



SURREY
 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
 CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD GU1 3SX
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BULLETIN

Number 232

September 1988

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EXCAVATION NOTICE

Reigate Town Centre Redevelopment

Volunteers will be needed to assist a professional team excavating various areas to the rear of High Street and Bell Street in advance of the construction of a large shopping, office and car park complex. At the time of writing archaeological work is expected to commence at the beginning of September and to continue for a period of approximately six months. It is hoped that weekend work will be possible. For further information please contact either David Williams (0737 247286) or Dr David Bird (01-541 9419).

List of Volunteers for Archaeological Work in Surrey

Since 1984 Dr David Bird, the County Archaeological Officer, has maintained the list of people prepared to help with various aspects of archaeological work in the County, especially those available during normal working hours. Steve Dyer has now taken over this useful list. He would be pleased to hear from anyone who would like to be included. Information required is as follows: name/address/telephone number; when available (e.g. weekends only, every Tuesday, one day a week, afternoons); area of availability (e.g. Oxted area only, 3 mile radius of Shere); transport availability (travel expenses required?); type of work (e.g. excavation, fieldwalking, processing — pottery, cataloguing, drawing, etc.); experience (brief notes only); any other comments (e.g. unable to do heavy work). Please write to: Steve Dyer, 115 Raleigh Road, Feltham, Middlesex, TW13 4LW.

Hand Deliveries — Chiddingfold.

As members know the Society's bulky publications are delivered by a stalwart band of hand deliverers who through their efforts save the Society a very large sum each year in postage. Chiddingfold is the only district not covered at present. David Webb, who looks after the bulk distribution, would like to find someone who could handle this area. There are only twelve addresses to be covered. If a resident is not able to do it, perhaps a mobile member who passes through Chiddingfold area regularly could help out? Please write to David Webb, "Springs", Rookery Drive, Westcott, RH4 3LQ, or 'phone 0306 889871.

New Members

We welcome the following new members to the Society:

Mrs. G. M. Alexander, 10 Blackthorne Road Bookham Leatherhead

KT23 4BN; Mrs. J. I. Coomber, 10 Wraylands Drive Reigate RH2 0LG; T. J. Doran, Rectory Cottage Rectory Lane Windlesham GU20 6BW; R. E. Hack, 14 St. Philips Avenue Worcester Park KT4 8JT; Miss S. Halstead, 19A Ennismore Avenue Guildford GU1 1SP; A. G. Morgan, 109 Rowtown Addlestone KT15 1HQ; D. R. Wilcox, 3 Swaynes Lane Meroo Guildford GU1 2XX

BOOK SALE

Saturday, 24th September, 10.00 – 4.00

A reminder that volumes of the Collections and Research volumes will be on sale in the Library at Castle Arch at bargain prices. Included in the sale will be a collection of Library books withdrawn from stock over the past three years. These will be offered for sale at reasonable prices, from 50p — £5.00, depending on value and condition.

Lloyds Bank Fund for Independent Archaeologists

Applications are invited for grants from the two funds established by Lloyds Bank and administered by the Royal Archaeological Institute. The Equipment Fund was set up to assist local voluntary groups and Societies to purchase equipment. Grants from the Dating Fund are given to enable independent archaeologists gain access to scientific dating methods usually only available to those with considerable funding. Applications must be received by **31st December**. Forms can be obtained from Miss W. Phillips, c/o Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W1V 0HS.

The Beacon System in Surrey

Matthew Alexander in *Bulletin* 231 (July/August 1988) is no doubt correct in concluding that Tumble Beacon, Banstead and the Hog's Back, Guildford were the only sites of beacons in Surrey at the time of the Spanish Armada.

There is, as he suggests, no evidence that there was ever a beacon at Woodmansterne. Indeed the authoritative Sir Henry Lambert referring to Becken's Shaw, formerly Great Beacons in his *Brief Historical Account of Woodmansterne* (1931) says (pp18-19) "Despite the spelling Beacons there is no reason to suppose that like Great and Little Beaconfield in Banstead it has any connection with a beacon."

Alexander concludes his note with a reference to "the fire that burnt over Surrey in July 1588". However H.E. Malden states (*Victoria County History of Surrey Vol.1 p.391*) that they were never lighted in this year and this would seem to be correct. Admittedly some beacons are known to have been fired in suspicious circumstances in 1579 and 1587.

Geoffrey Robinson

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

"The South East to AD 1000" by Peter Drewett, David Rudling and Mark Gardiner. Published by Longman, price £22.50 hardback or £13.00 paperback.

This is an excellent overview of the archaeology of South East England. It should find a place, alongside our Society's own book "The Archaeology of Surrey to 1540", on the bookshelf of every archaeologist, active or armchair, in Surrey. It covers Kent, Sussex and Surrey from the Palaeolithic to late Saxon times. The writing is concise and scholarly but nevertheless easily readable. The three authors have been closely connected with archaeology in Sussex so it is hardly surprising that all but

seven of the 115 illustrations are of examples from Sussex. In the text, however, all three counties receive equal coverage. The book is part of a "Regional History of England" series; the reviewer looks forward to the publication of the linked volume which will take the story up to the present time.

"Minutes of the Reading, Guildford and Reigate Railway Company," Edited by Duncan Chalmers and Edwin Course, with a full introduction by Edwin Course. Published by Surrey Record Society, Castle Arch, Guildford.

The minutes of the meetings of the Board of Directors of the Company from the inception in September, 1845, to its amalgamation with the South Eastern Railway Co. in June, 1852. A volume of particular interest and value to those who live in the areas through which the line runs, from Redhill (Reigate Junction) to Reading.

"Gunpowder Mills Gazetteer: black powder manufacturing sites in the British Isles", compiled by Glenys Crocker for the Gunpowder Mills Study Group. Occasional Publication 2 of the Wind & Watermill Section of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, 37 Spital Square, London E1 6DY, 57pp, 2 maps, 15 line drawings. Price £2.00. Available from Guildford Museum or from the above address, post and packing 35p.

"Leatherhead in Picture Postcards" by S.E.D.Fortescue, published by European Library, Netherlands, price £6.95.

An attractive, well produced book of 76 photographs (one or two are drawings) from picture postcards of Leatherhead and its immediate surroundings. The author provides an introduction and full descriptive captions to the photographs. Available from "Bookworm", North Street, Leatherhead, and other local bookshops.

"Growth of a Village". A history of Wood Street village, Guildford, produced by Wood Street Village History Society. A 90 page book containing 63 photographs. Available at the local post office, price £3.50, or from Major H.B. Gray, 4, Frog Grove Lane, Wood Street Village, Guildford GU3 3EX (Worplesdon 235288) price £4.00 including postage and packing.

"The South Street Caves, Dorking" by Cliff Weight, published by the Local History Group of Dorking & Leith Hill Preservation Society. A 28 page booklet with seven black and white photographs and two plans.

the ROMAN TEMPLE



“The Roman Temple at Wanborough”

A booklet on the Society's excavation at Wanborough is now available from Castle Arch. This 24-page publication has many illustrations, including 14 colour photographs. It describes the background to this infamous treasure trove site, presents the results of the Society's rescue excavation and has sections on the coins and religious regalia found on the site. Copies may be obtained from Mrs M. Roberts, Surrey Archaeological Society, Castle Arch, Guildford GU1 3SX, or directly from Guildford Museum bookshop, at a price of £2.50 (post free). The profits from the sale of this booklet will go to the Guildford Museum's New Archaeology Gallery Appeal Fund.

Adult Education Classes.

Courses arranged by Guildford W.E.A. in conjunction with the University of Surrey.

“The History of Inns, Taverns and Almshouses” Monday mornings commencing 26th September at the Guildford Institute, Ward Street. Tutor: Judith Hunter.

“The History of Guildford” Tuesday mornings commencing 27th September at Guildford Museum, Quarry Street. Tutor: Matthew Alexander.

“Old Testament Archaeology — Insights and Problems” Thursday afternoons commencing 29th September at Guildford Institute, Ward Street. Tutor: John North.

“Costumes of the Western World — Ancient Greek to the Present Day” Friday mornings commencing 30th September at United Reform Church, Portsmouth Road. Tutor: Doreen Yarwood.

“The Tudors and their England” Friday afternoons commencing 30th September at Guildford Institute, Ward Street. Tutor: Bernard Downing.

WEA brochures are available at Castle Arch or details can be obtained from the Local WEA Secretary: Mrs N. Adams, 6 Austen Road, Guildford, GU1 3NP Tel. Guildford 577309.

Churt Village Hall Jubilee

In 1928 Frank Mason of Churt donated a village hall to his fellow parishioners. This same philanthropist had given Stoney Jump to the National Trust in 1924. To commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of their hall, the villagers are presenting “Cavalcade of Churt, 1928-88”, an entertainment portraying events from Churt's history over the past 60 years together with songs and music of the various decades.

Performances will take place in Churt Village Hall from October 12th – 15th at 7.45 p.m. Tickets, £2 each, are available from Churt Carriage Co. (Tel. Headley Down (0428) 713971). A book entitled “A Glimpse of Frank Mason's Churt” will be on sale. Compiled from the family archives the book will be a photographic record covering the lifetime of Frank Mason. Churt lies on the A287 between Farnham and Hindhead.

MEETINGS, ETC.

SEPTEMBER

Wednesday, 7th, 8.00 p.m. "Excavations at Wanborough" talk by Dr David Bird to the Nonsuch A.S. at St. Mary's Church Hall, Ewell.

Saturday, 17th

S.A.S. visit to Newbury and Mapledurham. For details see *Bulletin* 230.

Monday, 19th, 7.45 p.m.

"Where did all the farmland go?" a talk about the development of "new" Thornton Heath by Dr Ron Cox to the Croydon NHSS at the United Reform Church Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon.

Saturday, 24th

Coach outing to Andover and Danebury arranged by Surrey Roman Villa Group. Pick-up points: 8.30 a.m. Dorking Halls and 9.00 a.m. Guildford Railway Station, **Main Entrance**. Details given in *Bulletin* 231. Any enquiries to Mr L. Le Mottee, Ashted (03722) 74107.

Monday, 26th, 8.00 p.m.

"Thirty Years Digging in Surrey and Sussex" talk by Ernest Crossland to Esher LHS at Oxshott Village Centre.

Thursday, 29th, 8.00 p.m.

"Bedfont Gunpowder Mills" talk by Phil Philo to Egham-by-Runnymede HS at Egham Literary Institute, High Street.

Friday, 30th, 8.00 p.m.

"George Schaff's Views of London 1820-40" talk by Peter Jackson to Wandsworth HS at Friends Meeting House, 59 Wandsworth High Street.

OCTOBER

Wednesday, 5th, 8.00 p.m.

"Introduction to Heraldry" talk by Stuart Senior to Nonsuch AS at St. Mary's Hall, Ewell.

Thursday, 6th

S.A.S. visit to West Horsley and Effingham. For details see *Bulletin* 231.

Friday, 14th, 8.00 p.m.

"The Iron Age in the Wandle Valley" talk by Viscountess Hanworth to Merton HS at Morden Library, Morden Road, S.W.19.

EARLY NOTICES

Saturday, 12th November, 2.30 p.m.

Annual Lecture, Domestic Buildings Research Group (Surrey). "English Manor-House Planning 1100-1350" Lecture by Dr John Blair at Oxshott Village Centre.

Saturday, 26th November

S.A.S. Annual General Meeting. This year the meeting will take place at the Harlequin Theatre, Warwick Quadrant, Redhill. This hall, part of the new pedestrian shopping area, is only a few minutes walk from Redhill Station. It is hoped that members who find the journey to the western end of the County difficult will make a special effort to attend this meeting.

Next Bulletin

Copy for the October issue is required by Saturday, 3rd September. Copy for the November Bulletin must reach the Editor by Saturday, 1st October.