



SURREY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD GU1 3SX
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BULLETIN

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Council News

The Council has recently appointed Mr J.N. Hampton to act as the Society's representative to the Surrey Museums Council and Mrs N.G. Hawkins as the representative to the newly formed Surrey Heath Archaeological and Heritage Trust.

An independent Trust is being set up to manage and preserve the important group of historic lime kilns at Betchworth and the Society has nominated Dr. G.P. Moss and Mr. P.W. Sowan to serve as the Society's representatives on this body.

The Weyside Archaeological Research Group has been accepted as a Group of the Society and is now active in the Walton, Weybridge and Byfleet areas. Anyone interested in joining this group should contact Mr M.J. Curtis, 4 Cottimore Terrace, Walton-on-Thames (Tel: 0932 235957).

New Members

We welcome to the Society the following new members:
D.M. Biggs, 33 Blencarn Close, Kirkland Avenue, Goldsworth Park, Woking GU21 3RW; M.S. Dover, Little Paddock, Clandon Road, West Clandon, Guildford GU4 7OU; R.I. Essen, 14 Milburn Walk, Epsom KT18 5JN; Mrs J.E. Godfrey, 12 Greenway, Great Bookham KT23 3PA; C. Godsave, 81 Albert Road, Connaught Park, Bagshot GU19 5GL; Ms. L.M. Green, 43 Cherryburn Gardens, Fenham, Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 9UQ; M.K. Hearn, 6 Quince Drive, Bisley GU24 9RT; Mrs B.R. Higgins, High Bank, Mill Hill Lane, Brockham, Betchworth RH3 7LB; A.F. Palmer, 10 Lilyfields Close, Ewhurst GU6 7RX.

"The South East to AD 1000" — Special offer to members

We are pleased to be able to offer members the opportunity to purchase this book (reviewed in the September *Bulletin*) from the Society at a discount. The usual price is £22.50 for the hardback version and £13.00 in paperback. The offer price to members is £19.50 (hardback, inc. p & p) and £11.50 (paperback, inc. p & p). Orders should be sent to Mrs M. Roberts, Surrey Archaeological Society, Castle Arch, Guildford GU1 3SX and cheques should be made payable to "Surrey Archaeological Society". This offer is open to U.K. members only and a minimum of 28 days should be allowed for delivery. (A note about this book appeared in the September issue of the *Bulletin*.)

EXCAVATIONS COMMITTEE ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

25 February 1989 at the University of Surrey (Lecture Theatre Block)
Those who attend the Symposium every year should please NOTE THE CHANGE OF VENUE.

The Programme for the 1989 Symposium organised by the Society's Excavations Committee for all Surrey archaeologists is now mostly complete. As usual, the talks will start at 10.30 a.m. There will be breaks for lunch from 12.40 to 2.00 p.m. and for tea in mid afternoon. There will also be short breaks within the programme to allow people to stretch their legs and ask questions. The Symposium will close at about 4.20 p.m.

Dr Tony Clark has kindly agreed to chair the meeting. The programme is intended to be seen in two halves. In the morning there will be short talks on recent work in various parts of the county. The afternoon session will be devoted to the theme of landscape archaeology, which is to be the subject of a major project soon to be launched by the Committee.

Programme:

- Michael Russell: Place Farm, Bletchingley. Recent excavations are revealing much new information about this medieval manor and Tudor great house site.
- Steve Dyer: Recent work in Egham. Rescue excavations on a site adjacent to Petters Sports Field.
- Mike Curtis: Recent work around Walton on Thames. The achievements so far of the newly formed Weyside Archaeological Research Group.
- Scott McCracken: Merton Priory. The results of the latest phases of very large-scale excavation in advance of a massive redevelopment.

Lunch, and opportunity to view the exhibits.

(The afternoon programme may be subject to some adjustment.)

Announcement and presentation of the Margary Award for best display.

- David Field: The Surrey Historic Landscape Project. Introduction to the Excavations Committee's plans for a scheme to study the county in depth.
- Tony Clark: Using geophysical methods in landscape survey.
- Mark Corney: Yarnbury and its context. The results of detailed survey using all available techniques to study the hill fort and its surrounding area.

A major part of the Symposium will be, as usual, the opportunity to meet like-minded people and discuss mutual problems and interests; discussion should be stimulated by the exhibits of current work by local groups. Ample time is allowed for these activities; here is your chance to show others what you are doing, to gain ideas for the future, to ask for help in identifying those unexpected finds or unexplained features and to enter for the Margary Award, with its cash prizes. All displays are assumed to have entered for this award unless they specifically opt out. Space can be booked by contacting the writer (at County Hall on 01-541 9419); please do so before the end of January. Coffee and tea will be made available at the breaks, and lunch vouchers can be ordered for use in the university canteen. Those not familiar with the University should bear in mind that it is some distance from the town centre and the nearest pubs and cafes. Admittance will be £4 with and £2 without lunch, and tickets can be obtained from Mrs Susan Janaway at Castle Arch in Guildford (GU1 3SX). Please send a stamped addressed envelope and make cheques payable to Surrey Archaeological Society. Tickets may be available at the door (at £4.50 and £2.50). There is ample car parking space at the University.

D G Bird, Secretary, Excavations Committee

Friday, 21st. 3.00 p.m.
"The Story of Send and Ripley" talk by Mr J.Slatford to Walton & Weybridge L.H.S. at Weybridge Library Hall.

Saturday, 27th. 7.30 p.m.
"The Romano-British Temple at Wanborough" talk by Dr David Bird to Weybridge L.H.S. at Windle Valley Day Centre, Park Street, Bagshot.

Sunday, 1st. 7.45 p.m.
"A Journey through medieval England" talk by Prof. Henry Lloyn to Croydon N.H.S.S. in association with Croydon Branch Historical Assn., at St. Mary's Church, Ewell.

Tuesday, 1st. 8.00 p.m.
"The London Bridges", a talk by Charles Abdy to Nonsuch A.S. at St. Mary's Church, Ewell.

Wednesday, 2nd. 7.45 p.m.
"Roman food" talk by Paul Stokes to Farnham D.M.S. at U.R. Church, Farnham.

Thursday, 13th. 7.45 p.m.
"Building God's Kingdom", talk by Dr Jeremy Morris on the early history of Nonconformity in the Croydon area. Croydon N.H.S.S. at East Croydon U.R. Church, Addiscombe Grove.

Friday, 16th. 7.45 p.m.
"The Timber-framed and later Houses in Farnham", talk by Margery Stevens to Farnham D.M.S. at U.R. Church, South Street, Farnham.

Saturday, 16th. 7.45 p.m.
"The Geology of the Reculver Cross and other Anglo-Saxon Stone Structures", talk by Bernard Worssam to Croydon N.H.S.S., East Croydon U.R. Church, Addiscombe Grove.

Sunday, 23rd. 8.00 p.m.
"The History of the Ordnance Survey, with reference to its Local and Historical Aspects", talk by Mr S. Randall to Egham-by-Runnymede L.H.S. at the Literary Institute.

Next Bulletin
The first issue for 1989 will be distributed in early February. Copy must be sent to the Editor by Saturday, 7th January.

A very Happy Christmas and best wishes for 1989

that it had considerable archaeological potential; in 1932 a number of 1st century AD Roman pots were found, while in 1963 an Early Bronze Age cup was discovered. The site was investigated by a combination of examination of existing ground disturbance, geophysical survey, and trial trenching by machine. As a result it became apparent that the Sewage Works and earlier ploughing had destroyed most, if not all, ancient occupation levels, leaving only scattered artefacts behind. These included sherds of prehistoric, Roman and medieval dates, as well as flints, probably of Mesolithic date. These finds are perhaps just sufficient to suggest settlement in the immediate vicinity in both the Roman and prehistoric periods.

Dorking "Church Square" (TQ166 496)

Work took place between 26 September and 29 September, and was funded by Bredero Homes.

This was the first of a series of trial trenches designed to evaluate the archaeological potential of this large area south of the High Street and adjacent to St. Martin's Church. The principal aims of the work are to obtain information regarding the early development of the medieval town, to establish whether remains of a medieval manorial centre survive, and to determine whether Roman activity extends into this area. In the event, evidence of the latter only was recovered from this trial trench, in the shape of a ditch about 2.5 metres wide and running approximately north-south. As the excavated trench was on virtually the same alignment, no information was obtained about the contemporary land surface to either side, and hence there is at present little clue as to the function of the ditch. It is to be hoped that subsequent work will elucidate this problem.

Farnham, Bear Lane (SU849 470)

Work took place between 11 July and 5 August, and was funded by Kent Developments, Waverley Borough Council, and others.

The work had to objectives, to establish the nature and intensity of backlands usage of properties fronting onto Castle Street and to locate the Town Ditch. Within the area available for investigation levelling down in the 19th century had effectively removed any possibility of medieval deposits surviving, with the exception of the large and deep Town Ditch which was located. Despite difficulties in excavation, due to a sewer crossing it, the ditch was shown to be about 8.5m wide and at least 2.4m deep. The uppermost levels had been lost, but it had already been infilled to the surviving top by the mid-13th century. This clearly suggests that the ditch, dug with such care and with so much labour soon after 1200 AD, had within 50 years ceased to have any real function. This seems also to have been the case in the only other excavation of the Ditch at Borelli Yard (N Riall, pers. comm.) and Philip Brooks tells me that bridges to the town repaired in 1223 and 1224 are never subsequently mentioned, presumably because they soon ceased to be required. The most likely explanation of the deliberate abandonment of the ditch is that the town had quickly expanded beyond the limits so defined, rendering it redundant.

Some of the finds in the ditch also point to the early success and prosperity of the town. Numerous fragments of Greensand, including dressed and architectural fragments point to the existence of stone buildings, relatively rare in towns at this date. Wasters point to the existence of roof-tile kilns nearby, while a stone mould implies the production of lead tokens, perhaps for use as small change. Other finds include a good collection of pottery, amongst which most of a small conical jug is of particular interest.

Saturday 2-4 p.m., admission free.

COMING EVENTS

December

Friday, 9th. 8.00 p.m.

"Merton Priory" talk by Scott McCracken to Merton H.S. at Library, Merton Road.

Thursday, 29th. 7.45 p.m.

"Some archaeological sites in the eastern Mediterranean" illustrated talks to be given by members to Croydon N.H.S.S. Croydon U.R. Church, Addiscombe Grove.

January

Wednesday, 4th. 8.00 p.m.

"The Surrey Heath Archaeological Society" talk by Paul St Nonsuch A.S. at St. Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell.

Wednesday, 18th. 7.45 p.m.

"Urban archaeology and recent work in South London" talk by Densem to Croydon N.H.S.S., venue as above.

Thursday, 19th. 7.45 p.m.

"Farnham Town and Borough 1208 — 1789" talk by Peggy P Farnham & District M.S., at U.R. Church, South Street, Farnham

Friday, 20th. 8.00 p.m.

"Leatherhead and medieval Surrey" talk by Dr Derek R Leatherhead L.H.S. at the Leatherhead Institute.