



**SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**  
**CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD GU1 3SX**  
**Guildford 32454**

# Bulletin

Number 244

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## OBITUARY

### Alan Andrew Wylie, FCA

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death on the 29th October 1989 of Alan Andrew Wylie, a vice-president of the Society and the Chairman of its Finance Committee.

Alan Wylie became a member of the Society in 1949 and was appointed an auditor in 1959. He remained in that office until 1979 at which point he was appointed a vice president and continued to take a very active interest in the Society's affairs and particularly in its financial matters serving as Chairman of the Finance Committee.

Although his interests extended widely over the Society's activities, it was in the financial field that as a chartered accountant his advice and guidance were of particular note and the loss of his skill and expertise in this area will be very difficult to make good.

The writer would wish here to record his personal appreciation and thanks to Alan for his assistance and support in such matters over the past 20 years.

We extend to his wife and family our very deepest sympathy at this time.

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## COUNCIL NEWS

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### Treasure Trove

Following the Court of Appeal case, reported in the last issue of the Bulletin, the President wrote a letter to the major national newspapers, as part of a campaign by the Society to promote a change in the law. The Times published the letter on 28th October, the text of which is printed below for the information of members:

"Sir, The ancient law of treasure trove is littered with extraordinary anomalies. The last attempt to remove some of them in Parliament was a private member's Bill which ran out of time in 1982.

In February, 1988, the Department of the Environment issued a consultation paper and gathered evidence on the question of "portable antiquities". We are still awaiting the results of this, and archaeological bodies up and down the country view the situation with growing dismay.

This society, for example, noted with concern a decision of the Court of Appeal (Law Report, August 3 1989). The defendant had been convicted in Guildford Crown Court of the theft of 16. Celtic silver coins found at the site of a Romano-British temple at Wanborough, in Surrey. The Court of Appeal decided that the judge in this case had materially misdirected the jury, ruling that, for a prosecution of theft of treasure trove to succeed, it was necessary for the jury to be sure that the finds in question were treasure trove — i.e., hidden by the original owner with the intention of later recovery.

At the time of the crown court trial, the coins in question had not been the subject of a coroner's inquest, although other coins discovered at the Wanborough site had been found to be treasure trove. Even if they had been, it is well established that a verdict of a coroner's inquest that an object is treasure trove will not necessarily be binding in a criminal prosecution.

It is virtually impossible to be sure of the intentions of an original owner in antiquity, and thus in only a small proportion of cases of alleged theft will it be possible to secure a jury conviction. Even worse, the current definition of treasure trove as covering only objects substantially comprised of gold or silver allows the vast majority of finds of portable antiquities to escape even the limited protection allowed under existing law.

The Icklingham bronzes which were stolen and exported to the United States (reports, September 29, October 7: letter, October 3) are a case in point; they are not covered by the law of treasure trove. It seems that it is time to try again."

Yours faithfully  
ROSAMOND HANWORTH  
October 27.

*The Times* has since printed a letter from Peter Addyman, Director of the York Archaeological Trust. His letter drew attention to the absurd fact that while the Trust has to report to the Coroner all finds of gold and silver (mostly small unimportant coins), the Coppergate Anglo-Saxon helm, being made of iron and brass, lies outside the present antiquities law, despite being worth around £500,000.

The Society has been in correspondence with other archaeological bodies, in an attempt to ascertain whether enough support exists to make a formal attempt to change the law. Further notes will appear in the Bulletin as and when there is news to report.

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## **LOCAL SOCIETY NEWS**

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### **KUTAS 20th Anniversary Symposium**

**Pat. Nicolaysen**

This Symposium, on 14th October, was greatly enjoyed by all who attended it. The day's speakers reviewed the work of the Society during its first twenty years of existence. Mrs. Robin Kenward, our first President, gave a brief history of its foundation, and paid tribute to the founder members, including the founding Committee. Steve Nelson and Ian West spoke in detail about the excavations and building recordings carried out over the years by KUTAS members, often in conjunction with Kingston Museum (now the Heritage Service). Scott McCracken gave an overall view of excavations on the large town centre sites since 1982 by the DoGLA team of the Museum of London. The programme was completed by Anne McCormack's talk on Royal Kingston's archives, and by Marion Shipley describing the foundation and development of Kingston Museum and the present Kingston Heritage Service, with its multi-disciplinary approach to the study of the Borough's history.

These talks were complemented by a very interesting and relevant exhibition, prepared by Julie Wileman, of the results of KUTAS members' work during the past twenty years. The Society has been most fortunate in its members and in its many advisors and helpers. It now looks forward to renewed activities in the next phase of its existence.

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## **EXCAVATIONS COMMITTEE ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM**

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**Saturday, 3 February 1990 at the Dorking Halls, Dorking.**  
***Please note that the Symposium has returned to Dorking.***

The programme for the 1990 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., and the Symposium will close at about 4.30 p.m.

The programme is intended to be seen in two parts. In the morning we shall concentrate on aspects of recent work. The Committee is always keen to include reports illustrative of work on aspects related to excavation, and this year has been fortunate to persuade Mary Saaler to speak. Among other aspects her work on documentary sources has thrown an important light on Rob Poulton's excavations at North Park Farm (Little Pickle). The afternoon session will be devoted to the theme of Anglo-Saxon Surrey, seen from a number of different viewpoints. The meeting will be chaired by John Hampton.

### **Programme:**

- Steve Dyer: The Surrey Historic Landscape Project: update. Initial research by the different groups has now been in progress for some time, and fieldwork is about to start. This talk will explain what has been achieved so far in establishing the Project in its pilot area in the Mole Gap.
- Rob Poulton: Recent work by Surrey County Council archaeologists. The last two years have seen a great deal of work undertaken by the SCC team, on sites ranging from Neolithic to Tudor.
- Mary Saaler: East Surrey Manors; their documentary sources. Medieval and later archaeology is made even more interesting by the availability of written evidence.
- Lunch, and opportunity to view the exhibits (12.30 to 1.50).  
Announcement and presentation of the Margary Award for the best display.
- Stewart Lyon: Anglo-Saxon coins and mints in a Surrey context. The evidence has more to tell us about Surrey in this period than may be expected.
- Phil Jones: Saxon and Saxo-Norman pottery in Surrey. Phil has been studying this material for many years.
- John Hines: The foundation of Surrey in the 5th to 7th centuries. This is the time at which Surrey came into being. Fresh approaches to the documents and new discoveries are changing our understanding of this "Dark" period.

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 seek 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 for displays can be booked by contacting the writer (at County Hall on 01-541-9419); **please do so before January 20**.

Coffee, tea and biscuits will be made available at a small charge at the breaks, and for those who do not wish to bring a packed lunch there are plenty of pubs and cafes in Dorking. Admittance will be £2.50 at the door, but tickets may be bought in advance for £2. Applications for tickets should be made to Mrs Susan Janaway at Castle Arch, Guildford GU1 3SX. Please send a stamped addressed envelope and make cheques payable to Surrey Archaeological Society. There is ample car parking space adjacent to the Dorking Halls; note that there are long-stay terms in certain areas.

D G Bird, Secretary, Excavations Committee.

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## **LECTURES AND SYMPOSIA COMMITTEE**

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A series of ten lectures on "Towns in Historic Surrey" will be given at the University of Surrey on Tuesday evenings from 24th April to 26th June 1990 inclusive. Each talk will be given by a speaker who is knowledgeable on the particular town.

The series will be supported by a programme of Town Walks arranged by the Visits Committee. Full details will be circulated with the next issue of the *Bulletin*.

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## **LIBRARY COMMITTEE**

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Notelets, showing six views from illustrations in the Society's Collections are now on sale at 20p each. The views available are:-

Burford Bridge  
Leatherhead  
Shrove Tuesday Football at Kingston  
Farnham  
Milton, nr. Dorking  
St Martha's

There are also a limited number of microfiche copies of Williamson's Guildford Scrapbook (price on application). This is a massive compilation of fascinating Guildford material dating from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

In both cases, please apply to Mrs Janette White at Castle Arch.

## **LIBRARY**

The following are offered for sale, being unwanted or duplicate copies of Library stock. Please contact Mrs Janette White, Assistant Librarian at Castle Arch, telephone Guildford 32454 for further information. Prices are a guide only. Offers will be considered.

Barley. European towns. £10.00

Bowen. Britain and the western seaways £3.50

Catalogue of the Lyttleton Papers £5.00

Clapham. A Concise economic history of Britain from the earliest times to 1750  
Paperback £1.00

Clark. Prehistoric Europe £10.00

Cookson. Photography for archaeologists £2.00

Cornwall. The world of ancient man £5.00

Dutt. Norfolk £5.00  
 Finegan. Light from the ancient past £5.00  
 Gordon-Childe. Man makes himself Paperback 50p  
 Haverfield. The Romanization of Roman Britain 4th edition £2.00  
 Hensel *and* Gieysztor Archaeological research in Poland Paperback 50p  
 Jessup. Man of many tales (James Douglas 1753-1819) £10.00  
 Klein. Ice Age hunters of the Ukraine £1.00  
 Lauring. The land of Tollund Man £1.00  
 Leakey. Adam's ancestors £5.00  
 MacCurdy. Early man £2.00  
 Matthews. Photography in archaeology and art £2.50  
 Midwinter Nineteenth century education Paperback £1.00.  
 Midwinter. Victorian social reform Paperback £1.00  
 O'Riordain. New Grange £2.00  
 Postan. The Medieval economy and society Paperback £1.00  
 Research Bulletin Remote multispectral sensing in agriculture 25p  
 Scottish Archaeology Forum 1970 50p  
 Swinton. Life through geological time £3.50  
 — Fossil amphibians and reptiles £3.50  
 — Fossil birds £3.50  
 — Dinosaurs £3.50  
 Thomas. A Guide to prehistoric England 1960 £5.00  
 Weigall. Wanderings in Roman Britain £2.00  
 Woodcock. The Nature of the Horsham industry and its place within the British mesolithic 50p  
 Woolley. Digging up the past Paperback 50p  
 Wyndham. South eastern survey £1.00  
 Zeuner. Dating the past £3.00

### Journals

Archaeologia Cantiana Vol CII 1985 (Bound) £5.00  
 Journal of World Prehistory Vol I no: 1 1987 50p  
 East Herts Archaeological Society Vols: I parts 1 & 3, II part 1, III part1, IV parts 1 & 2, V parts 1 & 3 50p per part  
 Wealden Iron no: 8 1988 25p

## NOTES

### 113 – 121 High Street, Croydon (TQ 324 652)

**Patricia Miller**

An investigation took place in March/April 1989 by staff members of the Museum of London for a period of one month prior to redevelopment. Three trenches were opened. Trench 1 to the east of the site included a small Roman ditch and a well constructed post-medieval brick and chalk wall. Trench 2 to the south of the site revealed a number of post-medieval features including a cobbled flint surface possibly relating to "Wrencote" an 18th century building at 123 High Street and an unstratified Roman coin (Constantine I, AD 322).

Trench 3, closest to High Street, contained the northern ends of a series of late medieval buildings. The first, a flint and mortar structure, has been dated provisionally to the 14th/15th century. A northern external wall, a western external return and eastern internal wall were excavated. In its floor layers a small copper alloy bowl and a copper alloy havette or shearmans hook were found. The discovery of the havette suggests the purpose of the building may have been that of a fullers workshop. This structure was destroyed or demolished and a slightly larger structure built around it

probably in the 15th century. It was constructed of flint, Reigate stone, chalk and mortar. A northern external wall and east and west external walls were excavated. The interior of the walls were plastered. This northern end was divided into two rooms, a large one to the west and a small one to the east. Various floor layers exhibited burnt areas, possibly simple internal hearths. This phase was in use into the 16th century until the building was refurbished. This took the form of the internal walls being clad with chalk and Reigate stone blocks to the west and chalk blocks to the east. This phase included an interior pitched tile hearth and two exterior hearths to the north. This was a domestic structure possibly the tenement of a small-holding. This last phase was demolished possibly for the levelling of the area for the construction of Wrencote. It is interesting to note that Wrencote's roof contains some 16th century timbering and the basement is partially constructed from chalk blocks, possibly material re-used after the demolition of the latest building in Trench 3.

A chalk-lined well or soak-away was also excavated in this trench. It was back-filled in the 19th century and probably constructed post 16th century as it cut through the 16th century layers.

An amount of research into the building "Wrencote" has revealed that prior to its construction the property around Wrencote was referred to as "Coombe" or "Mortimers" and its existence is documented as far back as 1546 when it was listed as "a message of tenement, curtelage, gardeyn and also one barne". The later, larger 15th century structure excavated in Trench 3 may be the north end of the tenement of Coombe/Mortimers.

The excavation could not have taken place without the generosity and co-operation of the developers Portman Square Holdings PLC, who provided the time and funding for the site.

## **Surney Estate, Fernhurst, West Sussex**

**John Turner**

The Haslemere Group has completed a small dig on the Surney Estate, Fernhurst, two miles south of Haslemere at grid ref. SU91402670. Its purpose was to extract a small sample from a waster dump of a Roman tile kiln.

The first surface finds were made in 1975 and their identity was confirmed by Mr Aldsworth, the Sussex County Archaeologist. He also arranged with English Heritage for a magnetometer survey and this was carried out when fruit trees had been grubbed out of the area in March 1987. As a result of this survey and augering, it is believed that the sites of one, if not two, kilns have been located but the group has not been able to dig either of them.

Much field walking was done during the intervening years until a large dump of broken tile was located in a steep bank on the boundary of Surney orchard. Into this, a short section of 3.5 metres length was cut and from it 778 kg of fragments of tegulae, brick, plain tile, imbrices and box tile were removed.

These were weighed, measured and checked for stamps and markings, although the smallness of most pieces made identification of the type of tile doubtful in some cases and measurement difficult. Visual inspection showed a consistent fabric with variation in colour and hardness due to different firing temperatures. No stamp, production marking or graffiti was found and although much of the box tile had been combed, no sign of roller stamping was seen. Some of the pieces show animal paw imprints of mainly cat, dog and cloven hoofs together with a few human fingerprints. All fragments were clearly of unused tiles showing no sign of mortar.

The results of the dig were disappointing for, although the site of a Roman tiliary waster dump was confirmed and the kiln or kilns probably located, no precise date

could be allocated to it. The six small pottery sherds, including four found in with the tile, could not be more closely dated than "Roman".

A detailed report of these findings has been given to the Surrey Archaeological Society. The combed box tile fragments have been retained and a small representative collection is to remain at Haslemere Museum. The remainder has been returned to the hole from whence it came.

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## MISCELLANY

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### **A new Museum/Art Gallery and Library at Croydon**

At last it seems that the dream of many will become a reality.

Croydon Council have approved plans for a new complex designed by the Tibbalds-Colbourne Partnership, of which a new Museum and Art Gallery will form part.

The plans provide for the fine Court Rooms of the old Town Hall in Katherine Street to be refurbished, and designed and equipped to house the new Museum, together with the Art Gallery, meeting rooms and special display areas, in addition to the usual ancillary service areas.

It is an exciting project which will be much welcomed and should greatly enhance the cultural and educational facilities in East Surrey. Completion is anticipated in 1993.

(Abridged from Surrey Museums Council Newsletter 11, September 1989)

### **Chertsey Tiles**

**Elizabeth Eames**

I currently hold a Leverhulme Fellowship to research on the 13th century tiles from Chertsey Abbey and related material. I shall be interested to hear of the presence of such tiles anywhere except in the major museums. If you have such information, please could you communicate with me in writing, c/o The Surrey Archaeological Society, Castle Arch, Guildford.

**For sale:** A copy of "The Onslow Family 1528-1874" by C E Vulliamy, published in 1953 by Chapman and Hall, 274 pp. £4.75 (inc p & p). Anyone interested should contact Mr J S Pike, Honeysuckle Cottage, Cropwell Butler, Notts NG12 3AB (Tel: 0602 332157).

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## SYMPOSIUM

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Symposium organised by Sutton Heritage Service and Surrey Archaeological Society, in conjunction with the Department of Greater London Archaeology, Museum of London, to be held at Sutton Civic Offices, St Nicholas Way, Sutton on Saturday, 17th February 1990.

### **Programme**

1. 10.00 – 10.30 Introduction: The Archaeology of South-West London, by Scott McCracken, Area Officer, Department of Greater London Archaeology
  2. 10.30 – 11.00 Heritage in the High Street: the medieval settlement of Sutton revealed. Jonathan Nowell talks about the recent discoveries in the Sutton High Street area.
- 11.00 – 11.20 COFFEE BREAK

3. 11.20 – 12.10 Friends, Romans, Schoolchildren. Gill Batchelor speaks about the Romano-British hill-top site of Attwood School in the Riddlesdown/Kingswood area. \*
4. 12.10 – 1.10 The Merton Priory Monastic Complex: current investigations. Penny Bruce will talk about one of the largest monastic excavations in Britain.
- 1.00 – 2.30 LUNCH
5. 2.30 – 3.30 The Rose Theatre. Julian Bowsher talks about the excavations of the Elizabethan theatre in Southwark, whose recent discovery attracted so much publicity and was the centre of a conservation dispute.
- 3.30 – 3.45 TEA BREAK
6. 3.45 – 4.30 Kingston Bridge. Geoff Potter speaks on the excavation of Kingston's medieval bridge and the associated waterfronts.
- 4.30 – 4.45 QUESTIONS

Tickets: £12.00 including lunch (£10.00 to members of the Surrey Archaeological Society). Tickets available from Sutton Central Library, St. Nicholas Way, Sutton SM1 1EA. Telephone 770-4740.

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## MEETINGS

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### January 3rd

"Excavations and Fieldwork in Walton and District". A talk by Mike Curtis to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at St. Marys Church Hall, Kingston Road, Ewell at 8 pm

### January 12th

"Phidias, Athens and the Riace Bronzes". A talk by Professor J P Barron, University of London, to the Richmond Archaeological Society at Vestry Hall, Paradise Road, Richmond at 8 pm

### January 16th

"Recent Excavations in Surrey". A talk by Rob Poulton to KUTAS at Kingston Heritage Centre

### January 18th

"The French Connection". A talk by Dr T Cashmore to Barnes and Mortlake History Society at the Shene Lane Centre at 8 pm

### January 20th

"History of Guildford". A talk by Matthew Alexander to the Walton & Weybridge Local History Society at the Elmgrove Meeting Room, Walton at 3 pm

### February 1st

"Aerial Photography and the Surrey Historic Landscape Project". A talk by John Hampton to the Farnham & District Museum Society at 8 pm

### February 3rd

SAS Excavation Committee Symposium at Dorking Halls. See elsewhere in this *Bulletin* for full details.



**A very happy Christmas and best wishes for 1990**




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