

SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD
BULLETIN

Number 153

January 1979

Edited by Lesley Ketteringham, Orchard Cottage, Godstone RHG 8AL

EXCAVATION NOTICE
REIGATE: OLD VICARAGE SITE (TQ 25705036)
(Director: David Williams)

Excavation is now taking place on Sundays. Further details from David Williams, who can be contacted during the day on 01-223 3431.

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING
INCREASE IN SUBSCRIPTIONS

A Special General Meeting of the Society was held at the University of Surrey on Saturday, 2nd December, 1978. The motion printed in **Bulletin** 150 (September 1978) was agreed by the meeting together with authority to adjust the additional period allowed for an initial subscription. These modifications to Article 9 of the Society's Memorandum & Articles of Association mean that the subscription which was due on 1st January, 1979 will cover 15 months until 31st March, 1980. Thereafter subscriptions will become due on 1st April each year. An initial subscription which becomes due in January, or later, shall cover the period until 31st March the following year.

The Treasurer in proposing the second motion in **Bulletin** 150 reminded members that the accounts for 1977-78 which accompanied the Annual Report, showed an expenditure of £7,440 against a subscription income of £4,262 or 57%. To cover the deficit a subscription of £7.00 would be needed for ordinary members. However, it has been decided that part of this deficit shall be covered by investment income. The motion was duly agreed by the meeting. Members are reminded that the subscriptions due on 1st January, 1979 are as follows:

Ordinary Member	£6.00
Associate Member	£0.50
Junior Member	£0.50
Junior Member with Collections	£2.00
Institutional Member	£7.50

BANKERS ORDER

A Bankers Order form is enclosed with this **Bulletin**. Members are asked, wherever possible, to complete and return the form to the Honorary Treasurer at Castle Arch. Members should fill in the appropriate sum as outlined above. Those ordinary members who already have an existing bankers order will need to pay an additional £2 on 1st April, 1979 and £6 (or appropriate sum) on the 1st April in every following year until the order is revoked.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

At the Annual General Meeting which followed the Special General Meeting the President, Mr McDowall, in presenting the Annual Report and Accounts for 1977-78 stressed the healthy state of the Society. In the elections the President and all of the Vice-Presidents were re-elected. In addition, after a warm vote of thanks for the many years' work as Honorary Auditor, Mr A. A. Wylie was elected a new Vice-President. The Secretary, Editor and Legal Advisor were re-elected to their Honorary Offices; Miss G. M. Drew was elected Librarian and Miss L. L. Ketteringham was elected Bulletin Editor. The six members elected to Council were Mr M. J. Alexander, Mr W. J. Blair, Dr A. G. Crocker, Mr G. B. Greenwood, Mr P. W. Sowan and Mr D. M. Sturley. Mr R. Allen, ACA, was elected auditor for 1978-79.

(Honorary Secretary)

NOTES AND QUERIES

SW London Team

Following the resignation of Miss A. M. Robinson to take up a post at King Alfred's College, Winchester, Mr R. Adkins has been appointed Field Officer in her place. Roy Adkins was previously working as an assistant archaeologist with the Milton Keynes Unit.

(Honorary Secretary)

Local Secretaries

Following the resignation of Mr Shearman, Mr R Temple, 7 Banstead Road, Ewell, Epsom, KT17 3EP has been appointed Local Secretary for Epsom and Ewell.

SAS Visits 1979

- | | |
|------------|---|
| 17th March | Shoreditch and Bethnal Green. |
| 4th April | Richmond Park and Twickenham riverside. |
| 12th May | Winchester. |
| June | It is hoped to arrange a midweek day trip by rail and hovercraft to the old walled town of Boulogne, for a tour with an English speaking guide. Before going ahead with this plan the Visits Committee would like to know the likely response. Will interested members please let Mrs J. Major know at 3 Riversdale Road, Thames Ditton, KT7 0QL. The fare for this trip during 1978 has been £7 from London. |
| 11th July | Dorchester and Ewelme. |
| August | A provisional booking has been made by Mrs Sylvia Lewin for a visit to Cambridgeshire by coach from Friday afternoon, 3rd August to Sunday evening, 5th August. Accommodation will be in Queen's College. The programme will include a guided tour in Cambridge and visits to Ely Cathedral and Anglesey Abbey (a NT house). It is hoped that the cost, inclusive, except for lunches and teas, will not exceed £35. No deposits are asked for yet, but it would be appreciated if those interested would let Mrs Major know. |
| 1st Sept. | Bletchingley and district. |
| 26th Sept. | Laleham. |
| 13th Oct. | Ewhurst. |

New Members

Miss H. R. Anderson, Treelands, Links Green Way, Cobham, KT11 2QH
Mrs P. F. Ashworth, 20 Orchard Close, Normandy, Guildford, GU3 2EU
A. S. Holmes, Penn, Upper Guilddown Road, Guildford, GU2 5EZ
Miss L. F. B. McAlpine, Littleways, Raleigh Drive, Claygate, Esher, KT1
9DE
R. P. Sayers, 32 Farthings, Mead Court, Littlewick Road, Knaphill,
Woking, GU21 2JS
Esher District Local History Society, Hon. Sec. R. L. Haynes, 24 The
Woodlands, Esher, KT10 8DB

Guildford Muniment Room (Change of Telephone Number)

The Muniment Room now has its own telephone, **Guildford 73942**, and no longer shares a line with the Museum.

The Museum telephone number is unchanged (Guildford 66551).

(G. M. A. Beck)

Information is requested about all finds and excavations within the county of Surrey. Please write to D. Bird, County Archaeological Officer, Castle Arch, Guildford.

Roy and Lesley Adkins of the SW London Archaeological Unit would like to ask all individuals and societies to keep them up-to-date with finds and excavations (however trivial and whatever date) within the London Boroughs of Croydon, Merton, Richmond, Kingston, Sutton and Wandsworth. We would also like to know of any finds in this area which are unpublished and may not have come to our attention. Please write to us at 21 Harbut Road, Battersea, London, SW11.

(R. L. Adkins)

Guildford Group Newsletter

The Guildford Group's annual newsletter will be circulated to all members and associates at the beginning of January. The group will be pleased to send free copies to any society members sending an A4 size envelope, bearing a 9½p stamp, to the address below. As well as summarising the year's activities the newsletter contains short articles outlining the work of individual members.

(Barbara Blatchford,
11 Thorn Bank, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 5PL)

Ewell: Bourne Hall Museum. Hellenistic Mirror

A simple bronze disc mirror of Hellenistic date has recently been recognised in the collections of the Bourne Hall Museum, Ewell. Measuring 10cm in diameter and 0.3cm in depth, the reflecting surface is flat and undecorated, although the underside is ornamented with three series of spun concentric circles.

As the majority of reliably provenanced parallels have come from Greece and Magna Graecia, it seems at present highly unlikely that the mirror is a local, or even British, find. More plausibly, it may have reached this country via a tourist or collector returning from a visit to southern Europe, although quite how, when and why it came to be deposited in Bourne Hall is unknown.

Anyone with information regarding this piece is asked to get in touch with the writer at 34 Carshalton Place, Carshalton, Surrey (669 0262, after 7 p.m.).

(Jonathan Cotton)

"Guildford As It Was"

The Guildford Group of the SAS thank all members who ordered this book pre-publication: several remain unclaimed in the Library at Castle Arch. Further copies can be bought at the retail price of £1.80 at the Museum.

(J. A. Cowie)

Woking: Roman Coin Find

In 1974 a $\frac{1}{2}$ Centenionalis bronze coin of the Emperor Constantius II (337-361 AD) was found by Mr Peter Udall of "Barnbara", Maybury Hill, Woking (TQ 018590) in his garden. The inscription on the obverse, the head of which faces to the right, reads D N CONSTANTIVS P F AVGVSTVS. Reverse, FEL TEMP REPARTIO and depicts a soldier spearing a falling horseman. The coin was minted in Alexandria.

(Ralph Morgan)

Ewell: Report by Dr Martin Henig, FSA, on an Intaglio found during the 1978 excavation at Ewell by The Nonsuch Antiquarian Society

The "gem", which is ovoid in shape (dimensions 15 x 11 x 2mm), and has a bevelled edge, is made of glass paste. It is very dark brown in colour with a whitish upper surface, imitative of onyx. The moulded device yields an impression which shows a youthful male figure BONUS EVENTUS, standing with his body facing front and his head facing left. In his left hand he holds corn ears and in his right a patera. The shape of the gem, its material and the coarse style of its execution are suggestive of a date in the late second or early third century AD.

Full report forthcoming.

(Ina Goodman)

The Vauxhall Pottery (TQ 303781)

With the start of redevelopment work on the site now postponed to at least summer 1979, complete excavation of the Pottery remains will be completed in time. A plethora of kilns has been found at the eastern end of the excavation area and their lengthy dissection is well under way. The early nineteenth century is represented by three small circular stoneware kilns (1a, 2a, 4) about 4m in base diameter. Each had five fireboxes of rather crude construction which were characterised by being long, deep and narrow, their floors being well below general floor level. Long ramps led down from the outer incomplete "box" end to flat inner end floors. The fireboxes in Kiln 2a showed clear signs of partial or complete rebuilding and all the fireboxes in this kiln series used a mixture of ordinary building bricks together with firebricks. In Kiln 4 a "firebar" was found in situ. These kilns are attributed to J. Whisker (1812-35) and bricks stamped with his name were incorporated in the fireboxes.

With the advent of Alfred Singer (1835-65) the area was rebuilt and much larger (6m base diameter) kilns constructed (1b and 2b). The new floor was built over the base of Kiln 4, and Kiln 2b was built on the same

centre as 2a, but Kiln 1b was necessarily displaced northwest from 1a because of the increase of size. The seven very regular and well built fireboxes of Kiln 2b showed a complex sequence of restructuring, and in the end the kiln was completely rebuilt at the same diameter as Kiln 2c but with nine fireboxes. The evolutionary sequence, apart from the increase in numbers of fireboxes, is from long narrow fireboxes with floors well below general floor level, to shorter ones entirely within the confines of the base wall and with floors at general ground level. Kiln 1b had ten fireboxes with floors just below ground level. Kiln 3 (unexcavated) is presumed to be the last in the sequence, surviving two to three courses above the final pottery floor level, on which it was built.

The kiln sequence however also goes back into the eighteenth century and here within the present excavation area they are rectangular in shape (i.e. of Delftware type). One of these currently (November 1978) under excavation appears to be some 4m square internally.

A late small westward extension to the Pottery has largely been excavated and revealed a surprisingly complex sequence of events. In the final phase a sump let into the floor turned out to be a large flanged ceramic "bowl" a yard in diameter and a yard deep, the largest pot that this author is ever likely to have cause to excavate! The Pottery yard is being dug, and large Delft waste dumps have been found.

(Roy Edwards)

Morden: Pottery Finds

Odd finds of pottery do not necessarily make a site; nevertheless, such was the case in 1973 that later led to the RB site in Morden (*Bulletin* 130, Sept. 1976). Since archaeological evidence of local occupation has been sadly lacking in Morden it is hoped the following finds by the writer may be the seeds from which such evidence will grow.

In 1975 a single small sherd of pale cream ware with traces of pale yellow/green glaze was found in the playing field of a school in Lower Morden. Provisionally dated late medieval/Tudor, but occupation is believed to be quite early in this area.

In 1978 during maintenance and restoration work in the graveyard of St. Lawrence, Morden Parish Church. Several sherds of coarse gritty brown ware and a rim of light grey ware, dated as early medieval. A church was in existence c. 1200 and the vicar was given a farm in 1331. A sherd of combed slip ware was also found.

In the back garden of a sports pavilion in Tudor Drive a single sherd of brown speckled (Bellamine) ware was found but caution is needed in view of built-up land nearby.

(W. J. Rudd)

John Constable at Epsom

During the years 1805 to 1811 the painter John Constable stayed at Epsom repeatedly with his uncle James Gubbins, the husband of his mother's sister (R. B. Beckett, *Apollo Magazine*, March 1965, p. 189); a painting (Tate Exhib. 1976, No. 44) and a watercolour drawing (Freda Constable, *John Constable, a biography*, 1975, p. 13, mistakenly described as East Bergholt House) exists of the house in which he stayed, which has however so far not been identified.

From the land tax returns for the year 1804 (Surrey Record Office, Kingston) it appears that James Gubbins rented the house, then called The Hylands, now Hylands House, 73 Dorking Road, from Mary Starke, the widow of Richard Starke. Mary Starke transferred the ownership of the house to her daughter Mariana Starke on 12th January, 1805 (court rolls of the manor of Epsom, SRO 31/2/9, 61); James Gubbins is given as the occupier in this entry. James Gubbins died on 7th June, 1814 at the age of 69 years and was buried at Epsom; his widow Mary Gubbins appears as the occupier in the land tax returns for the years 1815 and 1816 but not later. In his will (Public Record Office, Prob. 1814, July, No. 1558, fol. 417) James Gubbins left four freehold houses on the Lawn at South Lambeth, also a house on the opposite side of the road, in which his daughter Jane was born, and some leasehold properties in the City of London, but no property at Epsom, which he had obviously rented on a short-term lease.

On James Gubbins's tombstone (The Graveyard and Church Monuments of Epsom, Nonsuch Antiquarian Society, 1963 (Epsom Public Library) No. 485) are given the following details. His widow Mary Gubbins died on 22nd May, 1824, aged 73 years. His younger son James Gubbins died, a captain in the 13th Light Dragoons, at Waterloo on 18th June, 1815. (He had joined the army on 12th October, 1804 as an ensign in the 60th Regiment on Foot (PRO, Kew, army lists 1805)). James Gubbins's elder son, Lt. Colonel Richard Gubbins, CB, died on 2nd January, 1836, aged 54 years, and was buried at Kensal Green.

John Constable came to Epsom again in 1831, when he stayed with Sir Richard Digby Neave at Pitt Place in Church Street. Several drawings dating to this visit exist (Victoria and Albert Museum catalogue No. 337, pl. 248).

(Dr H. L. Lehman)

Excavations Committee: Annual Symposium

Members and others interested in the progress of archaeology in the county in the past year are reminded that the Annual Symposium will be held in May at the Dorking Halls. Please note that the date has been changed from that previously arranged and is now **26th May, 1979**. Further details will be made available when the programme has been finally established but it will include, as last year, reports from around the county on recent work.

There will also be exhibitions by local societies and organisers are asked to note that the forms on which space for exhibition can be requested will be sent out in due course. There were a number of very good exhibitions last year and it is hoped that even more societies will be able to prepare something for 1979.

(D. G. Bird, Secretary, Excavations Committee)

COURSES

BOURNE SOCIETY WINTER LECTURES SURREY FAMILIES

A repeat course of ten lectures will be held at Taunton Manor School, Old Coulsdon, on Tuesdays at 7.30 p.m. on 9th January. Enrolment at the School—evenings. Course fee £4.00.

1. The Warenes of Reigate, Earls of Surrey: James Batley.
2. De Clares of Blechingley Castle, Earls of Stafford.
3. De Passelees of Alstede: Lesley Ketteringham.
4. The Cobhams of Lingfield and Starborough Castle: James Batley.
5. The Lamberts of Blechingley and Banstead: Uvedale Lambert.
6. The Greshams of Titsey and the City: Richard Leveson-Gower.
7. The Howards of Reigate and Croydon: James Batley.
8. The Evelyns of Godstone and Wootton: John L. Nevinson.
9. The Somers-Somersets of Reigate and Eastnor: Doris Ker.
10. The Keartons of Caterham: Cherry Kearton.

UNIVERSITY OF SURREY Department of Adult Education

MINOAN CRETE—MYTH AND REALITY

15th March, 1979, (4 meetings.) 7.30-9.30 p.m.
Adult Education Institute, Dene Street, Dorking.
Dr K. Brown.
Contact the Secretary at above address.

HISTORY OF THE RIVER THAMES

1st May, 1979. (6 meetings.) 10 a.m.-12 noon.
Cranleigh Arts and Leisure Centre, Cranleigh.
Mrs A. Sweeney, BA.
Contact Adult Education Institute at above address.

MEETINGS

JANUARY

Thursday 25th, 8 p.m.

FURTHER EXCAVATIONS AT RUNNYMEDE BRIDGE. Talk by Stuart Needham to Guildford members of the SAS at the Brew House, Guildford. Visitors welcome.

Friday 26th, 7.45 p.m.

EASTERN ANATOLIAN ADVENTURE. Talk by Miss P. M. Furness to Farnham & District Museum Society in the Council Chamber, Farnham Locality Office, South Street, Farnham.

Friday 26th, 8 p.m.

THE ARCHITECTURE AND HISTORY OF WALNUT TREE HOUSE, LEYTON. Talk by Barbara Brown of the Passmore Edwardes Museum to the Wandsworth HS at the Friends Meeting House, Wandsworth High Street.

FEBRUARY

Friday 2nd, 7.45 p.m.

A NEW LOOK AT THE DOCUMENTATION OF CHART AND HEADLEY. Talk by P. Brooks to Farnham & District MS in the Council Chamber, Farnham Locality Office, South Street, Farnham.

Tuesday 6th, 7.15 p.m.

FILM OF ROMAN KILN EXPERIMENT AT HIGHGATE. Harvey Sheldon. Southwark & Lambeth AS. Westminster Workshop, Southbank Institute, Westminster Bridge Road.

Monday 9th, 8 p.m.

THE BEVERLEY BROOK FROM SOURCE TO MOUTH. Talk by C. Hailstone to Merton HS in the Lecture Room, Morden Library, Morden Road, Morden.

Thursday 15th, 8 p.m.

JOHN HASSELL'S "PICTURESQUE RIDE ROUND SURREY 1818". Talk by James Batley to Oxted and District HS in the Lecture Room, Oxted Library, Gresham Road, Oxted.

Thursday 15th, 7.30 p.m.

RECENT DISCOVERIES AT GUILDHALL. Lecture by Dr Caroline Barron to the Clapham AS in St. Luke's Hall, Ramsden Road, SW12.

Friday 17th, 7.45 p.m.

ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING IN ARCHAEOLOGY. Talk by Alison Locker to the Archaeological Section of the Richmond Society at Richmond Adult College, Parkshot, Richmond.

Next **Bulletin**: February, for which copy is required by 11th January, 1979.
Following **Bulletin**: March 1979.