

SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

BULLETIN

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March/April 1983

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SAS VISITS MAY AND JUNE 1983

MAY

Saturday 14th

VISIT TO PORTSMOUTH

arranged by Mrs J. F. T. Banks and Lt Col H. M. M. Deighton

- 8.45 a.m. Coach departs Reigate, car park, rear of Woolworths.
9.00 a.m. Dorking Halls
9.30 a.m. Guildford, rear of B.R. Station in Guildford Park Road.
11.00 a.m. Meet at Square Tower, Old Portsmouth for guided walk of Old Portsmouth. Parking at Amusement Park ¼ mile east.
1.00 p.m. Lunch. Pubs and cafes nearby or picnic along sea wall, etc.
2.00 p.m. Rejoin coach. Either visit "Mary Rose" if possible or Fort Widley on Portsdown Hill. Parking 200 yards east, entrance by Churchillian Pub.
4.00 p.m. Leave Portsmouth for Wickham village for visit to Chesapeake Mill. Tea 90p per head provided by the ladies of St Nicholas Church at the Church Hall.

Tickets: Members 40p, Visitors 50p, Students half price and accompanied children free. Coach fare (which includes cost of guides,) £4.70. Please indicate if tea is required, to help catering, but pay on the day for both tea and coach.

Please apply early for tickets to help estimate number of guides required to Mrs J. Major, 3 Riversdale Road, Thames Ditton, KT7 0QL.

VISIT TO CHRISTCHURCH

Arranged by Miss Eve Myatt-Price

JUNE

Wednesday 8th

- 8.15 a.m. Coach departs Reigate, car park rear of Woolworths.
8.30 a.m. Dorking Halls.
9.00 a.m. Guildford, rear of B.R. Stn. in Guildford Park Road.
Coffee stop at The Windmill Hotel, Four Marks.
12 noon Arrive Christchurch.
Guided tour of the Priory Church.

- Lunch can be obtained in the town where there are cafes and restaurants, or a picnic lunch can be eaten on the lawns by the quayside.
- After lunch, there will be visits to the Castle Motte, the Constable's house; and the Red House Museum (Entrance: Senior Citizens 10p., Others 20p.)
- 3.30 p.m. Depart Christchurch. There will be a stop for tea at The Old Well restaurant, near Cadnam, where cream teas (price £1.55 each including V.A.T. and service) will be booked. Members requiring tea, which is optional, should pay for it when they apply for tickets.
- Tickets Members 40p., visitors 50p., students half price, and accompanied children free; coach fare £7.20 (which includes coffee and donation to Priory Church) from Mrs J. Major, 3 Riversdale Road, Thames Ditton, KT7 0QL.

The May and June visits are the only two this season for which a coach will be provided. Recently the number of people using the coaches has varied enormously and for this reason fares must be based initially on a low number of passengers. When a coach is well patronised a refund will be made as has been the practice in the past.

On the other hand it is regretted that coaches can no longer be run at a loss, so that in future, if within 10 days of a visit there are not sufficient bookings the coach will have to be cancelled. Please book early and give a telephone number.

Notice to all members

Please note the following subscription rates for 1983:

Ordinary members:	£6.00
Associate members:	£0.50
Institutional members:	£7.50
Junior members:	£0.50 without Collections £2.00 with Collections

NOTES AND QUERIES

Dorking; Clarendon House

For several years Clarendon House, Dorking, was threatened with demolition for a scheme of road "improvement". After the road scheme had been dropped, demolition was proposed because the building, although listed and in local authority ownership, had become "beyond economic repair". The threats were averted as a result of pressure from, among others, this Society but only after expensive public enquiries and more neglect.

Eventually a purchaser was found and Tamac Construction have now created a new interior to be used as the head offices of the Dorking roofing contractors, Briggs Amasco. The offices occupy the 18th century shell which had to be heavily restored and a new wing. The former offices of Briggs Amasco, a period property at Goodwyns Place, Dorking, is now for sale.

D. J. Turner

Earlswood: Golf Club House (TQ278489)

During January the Holmesdale Archaeological Group carried out a short excavation around the derelict Golf Club House in Common Road, Earlswood. This is the site, according to Hooper, of the discovery around the turn of the century of the medieval waster jug now on display in Guildford Museum. The jug was found "three feet below the surface at the bottom of a hole paved with ironstone". It had been hoped that evidence would be found to confirm that this was the site of a pottery kiln. Four trenches were dug, one to the front and three to the rear of the house. From the largest, c10 x 2m, three sherds of medieval pottery were found. Five further sherds came from a smaller trench adjacent, to the rear of the house. None of the structures or layers encountered could be dated any earlier than c1850. Although the eight small medieval sherds are broadly similar to those from the Bushfield Shaw kiln (three are fragments from cream-slipped or 'Earlswood' Type jugs) this scarcely proves the case for a kiln although this must remain the most likely possibility for the occurrence of the waster jug. Further developments must await the possible demolition of the Club House.

Ewell: Conversion of Lower Mill

Architects Masini Franklin have converted the listed Lower Mill at Ewell into offices and added a new rear extension. The modern addition is the latest phase in the construction of the mill which is said to consist of Georgian and Victorian additions to an original 17th century building.

(*Building Refurbishment & Maintenance*, December 1982)

Frillinghurst, near Chiddingfold. Iron working site. (SU 939344)

During reconstruction of a road bridge the previously unknown site of a furnace was discovered about 1½ miles S.W. of Chiddingfold. An area of clay about 3m long and 1m deep was exposed in the stream bank containing highly burnt 5cm-thick bricks and, to each side, about 5m apart, rough sandstone blocks still in place. A curved loading embankment terminates close by. The site is just over 1km below the complex which made cannons from about 1570.

About 1km upstream in the middle of Frillinghurst Wood (SU 930343) lie the remains of another bay, possibly a pen-pond, with timber baulks still in situ. There seems to be no previous record of this bay although Straker may have been aware of the first one.

A fuller note is being written for the Collections.

Laurence Draper

Hassell Pictures of Surrey

The late James Batley left the first draft of a catalogue of the microfilm record he had made of John and Edward Hassell's pictures of Surrey in the 1820's. It is intended to publish this catalogue in the 1984 volume of the *Collections* and the writer is preparing the manuscript for publication. As a tribute to the enormous effort James made to document these pictures it is intended to make the list not only a catalogue of the 1,780 pictures on the microfilm but also the others he located. From his records it has been possible to list 2,160 pictures so far. Information on any more would be welcomed by the writer.

In addition to the title of each picture it is hoped to make *brief* comments on some of the pictures which might assist users to identify houses, to indicate their fate, or to identify the viewpoint shown. Any comments of this nature should be

sent to the writer. A complete set of enprints from the film may be consulted in the Surrey County Library, Local Studies Library, Guildford or Lambeth Archives (Minet Library). In addition a set of enprints was distributed between the main branch libraries in Surrey so that the local pictures may be consulted there. Where the library holds the original pictures the relevant photos were placed in a nearby branch library. Enprints of the places now in London boroughs were placed in the nearest Surrey County Library (mainly at Bourne Hall, Ewell). Copies of the microfilm were purchased also by Croydon, Guildhall, Merton (Wimbledon), Richmond, and Sutton Libraries and also Surrey Record Office.

G. P. Moss

Correspondence with the Ordnance Survey re a "new Neolithic site" published in their latest map of Ancient Britain.

To the Ordnance Survey:

4/1/83

Dear Sir,

I recently glanced with interest at the new edition of the Ordnance Survey's map of Ancient Britain and was most interested to see that a new Neolithic site had been discovered on the Surrey Weald between Outwood and Lingfield in the east of the County.

This area has hitherto been thought of as little populated in prehistory and this new discovery of yours is most exciting.

One thing still puzzles me however. It strikes me as being extremely odd that this new site bears the same name ('Whitehawk') as the well known Neolithic causewayed camp on Brighton racecourse. This I feel requires some explanation!

Yours mystified,

David W. Williams
Archaeological Secretary
Holmesdale Natural History Club.

21.1.83

Dear Mr Williams,

I am sorry to have to dissipate your understandable excitement over the discovery of a causewayed camp on the Surrey Weald. Unfortunately the truth, as no doubt you already suspect, is much more mundane. The National Grid Reference of Whitehawk was erroneously written down as TQ3344 (correctly TQ3304) with the result you know.

Such errors do occur but usually they are picked up before publication. Regrettably Whitehawk slipped through the system and was not detected in time.

Yours in contrition,

D. J. Stagg

The Rankine Collection

Farnham Museum has recently acquired the late W F Rankine's collection of archaeological material. Rankine was an eminent local archaeologist particularly noted for his contribution to Mesolithic research in Britain, through his work in West Surrey.

As well as the well-documented mainly Mesolithic material from Rankine's own excavations and fieldwork, notably from the Farnham Sewage Works site, the collection includes much other local material of various periods. More information will be available on closer examination of the material but the collection evidently contains material from several other private collections from the Farnham area (including those of Harold Falkner and Canon O'Farrell) and from some of the Bronze Age and Roman sites reported in the S A S "Survey of the Prehistory of the Farnham Area".

The collection was donated to the Museum by the Ellis Campbell Group, who recently acquired it together with several Farnham properties from the Borelli estate.

Anna Mercer

Rotherhithe: Conversion of Thames Tunnel Mills.

Thames Tunnel Mills at Rotherhithe have recently been converted into 'fair rent' flats. The deep-plan problem of the building has been solved by creating a generous atrium space in the middle to let the light in. The atrium rises seven storeys and is topped by a glazed conservatory which leads out onto a roof garden. Only the brick shell of the original building remains, the rest was built from new inside.

Architect Hunt Thompson Associates.

(Building Refurbishment & Maintenance, December 1982)

Help with Letraset

The Editorial Committee holds a selection of partly used sheets of Letraset which are available on loan to draughtsmen, authors, etc. who are producing reports. This offer is intended to save the considerable cost of buying a complete sheet where only a few words are really needed.

Please write to Lady Hanworth, Quoin Cottage, Shamley Green, Guildford.

INSURANCE – DIG DIRECTORS PLEASE NOTE

EXCAVATION INSURANCE—Directors of excavations are reminded that it is essential that they arrange for insurance cover for the excavation that they are undertaking. For the purpose of insurance the term 'excavation' covers all aspects of excavation where there is a 'third party risk' and not simply 'dirt archaeology'. Under certain circumstances 'field walking' and 'measuring buildings' would require cover. If in doubt, or to register for insurance cover, please contact R. J. Webber at 8 Kelvin Grove, Hook, Chessington. Telephone: 01 397 4885 (evenings and weekends). Please remember that "COVER AFTER THE EVENT IS TOO LATE!"

PERSONAL ACCIDENT INSURANCE—All volunteers on excavations, including field walking, measuring and other connected activities should be fully aware that the Society's insurance policy does not cover them for injury or sickness, and, thereby, loss of earnings, should that injury be self inflicted or the result of their own neglect. All volunteers should, therefore, arrange for **PERSONAL ACCIDENT INSURANCE** through their own insurers before they engage in excavation activities. Remember please that if you put a pickaxe through someone else's foot, or they do it to you, that will be alright but if you put it through your own foot then that will be your responsibility and nobody else's! Directors of Excavations please bring this matter to the attention of all your volunteer diggers.

R. J. Webber

INDEMNITIES.

Some indemnities required by landowners and contractors go beyond the acceptable liability of Surrey Archaeological Society and its insurance cover for excavations. In future all indemnity forms **MUST** be signed by one or other of the **OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY** who have been appointed by The Council of the Society to act in this matter.

A copy of every indemnity required must be forwarded to Mr R. J. Webber at 8 Kelvin Grove, Hook, Chessington, Surrey, KT9 1DP who will, where necessary, clear the terms and conditions with the insurers. A further copy should, at the same time, be sent to the Society's Hon **LEGAL ADVISER**.

LOCAL SOCIETIES or **GROUPS** excavating under Surrey Archaeological Society's name or using the Society's insurance cover **MUST COMPLY** with this procedure. Other excavators would be well advised to take legal advice before signing any form of indemnity.

The following officers of the Society have been authorised by the Council to sign indemnities on behalf of the Society;— The President The Secretary The Hon Treasurer.

J. L. Gower. Hon Secretary

Nonsuch Antiquarian Society Exhibition: September 1982

This exhibition was held from 9-25 September and included exhibits from Epsom, Ewell, Cheam and Sutton. They covered a wide range of subjects in archaeology and local history. Among them were items about local families and their mansions, mathematical tiles, memorials of St. Mary's church, Ewell, a reconstruction of a well excavated in Epsom, townscapes of Cheam and Sutton, and a demonstration of the recording of an excavation including processing routines.

This exhibition represents a very satisfactory demonstration of what co-operation between a local society and a museum can produce.

E. M. Myatt-Price

Newly published

"Bramley Parish Church", new history and illustrated guide.

If you would like to learn more about the Church's history and how it developed when it was separated from Shalford in 1847, you can read about it in the new illustrated guide and short history recently published by the Parish.

Copies available price 50p at Kay's newsagents, opposite the church or from Mr F. A. V. Harrison, Lea Farm, Bramley, (Tel: Guildford 893138)

MEETINGS

APRIL

Wednesday 6th

"MEDIEVAL KINGSTON" an illustrated talk by Marion Hinton of the Kingston Museum and Heritage Unit, to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at St. Mary's Church Hall, Ewell at 8.00 p.m. Admission 40p including refreshments. All welcome.

Tuesday 12th

"FARM BUILDINGS IN SOUTH-EAST OF ENGLAND" A talk by Mr J. Oliver to the Egham by Runnymede Historical Society at the Literary Institute, High Street, Egham at 8.00 p.m. All welcome.

MAY

Wednesday 4th

"EXCAVATIONS AT STAINES" an illustrated talk by Rob Poulton, of the Surrey C.C. Archaeology Sect. to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at St. Mary's Church Hall, Ewell at 8.00 p.m. Admission 40p including refreshments. All Welcome.

Friday 27th

"GALLY HILLS EXCAVATION, BANSTEAD". A talk by James Barfoot to the Wandsworth Historical Society at the Friends Meeting House, Wandsworth High Street at 8.00 p.m.

Excavations Committee Annual Symposium

7 May 1983 in the Martineau Hall, Dorking Halls, Dorking.

It has unfortunately not proved possible to complete the programme for this symposium in time for it to appear in this *Bulletin*. It will, however, follow the usual pattern of some six illustrated talks starting at 10.30 a.m. and closing about 4/4.30 p.m., with a lunch break from about 12.30 to 2.00 p.m. to allow time to view the exhibits. The meeting will be chaired by Vivien Ettlinger, and it is anticipated that subjects will include excavations at Southwark, Croydon and Kingston, with perhaps also an example of the use of mediaeval documentary evidence for the area around Farnham. The programme should be complete by the time this *Bulletin* appears, and details may be obtained from the writer at County Hall (01-546 1050 ext. 3665) or from Mrs. Kathleen Needham at Castle Arch. Forms for the booking of display space will be circulated in the usual way.

Coffee and tea will be available at a small charge at the breaks, and afternoon teas may be ordered in advance (at a cost of 50p). Admittance will be £1.20 at the door, but tickets may be bought in advance for £1 including postage. Applications for tickets and afternoon teas should be made to Mrs K. Needham at Castle Arch, Guildford. Cheques should be made payable to Surrey Archaeological Society. There is ample car parking space adjacent to the Dorking Halls.

D.G. Bird

A Reminder – Bulletin dates

December/January/February: for which copy is required by 6th November

March/April for which copy is required by 6th February

May/June for which copy is required by 6th April

July/August for which copy is required by 6th June

September for which copy is required by 6th August

October/November for which copy is required by 6th September

Next Bulletin: May/June, for which copy is required by 6th April

Following Bulletin: July/August for which copy is required by 6th June.