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SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD

BULLETIN

Number 141

October 1977

Edited by Nancy Cox, "Karm", 108 Westfield Road,
Mayford, Woking GU22 9QP

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the incorporated Surrey Archaeological Society will be held on ~~Saturday, 29th October, 1977~~ at 2.00 p.m. in the Central Lecture Theatre Block, at the University of Surrey, Guildford. There is an adjacent car park (No 1 East).

G. P. Moss,
Honorary Secretary

AGENDA

1. To receive apologies for absence.
2. To read, and if appropriate, to sign as correct the minutes of the meeting of 30th October, 1976.
3. To receive and consider the Annual Report, the Statement of Accounts, and the Auditor's Report for the period 1st April, 1976 to 31st March, 1977, and, if approved, to adopt them. (These will be distributed to members with this Bulletin, if possible.)
4. To elect the President for 1977-78.
5. To elect Honorary Vice-Presidents.
6. To elect Vice-Presidents for 1977-78.
7. To elect Officers for 1977-78.
8. To elect six Ordinary Members of Council to retire in 1981 under Article 21a.
Nominations have already been received in respect of the following five candidates:
Mr M. E. Blackman, Dr G. J. Dawson, Miss J. M. Harding, Mr G. H. Underwood and Mr R. J. Webber.
(Nominations for election under items 4-8 should be sent to the Secretary not less than seven days before the meeting. All nominations require a proposer and seconder who must be members of the incorporated Society and nominations must be accompanied by a signed statement by the nominee of his or her willingness to stand for election. Institutional members are not eligible for election.)
9. To appoint the Honorary Auditor for 1977-78.
10. Any other business.

SYMPOSIUM ON THE WORK OF SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

To encourage attendance at the AGM a symposium has been arranged on recent activities of the Society. (Admission free.)

PROGRAMME

- 10.45 Introduction.
- 11.00 Administrative County of Surrey—D. G. Bird and M. G. O'Connell.
- 12.00 SW London Team—J. S. McCracken.
- 1.00 Lunch. (Packed lunch advised.)
- 2.00 Annual General Meeting.
- 2.45 Industrial Archaeology Committee—A. G. Crocker.
- 3.30 Conservation Committee—J. N. Hampton.

VISITS

Wednesday, 29th March, 1977

Organiser: Mr C. I. Hobbis

- 10.30 a.m. The Palace of Westminster (Houses of Parliament) Main Entrance.
Party limited to 30 persons to be shown round the building by an experienced guide.
Charge 20p per person plus a gratuity to the guide.
- 2.00 p.m. St. Paul's Cathedral for a guided tour of about three hours (not up into the dome as there will not be time).
Cost: £1 per person payable to the Dean and Chapter, plus a gratuity to the guide.
Packed lunch advised.

TWO-DAY VISIT TO WEST MIDLANDS, AUGUST 1978

A visit to the Avoncroft Museum of Buildings and the four-site Ironbridge Gorge Museum has been arranged for Saturday and Sunday, 5th-6th August next year (not late July as some members may have heard suggested).

Accommodation will be in the North Worcestershire College. The cost of the coach fare and supper/bed/breakfast will be approximately £8.50, and admission to both museums combined will be about £1.50 (about 80p for OAPs).

Bookings will be accepted from now on for a deposit of £3. Apply to Mrs J. Major, 3 Riversdale Road, Thames Ditton KT17 0QL.

Very early notice of this new venture is being given as members may like to bear the dates in mind when planning holidays. Also, the Visits Committee has had to book the accommodation already, and wishes to know as soon as possible whether the response justifies going ahead with the plan.

NOTES AND QUERIES

New Members from 1.7.77

I. R. C. Patience, 138 Athorpe Lea Road, Egham TW20 8BH.

Mrs A. P. Bethell, 5 Belfield Road, Epsom KT19 9TF.

Mrs A. Roman, 5a Longdown, Guildford GU4 8PP.

Ewell: Tower of Earlier Church of St Mary the Virgin

Following a suggestion from the Town Clerk that the local historical society should take over responsibility for the Church Tower, it is proposed that a Ewell Tower Preservation Trust shall be formed for the purpose of raising funds for the restoration and subsequent maintenance of the fifteenth century tower. This is all that remains of the structure of the earlier Church of St Mary the Virgin, demolished when the present church was built in 1848.

The Tower was built c. 1420 on to the then existing church which contained eleventh/thirteenth century work and a report quoted in the Parish Magazine for June 1925 from Mr F. G. Eccles, Hon Secretary of the Central Committee for the Protection of Churches at the Victoria and Albert Museum stated that—

“It is one of the best of the fifteenth century towers in the county and because of the position of the stair turret in one corner of the tower, it is unique in Surrey and rarely met with south of the Thames, thus increasing its value as a piece of English Medieval Architecture.”

Anyone interested, with any technical expertise which could be useful in working on the tower, supporting the Fund and/or helping with fund-raising activities are requested to contact George Wignall at 199 Barnett Wood Lane, Ashted. (Tel: Ashted 72603.)

(Nonsuch AS Newsletter)

Godalming: Rear of Angel Court (SU 969439)

The Godalming Group recently completed excavations in advance of redevelopment in the garden at the rear of Angel Court. A total area of nearly 38 sq. metres was examined but severe flooding prevented the investigation of all but a small area of this right down to natural. The only features discovered were seventeenth and eighteenth century pits which contained an interesting range of artifacts. These included pottery, clay pipes (including a “mulberry” pattern pipe of about 1690) and part of a sixteenth century stove tile with relief decoration. These pits cut into a layer of brown loam which contained medieval pottery and fragments of tile. Over most of the area excavated this layer appeared to rest on the natural sand. However, excavation in the northern corner of the garden revealed a spread of bargate stone fragments and pieces of ironstone resting in brownish grey silt and sealed beneath the brown loam. This was probably a riverine deposit but it did contain some flint flakes, a flint scraper and a few sherds of medieval pottery in its upper part. The flints were fresh and unrolled.

(John Janaway)

Between Godstone and Oxted: A Twelfth Century Building

The Archaeological Group of the Bourne Society carried out a further examination of the route of the M25 motorway along the Godstone-Titsey section where a trench had been dug by contractors for drainage purposes. A scatter of Romano-British pottery was found on the surface to the north-east of Chalkpit Wood, and also to the west of Blackcroft Shaw, which has now been uprooted and is beneath the motorway.

Tuesday 8th, 8 p.m.

GREAT CASTLES OF SOUTHERN ENGLAND. Talk by Mr D. F. Renn to Egham-by-Runnymede HS in the Literary Institute, High Street, Egham.

Thursday 17th, 7.30 p.m.

ST MARY, BATTERSEA AND THE ST. JOHN FAMILY. Talk by Mr F. T. Smallwood to Clapham AS in St Luke's Hall, Ramsden Road, SW12.

Friday 25th, 7.45 p.m.

DOWN THE AMAZON. Talk by Miss P. M. Furness to Farnham & District MS. (Venue as above.)

Next Bulletin: A joint one for November/December, for which copy is required by the 5th October.

The first issue in 1978 will be with members by the end of January. Copy is required by the 5th December.

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The remains of a large pot were seen standing upright in the side of the trench to the west of Blackcroft Shaw, Grid Ref. TQ 357528. Unfortunately the machine had sliced most of it away, but enough remained to enable measurements to be taken. Permission to dig was obtained from Bovis, the contractors, which resulted in the discovery of a long narrow building, apparently built of turf with thatched roof and earth floor on wide shallow stone footings. Only part of the building lay on the site, the rest being presumably in the field on the other side of the trench, so the length is not obtainable, but the width internally is only 12 feet. We were able to trace the walls for 31 feet, which brought us to the end wall at the south end. About 1,500 sherds were collected representing at least 80 pots. In the topsoil were sherds of Romano-British period, apparently brought there by ploughing from a site not very far away.

Nothing was previously known about RB or Medieval occupation in this area, although it is an obvious site on well drained land with springs close by. The Medieval pottery has been dated circa 1180-1250 AD and is very rough, mostly cooking pot. More research will have to be done to determine what kind of building it was.

(Lesley Ketteringham in Bourne Society Bulletin No 89)

Purley: Roman Coin Find

A bronze coin of the Emperor Vespasian (69-79 AD) was found by Mr O. Lockhart in his garden in Old Lodge Lane, Purley in May 1977 (TQ 313594). The obverse shows the head of the emperor and is inscribed CAESAR VESPASIANUS AUG. COS. IIII. The reverse shows an eagle and is inscribed SC. The coin is 2.5 cm in diameter and 1 mm thick.

(Mary Saaler in Bourne Society Bulletin No 89)

SYMPOSIUM

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF SOUTH WEST LONDON: RECENT WORK

Sutton Library, St Nicholas Way, Sutton

Saturday, 12th November, 1977

1.00 p.m.-6.00 p.m.

Chairman: The Viscountess Hanworth

The purpose of the symposium is to allow local societies active in the SW London area an opportunity to meet and discuss their recent work. Speakers to date are:

**N. Farrant, Wandsworth Historical Society
"Roman Roads in SW London"**

**C. Orton, Beddington, Carshalton & Wallington Archaeological Society
"Excavations at Burleigh Avenue and Bandon Hill"**

**S. McCracken, South West London Team
"Excavations at Merton Priory"**

It is hoped to include at least one other speaker and to have displays of recently excavated material.

Tickets: 40p (inc. tea) can be obtained from J. S. McCracken, Flat 3, 32 Creffield Road, Ealing W5 3RP. Tel: 992 1737.

INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY LECTURES

Dept. of Adult Education, University of Surrey, Guildford

Organiser: Francis Haveron

Ten lectures fortnightly on Tuesday evenings starting at 7.30 p.m.

Fee for course: £5 (SAS members and OAPs: £2.50).

11th October: "Portsmouth and its Dockyard." Dr R. Riley.*

25th October: "The building of Tower Bridge." J. C. Robinson.*

8th November: "Steam Locomotives—Why did they last so long?" E. H. Wilson.

22nd November: "Animal Engines." Kenneth Major.

6th December: "Our Waterways Heritage." Frances Pratt.

10th January, 1978: "The Industrial Archaeology of West Sussex." A. G. Allnutt.

24th January: "Airships." Dr E. Mowforth.

7th February: "Chilworth Gunpowder Works." D. W. Warner.

21st February: "Occupational Costume." Avril Lansdell.

7th March: "Mills on the Wandle." Prof M. Wilks.*

*Followed by a visit

EXHIBITION

NONSUCH ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY/BOURNE HALL MUSEUM

Until 22nd October, 1977

In Bourne Hall Museum and Library

Displays will include finds from current excavations by the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society.

MEETINGS

OCTOBER

Thursday 20th, 7.30 p.m.

ANCIENT MONUMENTS OF MEXICO. Talk by Miss T. Jones to Clapham AS in St Luke's Hall, Ramsden Road, SW12.

Saturday 22nd, 3 p.m.

Talk on CONSERVATION by Miss D. Langslow, Keeper of Conservation at Verulamium Museum, St Alban's, to Walton & Weybridge LHS in Weybridge Library Lecture Hall.

Thursday 27th, 7.45 p.m.

CANALS—THE LIVING PAST. Open Meeting. Talk by Philip Daniell, Resources Development Officer of British Waterways Board, to Croydon NH & SS at East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon.

NOVEMBER

Wednesday 2nd, 7.30 p.m.

HAMPTON. Talk by Mr G. D. Heath to Walton & Weybridge LHS in Weybridge Library Lecture Hall.

Friday 4th, 7.45 p.m.

SHADOW OF MAN. Talk on domestic animals in archaeology by Mrs J. T. Done to Farnham & District MS in the Council Chamber, Farnham Locality Office, South Street, Farnham.