



SURREY  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY  
CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD GU1 3SX

BULLETIN

Number 194

August 1984

Edited by Miss E. P. Humphreys, 41 Salisbury Road, Godstone RH9 8AA  
Tel: Godstone 843723

---

SAS VISIT TO ST. ALBANS

Arranged by Mr. J. C. M. Blatch

September  
Wednesday, 26th

- 9.00 a.m. Coach departs Reigate opposite Red Cross Public House.  
9.20 Dorking Halls  
10.00 Esher B.R. station.  
11.30 Visit Verulamium, followed by St. Michael's Church nearby, described by Pevsner as 'one of the archaeologically most interesting churches in Hertfordshire' with Saxon features.  
Perambulation through Fishpool Street (old) which Pevsner rates as 'a most pleasurable street to walk down with C17 and C18 houses.
- N.B. We would be accompanied by an especially recommended St. Albans City guide for the morning itinerary as above.
- 1.00 to 2.30 p.m. Lunch  
In the afternoon we are hoping to obtain the Earl of Verulam's permission to visit Gorhambury House, although it is normally open only on Thursdays. Failing this, we shall visit the Cathedral, famed for its early Norman work and wall paintings on piers, watching-chamber for shrine of St. Alban, reredos etc. We would be accompanied by a cathedral guide. There are cafeteria facilities available afterwards up to 4.30 in the Refectory.
- Tickets: From Mrs. Major, 3 Riversdale Road, Thames Ditton, KT7 0QL.  
Members 40p, Visitors 50p, Students half price and accompanied children free. Coach fare £5.50 which includes cost of City and Cathedral guides and will be adjusted if programme is altered, or if a substantial number of people support the coach. (There is a small admission fee to Verulamium payable on the day).  
PLEASE book early and if you would prefer to travel by car or would be prepared to do so should the coach have to be cancelled will you also please say whether you could take passengers.

## SAS VISIT TO TWICKENHAM AND CHISWICK AREA

Arranged by Lt. Col. H. Deighton

### October

#### Thursday 11th

- 10.20 a.m. Meet in the Car Park, Marble Hill Gardens, Richmond Road, Twickenham for a short briefing on the history of the locality.
- 10.30 a.m. Guided tour of Marble Hill House, an early Palladian villa built for the Countess of Suffolk, favourite of George II (note: although visited by the SAS in 1979 this is worth a second visit to see new acquisitions and newly restored upper floor rooms not yet open to the general public).
- 11.30 a.m. Guided walkabout of the Twickenham riverside, then disperse for lunch either in riverbank pubs or picnic in Marble Hill Gardens.
- 2.00 p.m. Reassemble at Guardroom of the Royal Military School of Music, Kneller Hall, Kneller Road, Whitton. (Please advise car registration numbers when booking tickets). Beside the interest of the building itself there is a small museum and a chance to see behind the scenes at the school.
- 3.15 p.m. Guided tour of Chiswick House, a stately pleasure dome built by Lord Burlington (1695-1753) as a temple of the arts. Like Marble Hill it is Palladian in style. (Entrance 50p with reduction for senior citizens). Time and weather permitting the visit will conclude with a tour of Chiswick House Gardens.

Tickets: Members 40p, Visitors 50p, Students half price and accompanied children free, and don't forget the car registration number please, from Mrs. Major, 3 Riversdale Road, Thames Ditton, KT7 0QL.

### Coach Visit to Cirencester (organised by the Surrey Roman Villa Study Group)

#### Saturday 29th September

The major items on the itinerary will be the Corinium Museum (To visit the "Gods and Goddesses of the Roman Cotswolds" temporary exhibition as well as the permanent displays), the Cirencester Amphitheatre, the Chedworth Villa and if time allows, Wayland's Smithy Chambered Tomb.

The cost will be £6 with an extra 90p payable on the day for those who are not members of the National Trust. The coach will depart from Cranleigh with pick-up points at Dorking and Leatherhead.

Further information and a booking form are available from Mr. Leslie Le Mottée, Little Rising, Ermyn Way, Leatherhead KT22 8TW (Ashted 74107).

## NOTES

### Margary Award for Archaeology in Surrey

The next Margary Award will be presented at the Excavation Committee's Symposium on Saturday March 30th 1985. A prize of £50 will be given to the individual or group in Surrey who, in the opinion of

the judges, has carried out the most worthwhile and interesting project in one or more of the following areas: field-walking, site surveying and interpretation (which can include standing buildings), excavation, re-assessment of existing archaeological material and documentary research related to archaeology.

Copies of the rules for the competition and/or further information may be obtained from Dr. David Bird or Dr. John Leveson Gower at Castle Arch, Guildford, Surrey GU1 3SX. If you are unsure as to the suitability of a particular project for entry please do not hesitate to contact either of the above organizers.

*Closing date for entries: Friday 1st February 1985.*

### **Library News**

At the last Library Committee meeting it was agreed that we should register with the British Lending Library at Boston Spa and, as a result, we are now able to offer an inter-library loan service to members. This will cost the Society an average of £4.00 per loan, so we are obliged to pass on a proportion of this, i.e. £2.00 to the reader. This will be more expensive than the service provided by the public libraries but will be a much speedier one. Most items are available for an initial loan period of three weeks but photocopies of journal articles up to 50 pages may be obtained subject to copyright, for retention by the reader. This service will be of special advantage to members who have been accustomed in the past to visit the specialised libraries in London to consult material on the premises. Further information can be obtained from the Librarian at Castle Arch, to whom requests for loans should be directed.

It was also agreed by the Committee to cancel the library's subscription to the journal "Field Studies" but to take out a new subscription to "Landscape History". Photocopies of the contents pages of this title may be requested through our Current Contents Service (see *Bulletin* 186 for full details of this service).

Finally on a different note we finish with a plea for help. The library has recently lost the services of several members who used to give much needed routine assistance and new helpers are urgently required. The work is arranged on a monthly rota and involves spending about *one* hour twice a week. Duties consist of cancelling the records of books returned from loan, reshelving these books, tidying the shelves, and the writing of overdue notices. On average 25 books are borrowed and returned each week. If any members are able to help the library in this way, please would they contact the Librarian as soon as possible.

Pat Ashworth, Librarian

### **We welcome the following new members to the Society, from June 1984:**

Mrs. M. K. Brooks, 56 James Road, Camberley GU15 2RS.

J. H. Guest, Golding, 66 Strathcona Avenue, Little Bookham KT23 4HR.

Miss P. J. Jackson, c/o Sixth Form Unit, St. Catherine's School, Bramley, Guildford GU5 0DF.

Dr. D. F. Renn, 7 Burrows Close, Great Bookham, Leatherhead, KT23 3HB.

Dr. J. I. Taylor, 15 Park Road, Limpsfield, Oxted, RH8 0AN.

K. S. Waters, Wayside Gate Cottage, Horsham Road, Holmbury St. Mary, RH5 6NH.

Miss A. C. Willey, 10 Stourhead Close, Farnborough, Hants, GU14 7HF.

Mrs. F. J. Williamson, 11 Hillview Court, Hillview Road, Woking, GU22 7QN.

K. D. Winsor, Cherry Bank, Holmbury St. Mary, Dorking, RH5 6PD.

**Institutional Members:** Dept. of Prehistoric and Romano-British Antiquities, attn. Mr. S. A. Castle, The British Museum, London WC1B 3DG.

Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (England), Fortress House, 23 Savile Row, London W1X 1AB.

**From July, 1984:**

Mr. J. C. Allen, 32 The Plantation, Morden Road, Blackheath, London SE3 0AB.

Mrs. D. Carey, 31 Churchfield Road, Walton-on-Thames, KT12 2TG.

Miss S. J. Cartwright, 4 Garth Close, Off Green Lane, Farnham, GU9 8PX.

Mr. T. R. Heyburn, The Coach House, 51 Alma Road, Reigate, RH2 0DN.

Mrs. S. A. Howard-Jones, 2 Caroline Way, Frimley, Camberley, GU16 5LW.

Miss C. Redwood, 24 West Street, Farnham GU9 7DR.

Mr. E. T. Smart, 'Portledge', 9 Merrow Croft, Merrow, Guildford, GU1 2XH.

**Institutional Members:** Richmond Archaeological Society, c/o Secretary, Wendy Burks, 27 Brookmans Avenue, Brookmans Park, Herts. AL9 7QH.

The Armstrong Library, Weald and Downland Open Air Museum, Singleton, Chichester, West Sussex.

Memorial Library, University of Wisconsin, 728 State Street, Madison, Wisconsin 53706, USA.

**Surrey Industrial History Group**

As from the AGM of the Group on June 29th, the Hon. Joint Secretaries are Derek and Rowena Taylor of Orchard Cottage, Alfold Crossway, Alfold, Cranleigh, GU6 8JE.

**Lloyds Bank Fund for Independent Archaeologists, 1984**

Three organisations with SAS connections were awarded grants under this fund. At the Society of Antiquaries, Piccadilly, on 6th June, Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, chairman of the Commission on Historic Buildings & Monuments of England, presented the cheques.

Surrey Roman Villa Study Group — £200 for resistivity meter to survey sites prior to excavation.

Surrey Industrial History Group — £150 for pump and scaffolding for work on the Gunpowder Factory site at Chilworth.

Subterranea Britannica — £100 for equipment for use in the survey of the Chaldon-Merstham quarries. (see *Bulletin* 191).

**Churchill Travelling Fellowships**

Travel grants are made by the Churchill Memorial Trust to enable people from all walks of life to make studies overseas related to their trade, profession or interest. Fellowships are offered irrespective of age or occupation, and no educational or professional qualifications are required.

Categories listed for 1985 include three subjects which could be of particular interest to SAS members:

The care and conservation of artefacts, including books, documents and archives.

Village and home crafts.

The Churchill connection — projects relating to Sir Winston's varied interests: history, journalism, painting, animals, bricklaying, etc.

For further details and an application form send a stamped addressed envelope to: The Winston Churchill Memorial Trust,  
15 Queen's Gate Terrace,  
London SW7 5PR.

Applications must reach the Trust by 31st October, 1984.

### **15th Century Jetton**

A 15th century jetton of copper alloy from the Tournay mint was found in March 1984 at 38 Little Woodcote (TQ 288621) by Mr. David Stanbridge. The jetton is the only find of this date to come from the site and is likely to represent a single loss, or may have been brought in by early post-medieval manuring of the area. The jetton is held by the finder.

Lesley Adkins & Roy A. Adkins

### **Frensham Manor, Farnham (SU 839404)**

An infra-red photograph taken on a recent flight over Frensham Manor, has revealed the existence of a sub-rectangular double-ditched earthwork at the above O.S. reference. The ditches enclose an area of approx. 1.6ha and the site lies at the end of a small ridge of land overlooking Frensham Great Pond. It may be significant that metal detector users were recently reported discovering a scattered hoard consisting of Iron Age and Roman Republican coins, from Frensham Manor. This may well indicate that the earthwork is of Iron Age date. While no traces of the ditches are visible on the ground, field walking has revealed the existence of a small late 1st/early 2nd century Roman site in a field which lies immediately to the west of the ditched enclosure. It would therefore appear that this ridge has been occupied since at least the Iron Age and, given the very recent detector finds of Bronze Age axes in the same area, probably from even earlier.

David Graham

### **Montgomerie Bell's Limpsfield Collection: Palaeolithic flint artefacts in the Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford**

Although large numbers of Palaeolithic artefacts are recorded in the early literature as having been found on a series of high level sites on the Lower Greensand escarpment near Limpsfield (centred *c.* TQ 410520),<sup>1</sup> surprisingly little notice has been taken of the locality or the artefacts since the turn of the century. In particular, the largest and most important collection of material — that formerly in the possession of A. Montgomerie Bell — has remained hitherto unsorted and virtually unstudied since its purchase in 1920 by the Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford. However, recent examination of the collection by the present writers, aided by Roger Ellaby, enables the following preliminary and long overdue assessment of its contents to be made.

In all, some 558 artefacts survive from fourteen separate sites located between the 150m and 180m contours about the present headwaters of the river Darent to the east and south-east of the village. Including nearly 450 complete and fragmentary handaxes, the collection spans the years 1883 to 1906, although over half of the dated pieces (which number nearly 400) were recovered in the seven year period 1885-1891.

The following table lists the total number of artefacts from each of the named sites, together with the number of handaxes represented within these totals:

Site	Total artefacts	Total handaxes
Ballards	1	1
Bramble's Cross	5	3
Briar's Cross	3	2
Brice's/Bryce's Cross	34	23
Broomlands	10	8
Chapel Field	3	2
Chart/Chart Farm (and variants)	36	30
Coomber's Field	1	1
'Limpsfield'	83	68
Limpsfield Common Gravel Pit (and variants)	57	45
Lockhurst	5	5
Lombarden	43	34
Paine's/Payne's Hill	2	2
Ridlands	234	193
Tenchleys	41	24
	—	—
	558	441
	—	—

With the exception of an important group of apparently stratified ochreous pieces recovered between 1888 and 1893 from a series of gravel deposits exposed in a pit on Limpsfield Common, all the material was retrieved from the surface of, or less frequently from within superficial deposits of brickearth overlying the Greensand further to the south. The majority of these latter pieces have a weathered grey-blue/creamy-white surface patination, and although many are frost-cracked and pot-lidded, none appear to be genuinely rolled.

As might be expected, handaxes dominate the various site totals (see table), with ovate, cordate and sub-cordate forms the most common. More detailed examination of the largest site-group — that from Ridlands (Farm) — underlines the high proportion of small axes with twisted profiles (some as small as 48mm (1¾ inches) in length), as well as revealing the presence of one Levallois-type flake with faceted butt.

Overall, the bulk of the collection appears to have good Middle/Late Middle Acheulian affinities, although the recognition of four axes approaching 'bout coupé' type from 'Limpsfield' is suggestive of Mousterian influence, and may therefore serve to link some of the material with that recovered by Benjamin Harrison and others from the so-called Rockshelters site at Oldbury in Kent, 17kms to the east-north-east.<sup>2</sup>

Examination of the collection continues, but in the meantime our combined thanks are due to Ray Inskip and Derek Roe for their ready co-operation in making it available for study.

1. E.g. Prestwich J. 'On the age, formation and successive drift stages of the valley of the Darent; with remarks on the Palaeolithic implements of the district, and on the origins of the chalk escarpment' *Quart Journ Geol Soc* 47 (1891), 126-163.
2. Collins D. M. and Collins A. 'Excavations at Oldbury in Kent: cultural evidence for Last Glacial occupation in Britain' *Bull Inst Archaeol* 8-9 (1970), 151-176.  
Jonathan Cotton, David Field and Pat Nicolayson



### Art and Architecture of the Conquest

In this final report on the SAS course on The Romanesque in South East England Mary Alexander describes the last three lectures given at the University of Surrey, Guildford.

David Park, who is involved with the national survey of wall paintings, gave a fascinating talk about the wall paintings in such churches as Witley, Pyrford and Chaldon. Witley has the most important scheme of paintings in Surrey, painted around 1100–1130, in three tiers including scenes of the Sepulchre and the Resurrection. Pyrford has some unique 12th century paintings of little figures partly covered by the 13th century paintings: there was no respect for antiquity in the Middle Ages! The paintings at Chaldon are also unique, in their design of the Last Judgement showing the Ladder of Salvation. The lecturer also talked about the paintings at St. Mary's Church, Guildford, which have unfortunately almost disappeared. He ended his talk by describing a new course in the conservation of wall paintings soon to be launched. The Victorians hacked away many paintings when they "restored" churches and those that are left have suffered from lack of money and lack of skilled workers to preserve them. Now that the National Survey has proved how many paintings survive, it is to be hoped that money and staff can be found to look after them.

The last-but-one lecture was given by an artist, Timothy Hyman, who also lectures on the history of art. His subject was "The Lost Wall Paintings of Sigena, Spain". These were a remarkable series of paintings in the chapter house at Sigena. They were photographed in 1936 and six weeks later the chapter house was blown up in the fighting of the Spanish Civil War. This is a great loss because the paintings were very fine. They were made by an Englishman, probably born around 1130 who worked in Sicily and studied Byzantine art there. He probably worked in Winchester, which was famous for its artists in the 12th century, before going to Sigena around 1185. He combined the styles of English and Byzantine art in the paintings which cover many subjects such as the Creation, Temptation and the Fall — including an angel showing Adam how to dig after he and Eve were expelled from Eden.

"Castles in France" was the subject of the concluding lecture. Dr. Arnold Taylor spoke about castles mainly in Western France, beginning with the oldest dated castle, perhaps built in 994. Castles were introduced into England by the Normans, and Dr. Taylor compared many of the French castles with English ones, emphasising the link between the two countries in the eleventh and twelfth centuries. For example, Chepstow Castle, c. 1067–1071 has red Roman tiles used decoratively in the stonework, as at the earliest French castle. The excavation of the motte at Abinger, in Surrey, discovered post-holes for buildings which must have looked like the castles shown in the Bayeux Tapestry. Rectangular keeps were a dominant feature of French castles and are also found in England as at the White Tower, Rochester and Guildford. Round castles were also built, as at Chinon or at Windsor, and other "exotic" castles in a variety of shapes. Dr. Taylor finished with slides of the magnificent and unusual Chateau Gaillard almost certainly built in one year — 1197–8 — making a turning point in castle architecture.

Mr. Eric Wood, President of the Surrey Archaeological Society, summed up the very successful lecture series, thanking everyone concerned, particularly Lady Hanworth, Dr. and Mrs. Gower and Mrs. Thompson for planning and running the series.

## EXCAVATIONS — BRIEF REPORTS

### 64-68 Rectory Grove, SW4 (TQ 292758)

#### *Medieval and later*

This small site lay some 50 metres south-west of where early Saxon pits were found in 1980-81 (see *London Archaeologist*, Vol. 4, No. 7; 177-84). The excavated deposits lay on top of the Taplow Terrace, and sloped down towards the River Thames. The natural sand and gravel were overlain by grey sandy 'ploughsoil' which contained a few tenth or eleventh-century sherds at its base and seventeenth-century material at its top. It was cut and overlain by later post-medieval deposits.

(Robin Densem, John Dillon and Mike Hutchinson for the Department of Greater London Archaeology, Museum of London)

### St. Mary's Convent, Tooting Bec Gardens, Lambeth, SW16 (TQ 299717)

#### *Medieval*

During redevelopment in Summer 1983, a stone-lined cellar, thought to be of late medieval or Tudor date was recorded in several contractor's trenches, and a limited excavation was carried out. The cellar was rectangular and measured 5.5 by 5.3m internally. Its glazed tile floor had been almost entirely robbed. No evidence for the ground floor elements of the building survived, nor were any ground surfaces visible owing to modern disturbance.

(Robin Densem for the Department of Greater London Archaeology,  
Museum of London)

## MEETINGS AND VISITS

### AUGUST

#### Saturday, 18th

SAS VISIT TO WANDSWORTH AND BALHAM. See *Bulletin* 193 for details.

### SEPTEMBER

#### Wednesday, 5th

COSTUMES FROM MONUMENTS & MURALS. Talk by Olive Temple to Nonsuch A.S. 8.00 p.m. St. Mary's Church, Ewell.

#### 5-7th

SAS VISIT TO WARWICK. See *Bulletin* 193 for details.

#### Saturday, 9th

SIHG coach visit to Science Museum, Wroughton. Information from David Evans, 48 Guildford Park Road, Guildford. Tel. Guildford 64079.

**Next Bulletin:** September/October. Material required by Saturday, 11th August.

**Following Bulletin:** November. Material required by Saturday, 6th October.