rome
David Kemp	Lewes	Roman Archaeology
Philip Randles	Dorking	All Archaeology
David Staniforth	Guildford	All Archaeology, including digs
Megan Thompson	Ringwood	Roman era, Classical Pre-history, Regency period
Richard Totty	Shalford	All Archaeology
Hàighlèagh Winslade	Horndean	Landscape Archaeology and history, anthropology, religion and the Weald and Downland

There will be one further issue of *Surrey's Past* this year. Next issue: copy required by **18 September** for the October issue.

Issue no:	Copy date:	Approx. delivery:
495 October	18 September	16 October

Articles and notes on all aspects of fieldwork and research on the history and archaeology of Surrey are very welcome. Contributors are encouraged to discuss their ideas with the editor beforehand, including possible deadline extensions and the proper format of submitted material (please supply digital copy when possible and images in JPEG or similar image file format).

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Editor: Dr Anne Sassin, 101 St Peter's Gardens, Wrecclesham, Farnham, Surrey GU10 4QZ, Email: asassinallen@gmail.com

Assistant Editor: Rob Briggs, Email: surreymedieval.blog@gmail.com

Cocks Farm Abinger: 2022 excavations

By Emma Corke

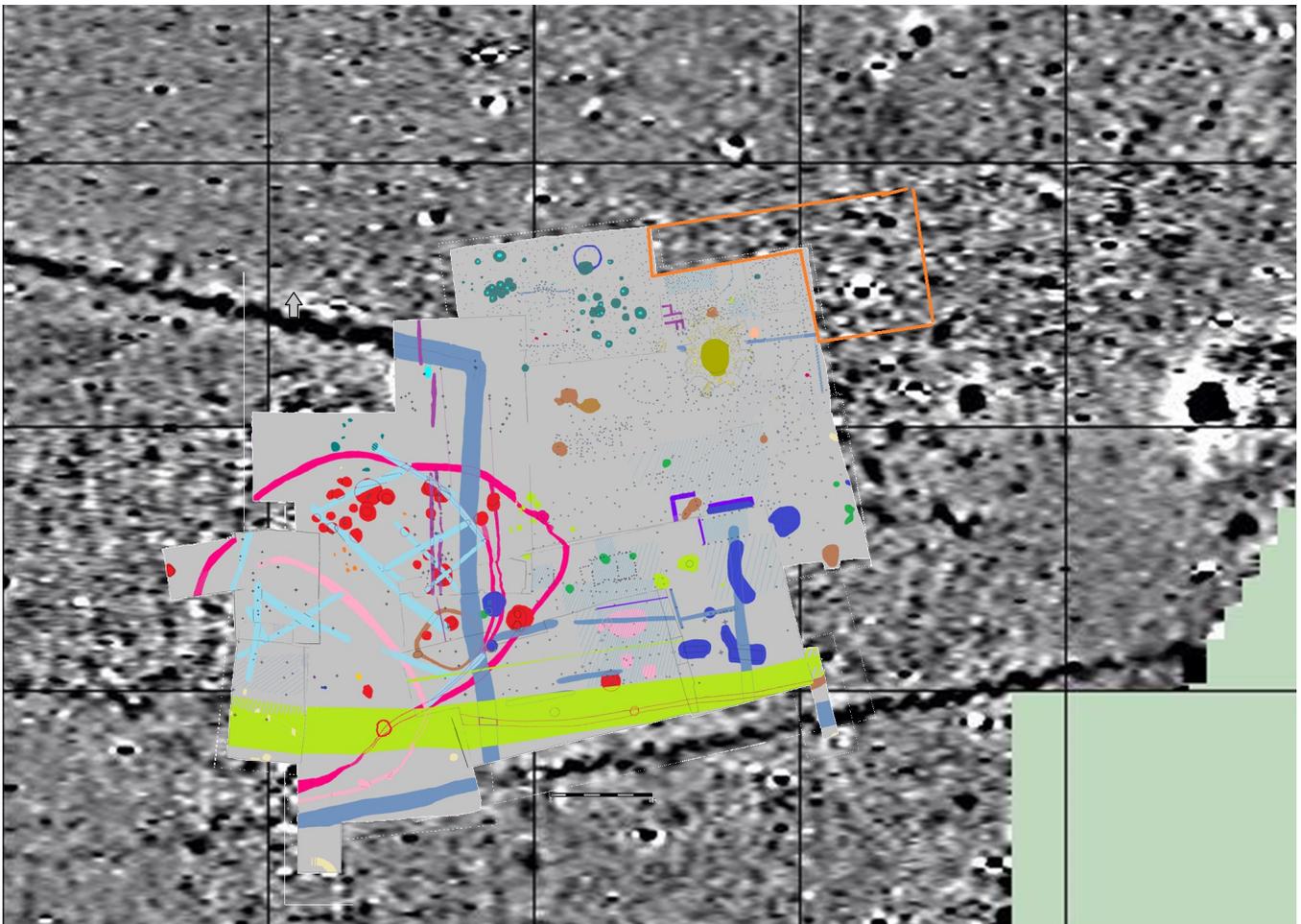
Cocks Farm Abinger lies approximately in the centre of Surrey, on a Bargate (greensand) outcrop just to the south of the North Downs and north of the River Tillingbourne. 2022 was the fourteenth year of excavations, and the twelfth in the field adjoining the area of the villa itself. The hilltop has proved to have evidence of all periods from the Mesolithic to Post-Medieval. Major features include an Early Neolithic pit and probable overlying mound, Middle and Late Neolithic pits, a presumed Bronze Age roundhouse, and 30 Middle and Late Iron Age grain storage pits within a three-phase enclosure. Overlying all this are Romano-British (RB) features relating to the villa including 14 buildings, ploughed fields, many-phase boundaries, vineyard and ritual area. A Saxon hearth may be industrial.

One trench was excavated in 2022: T32. This L-shaped trench wrapped round the north-east corner

of the previous trenches, its north-west edge overlapping T30 to the west, its south edge Ts29 and 31, and its south-west edge Ts31 and 28 the west (see previous issues **491** for T30, **490** for Ts 29 and 31 and **486** for T28). Fig 1 shows T32 outlined in orange, with the interpretation of the earlier work overlying magnetometry (30m grid squares). T32 was a total area of 368sqm.

As anticipated, features previously seen continued into the new area. This flat hilltop was very busy throughout the RB period, with a concentrated succession of buildings, working and cultivated areas all divided by fences. Underneath this complicated sequence glimpses could be found of much earlier prehistoric activity. What follows is my present interpretation; it may well change as excavation and post-excavation continues.

Fig 1 T32 outlined in orange, overlying magnetometry



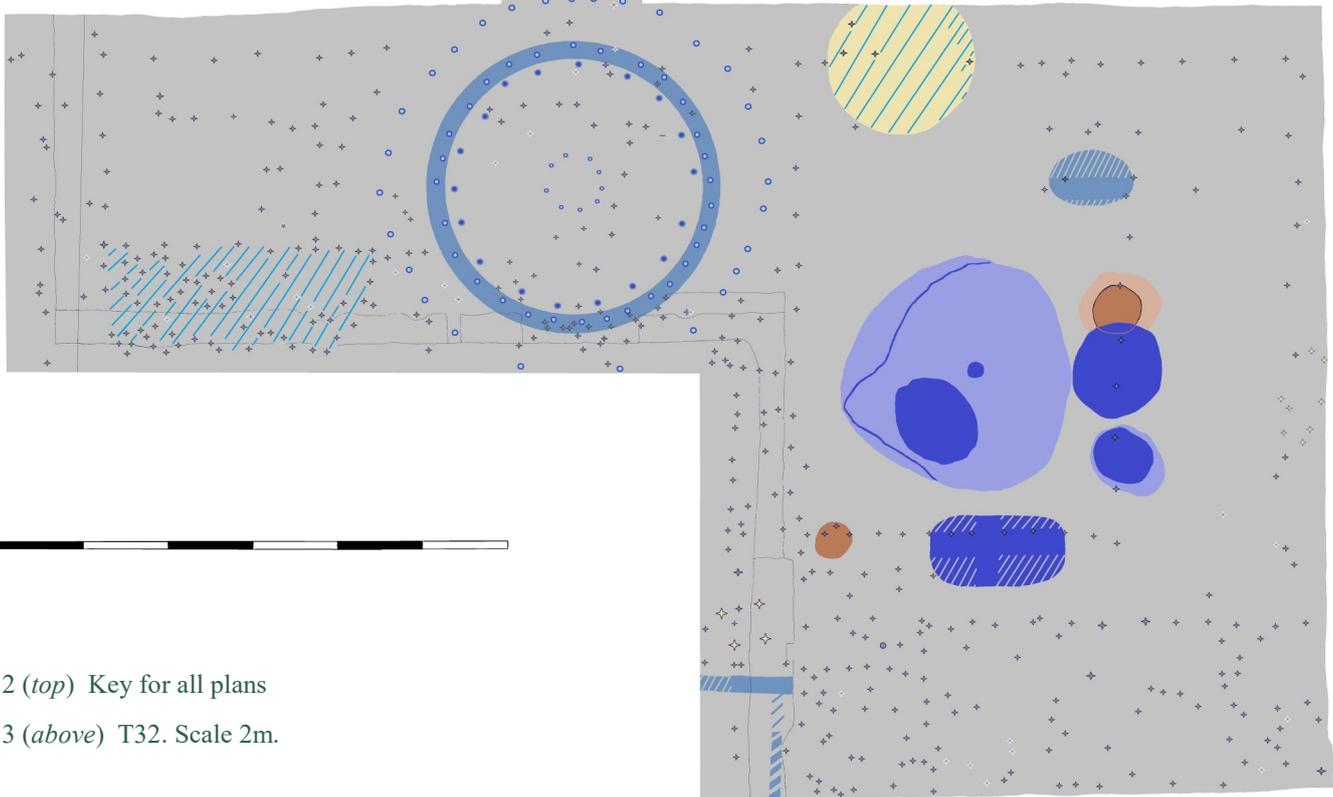
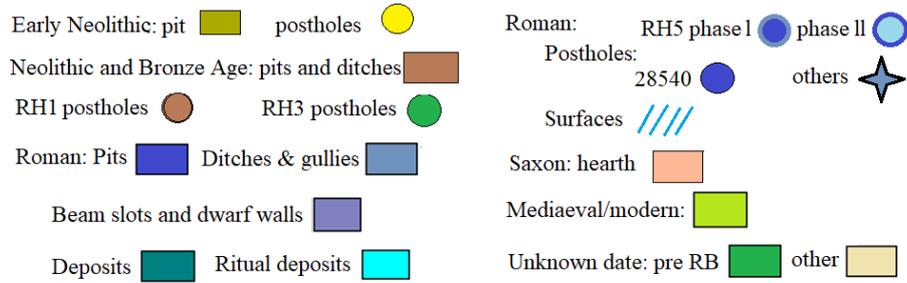


Fig 2 (top) Key for all plans
 Fig 3 (above) T32. Scale 2m.

The RB buildings in T32 consisted of parts of three (or possibly four) presumably working buildings (buildings I, M and O). I and M had already been identified while O was new. The largest building was also a new discovery: a two-phase roundhouse (RH5). The southern edge of this had in fact already been excavated in T31 but had not been identified (hardly surprising in that sea of postholes).

Building O was in the southern part of the trench. It was 7.6m E/W and 4m N/S, but it could continue to the south, though this wall was the least convincing. Its walls were otherwise well-built of closely-placed posts with a feature seen in many of the buildings on site where the corner post is set outside the lines of the walls. This suggests a wattle-and-daub wall with the daub entirely covering all but the corner posts. Internal posts formed no discernible pattern, but two were very strongly built. There were no stones

added to the floor, and its level was well below that of a courtyard or possible building to the west. It might therefore be that this building housed animals, but of course that is purely speculation.

About 1m to the north of the western part of the building was a pit. It was at first thought to be an eavesdrip gully for the building, but it later proved to be wider and shorter than would be expected for that. It was cut by a line of postholes that continued across Ts31 and 29, where it was tangential to the early RB ring of posts around the Early Neolithic pit. It is not at all probable that building O pre-dates that post line, and the pit is now thought not to be associated with the building. Its upper fill of soft sand contained RB finds, but there were sherds of prehistoric pottery in the lower fill, and it seems most likely that this is a prehistoric pit into which RB finds had sunk.

The previously mentioned little (3m x 3m) area to the west of building O was floored with broken and crushed ironpan to a depth of over 10cm. Three lines of posts ran E/W, the northern-most presumably a fence or wall. It was of course bounded by building O to the east, while a N/S fence lay 3m to the west. However, building J lay about 2m further west, and it seems likely from other evidence that the fence may be late. Therefore the area may once have been larger, and could have been a building rather than external courtyard. The (internal) lines of posts seemed to have been driven into the surface after it was laid rather than the reverse, and so probably post-date the surface. One notable posthole in this area contained a large (100mm x 90mm, 100g) piece of prehistoric pottery, a hammerstone and a sherd of RB pottery among its packing, while another, double, posthole less than 1m away had utilised five struck flints (including a borer). This concentration, over 10m from the Early Neolithic pit may suggest that there was once some other prehistoric feature close by.

Building M, in the north-west area of the trench, was very different from O. It was equally well-built of a similar construction, but had a very notable floor of large ironstone blocks. Its main feature though, and one that had intrigued us in T29, were rings of postholes. Three (possibly four) had been seen

before, and two more were found. It seems very likely that there had been at least one more, but the area within the north-east part of the building had been badly damaged by injection ploughing. The tines had caught the stones and dragged them, breaking up the flooring and forming false postholes. However, the rings that were intact showed the same characteristics as before, being formed of well-packed postholes very close together with extra posts within the ring, all very strongly suggesting that they were designed to take a considerable weight (see fig 5). A good many theories have been advanced, but the current favourite is that they may have something to do with wine production (the villa's vineyard can be seen as pale blue lines in fig 1). In all, the main part of building M was 6m x 4m, with at least five posthole rings. An extension to the south contained another ring and was crossed by a fence, probably earlier than the extension.

North of M was a small (5m x 3m) fenced area, with a gap to the north in its north-west corner, presumably an enclosure associated with the building.

Fig 4 T32 and neighbouring trenches. Red lines are buildings, and purple denote fences. Note that round-houses are not outlined.

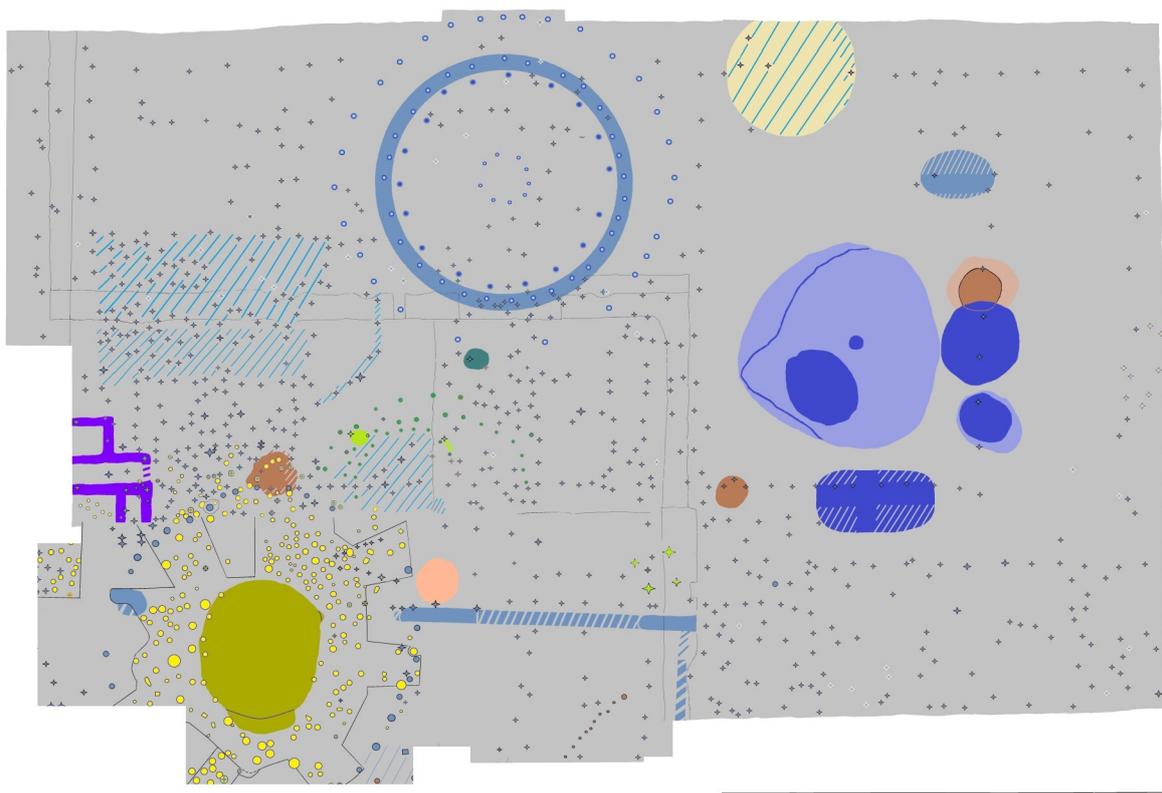




Fig 5 Post feature within building M: a ring of twelve posts with two more within the ring (the other postholes visible to the north are part of the walls of the building).

The other building seen before was I, seen in T31. It was found not to continue north of that trench but the overlap of T31 and T32 contained one or possibly two more I postholes. It also showed that I overlay RH5.

A possible further building lay in the north-east corner of the trench, but the lines of postholes could have been a succession of fences rather than a building. The spacing between posts supported the latter theory (fence posts seem in general to have been over 1m apart, ones in walls 0.5-0.7m apart). One of the postholes had utilised a large nail and a piece of vitrified tile among the packing. It was notable that all the buildings described so far, and nearly all the fences, were on virtually the same alignment. Nevertheless they are unlikely to have all been present at the same time. In particular, there was clearly a succession of fences, the preference apparently having been to put up a new fence parallel to a failing one rather than adding new posts on the original line.

Roundhouse 5 was the most prominent feature of the trench. It extended south out of T32 into T31, where some previously unaccounted-for postholes were seen to belong to RH 5's outermost ring. The trench was extended to the north to find the other side of this ring. The building had two phases. Phase 1 was 5.8m (20 Roman pedes) in diameter. It had a single ring of 18 strongly-packed posts of 0.11-0.14m diameter set about 1m apart and 0.2-0.3m into the ground. They were circular and probably pointed in shape. The majority of these postholes were not apparent on the surface; they were found by

measurement. 0.4m outside the post centres was an eavesdrip gully, showing that the building was probably roofed with shingles rather than thatch (there was very little roof-tile about and what there was was incorporated into packing).



Fig 6 Roundhouse 5 (RH5) in T32. Note this is not completely overhead, hence apparent distortion.

Phase 2 was double-ringed (or triple; see below). The outer ring was 9.2m (30-31 pedes) in diameter, with probably 30 posts (28 found) of about 0.13m in diameter set an average of 1m apart about 0.2m into the ground. They were circular and again probably pointed. One had a bent nail in its packing, placed between the post and a packing stone. The inner ring of 30 posts had been set into the centre of the eavesdrip gully of the first phase. They were slightly smaller than the outer ring posts, being *c* 0.1m in diameter. They were circular, but very unusually had flat bases resting on horizontally-placed stones. In one case a piece of tile had been used instead of a stone. It was very abraded, and so not only proves that this is an RB roundhouse, not Iron Age, but also strongly suggests that this is not part of the first phase of RB activity on site; the tile must have been in use elsewhere, become redundant and worn and then used in the roundhouse. A sherd found at the base of the phase 1 eavesdrip gully has an earliest possible date of AD 180; phase 2 could well be considerably later than that.

At the centre of the roundhouse was a third circle of posts: nine of them, each about 0.8m diameter, circular with tapering bases, set 0.3-0.5m apart. The function of this innermost ring is not known: there was no sign of a hearth. A slot dug through the

centre of this ring found evidence of earlier features, probably postholes; they were not investigated further.



Fig 7 Tile at base of inner ring posthole (32316)

The inner space of the roundhouse had been divided by posts into perhaps three rooms, two small ones to the east and a larger one on the east. The area within the inner ring had had some stones laid for flooring, but it was not clear whether this was phase 1 or 2. The area between the two rings was noticeably free of stones.

The entrance to the inner area was puzzling; the posts were only a maximum of 0.75m apart. However, there was one wider gap, the westernmost, which was 1m wide, and this may be the way in. The entrance through the outer ring is not likely to be here, but is much more probably in the south-west corner. Here (in T29) there was an area of clean sand, and a curving fence or wall with stones lying between the postholes (see fig 4). The only other gap is on the south-east side (in T31), but this is where we know that a layer c 0.3m thick of clean sand was laid as a floor for building I; this removed any previous features, almost certainly including at least one, more probably two, posthole(s) of RH5. The south-west gap is therefore thought to be the

entrance to RH5, with the curving boundary associated with this building. Access to the inner area would have meant walking along the gap between the two rings.



Fig 8 Interpretation of RH5 postholes. Yellow: phase 1, red: phase 2, blue: innermost ring, green: internal features phase 2.

What did RH5 look like? Traditionally we tend to think of roundhouses as they appeared in the Iron Age. We are all used to reconstructions with very low outer walls, with the interior largely lit by light entering through a higher porch into a space with little in the way of interior walls. But RH5 has interior walls – in fact the closeness of the inner ring posts suggests that this was a solid wall except for the single doorway. The very well-made postholes throughout and the precision of the design (30 posts in each circle, lining up every third post to easily enable radial rafters) means that the outer wall could have been over head-height, with window openings (I'm not suggesting glass, but maybe shutters?). The inner walls too could have had openings to admit light. Possibly the innermost ring underlay an opening at the centre of the roof? All guesses of course, but this is an unusual, and probably unusually late, roundhouse.

To the east of the round house and north of building O was a fenced area containing a number of shallow pits (see figs 3 and 4). The largest pit was 5m in diameter, and overlay some smaller ones. There was a gap in the fencing to the south, from the south-east corner. The area had apparently been made smaller by the addition of a N/S fence across the area; this overlay some of the pits. The edges of the pits had

been spread, probably by ploughing. This was at a lower level than untouched tops of undoubted RB features in the area outside the fence, so the presence of later finds in the upper layer is therefore not thought to indicate that the features, including the ploughing, within the area are post-RB. It is likely that these finds had sunk into the softer sand left by the RB activities.

To the north-west of building O was a magnetometry anomaly, which consisted of a scattering of vitrified material, probably a glassy slag. No concentration could be found, and whatever feature this came from had presumably been broken up by later activities. However, a slot uncovered a neat circle of heavily burnt ironstone and chert [32222], placed on a cleared area of concentrated in situ ironpan (fig 9). This presumed postpad belonged to an earlier phase than the postholes surrounding it, which had been dug into a c 0.4m thick layer of stones and occasional tiles and pottery placed over and around it. It may be that this postpad is the only remaining evidence of some sort of oven or kiln.

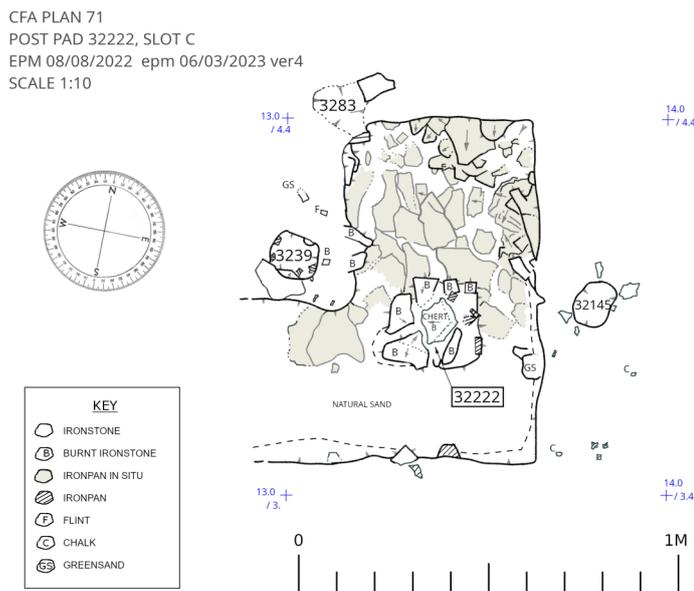


Fig 9 Plan of postpad 32222 and surroundings

To the east of RH5 was a circle of concentrated ironstone [32219] 3m in diameter (fig10 and pale circle in figs 3 and 4). This was well preserved in its northern part, especially the north-east section, but badly damaged elsewhere. The stones were most concentrated in a ring around the edge, where (in the better-preserved parts) they lay three or (rarely) four deep. An RB fence ran across it, but other postholes in or near its edge might be part of the feature. Within the ironstone surface were 40 worked flints, all

small and the majority oriented vertically; an exceptional number for this quite small area. This might therefore possibly be a Neolithic feature. Whatever date it is, it seems quite likely that its south-west stones were robbed for RH5 posthole packing.



Fig 10 Feature 32219 at a fairly early stage of excavation

Two of the pits in the pit area may also be prehistoric. In figs 3 and 4 they are to the east of the large pit. Both were much damaged by later, RB, activity, not only ploughing, but both had postholes dug into them. The northern one (brown on plans) contained 29 sherds of prehistoric pottery, most in the lower fill. This is yet to be properly analysed but at least one sherd is Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age. The lower fill of the second pit (south of the brown pit, the lower blue pit on plans) contained six sherds of prehistoric pottery, one of which is Beaker Ware.

South-west of these pits was a much better-preserved pit [32100], 0.9m x 0.8m. Although an RB fence line crossed it, the postholes only intruded into the pit's edge. There had been a good deal of animal activity, visible in the form of darker streaks of fill, but the bottom 0.2m of the fill was essentially undamaged. It contained 28 sherds of Late Neolithic pottery, including three rim sherds of a Grooved Ware (GW) bowl (fig 11). A further 16 sherds, including a GW rim from a different vessel, were found nearby.

At the top of the fill was a small ironstone 'cup' (fig 12), with its opening facing upwards. This geological hollow stone had been modified and

shows signs of burning on its exterior. Such objects are not unknown from Grooved Ware pits, but their function is not certain. This is the first ironstone ‘cup’ found at CFA, though we have previously found several (also probably intentionally modified and burnt) hollow flints (fossil sponges), one in another Grooved Ware pit.



Fig 11 Grooved Ware bowl rim sherds from pit 32100. Bowl diameter c 20cm.



Fig 12 Ironstone ‘cup’ from pit 32100

As everyone will remember, July 2022 was exceptionally hot. Despite that, volunteers came to dig even in 40 degree heat. Half hour stints with ten minutes in the welcome shade of a large oak with plenty to drink made half days possible. The areas of RB ploughing particularly made for frustrating trowelling, but everyone coped valiantly. As usual there are too many people to thank them all, but as well as all the diggers I must mention the invaluable finds team, Elvin Mullinger who drew and digitised over 100 postholes, the growing and skilful post-holing team, all those involved in post-ex whose hard work means that all the flints, CBM and pottery apart from some of the prehistoric has been analysed (thanks to Jon Cotton for his spot-dating of the more diagnostic prehistoric pottery), Mark Butcher, Tim Wilcock and David Calow. Above all thanks to Nikki Cowlard for managing all the logistics and for her constant support.



Fig 13 The excavation team on a hot July day

Cover image The dig team in action (photo by Nikki Cowlard)

Ashtead in 1928: who was Mr Fellows?

By David Bird

Papers recently deposited at the Surrey History Centre by Mrs Vicky Wheeler have raised an interesting question about the excavations on Ashtead Common in the 1920s. Mrs Wheeler is a granddaughter of W J Pickering who played an important role on the dig, being responsible for at least some of the site planning and probably the helpful levels that appear on the plans. Pickering also helped with the planning of the Guildown excavations (see *SyAS Bulletin* 464) and was a member of this Society from 1931, serving on Council. He can be seen on the photograph of the Centenary Lunch in 1954 (*Surrey Archaeological Collections (SAC)* 91, 286, a strange photograph where someone seems to have suffered *damnatio memoriae*). I had not previously realised that he was also the first Surrey County Planning Officer (from 1943), among other things playing an important role in the preservation of many of the open spaces we still value so much.

The newly deposited papers include a few items relevant to the Ashtead dig, among them a copy of a plan drawn up by Pickering. Other copies are available but this one has some later pencil additions. There is also a cutting from *The Evening News* of 30 August 1928, with this information: ‘A friend who went yesterday to look at the Roman site in Ashtead Woods found Mr Fellows and his helpers busy. This dry weather is their harvest-time ... for the rest of the year that great bed of clay is too wet for excavation.’ There is unfortunately no clue from the cutting as to the author of the piece.

‘Mr Fellows’ is a mystery to me. I have not come across the name in anything else I have discovered about the site, yet the note suggests that Fellows was in charge on this occasion. If it is not a mistake by the writer, which seems unlikely, how can we explain it?

I know of only one other press cutting for 1928, in marked contrast both to earlier years and to 1929 where there is at least one of the usual reports in *The Times*, almost certainly written by Lowther. The site also receives no mention in this Society’s annual

report for the year, again in contrast to the other years. This other cutting is from the *Dorking and Leatherhead Advertiser* of 14 July 1928 referring to a site visit by the Holmesdale Natural History Club on the previous Saturday. The group was shown round by Arthur Cotton ‘and his colleagues’; information given about the site has echoes in the later *Evening News* piece. It may be relevant that Lowther is not named as present.

The *Evening News* cutting encourages closer examination of what happened on site in 1928 and offers support to the view that there was considerably less activity than in previous years. Much of the basic site plan was completed by the end of 1927, as can be seen on Pickering’s plan mentioned above (dated 1925-7), and his pencil updating is mostly for work undertaken in 1929. It seems likely that in 1928 Lowther concentrated on finds research and report writing, and he may also have been distracted by the effort required to achieve his qualification as an architect. The research will undoubtedly have raised questions, and these were evidently pursued by smaller scale interventions in 1928 and 1929.

1927 had been a difficult year for the excavation: The society’s annual report records that ‘Work on the excavation of the Roman villa at Ashtead during 1927 was continued under the direction of Mr Anthony Lowther and Mr A R Cotton. This was badly hampered by the excessive rain. For most of the three months available the ground was badly waterlogged and at times work was only made possible by cutting ditches and drawing off the water. One part where the earlier foundations lie at greater depth than the later work has to be left over till 1928’ (*SAC* 38.1, xix). The last point is surely a reference to the attached baths. There exists an unpublished note in Lowther’s hand, perhaps intended for the Society’s annual report for 1928 but not submitted in time. It notes that:

‘Excavations during 1928 were directed towards:

1. Completing the clearance of the remaining part at the South end of the main building.

2. Settling several obscure points with regard to the part already excavated.

3. Clearance of an area immediately in front of the building where there was a large deposit of pottery, bones and general rubbish’.

The last (3) is said to have been ‘productive of most of the small finds made during 1928’. An unpublished notebook shows that 2 above certainly included work on the attached baths and in Room 4 where the underfloor heating channels were discovered. There may also have been sections in Rooms 3 and 11. The Society’s annual report for 1929 notes that ‘Three weeks excavation during 1929 completed the work on the site of the Roman buildings on Ashted Common so far as regards the structural remains’ (*SAC 39*, xii). The final report provides some details, showing that the overall plan of the attached baths, recognition of the narrow corridor return at the (site) west end with some details of the gutter, sondages in Rooms 7 and 2 and more details of the plan of the separate baths were all only achieved in 1929 (*SAC 38.2*, 132-5).

Does this provide clues to the identity of ‘Mr Fellows’? If we consider the 1928 programme outlined by Lowther (above) it may imply that the third entry came last in time of the activities. The unpublished notebook shows that work on the attached baths and in Room 4 was done in July, so perhaps the dump (3) was explored in August. We have press references for 1925, 1926 and 1927 to show that there was a ‘paid man’ on site then. For the first of those years at least, he must be the man who can be seen on some of the photographs of work in progress on the separate baths. Note the lack of collar and tie; those working on site otherwise always appear wearing a tie! The paid man no doubt had to run the wagon on the Decauville track among other things. A similar figure with cap and no tie but face obscured appears in one view of activity in Room 6 suggesting that the same man was employed in 1926. If he was retained through the years and into 1928, he would have been well versed in spotting finds by then. Might he therefore be the Mr Fellows at work near the end of August 1928, left to go through the dump in search of finds?

It would be of considerable interest to know if anyone can identify the ‘paid man’ in the photographs or throw any light on the mysterious Mr Fellows.



Details of the photographs below. The ‘paid man’?



Work on the separate baths in 1925. Arthur Cotton is in front of the circular laconicum. Note the probable ‘paid man’ on the right, in front of the truck on its track leading to the spoil heap.



Room B of the separate baths in 1925; Lowther examining pilae with the probable ‘paid man’ in the background.

Medieval and post-medieval pottery from sites investigated by the late Phil Jones

By Judie English

After his death a number of boxes of finds were left in the offices of SCAU and these were passed on to the Society. They contained a number of small assemblages of pottery from sites which the late Phil Jones had visited, some possibly when development work was taking place but many while searching for pottery production sites and clay pits on the Lambeth Group (Reading Beds Clay).

Table 2 details the sites, their location, and the fabric and number of sherds found; table 1 gives the date range presently attached to each fabric. Where the association is clear, Surrey HER Monument numbers are given. More information about the fabrics can be found in *A guide to the Saxon and Medieval pottery type series of Surrey* available from the Abinger Research Centre.

Phil undertook extensive research on the site near Crockery Lane, Clandon, and this possible kiln site has been published (Jones 2017). In the same paper the site in Claypit Wood (Farnham), Follyhatch (Normandy) (Jones 1987/8), which is also suggested as a kiln site, and Felix Holling's site in Ash are also discussed along with other sites. The great majority of the potters named are men and the few female names may be either marital surnames or relate to professions of past members of a family who retain the term as a surname. However, Margaret Pothe paid for land in Farnham in 1265, Agnes Poteyn held land in Egham in 1305 and Alicia Poter is mentioned in the Lay Subsidy Returns for Kingston in 1332. There is no evidence that these women themselves potted, but the Lay Subsidy Returns of 1276-82 for Kempsey in Worcestershire mention a Juliana la Pottare. At Siegburg (Germany) the pottery industry was run on a guild system, but if a master died his widow could take over and run the workshop (Mellor 2014). A mid-15th century playing card, one of a set depicting court staff of the Habsburg court, shows a female potter using a bone tool to form the ribbed body of a stoneware jug.

The Medieval pottery has been identified by members of the Medieval Pottery Group, principally Emma Corke, Andrew Francis, David Hartley, Angela Mason, Christine Pittman and Lyn Spencer using the type series for Surrey (Surrey Archaeological Society 2020).



A potter working for the Habsburg court
© Kunst Historisches Museum Wien and reproduced by their kind permission

Fabric	Date range	Fabric	Date range
GT	5th century	WW2	1350-1500
SaxQ	Early-Mid-Saxon	WW2B	1350-1500
Q1F	970-1100	WW3TG	1350-1500
REDP	970-1250	RWW	1400-1550
SNC	pre-1000-1150	RWW1B	1400-1550
IQ	pre-1050-1150	TOQ	1480-1550
S2	pre-1050-1250	PMRE	1480-1600
QFL	1080-1200	FREC	1520-1650
Q2	1150-1250	BORD	1550-1700
FQ2	1150-1250	RBOR	1580-1800
GQ2	1150-1250	CHPO	1580-1800
HRW	1170-1400	PMR	1580-1900
WW1B	1240-1400	PMRSL	1650-1750
WW1A	1240-1550	STSL	1680-1800
WW1	1240-1550	BSGSW	1720-1780
OQ	1250-1500		

Table 1 Date range of fabric types

Site Name	NGR	Parish	Fabric types (number of sherds)	SHHER
Holling kiln site	SU 908 498	Ash	WW1B (3); OQ (1); PMRE (2); WW2 (1), RWW (8)	2723
Beomunds Farm	TQ 0400 6825	Thorpe	GT (1); Q1F (2); S2 (84); QFL (2); Q2 (139); FQ2 (3); HRW (24); OQ (5); WW2 (1)	
Churchyard	SU 9581 5950	Bisley	Q2 (2); WW1B (4); BORD (9); PMRE (9); FREC (3)	1825
Chalkpit Wood	SU 9548 4903	Compton	S2 (1)	3334
Crockery Lane	TQ 0630 5260	Clandon	S2 (95); Q2 (169); FQ2 (1); OQ (3); WW1A (25); WW1B (25); WW2 (5); RWW (1); BORD (2); STSL (1); PMR (3)	3261
Vicarage		Egham	S2 (4); HRW (1); WW1A (1); WW1B (3); OQ (1); WW2 (1)	
Chalkpit Wood stream bed	SU 8255 4780	Farnham	WW2 (1)	17655
Knowle Farm stream bed	SU 8350 4781	Farnham	RWW (7); PMRE (1); PMR (3); BSGSW (1)	
Follyhatch	SU 9145 5085	Normandy	S2 (1); IQ (2); Q2 (43); WW1A (93); WW1B (1); OQ (1); RWW (2); BORD (4)	14005
Grange Farm	SU 8805 4850	Tongham	GT (2); REDP (1); IQ (38); Q2 (129); GQ2 (4); WW1A (57); WW1B (5); PMRE (2)	17275
Grange Farm	SU 8813 4856	Tongham	IQ (1); Q2 (4); WW1A (2)	
Grange Farm	SU 8820 4856	Tongham	IQ (10); Q2 (10); WW1A (1)	
Grange Farm	SU 8781 4840	Tongham	IQ (1); Q2 (14); GQ2 (5); WW1A (7)	
Greatlee Wood moat	TQ 1077 5487	Effingham	Q2 (1); WW1B (5); WW2 (1)	105
Greencut Copse	SU 9364 4958	Wanborough	S2 (1)	
Laleham Abbey	TQ 0522 6789		QFL (1); Q2 (1); WW1A (1); OQ (1); BORD (1)	
Churchyard	TQ 1723 6588	Long Ditton	QFL (1)	
Manor Copse	SU 9675 4957	Artington	Q2 (4); WW1B (3); OQ (1); FOQ (1)	
Misley Copse	SU 9510 4948	Compton	QFL (1); Q2 (54); RWW (5)	
Misley Copse	SU 954 494	Compton	Q2 (1)	
Misley Copse	SU 9542 4960	Compton	Q2 (35); RWW (1)	
Misley Copse	SU 9520 4956	Compton	RWW (1); PMR (1)	
Church End	TQ 0690 5660	Ockham	Q2 (3); PMRE (1); PMR (1)	
Pond Hill, Flexford	SU 9460 4960	Normandy	Q2 (95); WW1A (2); WW1B (61); WW1 (103); OQ (2); WW2 (30); WW2B (3); BORD (1); RBOR (1); STSL (1)	
Send Court	TQ 0160 5470	Send	Q2 (1)	
Tyting Farm	TQ 0215 4855	Chilworth	S2 (1)	
Clandon Park 01	TQ 0325 5123	West Clandon	S2 (6); Q2 (9); WW1A (7); OQ (1)	
Clandon Park 02	TQ 0320 5115	West Clandon	S2 (11); Q2 (1)	
Clandon Park 03 (Park Lane)	TQ 0310 5210	West Clandon	SNC (1); S2 (17); Q2 (17); WW1A (3); WW1B (3); RWW (4); FREC (1); BORD (2); RBOR (1); PMR (1); PMRE (1)	
Clandon Park 04	TQ 041 517	West Clandon	BORD (1); PMRE (3); PMRSL (1); CHPO (1); BSGSW (1)	
Clandon Park 05	TQ 0320 5170	West Clandon	Q2 (1)	
West Farm	SU 8746 4830	Runfold	IQ (2); Q2 (9); GQ2 (11); WW1 (7); PMRSL (1)	
West Farm	SU 8740 4818	Runfold	WW1A (1); WW1B (5)	
West of church	TQ 0878 5262	West Horsley	SaxQ (2); SNC (1); S2 (4); Q2 (3); RWW (1)	
Church Cottage	TQ 0200 5690	Woking	Q2 (4); TOQ (8); WW2 (2); RWW (10); RWW1B (3); (PMRE (1); BORD (5); TUDG (1)	20972

Table 2 Sites, location, fabric and number of sherds found in Phil Jones' final collection

References

- Jones, P, 1987/8 Three Medieval sites discovered near Guildford, *SyAS Bull*, **85**, 3-4
- Jones, P, 2017 Medieval potters in west and central Surrey, *SyAC*, **100**, 223-48

Surrey Archaeological Society 2020 *A Guide to the Saxon and Medieval Pottery Type Series of Surrey* (available from the Research Centre at Abinger)

Mellor, M, 2014 Seeing the medieval child, in Hadley, D M & Hemer, K A, *Medieval Childhood: Archaeological Approaches*, Oxbow, 75-95

Note on a brick culvert in Nonsuch Park near the London Road Gate

By John Phillips & Doug Cluett

Following the article in the previous Surrey's Past (issue 493) on the recent magnetometry survey of Nonsuch Palace, the following unpublished note was submitted in response, which adds interesting insight to the interpretation of the site. It was first written in February 1987, with minor revisions in September 1997.

In August 1986 a trench was excavated to lay a concrete drain pipe. It started at TQ225633 and ran north-east, just south of and parallel to, London Road. It crossed the drive into the car park at the London Road gate to Nonsuch Park and then turned north. It terminated a short distance from a newly constructed pond at TQ227637, to which it was connected by an open ditch. The trench cut through a brick culvert 3m (metres) west of the drive into the car park at the London Road gate (TQ226634). It was examined on 9 and 10 August 1986.

Internally, the culvert was 0.63m wide and 0.64m high from the top of the inside of the vault to the brick covered floor, which was about 1.53m below ground level. The arch was four-centred with a rise of 0.10m from the springing to the apex. The vault was one stretcher thick while the side walls were both 0.48m thick. The floor was covered with brick and covered with very fine dark silt, which was 0.05m thick where the height of the vault was measured, and may have been a little thicker in other places. A few of the bricks used in the vault were measured and were 6cm x 24cm x 11cm.



At the point of intersection with the trench the culvert was aligned at 335°¹ from magnetic north. It was crawled for a short distance in both directions. A long tape was not available so distances are very rough estimates. To the south, the culvert ran straight until it was blocked by a fall, after perhaps 15m. To the north the drain ran straight for perhaps 15m. At this point the vault had been broken to install an iron pipe. A metre or so beyond this the direction changed to 5°, and the vault became rougher, as if it had been broken open at some time and reconstructed less carefully. After 3m or 4m the alignment changed again and followed a rather wavy course around 350° to a blocking about 10m further on. A piece of sheet metal had been used to block a breach in the roof in this section. The traffic on London Road could be heard. When the site was revisited on 16 August 1986, the trench had been back-filled and a concrete manhole installed on or near the line of the culvert.

The culvert is almost certainly the main drain of Nonsuch Palace. The plans in Dent 1981 (pp 77, 87, 97, 247) show two major northward running drains, one running from the kitchen and the other from the main courtyards. It seems likely that they merge before reaching the London Road gate site. The kitchen drain was 2ft 6in (0.76m) high, which is less than at the London Road section, but its construction appears to have been similar (Dent 1981, plate 10c).

References

Dent, J, 1981 *The Quest for Nonsuch*, London: Sutton Libraries and Arts Services

¹ Conversion of magnetic bearings to O.S. grid north

Magnetic	Grid
335	327
5	357
350	242

The culvert 3m west of the drive at the London Road gate looking south (taken by John Philips)

branch road off the London to Brighton Roman road through Godstone, climbing the hill and cresting at this point (mauve in fig 1 = the SSE-NNW section of the putative ‘Pepper Alley’) – unfortunately the source in question has eluded my attempts and those of the editors to track it down; perhaps a reader can help?!

Again, like the Titsey site, there is a spring just below the scarp edge which provides a tributary to the Redhill Brook; a 1762 estate map (fig 3) marks it as ‘The Source of the River Mole’ (SHC reference 2729/2). Interestingly, moving west from the Titsey temple site along the North Downs scarp towards this Caterham site, the Titsey Roman villa site is straddled by St Andrew’s Church, Titsey (also at the site of a spring-tributary of the Eden) and Pitchfont Farm – again at the spring site of another small tributary of the Eden, which quickly joins that from St Andrew’s Church. Pitchfont would appear old, preserving an OE **funta* name, from late Latin *fontana* – spring. These four spring-sites form something of a line. Is it possible that a number of the stream-sources which lie along the spring-line of the North Downs were venerated in early times?



Fig 2 Extract from 1839 Caterham tithe map (courtesy of Surrey Historic Environment Record; SHC reference 6087/8/1)

The area shaded red was shown on John Rocque’s mid-18th-century map of Surrey as ‘Pratt Green’. It sits at the junction of three parish boundaries. The lane/footpath shaded mauve turns off Harestone Lane, where the parish boundary also turns 90°, and where there is the stub of a potential boundary marker stone (at NGR TQ 333 548). The Caterham site shown on the 1871 OS map (fig 1) has a plethora of ‘Willey’ names, as highlighted yellow, to its west in Chaldon parish. On the face of it, these names resemble Willey Mill etc. west of Farnham, the recorded forms of which reveal it to be from OE *Wēoh-lēah* – meaning something like ‘idol/shrine clearing’ – but *The Place-Names of Surrey* maintains that the early spellings point to the Chaldon cluster being of a different derivation (Gover *et al* 1934, 175 & 42 respectively). The use of *lēah*, i.e. ‘clearing’, does tend towards the idea that the land hereabouts was open in character in the early middle ages, as the possible temple site was at the time of Rocque and afterwards.



Fig 3 Extract from 1762 Pendell estate map (photo by Rob Briggs and reproduced by permission of Surrey History Centre; SHC reference 2729/2)

Finally, when examining the site on the 1945 aerial photographic record available via Google Earth (fig 4), I noticed a distinctive crop mark – two overlapping ‘squares’ which do not fit well with typical field boundary ditches, and did remind me of geophysical results for temple *temenos* boundaries on sites with multiple temples, or an enclosure which has been renewed. At present the site lies under the car park to the pub and land immediately adjacent to the south, and would appear to have never been developed. Perhaps it would be worth a GPR survey at some point?

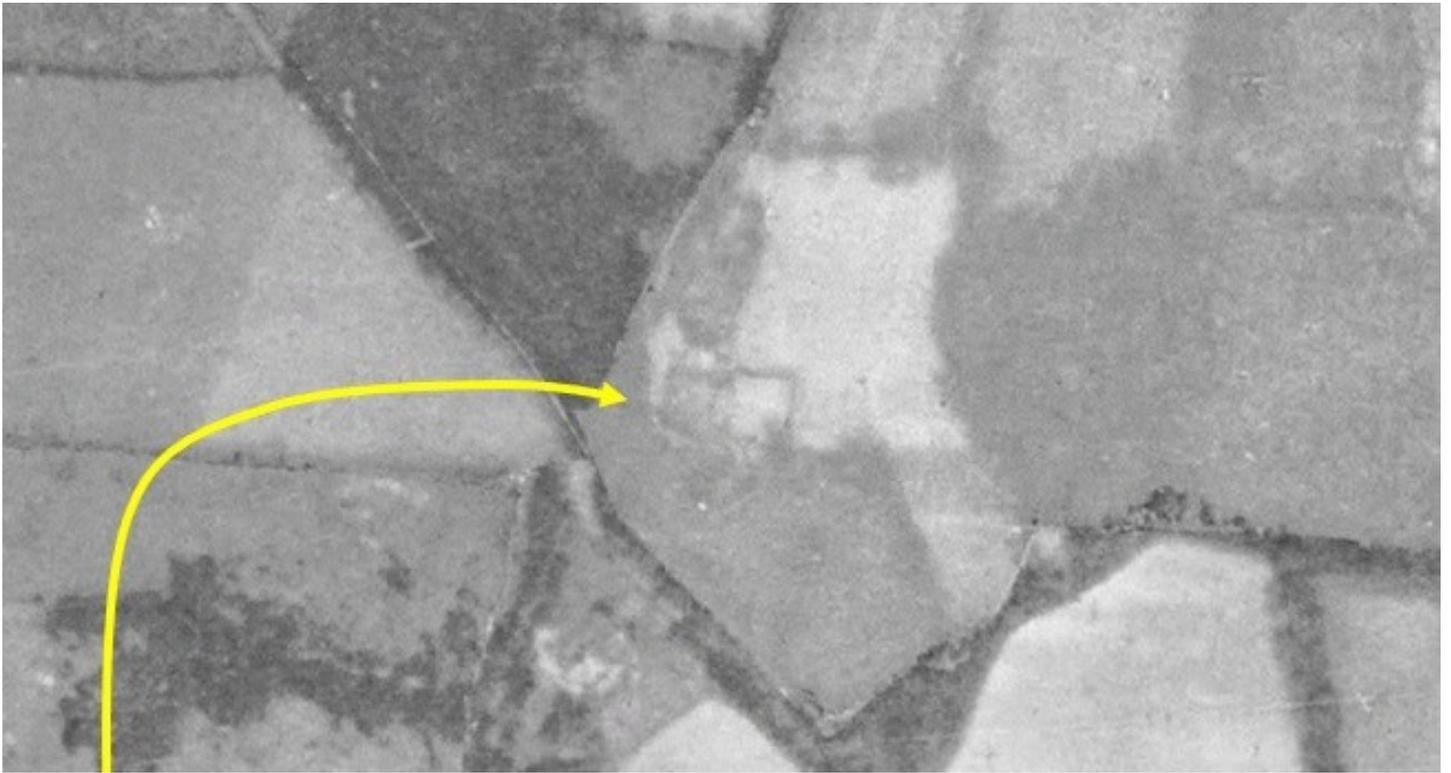


Fig 4 Cropmarks at Caterham site as seen on 1945 aerial imagery (©2023 Google)

Minor place-names

In addition to these extant or documented physical characteristics, the site is also associated with a cluster of eye-catching minor place-names. I would not add too great a weight of significance to any of these place names and features if they were to appear in isolation, but there does appear to be quite a conglomeration.

I read-up about various place-names including ‘Harrow’ (OE *hearg* – pagan temple), ‘Pep(p)er/ Piper’ (OE *pipere* – a piper/player on the flute), ‘-stone’ (OE *stān*) and ‘Prat(t)’ (OE *praett* – craft, art, wile, trick, with cognates in Frisian *pret* and Dutch *pret* – fun, pleasure, gait; 10th-century Scots *prat* – cunning trick, prank or joke, and possibly OF *barater* — to be active, do business, cause strife, deceive).¹ I began to take note of places local to me where there seem to be a concentration of these place-names, and also of ‘stones’: Wealdstone, Harestone (*hoare* – old) and the like.

Fig 5 ‘Pepper Alley’, Caterham on 1872 OS map sheet Surrey XXXV (noted as XXVII; reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland)

Down the centre of the map runs the winding, roughly north/south road known today as Roffes Lane, the north section of which, adjacent to the site of the Harrow pub, was named Holliday Bottom (seemingly from OE *halig-dæg* or “holy-day”) in 1871. At the same position as the above-mentioned possible boundary stone, there was a Victorian house named ‘Pepper Alley’ (fig 5), perhaps named from the lane upon which it stood. In addition to the Caterham example, there are a number of other English ‘Pepper Alleys’, including one in Loughton, Essex, which leads to Pipers Farm in the hamlet of Sewardstone (the second half presumably being from OE *stān*). Ordnance Survey First Edition maps of c 1871 mark a Pipers Lane leading to Pipers Green on the Brasted/Westerham boundary in Kent, adjacent to a spring and an isolated cricket ground, and ‘Pipers Bushes’ adjacent to Lion Green in Coulsdon.



In south-west Surrey, Peper Harow near Godalming is considered to be named for a pagan Anglo-Saxon *hearg* or temple. The ‘Peper’ element may be from ‘pipers’, or musicians. The authors of *The Place Names of Surrey* considered such an interpretation “impossible” as they appear to have believed that ‘pipers’ could not be significant enough to partly name such a place of importance (Gover *et al* 1934, 1934, 208). However, the pipers name might commemorate part of the celebrations of significant days in a pagan, later Christianised calendar. The village has an association with the earliest cricket matches (Marshall 1961, 45-8; McCann 2004, 6-7, via the Wikipedia page for Peper Harow). Is it possible that we have preserved here another record of games and revels associated with religious/seasonal fairs at ‘holy’ sites?

This brings us to The Harrow. There is not space here to delve into all the possible etymologies or interpretations of the name ‘Harrow’. Dunkling and Wright in their *A Dictionary of Pub Names* call it a ‘common sign, referring to the contrivance which is used to break up clods of earth’ etc. (1987, 119). So far as interpreting the Caterham instance as reaching back to OE *hearg* ‘pagan temple’ goes, all I would say is this; Richard Morris in his book *Churches in the Landscape* (1989, 6-8, 49) drew attention to Pope Gregory’s change-of-mind-instruction to the missionaries to England in 601, to convert the pagan temples, rather than destroy them, which may have had profound consequences for the siting of parish churches. We cannot know quite how many preaching points (and later, physical buildings) the early Church sought to plant as they spread out from their minster hubs. It is highly likely however, that the first preachers and missionaries encountered thousands of pagan shrines, temples, sacred groves, ‘*stapols*’ (sacred posts/pillars), burial places and other special places venerated by the locals, and sought to ‘Christianise them as preaching points/crosses, and later, some as chapels and churches.

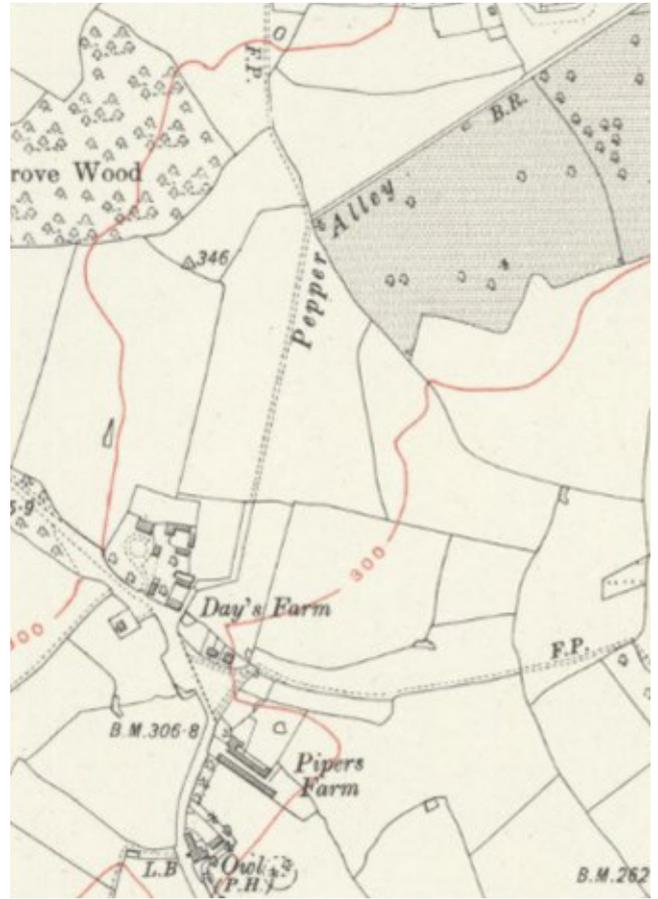


Fig 6 Other examples of ‘Pepper Alleys’, including Sewardstone (above), Coulsdon (middle) and Brasted/ Westerham (bottom), though the latter is not showing ‘Pipers Lane’ on this map (reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland (<https://maps.nls.uk/index.html>))

On this basis, we should perhaps expect the Old English words for temple or shrine to have been as ubiquitous in the 5th-7th centuries, as the word ‘Church’ is today (making allowance for a smaller population). Indeed, it is surely far more likely to be referenced locationally, than the similar word for the common agricultural implement. Most will have been replaced with the word ‘Church’, but notable pagan sites no doubt remained in the collective consciousness. On this basis, I would counsel against too much cynicism in the interpretation of ‘Harrow’ as *hearg* (temple) in late-recorded but potentially early place-names.

Fig 7 Harestone Lane today, looking east (*top*) and west (*bottom*) from the same spot. Might this be the stub of a boundary marker (right of road / middle distance)? ‘Pepper Alley’ leads off to the left opposite the stone (out of view). The old parish and present local authority boundary turns 90° at this point as well (©2023 Google).



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¹ See respectively: *prætt* – An Anglo-Saxon Dictionary Online, <https://bosworthtoller.com/25333>; *prat* – Wikionary, <https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/prat>; *barater* – Merriam Webster, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/barratry#etymology> [all accessed 12th April 2023]

2023 Symposium report

By Lyn Spencer

Tim Wilcock, President of SyAS, chaired the Annual Symposium in March and introduced the first speaker, Simon Maslin (Surrey FLO), who described the many interesting finds that have been found in Surrey during the past year. Simon also discussed the changes that will be taking place regarding amendments to the Treasure Act.

James Brown, the National Trust regional archaeologist covering Hampshire, Surrey and West Sussex, reviewed archaeological work at Runnymede and Ankerwycke in 2022. He discussed some of the finds and the results of the work of the NLHF Runnymede Explored Project. The work was aided by the Surrey County Archaeology Unit (SCAU) together with volunteers from the National Trust, SyAS and Berkshire Archaeology Society. James outlined future work for 2023.

Becky Haslam gave an interesting overview of the excavations at Mercers Farm. Becky, a Project Manager at AOC Archaeology Group, explained that work took place prior to a change in land use from farmland to mineral extraction. The excavations represented the fifth and sixth phase of archaeological work at the farm and continued the work of TVAS, Oxford Archaeology and SCAU. Late Mesolithic to early Neolithic pits and evidence of tool manufacture were uncovered, and five Middle Iron Age roundhouses and field boundaries were also discovered, all of which were placed within a wider landscape context.

The next talk by Andy Hood from Foundations Archaeology examined the results of excavation at Spelthorne Leisure Centre. The work revealed evidence for middle Neolithic occupation and early Bronze Age child cremations and also revealed later activity on the site.

There were many interesting displays on different topics, but the Margary Award for the best display was awarded to Spelthorne Museum for a history of Spelthorne Museum. Nick Pollard collected the certificate on behalf of Spelthorne Museum.

After lunch, Ian Goode's talk focused on a collection of unique curved microliths found in the

1930s within a few kilometres of Frensham. The microliths had until now been dismissed as fakes, but after re-discovery in Farnham Museum, after they had spent several decades in the finder's attic, Ian studied them and became convinced they were genuine Mesolithic artifacts. Through fieldwalking he was able to locate similar flints, and laboratory analysis revealed that the original collection showed wear consistent with being genuine prehistoric artefacts.

The next talk by Martin Higgins discussed the Surrey Dendrochronology Project. This huge and long-lasting project combined studies by the Domestic Buildings Study Group with dendrochronological work on selected buildings. Date ranges for timber constructional techniques have been refined, and key changes to plan types have been dated, enabling far better dating of buildings not included in the survey. Martin, who is the building archaeologist on the project, outlined the process and some of the key findings. The project was published in December 2022 as *The Development of Timber Framing in Surrey's Old Buildings* by Rod Wild *et al.*

Jessica Bryan, MoLA, described the excavations at Lion Green Road, which began in 2015 and continued in 2016, 2020, 2021 and 2022. This work followed on from archaeological work undertaken in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Roman and Saxon burials with grave goods were uncovered, and these included knives, pottery vessels and a glass vessel. Jessica gave a brief history of work on the site and explained how modern techniques have added to the archaeological record and build on previous interpretations.

The final talk was by Emma Corke, SyAS, who gave an update on the excavations at Abinger that took place in 2021 and 2022. This site is a multi-period area with finds from the Mesolithic to medieval periods. A probable apsed shrine within a ritual area was found as well as a Romano-British roundhouse and other buildings including one containing intriguing circles of posts. There was also a Grooved Ware pit and other prehistoric features.

Margary Award 2024

By **Rose Hooker**

The Research Committee has agreed that a new approach to the Margary Award will be trialled in 2024 with the following guidelines.

i) The award is a recognition of a new contribution to the knowledge of the past of the historic county of Surrey.

ii) The research or its demonstration should have taken place within the previous year, and not previously been made public.

iii) Any individual or group may enter provided there is no professional input.

iv) Submissions for the award could take a variety of forms such as illustrations, Powerpoint displays, videos, short reports and traditional displays.

v) Nominations should be received by the committee by 31 December 2023, with completed entries submitted at least one month before the date of the Symposium.

vi) The judging panel will be the choice of the Research Committee, and may still be formed by the Chair of the Research Committee, the President of the Society and an invited third party.

vii) There will be one award of £300. There will be a runner-up if the number of entries justifies it.

The committee would like to invite all members to consider nominations and submissions by **31 December**. This is an opportunity for community activities, youth groups and individuals to be creative in how they approach publicising their work. Nominations can be made at any time by contacting the Secretary of the Research Committee via info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk.

Note from the President

By **Tim Wilcock**

A rather belated introduction from me as your new President. I was elected at the AGM in November 2022, following five years as a Trustee and many more than that as webmaster. I am a retired Chartered Accountant with a strong sideline in archaeology and history, having attained an MA in Archaeology at Birkbeck. I have also been very involved in local family history activities for many years.

The belated intro is due to my first six months being overshadowed by our forced short notice move out of our storage unit at Heather Farm in Woking. We used this site to store our voluminous Library collection of journals, which we moved into Abinger. Since the move in January, we have been sorting out and shelving these journals. We have identified for disposal a number of further regional

journals which are available online. These include London, Kent, Sussex, Hampshire and Berkshire. If you are interested in these please contact the office urgently as we will otherwise dispose in the next few months.

Hannah Jeffery, who has been our dedicated Assistant Librarian and Administrator for the last 16 years, has indicated that she wishes to retire in November 2023. The Trustees are discussing plans for her replacement; watch out for a job advert imminently. Over the next 18 months we need to find several new officers which are volunteer positions. So I will leave you with my useful pleas for volunteers to come forward to fill these, plus many other jobs of a smaller nature which need some work.

Dave (David Michael Thomas) Longley

By **Rob Poulton**

There are probably few members of the Society who remember Dave Longley as a person but many will be familiar with the name from his publications. His recent death, aged 71, severs an important link between the Society and the beginnings of professional archaeology in the County.

In 1975 he was appointed, with Martin O'Connell, as one of two full time Field Officers for Surrey who were employed by the Society. He was then responsible for two seminal projects and publications. It was apparent that gravel extraction was resulting in important discoveries but they were generally poorly or inadequately understood and it was evident that far more was being destroyed unrecorded. The first of his projects (Longley 1976) tackled the problem by undertaking a systematic survey and this established the basis for the vastly improved processes by which regular archaeological work became normal for mineral extraction sites. It is a testament to the quality of his work that almost 50 years later Research Volume 3 remains a basic reference work when considering archaeological work in north-west Surrey.

In 1976 he also began work on what was to become the nationally, and indeed internationally, renowned site at Runnymede Bridge, near Egham. I dug with him on the site and well remember the excitement of those early discoveries. Dave was very quick to realise the importance of the site and its prompt publication showcased his excavation, research and illustrative skills, all propelled by his wonderful enthusiasm. His interest and involvement continued on a personal basis after he left Surrey and helped support the excellent series of excavations and publications by Stuart Needham for the British Museum (Longley 1991, Needham 1991, Needham 2000, Needham & Spence 1996).

The excavation at Runnymede Bridge in 1976. Dave Longley is wearing the blue boiler suit (photo by David Bird).

Dave left Surrey in 1977, moving initially to a research post in Scotland before returning to his native Wales and the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust of which he was for many years the Chief Archaeologist.

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Lecture meetings

Please note that lecture details, in particular venues and format, are subject to change. It is recommended that up-to-date information be obtained from the organisations before attending. If you would like your programme included, please contact the editors.

26 June

‘Historic Commodity and Livestock Fairs’ by Trevor James to Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society in the East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £3

29 June

‘Englefield Green Cemetery’ by Rosemary Mummery to Egham by Runnymede Historical Society in United Church, Egham at 19:30. Visitors welcome: £2

3 July

‘100 years of medieval Dorking’ by Susannah Horne to Dorking Local History Group in the Crossways Community Baptist Church, Dorking at 19:30. Visitors welcome.

4 July

‘Lost local landmarks’ by Jocelyn Barker to Addlestone Historical Society at Addlestone Community Centre, Garfield Road, Addlestone at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

5 July

‘Epsom’s War Graves’ by Martin Olney to Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society in St Mary’s Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

19 July

‘Over 100 years of archaeological investigation at Lion Green Road, Coulsdon’ by Jessica Bryan to Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society in East Croydon United Reformed Church, Croydon at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £3

27 July

‘Being Mayor of Runnymede 2022 to 2023’ by Margaret Harnden to Egham by Runnymede Historical Society in United Church, Egham at 19:30. Visitors welcome: £2

2 August

‘The Art of the London Underground’ by Mike Grundy to Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society in St Mary’s Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

4 September

‘The Night the Zeppelin Came – Croydon and the Zeppelin War’ by Ian Castle to Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society in East Croydon United Reformed Church, Croydon at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £3

‘Whitaker Wright: the Witley fraudster’ by Patrick Yarnold to Woking History Society in Hall 2, The Maybury Centre, Board School Rd, Woking at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

5 September

‘The Basingstoke Canal Society from its formation in 1966 to the opening of the restored Canal in 1991’ by Roger Cansdale to Addlestone Historical Society at Addlestone Community Centre, Garfield Road, Addlestone at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

6 September

‘The Punic Wars (tbc)’ by Charles Blencowe to Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society in St Mary’s Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

11 September

‘Deaths in the Thames – the tragic story of five members of one Richmond family’ by Nick Madge to Richmond Local History Society, Duke Street Church, Richmond at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

13 September

‘History of Newlands Corner’ by Trevor Brook to Send and Ripley History Society at Ripley Bowls Club, Rose Lane, Ripley at 19:30.

18 September

‘London’s Lost Department Stores’ by Tessa Boase to Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society via Zoom at 19:45. Visitors welcome; please email cnhss.info@gmail.com.

‘Surrey and the 1833 Emancipation Act’ by Sean Cauty to Dorking Local History Group via Zoom at 19:30.

19 September

‘A Romany Lifestyle in Surrey’ by David Rose to Albury History Society at Albury Village Hall, Albury at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

22 September

‘Tudor Farnham’ by Pat Heather to Farnham & District Museum Society at The Garden Gallery, Museum of Farnham, West Street, Farnham at 14:30. Visitors welcome: £3

27 September

‘Bats of Sutton and Croydon’ by Derek Coleman to Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society in the East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £3

28 September

‘Royal Holloway Picture Collection’ by Richard Williams to Egham by Runnymede Historical Society in United Church, Egham at 19:30. Visitors welcome: £2

2 October

‘New perspectives on Old Woking’ by Richard Savage to Woking History Society in Hall 2, The Maybury Centre, Board School Rd, Woking at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

3 October

‘Plants & foods that changed history’ by Peter Batty to Addlestone Historical Society at Addlestone Community Centre, Garfield Road, Addlestone at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

9 October

‘Petersham adventurer George Vancouver’ by Simon Targett to Richmond Local History Society, Duke Street Church, Richmond at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

11 October

‘Margaret Beaufort – My Lady the King’s Mother’ by James Dickinson to Send and Ripley History Society at Ripley Village Hall, High Street, Ripley at 19:30.

Guildford Guides 40th anniversary

On **Wednesday 21 June** at 19:00, the Guildford Town Guides have organised a public lecture by Dr Catherine Ferguson on the Restoration of the Loseley Chapel in the Guildhall. Dr Ferguson supervised the restoration of The Loseley Chapel a few years ago. In this talk, she will tell us how the discoveries made during excavation and new research in the archives revealed more about the history of the chapel and its remarkable connections with the wider literary and cultural world.

Tickets are £10 including a glass of Albury Vineyard wine. To book, please visit Eventbrite (<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/40th-anniversary-lecture-tickets-628721030527>)

Festival of Archaeology

From **Saturday 15 to Sunday 30 July**, the Council for British Archaeology will once again be hosting the annual Festival of Archaeology, this year themed around Archaeology and Creativity. Events will be taking place all across the county. To register an event or to see what to attend, visit <https://www.archaeologyuk.org/festival.html>.

Heritage Open Days

A Surrey Archaeological Society event has been arranged to take place during the Heritage Open Days of 2023 and details will be in the Mole Valley listings from June. The Society has arranged to open the Abinger Research Centre to the general public on **Sunday 17 September** (10:00-15:00). A working party of the Medieval Pottery Group will be present and visitors will be able to see the kind of research which takes place in the building and to discuss this with the team leaders. If any Society member has never visited the site they would be most welcome. Contact the office at info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk for any details.

Be sure to also keep an eye out for other HOD events in your local area!

Geological Assembly

On **Saturday 11 November** at Kings Church, Lewes, the annual Wealden Geological Assembly will be held (10:00-17:30). Speakers include:

David Nash (Univ of Brighton): 'The Sarsen Stones of Stonehenge: Where from?'

Dan Bosence (Royal Holloway, Univ of London): 'Bumps in the Bay: Geology of Offshore Dorset'

Richard Hubbard (Kent Geological Group): 'The Shifting Shorelines of the Thanet Anticline'

Richard Edmonds: 'The Great Bindon Landslip of 1839'

Laura Evenstar (Univ of Brighton): 'Why are the Andes so High?'

Chris Duffin (Natural History Museum): 'Tyrannosaurus Rex: Top Predator of the Late Cretaceous'

Thomas Hose (Univ of Bristol): 'Importance of Conserving the Wealden R.I.G.s'

Tickets £30, to include lunch. For details and registration form please contact anthony.brook27@btinternet.com.

Surrey Local History Committee meetings

This year's Local History Symposium will take place on **Saturday 11 November** at Surrey History Centre and be on the theme of maps. More details will be available closer to the date.

2023 Sussex Archaeological Society Conference

This year's Sussex Archaeological Society Conference, held on **Saturday 4 November** at the University of Sussex, Falmer, Brighton, is focusing on its recent 175th anniversary. Confirmed speakers include Mike Pitts, Sue Hamilton, Emma O'Connor, Dan Robertson, Richard Bradley, Harriet Tait, Martin Hayes, Miles Russell, Judie English, Matthew Pope, James Sainsbury, Kayt Hawkins, Janet Pennington and John Adams.

Cost is £30 per person, including lunch. More details to be made available soon at <https://sussexpast.co.uk/event/conference-2023/>.

Sussex School of Archaeology

Save the dates for the 2023/24 Sussex History Symposium on **Saturday 14 October** and the Sussex Archaeology Symposium on **Saturday 23 March**, both at King's Church Hall, Lewes. For full details and programmes, including other upcoming courses and lectures, visit <https://www.sussexarchaeology.org/>.

SHERF 2023

The annual research (Surrey Historic Environment Research Framework) conference of Surrey Archaeological Society will be held via Zoom on **Saturday 25 November**. This year the theme is the archaeology and history of Pills, Potions and Poisons. Confirmed speakers include Dr Mary Alexander, Dr Patty Baker and Dr Judie English. Online booking will be available from September and full details will be published at that time and in the October issue of *Surrey's Past*.

This conference will be followed by the Society AGM online at 15:15 and will be free to the membership with a separate Zoom link.

For further events taking place around the region, please follow the Society's monthly e-newsletters. To be placed on the mailing list, email info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk.