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

Bulletin

Number 277

September 1993

COUNCIL NEWS

Guildford Castle Excavation

Rob Poulton

The fourth season of excavations at Guildford Castle on the site of the 13th century Royal Palace has just finished. The work, involving up to 30 volunteers each day, was, as usual, hectic, full of surprises, and, overall, very worthwhile. A significant change to the pattern of work in this year was that a formal training course formed part of the programme of excavation. This seemed to be well received, and represents an important development on the site.

Two trenches were opened up this year, and they produced very different results. The first trench was sited in an area outside the major palace buildings. It had been expected that the Bailey ditch located in previous excavations would cut across this area, but in the event it was not located. The explanation of this will require careful thought, but it may be that the ditch runs to the east of the trench, and hence of the line previously suggested for it. Otherwise, the trench was notable for an excellent sequence of deposits indicating construction, levelling, and the dumping of occupation debris during the 13th century.



The photograph (by Graham Bierton) shows John Boas, watched by Dave Atryde, looking into the undercroft, immediately after the hole appeared in the side of the trench.

The evidence discovered in the second trench for a building sequence of some complexity cannot be readily summarised without further work. It should, however, enable further refinement of our knowledge of the layout of the Royal Palace. The most interesting discovery was that of the "wine cellar", as it was termed on radio, television, and in the newspapers. Certainly, it was this expression which sparked the intensive media interest in the site, and this was a welcome boost to one of the primary aims of the excavation, to create a wider public appreciation of archaeological work and of the Royal Palace at Guildford. Whatever the correct interpretation of this feature, it is certain that it represents the exceptionally well preserved remains of an early 13th century undercroft or cellar, part of the vaulting of which survives intact.

A more detailed account of the work will be prepared in due course. The excavations were sponsored by Surrey County Council, Surrey Archaeological Society, and Guildford Borough Council, with additional support from the Society of Antiquaries, the British Museum and others.

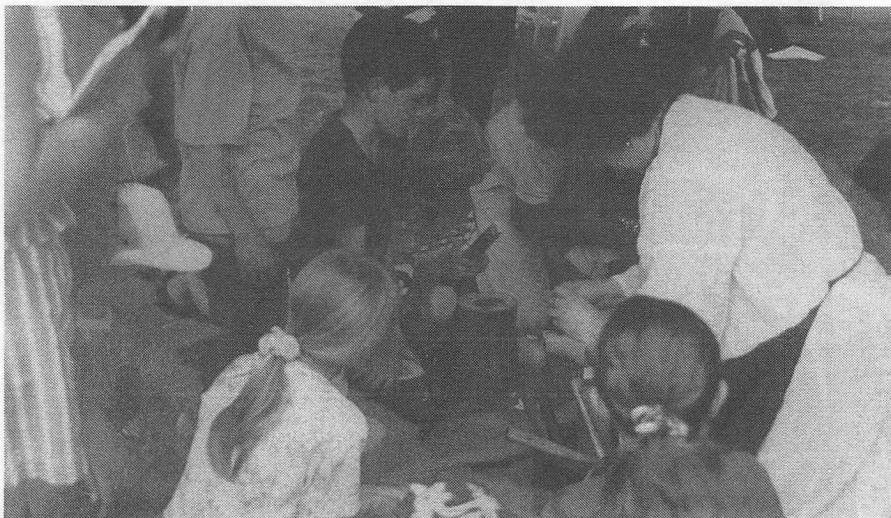
Young Archaeologists' Club

Roman Revelry Day — July 3rd 1993

This year's Young Archaeologists' Day attracted around 1500 visitors to Castle Cliffe Gardens where entertainments included workshops, demonstrations, exhibitions and competitions on a Roman theme. Visitors were invited to sample the delights of "Apicia's Kitchen" where cook, Maureen Locke, slaved over a hot stove to produce tasty dishes from authentic Roman recipes whilst Roman legionaries, camped in Castle Cliffe Gardens, demonstrated their military skills.

Exhibitions included a fine display of art and craft related to National Curriculum History Key Stage 2 'Invaders and Settlers' which was submitted for the schools competition.

The organisers, Sue Roggero and Christine Hardman would like to thank all those who helped to make the day such a success.



Youngsters learn how to make 'roman' brooches under the supervision of jeweller, Sarah Lawrence.

Administrative Help

We are looking for one, two or three members to help with the preparation and distribution of papers and minutes for the Society's Council and with the preparation of our Annual Report. Some experience of dealing with committee papers essential, suit retired bureaucrat! If you can help, please write to the Hon Secretary via Castle Arch.

LIBRARY

Members are welcome to use the Library at all times on production of a valid Library card, but should you need assistance or access to Research material the hours when staff are available to assist are as follows:

Janette White (Assistant Librarian)

Monday:		9.30 – 5.00
Tuesday:		8.30 – 5.00
Wednesday:	All but Wednesday preceding 1st Saturday each month	9.30 – 1.30
Saturday:	1st in the month	9.30 – 1.30 or by appointment

Maureen Roberts

Tuesday:	9.30 – 4.00
Thursday:	9.30 – 12.30
Friday:	9.30 – 12.30

Susan Janaway

Friday:	1.00 – 4.30
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VISITS COMMITTEE

SAS VISIT TO PIRBRIGHT

Saturday October 16th 1993

Arranged by Rosemary Hunter (Tel. 0483 474777)

Coffee will be served at Lord Pirbright's Hall from 10 am.

At 10.30 am there will be a talk on the history of Pirbright by Marguerite Suter and there will be an opportunity to view the historical records, books, photographs and portraits, etc associated with Pirbright.

Visits will be made to some interesting local houses and the village church. The explorer H M Stanley is buried in the churchyard.

Lunch can be obtained at the "White Hart" or the "Cricketers" in the village.

After lunch there will be a guided tour of Brookwood Cemetery.

Tea will be provided in Pirbright after the tour.

Free parking is available at Lord Pirbright's Hall.

TICKETS: Limited to 20. Members £6.50; non-members £7.50; students £5.50, to include morning coffee, talk, hire of hall, cemetery tour, tea and administration, from Mrs R Hunter, Burrow Hill House, Pirbright, Surrey GU24 0JS Tel: 0483 474777. Cheques to be made out to Surrey Archaeological Society Visits Committee with SAE. In case of cancellation or other difficulties, please give your telephone number with your request.

SURREY INDUSTRIAL HISTORY GROUP

Visit to the Royal Arsenal Woolwich, Wednesday 13 October

The Royal Arsenal, which is in the process of closing down, is one of the most important IA sites in the country occupying some 30 acres surrounded by the Thames to the north and a high brick wall on other sides, it contains a wealth of important buildings dating from 1696 onwards.

SIHG is privileged to be offered a conducted tour of the site by the resident historical experts before closure is complete. This may be the last opportunity for a guided tour of the site and SAS members are invited to join us for this visit.

It is a secure MOD establishment so we have to give a full list of party members and addresses no later than Friday 1 October.

ALL MEET AT THE PEDESTRIAN GATE PROMPTLY AT 1030 HRS.

Public car parking is available nearby and Woolwich Arsenal BR station is 5 minutes walk from the site. Woolwich Arsenal is on the line from Charing Cross, Waterloo East or Cannon Street to Dartford and has a frequent train service.

It is hoped that we can lunch in the Old Military Academy (now the Officers' Mess) at a cost of £5.00-£6.00 for the standard menu, but a vegetarian dish can be provided on request. The tour will continue after lunch if we so wish.

There will be NO entry charge but cameras, mobile telephones and children under 16 are not allowed and the party must keep together.

Early bookings are requested and those wishing to be included in the visit should apply with a SAE to David Evans, 48 Guildford Park Road, GUILDFORD, GU2 5NF.

The South East Film and Video Archive

Peter Tarplee

I recently attended a "launch" of the Archive organised by its curator, the Surrey Record Office, the South East Arts Board and Elmbridge Museum. This was held in Walton-on-Thames, which was appropriate as so many early films were made there — and later at Shepperton, just across the river.

The South East Video Archive, which started last September, aims to catalogue, record and collect all films and video relevant to Kent, Surrey and Sussex and is supported by the County Archivists from each of the four counties.

Anyone who has films or video which could form part of the archive or knows of sources of appropriate material, is invited to contact: Frank Gray, Curator, South East Video and Film Archive, School of Historical and Critical Studies, University of Brighton, Grand Parade, Brighton, East Sussex BN2 2JY, tel: 0273 — 643105.

Alternatively, I have forms which may be completed, one for each video/film, and returned to the Archive.

SERIAC 94

Peter Tarplee

Next year it is again the turn of SIHG to host the South East Regional Industrial Archaeology Conference. The theme of the Conference is "Making Air Work", with talks on a variety of topics from hot air engines to surgical instruments and from Atmospheric railways to ships and aircraft.

The Conference will be held at King Edward School in Witley on Saturday 16 April 1994. Further details and application forms will be circulated later, but in the meantime members interested in attending are invited to keep the day free.

INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE YEAR



September

Sunday 5th, 1400-1800 Open Day and Exhibition on the Firestone Mines of Surrey. Chipstead Valley Museum, Biology Centre, Chipstead Valley School, Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon. This museum contains finds from the underground quarries and mines of East Surrey.

Sunday 12th. Alvis Owners' Club. Brooklands Museum, normal admission prices and times.

Thursday 16th, 1930 for 2000 SIHG Open Meeting with the following talk:- "Early Routes to Brighton". The Surrey Iron Railway, the Croydon, Godstone and Merstham Railway, the Croydon Canal etc., by Dr Gerry Moss. Admission:- £1.00 (50p for members) St Matthew's Parish

Room, Station Road, Redhill.

Sunday 19th. Kit Car Enthusiasts Club Rally. Brooklands Museum, normal admission prices and times.

Sunday 26th, 1430 Betchworth and Brockham Limeworks. Meet at Betchworth Quarry CP off Station Road for a 3 hour walk around the sites of Betchworth and Brockham Limeworks and the surrounding countryside led by SCC Ranger Sean Belcher.

Sunday 26th. Biplane Fly-in. Weather permitting, a number of biplanes will be landing in the morning, be on display during the day and taking-off in the afternoon. Brooklands Museum, normal admission prices and times.

October

Sunday 17th, 1400 Horton Light Railway. A guided walk of about 3 hours duration along the route of the railway. Meet at Horton Country Park car park in Horton Lane, Epsom. Enquiries ring 0372 732000 or 741191.

(Editor's note: The time of the Chilworth Gunpowder Mills Walk on the 17th July was given incorrectly in Bulletin 276. It should have been 2.30 pm and a notice was pinned up at the start of the walk to this effect. My apologies to anyone who was inconvenienced.)

SURREY SETTLEMENTS GROUP

**Judie English
Shirley Corke**

Anyone who walks the footpaths of Southern Surrey is likely to see the remains of deserted farms — and yet the County has only a handful of recorded deserted or shrunken settlements.

The Mole Valley project found Brown's Farm as a scatter of pot and tile in a ploughed field, but with documentary evidence from c 1275. In Chapel Valley, Westhumble there appears to be a shrunken hamlet of toft and croft. Recent work at Hindhead has involved recording remains in the Devil's Punchbowl and at Diggins Farm.

We have studied Cranleigh's documentary evidence in a desultory fashion for a number of years and walked most of the footpaths in the area. Listing the deserted sites we had found resulted in a list of 61 farms, cottages, manorial sites, mills and even an acetic acid works. Of these, only six are on the County Sites and Monuments Record. These medieval and post-medieval sites are part of the settlement history of dispersed settlement areas — the weald, downs and heathlands — and at present they can be destroyed without even being noticed.

A few of us have got together and are attempting to create a framework within which people of varying interests and expertise can study and record their own areas. Now we are looking for those people!

Many sites can be located from early printed maps such as Rocque's map of 1768, from the Tithe Maps (c 1840), and on the 1st O.S. 25" to mile maps of c 1870. Documentary and fieldwork can be shared between individuals. No one will ever be expected to "finish" their area. Adding a single site is of value when so much of the County is under-recorded. In our experience, Local History Groups often know of old house sites yet do not think they are of sufficient importance to record centrally.

We will help and advise — if you are interested please contact Judie English either by phone (evenings or weekends) on 0483-276724 or by writing c/o Castle Arch.

SURREY LOCAL STUDIES LIBRARY

Have you done research which you would like to display?

The Surrey Local Studies Library would like to enlist the help of local societies and individuals in mounting a regular programme of displays on local history and related topics, on the third floor of Guildford Library.

We have a glass fronted display case with an adjustable shelf and notice boards in the study area. There is also space on the landing where display boards can be sited and which we can also provide for your use.

If you would like to take this opportunity to promote the work of your society or would like more information, please contact:-

Pat Ashworth at the Surrey Local Studies Library, Guildford Library, North Street, Guildford, Surrey, GU1 4AL. Tel: (0483) 34054.

FRIENDS OF KINGSTON MUSEUM MEMBERS' MEETING

The first Members' meeting of the Friends of Kingston Museum was held on 23rd June 1993, at the Baptist Church Hall in Union Street, Kingston upon Thames. Anne McCormack, Kingston's Heritage Officer, gave a talk on the history of Kingston Museum and explained details of the Museum's new displays which will result from the radical refurbishments now being carried out.

Enquiries about membership of the Friends of Kingston Museum should be addressed to the Hon Secretary, Ghislaine Walker, 30 Manor Court, Twickenham, Middlesex TW2 5DL, tel. no: 081-898 6935.

NOTES

Brief report of some of the fieldwork undertaken by the Museum of London Archaeology Service between Jan – March 1993.

LONDON BOROUGH OF SOUTHWARK

NATIONAL WHARF/PLATFORM WHARF, SE16 (Ian Grainger) — Trial pits were excavated in collaboration with English Heritage LDDC and Alan Baxter & Associates, in order to determine how the site might be developed without endangering archaeological deposits. On National Wharf the AD 1600 waterfront was discovered: fine metal objects were found in the backfill behind it.

BRIAN ROAD, SE16 (Stephen Tucker) — This large site produced deep alluvial deposits containing Roman finds at —1.3m OD — perhaps evidence of foreshore dumping at low tide or from boats.

MAYOR SWORDER'S ARCHES, JOINER STREET, SE1 (James Drummond-Murray) — Further underpinning for works by London Underground Limited were dug archaeologically, again producing evidence for Roman buildings. The pottery assemblages include imported wares. Full excavation is scheduled for later this year or early next year.

REDCROSS WAY CABLE TRENCH, SE1 (James Drummond-Murray) — This excavation revealed that the buildings on 15-23 Southwark Street extended to the south. Finds included fragments of tessellated pavements and very fine painted wall-plaster.

REDCROSS WAY SUBSTATION, SE1 (Adrian Miles) — 180 burials from St Saviour's Burying Ground (1600-1853) were exhumed. One skeleton was wearing trousers and working boots, and two children were buried in shrouds. The recovery of clothing belonging to the poorer elements of society has caused great interest.

BT WORKS, BOROUGH HIGH STREET (Peter Thompson) — Roman deposits, including burnt debris and floors, were found. The medieval roadside ditch was located.

A Roman Marble Head from Farnham

David Graham

In January 1993 a marble head was found in a soakaway exposed during the construction of an extension to a property situated to the north of Farnham. Anne Jones, the curator of Farnham Museum was notified of the find and subsequently submitted the head to the British Museum for comment.

The following notes are extracted from a report by Dr Susan Walker of the Dept of Greek and Roman Antiquities at the British Museum:

'Material: Fine-grained white marble, most likely quarried at Carrara (Tuscany).
Subject: A life-sized portrait of a mature bearded man wearing a double wreath of laurel. H. chin-crown 29.6cm (1 Roman foot). Condition: Broken through the front of the crown, across the brow; along the length of the nose and through both lips. It appears that these areas were once restored, and the restorations were subsequently



(Photo: Philip Nicholls, British Museum).

removed to leave scars of regular shape. There are superficial scratches on the left side of the crown; the upper surface and the back of the head are weathered. Date: The treatment of the hair and facial features suggests a date in the reign of the Roman emperor Marcus Aurelius (AD 161-180). However, the shape of the face and beard is more reminiscent of his predecessor Antoninus Pius (AD 138-161). The workmanship is characteristic of Antonine Rome: the hair is finely chiselled, with occasional 'bridges' of marble achieved by the drill; the pupils are rendered with twin drill-holes.

Comments: It is possible that the portrait represents the emperor Marcus Aurelius but was recut from an image of his predecessor, as was sometimes the practice in antiquity. This would explain the anomalous shape of the face and beard. Alternatively the portrait may represent a priest, perhaps of the imperial cult, his status signified by the laurel wreath. The scars of the restoration suggest that this was not an import to Roman Britain but once formed part of a private collection, Farnham Palace being a likely source. Archival research may clarify its history.'

Dr Walker's comment that the head may possibly have come from a private collection at Farnham Palace (Castle) is interesting. Bishop Henry de Blois (1129 – 1171, who occupied Farnham Castle), was renowned for his collection of classical sculpture. So that it is just possible that the head might come from a medieval collection rather than one of 18th/19th century date — always assuming that it was not an original Roman deposit.

The head is now up for sale at a forthcoming Sotheby's auction, which is, no doubt, good news for the owner though it does seem a shame that, yet again, an antiquity is valued more for its cash value than its cultural importance. No doubt it will disappear off to America or Japan like so much else of our portable heritage.

I am grateful to Dr Walker for permission to reproduce part of her notes and to Mr K W E Gravett for bringing the find to my attention.

PUBLICATIONS

"Turner on the Thames — river journeys in the year 1805", by David Hill. In 1805 Turner moved into Syon Ferry House overlooking the Thames at Isleworth and David Hill traces his explorations of the river, including a trip down the River Wey to Guildford and Godalming. 182 pp, 127 b/w illustrations + 95 colour plates. Price £25. Published by Yale University Press. ISBN 0 300 05389 4.

MISCELLANY

Flag Fen Bronze Age Excavations, Peterborough. The Fenland Archaeological Trust arrange guided tours of the 3000 year old "island" currently under excavation. 300 items of weapons, jewellery and other finds from the site are on display. There is a museum, video and coffee shop. Group rates for pre-booked parties are charged at £2.10 per person. For further details contact the Trust at Flag Fen BA Excavations, Fourth Drove, Fengate, Peterborough, PE1 5UR (Tel: 0733-313414).

Underwater Archaeology. Ms Cindy Brayshaw, a member of the Nautical Archaeology Society, which is dedicated to protecting and recording wrecks on the sea bed around Britain, would be pleased to talk to local groups about the society and its work. She may be contacted on 0483-420607.

Basingstoke Canal Centre. This new centre operated by the Basingstoke Canal Authority opened in May and is open to the public daily 10.00 am – 4.40 pm (except Mondays). The exhibition is excellently presented giving the history of the canal, details of craft, and an interesting exhibit about Greywell Tunnell. There are also boat trips from the Centre and a shop. Admission charges £1.50 adults: £1.00 children. The Centre is situated in Mytchett Place Road, Mytchett (opposite Potters restaurant) Tel: 0252 370073.

DAY SCHOOLS : CONFERENCES

CBA South East Region: October Meeting

The First Romans in the South East

(Not Counting Caesar)

A conference will be held in the Medway Hall, Angel Centre, Tonbridge, between 10.30 and 5 o'clock on Saturday 23rd October, 1993 to mark the 1950th anniversary of the invasion of Britain by the Imperial forces. All welcome.

Speakers will include Dr T Blagg (Roman buildings); Dr Alex Detsicas (Rural settlement in Roman Kent); Nicholas Fuentes (Early campaigns of Aulus Paulus); Dominic Perring (The beginning of Roman London); and David Rudling (Roman occupation in Sussex). (All titles provisional). Morning coffee and afternoon tea will be provided.

Tickets (£5 for members of CBA booking in advance; £6 visitors and at the door) from Mrs Shiela Broomfield, 8 Woodview Crescent, Hildenborough, Tonbridge. A map will be sent to those booking in advance. Please enclose s.a.e. when booking.

COURSES

The following courses are organised by the CCE, University of Sussex commencing October 1993. Full details from CCE, University of Sussex, Brighton. Telephone 0273 678537.

Certificate in Life History Work. This innovative and interdisciplinary one-year course provides an opportunity for life history practitioners to reflect upon the issues and potential of their work and to enhance their practice. (Held at the University of Sussex)

Certificate in Practical Archaeology. A one-year course designed for anyone with a serious interest and experience in archaeology or related disciplines. (Held in Brighton)

Diploma in Landscape Studies. A two-year course brings together aspects of archaeology, history, ecology, geology and geography which help understanding and interpretation of the origins and future of the present-day landscape. (Held in Crawley)

The following courses are organised by the CCE, University of Sussex in co-operation with the Sussex Archaeological Society at the Iron Age Activity Centre, Michelham Priory. Full details from CCE, University of Sussex. Telephone 0273 678537.

8th September. "An Introduction to the Palaeolithic site at Boxgrove". Tutor Mark Roberts, Director of the Boxgrove Project.

25th – 26th September. Prehistoric Pottery Weekend. Tutors: Tristan Bareham and Christabel Shelley.

2nd – 3rd October. Prehistoric Woodworking Weekend. Tutors: Tristan Bareham and Mick Freeman.

EXHIBITIONS

Gallery 90, Ward Street, Guildford

Anthony Devis (1729-1818) A Picturesque Traveller

2 – 23 October 1993

Major exhibition of watercolour paintings and drawings by Anthony Devis who lived at Albury, near Guildford. One of the famous family of artists and brother of Arthur Devis, On tour from the Harris Museum and Art Gallery, Preston. Plus a display of 18th century drinking glasses. Open Monday to Friday 10 – 4.30, Saturday 10 – 12.30 and 1.30 – 2.30. Admission free.

LECTURES

Lovekyn Lectures

Two illustrated lectures have been arranged by the SyAS to assist the fund-raising campaign for the restoration of the Lovekyn Chapel, Kingston. They will be held in the Chapel at 8 pm on the first Wednesday of November and December.

Wednesday 3rd November

Mrs Robin Whyte (Australian National University)

A DEAD CERTAINTY

Avoiding the Pains of Hell in Medieval England.

Wednesday 1st December

Mrs Pat Johnson (Open University)

FROM RELIGIOUS TO SECULAR USE

The Changing Role of Chantry Chapels at the Reformation

Tickets (£5 including a glass of wine) from Mrs M Smith, Kingston Grammar School, 70 London Road, Kingston, KT2 6PY. Please make out cheques to the Lovekyn Chapel Restoration Fund and include a stamped and addressed envelope.

MEETINGS

1st September

“Tales of Old Guildford”. Film by Circle 8 for the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at St Mary’s Church Hall, London Road, Ewell.

6th September

“The History of Waterers Nurseries Worldwide”. A lecture by Adrian Thompson to the Mayford & Woking District History Society in Mayford Village Hall at 8.00 pm.

7th September

AGM and Presidential Address of KuTAS in the Lower Hall, Friends Meeting House.

11th September

SAS Visit to Alfriston and Michelham Priory (See Bulletin 276 for details)

16th September

"Women Stained Glass Painters of Fulham and Hammersmith". A lecture by Mr Peter Cormack at Barnes and Mortlake History Society in the Main Hall, Sheen Lane Centre at 8.00 pm.

16th September

"Early Routes to Brighton". A lecture by Dr Gerry Moss to Holmesdale Natural History Club at St Matthew's Hall, Redhill.

17th September

"The First 100 Years of Merton Priory". The Evelyn Jowett Memorial Lecture by Lionel Green (Founder member of Merton Historical Society) to the Merton Historical Society at Snuff Mill Environmental Centre, Morden Hall Park, Morden at 8.00 pm.

17th September

"Bygone Claygate". An illustrated lecture by Mr Peebles to the Esher District Local History Society in the Small Hall, Claygate Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

21st September

Historical Association West Surrey Branch AGM. To be held at Watts Gallery, Compton at 7.30 pm, followed by talk and guided tour of gallery. All welcome.

22nd September

"Historic Buildings of Kingston". A lecture by Ian West to the Friends of Kingston Museum, Baptist's Church Hall, Union Street, Kingston upon Thames at 8.00 pm.

24th September

"I Spy Local History". A lecture by Mike Bull to the Wandsworth Historical Society at the Friends' Meeting House, Wandsworth High Street at 8.00 pm.

FUTURE EVENTS

16th October

"Palaces of Crown and Mitre" to be held at Sutton Civic Centre.

13th November

Annual Symposium of the Surrey Local History Council. "1000 Years of Royalty in Surrey".

13th November

"Recent Excavations and Research in SE England". Council for Kent Archaeology Conference at Canterbury.

17th November

"Guildford Castle/Palace — Update". Lecture by Rob Poulton in Holy Trinity Church, Guildford at 8.00 pm.

Editor: Audrey Monk, Bryony Bank, Beech Hill, Hambledon, Nr Godalming, GU8 4HL.

Next Issue: Copy to the Editor required by 28th August 1993 for October issue.