



SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
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BULLETIN

Number 219

March 1987

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S.A.S. VISIT TO UPNOR AND CHATHAM HISTORIC DOCKYARD

Arranged by Lyn Clark

Saturday, 16th May

- 9.00 a.m. Coach departs from Guildford, rear of B.R. station in Guildford Park Road.
- 9.30 a.m. Dorking Halls.
- 9.45 a.m. Reigate, opposite Red Cross Public House.
- 10.45– Arrive Upnor. Coffee will be either at the King's Arms or in Upnor Tea Rooms.
- 11 a.m. Visit Upnor Castle, built by Elizabeth I on the shores of the Medway to protect her warships. The defenders failed to stop the Dutch raid of 1667 through lack of munitions.
- 11.30– 12.15 p.m. Lunch. If fine, there are the Castle grounds or the shore for picnics. There are also two pubs and the Upnor Tea Rooms where Mrs Steele would be prepared to provide a buffet lunch plus dessert and coffee for £2.50 per head. Please say where you would like to lunch when booking so that arrangements can be made.
- 1.15– 1.45 p.m. From Upnor to Chatham.
- 1.45– 4.45 p.m. A guided tour (and audio-visual summary of the Dockyards history). Chatham Historic Dockyard contains "the greatest concentration of Scheduled Ancient Monuments in the country" including: the Gate House, the Commissioner's House (built 1703), the Officers' Terrace (1722–31), the Timber Seasoning Sheds, the Dockyard Church, the Ropery and one of the Covered Slips.
- 4.45 p.m. Tea in the Conference Room.

After tea, return to Surrey.

Tickets: Members 50p, visitors 60p, students half price and accompanied children free. Cost of the visit to include: coach fare, coffee, entry to castle and dockyard, tea and gratuities (but not lunch): £10, or £9 for senior citizens or children. Please say if you do not want tea and deduct £2.50 from the cost. Send cheque and s.a.e. to Mrs Jean West, 123 Ewell By Pass, Ewell, Epsom KT17 2PX (Tel. 01-393 8970). This is a joint visit with the Surrey Industrial History Group. Please book early. Applications must be received by 1st May.

Saturday, 4th April

COACH OUTING TO "MARY ROSE" & PORTCHESTER CASTLE

(Organised by Surrey Roman Villa Group)

The outing to Portsmouth will include visits to the *Mary Rose* with its artefacts and a film and to the 3rd century Roman fort at Portchester with its medieval castle's Norman keep, Augustinian priory church and site exhibition.

The coach will start from Dorking Halls at 8.30 a.m. with a pick-up at Guildford railway station at 9.00 a.m. Costs, to include coach fare, admission charges and driver's gratuity, will not exceed £8.00, £7.00 for senior citizens, with a further reduction for members of English Heritage. The final details still to be arranged. For booking forms please contact Mr L. Le Mottee, Little Rising, Ermyn Way, Leatherhead KT22 8TW (Ashted 74107).

New Members

We welcome the following new members: *From November, 1986* — R. Watson, 14 Willow Way, Ewell, Epsom KT19 0EH; Miss R. M. Ball, "Cotswold", The Street, Capel RH5 5LD; M. R. Saunders, 30 New Road, Chilworth, Guildford GU4 8LW; Judith Billingham, 22 Lawday Place Lane, Farnham GU9 0BT; Lt. Col. J. A. Freeland, 47 Bell Road, Warnham, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 3QJ; Mrs H. M. Ginger, "Southmore", 13a Warwicks Bench, Guildford GU1 3SZ; Mr & Mrs J. A. Emuss, 236 Mytchett Road, Mytchett, Camberley GU16 6AF; P. D. Morgan, 8 Birch Court, 50 Thicket Court, Sutton SM11 4PY; Croydon Geography Centre, Mr K. A. Maggs, Pilgrim Fort, Tupwood Lane, Caterham.

From December, 1986 — M. R. Alexander, 51 Adelaide Road, Surbiton KT6 4SR; Mrs C. J. Swayne, Levylsdene House, Levylsdene, Mellow, Guildford GU1 2RX; Mrs J. C. Buist, Sunways, Waterden Close, Guildford GU1 2BA; A. N. Wylie, Pylewell Cottage, Lower Street, Haslemere GU27 2AX.

Honorary Local Secretaries

It is with great regret that we record the death on January 23rd of Mrs E. M. Manning, Honorary Local Secretary for the Farnham area since 1965 and a member of the Society since 1961.

Mr David Graham, Stannards View, Frith End, Bordon, Hants GU35 0QR has taken over from Mrs Manning as the Society's representative in Farnham, Hale, Runfold and Wrecclesham.

Volume 77 of the Collections

All fully paid-up members of the Society should have received Volume 77 of the Society's *Collections* in January or February either by post or delivered by hand. There has been a delay with some of the deliveries due to the rather inclement weather. Will any member who has not received their copy please inform Mrs Susan Janaway at Castle Arch (Guildford 32454) as soon as possible.

Once again the Council of the Society is most grateful to the many hardy volunteers who helped in the hand delivery of this publication to members within the county, thereby saving postage and packing costs of over £800.

In order to make the hand delivery of Society publications as efficient as possible members are urged to inform Mrs Janaway (in advance if possible) of any change of address or if they intend to resign their membership.

We still need more volunteers to help once or twice a year with hand delivery of Society publications particularly in the CAPEL, CHIDDINGFOLD and SHERE areas. Any member who would be willing to help with the hand delivery, in any capacity, is asked to contact the Honorary Secretaries at Castle Arch.

Library S.O.S.

Sometime between 5.00 p.m. on Friday, 16th January, 1987 and 9.00 a.m. on Monday, 19th January, 1987, the Visitors Book from the Margary Room disappeared. If anyone has inadvertently picked it up when gathering up books and papers, please let me know. I would be very grateful to see it back in the Library.

Mrs J. White
Assistant Librarian

Treasure Trove

Sadly there is an increasing number of examples that highlight the serious deficiencies in the present law of Treasure Trove. This state of affairs is posing a major threat to archaeology, and as an example of the problem, the editorial from the recent issue of the CBA's British Archaeological News (January 1987) is reproduced below with the permission of the CBA.

Crime doesn't pay — or does it?

"A treasure hunter who found a hoard of 80 silver staters in the rampart of a scheduled hillfort in Wiltshire properly reported them to the local Coroner. The Salisbury Museum officials who identified the site of his find persuaded English Heritage to initiate a prosecution under section 42 of the 1979 Act, and he was duly found guilty on two counts and fined a total of £100.

Next came the Coroner's Inquest, which pronounced the hoard to be Treasure Trove. The Treasure Trove Reviewing Panel (who were informed about the conviction) decided that an award of £2,000 should be made to the finder. Since the British Museum did not wish to take up its first option on the hoard, it was offered for £2,000 to none other than the Salisbury Museum; the money would presumably be passed direct to the finder by the Treasury.

But the Salisbury Museum supports the Museums Association's code of practice, which states that 'museums should not acquire by purchase objects in any case where the governing body or responsible officer has reasonable cause to believe that the circumstances of their recovery involved the recent unscientific or intentional destruction of ancient monuments or other known archaeological sites'. How then should they act?

Should the Museum purchase the hoard and keep it together by paying £2,000 to the finder, and thereby transgress the code of practice? Or should it decline to do so, whereupon the hoard will be returned to the finder, who will then be at liberty to break it up and sell it on the open market — no doubt for considerably more than £2,000? Either way, the one person who will be financially better off at the end of the day will be a lawbreaker. It really makes no sense at all. As a former Lord Chancellor commented some years ago, so far as Treasure Trove is concerned, the law is an ass."

John Leveson Gower (CBA 11 representative)

South West London Archaeological Liaison Committee

Following discussions between the Society and the museum of London, a new liaison committee has been established for the area covered by the Museum's South West London Section (formerly the SW London Unit set up by the Society in 1975). The new committee parallels ones already covering other section areas. The Society has nominated the writer as the first chairman of the committee and the Museum is providing the necessary administrative assistance: Scott McCracken is the secretary. The inaugural meeting was held at the Museum on 30th November.

The committee's membership includes representatives of local museums and societies, local authorities and planning departments, the HBMC and SW London Section staff. A major role will be to examine the proposed programme of the SW London Section and to assess whether it can be expanded, perhaps using local authority funds. The committee will encourage all archaeological bodies in SW London to co-ordinate their efforts.

There is no intention to diminish the role of the North Surrey Liaison Meetings sponsored by the Society's Excavations Committee. These cover a far wider area and do not involve representatives of local authorities. The new committee will run, in the first instance, for a trial period of one year.

D. J. Turner

Recent work in South West London

The following current archaeological work was reported to the meeting of the SW London Archaeological Liaison Committee at its meeting on 30th November:

Beddington-Mitcham Area of Opportunity. Excavations over the past four years have revealed the Roman villa complex including the main villa building, the bath house, adjacent outbuildings and large aisled barn (*Bulletin*, 202, 206) and it is hoped that work will continue. The site is of great importance as evidence of bronze and iron age houses has also been found along with associated field systems. (See also item below).

Merton Priory. A large-scale excavation of the priory began in March 1986 and will continue for at least another fifteen months. The area of the church, cloister, cellarer's range and cemetery will be investigated. (The subsequent announcement of the result of the planning appeal for the development of the site indicates that, following the excavation of the whole site, the chapter house will be preserved — with access — beneath the proposed relief road).

Kingston Horsefair. Excavations were continuing on the medieval bridge and bridge approach road downstream of the present bridge. The bridge was of multi-period construction, the earliest portions being dated to the late 12th century. (Much of the stone structures of the bridge and the nearby 14th century undercroft were removed from the site on the weekend 20/21 December for eventual re-erection within the development).

D. J. Turner

Excavations at Beddington

Excavation is expected to continue for just a few more weeks on the site of the prehistoric settlement and Roman villa at Beddington Sewage Works (see earlier report in *Bulletin* 212). Evidence for Late Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman settlement continues to be recovered. Excavation of the Roman well has been completed, with the discovery of leather shoes, Roman pots and a horse's skull, indicating a possible ritual deposit. In addition, large deposits of environmental evidence were excavated, and the timber plank lining at the bottom of the well proved to be in such good condition that saw and adze marks were still clearly visible on the surface of the planks.

Volunteers are needed for excavation or indoor finds work (weekdays only). Write for details to Museum of London, Beddington Excavation, c/o 157 Valley Road, Kenley CR2 5BZ or phone 01-669 6466.

Publication of the joint SAS/LAMAS report on the 1981-83 excavations at Beddington has been delayed, but a book on the work entitled "Under the Sludge, Beddington Roman Villa" has now been published. (See *Bulletin* 216 for details).

Lesley Adkins, Roy Adkins and Jeffrey Perry

Paddington Farm, Abinger: Mesolithic Site (TQ 102471)

A Mesolithic surface site discovered by Keith Winsor and Ken Wates has now been systematically field-walked. The limits of the site can be demonstrated with some certainty and certain areas shown to contain greater concentrations of specific tool types than others.

Of some 12,000 pieces of material collected, over 10,000 were of flint, mostly waste but with good numbers of segmented blades and 'bashed lumps'. Amongst 195 tools were 25 microliths of mixed types, perhaps suggesting site visits during the Horsham and Later Mesolithic periods.

Further field walking will take place intermittently in the Holmbury/Abinger area. Interested members should contact Keith Winsor, Cherrybank, Holmbury St. Mary, or David Field, 95 Mount Road, Chessington, for further details.

David Field and Keith Winsor

Neolithic Ground Axe, Walton Heath (TQ 232536)

The blade half of a ground flint axe was dug out of a golf tee on Walton Heath golf course by a mechanical digger whilst levelling the tee in November, 1986. The axe was found by Mr. D. Baker, of Walton on the Hill, in an area of clay-with-flints, similar to the composition of the tee. Thus it would seem that the find had not travelled far, probably being scooped up from the immediate area during construction of the tee.

The axe is light grey, 97 mm in length, 61 mm wide and 41 mm thick. It is ground all over (apart from the broken end) but with one or two minute flake scars showing and there is a very slight ochreous stain on one face. The section is lenticular and the blade edge convex but slightly sinuous in plan view. Grinding striae are visible on each face.

The find will be placed on display in Walton Heath Golf Club House. My thanks to David Williams and Stephen Nelson for bringing the find to my attention.

David Field

RECENT PUBLICATION

The Roman Small Town at Neatham

"The full excavation report by Martin Millett and David Graham has been published recently by the Hampshire Field Club in association with the Farnham & District Museum Society. Entitled *Excavations on the Romano-British Small Town at Neatham, Hampshire 1969-1979*, it costs £20 but copies are available to members for a limited period, at a price of £14. The volume includes two microfiche.

There is a useful introduction dealing with the chronology and background to the site. This is followed by a detailed discussion of the various excavation areas. The bulk of the volume deals with the finds; the pottery section is particularly useful, notably the sequence of Alice Holt ware. The small finds are interesting, especially the fragment of wooden lavatory seat and the graffito sketch of a woman on a piece of tile. The final, most important chapter includes discussions on the roads and street system; the structures and site layout; site size and population; the economic basis; defences and administrative status; cultural affinities and the end of the site".

Copies can be obtained from David Graham (Bordon 2761) or from the Editor, Hampshire Field Club, 75 Hyde Street, Winchester, Hants SO23 7DW.

(*This review appeared in the Surrey Roman Villa Group Newsletter No. 91*).

COURSES, ETC.

Butser Ancient Farm Project Trust will be running a series of week long study courses at the experimental farm near Petersfield in Hampshire. Subjects and dates are:

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| General Experimental Archaeology | - April 20th-26th |
| Surveying | - May 25th-31st |
| Earthworks Work Study Group | - July 27th-August 2nd |
| Pollens | - August 3rd-9th |
| Weeds, Seeds and Crops | - August 17th-23rd |
| Fire, Clay and Metal | - October 26th-November 1st |

All courses are residential and count as one week of required practical work for the University of London Diploma in Archaeology and Certificate in Field Archaeology and for University undergraduate courses. Fee £85. Further details from Dr P. J. Reynolds, Butser Ancient Farm Project Trust, Nexus House, Gravel Hill, London Road, Horndean, Hants.

Archaeological Field Survey. 13th-19th July

Residential course at Wansfell College, Theydon Bois. A practical introduction to methods of planning field monuments.

Cost £127.45 (cheques payable to Essex C.C.). Applications to Enrolment Secretary, Wansfell College, Theydon Bois, Epping, Essex CM16 7LF.

Urban Excavation. 3rd-16th August.

Non-residential course based at Bermondsey Abbey.

Cost £60 (cheques payable to University of London). Applications to Miss Clancy, Dept. of Extra-Mural Studies, 26 Russell Square, London.

Both these courses can qualify as part of the fieldwork requirements for the Diploma or Certificate in Archaeology.

Jordan and Israel Tour. 23rd October–4th November.

Tour arranged by Enid and Richard Butler. This tour will be similar to the May tour (see *Bulletin* 213) which was fully booked. Cost £670 per person. Full information and booking forms from: Mr and Mrs R. E. Butler, 205 Barnett Wood Lane, Ashted KT21 2DF (please enclose a s.a.e.).

Croydon Palace: Open Days for 1987

This former residence of the Archbishops of Canterbury in Old Palace Road, Croydon, is open for accompanied tours starting at 2.30 p.m. on:

Monday, 6th April – Saturday, 11th April

Tuesday, 26th May – Saturday, 30th May

Monday, 13th July – Saturday, 18th July

Monday, 20th July – Saturday, 25th July

Admission £2.00; pensioners £1.00.

Parties welcome but prior notice is required. Please ring 01-680 5877.

MEETINGS, ETC.

MARCH

Wednesday, 11th. 8.15 p.m.

ARCHAEOLOGY OF MERTON PRIORY. Talk by Scott McCracken to Holmesdale NHC at The Museum, 14 Croydon Road, Reigate.

Friday, 13th. 8.00 p.m.

BEYOND FOLKLORE — ALMOST BEYOND BELIEF: ETHNO-ARCHAEOLOGY IN S.E. EUROPE. Talk by John Nandris to Richmond AS at the Vestry Room, Paradise Road, Richmond.

Thursday, 19th. 7.45 p.m.

TWO ALDERSHOT FAMILIES — THE WYTES AND THE TICHBOURNES. Talk by Timothy Childerhouse to Farnham & District M.S. at the UR Church Hall, South Street, Farnham.

Friday, 27th. 8.00 p.m.

ARCHAEOLOGY AND AIR PHOTOGRAPHY. Talk by Graham Soffe to Wandsworth HS at Friends Meeting House, Wandsworth High Street.

Saturday, 28th. 2.15 p.m.

POPULATION STUDIES. Meeting arranged by Surrey Local History Council at Dorking Halls. Tickets at the door £2.00 (members), £2.50 (public). No programme details to hand.

APRIL

Wednesday, 1st. 8.00 p.m.

JAMES BROADWOOD — LONDON FIREFIGHTER. Talk to Non-such AS at St. Mary's Church Hall, Ewell.

Wednesday, 1st. 7.45 p.m.

DOCUMENTS AND BUILDINGS: The Case of Sir Robert de Effingham and his Manor House. Talk by Dr Nigel Saul to Historical Association (Croydon Branch) at East Croydon UR Church Hall, Addiscombe Grove.

Friday, 10th. 8.00 p.m.

THE WORK OF THE BRITISH MUSEUM RESEARCH LABORATORY. Talk by Dr Paul Craddock to Richmond AS at the Vestry Room, Paradise Road, Richmond.

Saturday, 11th. 10.15-5.00

ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE 20th CENTURY. South East Regional Industrial Archaeology Conference at The Museum of London. Fee £4.95 includes coffee, tea and literature. Bookings (with s.a.e. and cheques payable to GLIAS) to M. Mills, 24 Humber Road, London SE3 7LT

Saturday, 11th

BEDDINGTON EXCAVATION. A Guided Afternoon Tour. Arranged by Sutton Library. Admission by ticket only (available from all Sutton libraries).

Saturday, 25th. 9.30-5.00

IMAGES OF WEST LONDON. Local History Conference at Queen Charlotte Hall, Parkshot, Richmond. Tickets £3.50 (or £6.00 inc. lunch) available from G. Spencer, 54 Hamilton Road, Brentford.

Early Notice

Saturday, 30th May

ROMAN ARMY DAY. A conference at the Institute of Archaeology as part of the 50th anniversary celebrations of the founding of the Institute.

Bulletin issues for 1987

The list given at the end of February's *Bulletin* became truncated due to lack of space. Issues for the remainder of the year are as follows:

April/May issue: copy required by Saturday, 7th March.

June issue: copy required by Saturday, 9th May.

July/August issue: copy required by Saturday, 6th June.

September issue: copy required by Saturday, 8th August.

October issue: copy required by Saturday, 5th September.

November issue: copy required by Saturday, 10th October.

December/January issue: copy required by Saturday, 7th November.