



Registered Charity No: 272098

ISSN 0585-9980

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

# Bulletin

Number 280

December 1993/January 1994

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## COUNCIL NEWS

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### JAC Cowie Memorial Fund

Gillian Drew



Donations to the JAC Cowie Memorial Fund currently total £1,497.22.

A splendid new oak bookcase is now in place in the Margary Room and this will have a small brass plate fixed to it — inscribed “Donated by the friends of JAC Cowie in her memory”.

The remainder of the money will be used to provide small sections of custom built shelving in other areas of the Margary Room and to buy a collection of substantial books which will be designated on the bookplate as being donated in memory of JAC Cowie.

Our grateful thanks to all who have contributed to the Memorial Fund.

### South Park Moat

The major works have now been completed and voluntary effort is currently

concentrated on fencing and minor works. A formal opening ceremony is being planned for 28th April 1994.

At a recent meeting of Council the President thanked Mr G N Bieron, Mr S P Dyer, Mr R L Ellaby, Dr D F Renn and Mr P A Tarplee. The President also paid tribute to the many years of dedicated work by Miss Josephine Carter, who recently retired as Chairman of the Visits Committee.

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## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE**

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### **Annual Symposium**

The Symposium is to be held on the 12th February at the Dorking Community Christian Centre. The theme this year will be Recent Work and Local Societies. Full details are being circulated with this Bulletin. Further information and tickets are available from Susan Janaway at Castle Arch.

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## **SURREY INDUSTRIAL HISTORY GROUP**

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This year the Surrey Industrial Group awarded their conservation plaque to Tony Reid of the Old Farm at Shere. Here, Lady Hanworth, Vice-President of SAS, is seen presenting the Award to Mr Reid at a gathering at the farm with SIHG Chairman, Gordon Knowles.



### **New Year Meeting**

This year the SIHG is making a change from having a Christmas Party during the hectic pre-Christmas period.

Instead we are holding a New Year Society Evening on Wednesday 5th January at the Dorking Christian Centre, which is adjacent to the Parish Church.

The proceedings start at 7.30 pm, with mince pies to eat, wine to drink and some local industrial history related activities before the main event of the evening — a talk by Dr John Ferguson, entitled “Cornish Miscellany”.

Dr Ferguson will be coming from St Ives to bring us up to date with IA activities in Cornwall.

All will be welcome to this event, for which the admission charge will be £2.50, but £2.00 for members of SIHG or SAS.

### **Another SIHG District Guide**

Following the publication earlier this year of the Guide to the Industrial History of Guildford and its Borough, the Group has recently published the latest in its series of District Guides —

A Guide to the Industrial History of Spelthorne, by John Mills.

The book costs £4.35 and copies will be available in local bookshops or, post free, from Peter Tarplee, Donard, East Street, Bookham, Leatherhead, KT23 4QX, cheques payable to SIHG please.

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## **NOTES**

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### **Great Fosters, Egham**

**Peter Gray**

The Society’s visit to Great Fosters, Egham earlier this year was the occasion for a little preliminary research by your President and the writer. This fine grade 1 “Elizabethan” building is now used as an hotel. First call on such occasions is inevitably Pevsner’s “Buildings of England” where a page and a half is devoted to the building. Reference was also made to Frederic Turner’s History of Egham, published about 1926, and the building itself. There were a number of very significant discrepancies between the various sources which it is felt justify at least a note in the Bulletin.

It is known that the building has been subject to two major refurbishment campaigns. The first in the 1860’s by Queen Alexandra’s lady in waiting, Baroness Halkett, and another in the 1920’s by the Hon Gerald Montague. Montague commissioned Romaine-Walker, well known for his neo-Elizabethan pastiche architecture and complementary garden designs to plan the alterations. The problem is detecting what alterations they made. Fortunately Turner includes a plan of the building by Ralph Nevill and a photograph of the garden elevation before the 1920 alterations started.

From Nevill’s plan there is no doubt that Romaine-Walker made significant changes to the low end of the hall and the adjoining service rooms. He extended the hall to occupy the former “pantry” area and inserted a new hearth using a fine Jacobean overmantel photographed previously in the room over the parlour. He also constructed a bay window where the door at the garden end of the cross passage had been. Pevsner was clearly wrong in looking upon this room as a hall with a central entrance. The second storey of the bay was part of an odd long gallery described by Pevsner as “cranked”; it is now clearly to be seen as a modern addition.

Further significant changes were also made at this end of the building including the construction of a staff tower with the flat top to match in some ways the undoubtedly early one at the upper end of the hall.

The moulded plastered ceilings generally are not Elizabethan originals: that to the hall is clearly part of the 1920 alterations and that on the first floor Tapestry room has the date 1860 on it. These ceilings may be copies of earlier ones. The only one which does seem to be original is in the attic room over the parlour. This ceiling includes a chained boar, associated with the Percy family, Earls of Northumberland, among the devices depicted. It may be that this room was the gallery referred to in a will of 1632, since it is difficult to see where else a gallery might have been.

The date for the original construction of the house has been put at 1598, based on the evidence of a plaque over the entrance porch. However the documentary evidence, which seems reliable, suggests that during the last years of Elizabeth's reign ownership of the house was in a state of flux. It was not until the estate was sold to Mary Watson in 1602 just before she married a rich husband, Anthony Maine, that a house of this scale and quality is likely to have been built. In any case there must be some possible doubt about the authenticity of the dated plaque on the porch since the brickwork below it is in bricks which are clearly modern. Could Romaine-Walker be responsible for the plaque? However, the argument as to whether the house should be dated 1598 or 1605-9 may be somewhat academic.

Briefly the nature of the original brick two-storeyed house may be summed up as follows. It had a storied main range with a full height porch in the centre. There were gabled cross wings at each end, the whole being broadly symmetrical. The three bay main range contained a two bay hall with cross passage in the normal place. This range also contained one bay of the service rooms, other rooms being contained in the adjacent cross wing. At the upper end the parlour cross wing had a stair tower in the corner between it and the hall. The full height "chapel" extension in the corner of the parlour wing appears to be original. Judging by some apparently early chimneys and other brickwork, there was kitchen and other ancillary accommodation in a detached block now lost in various modern additions.

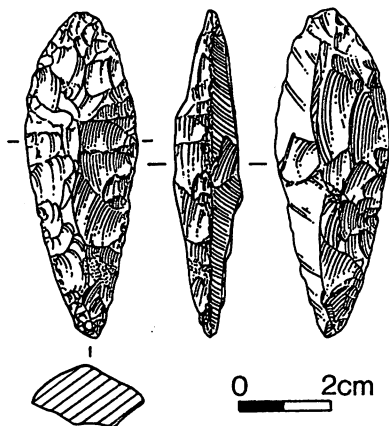
In spite of these revisions the house is clearly of considerable interest in its present form, not quite as an unaltered small Elizabethan mansion but as one which has been altered with considerable skill in modern times in a complementary style.

### **A bifacially-worked flint knife/?miniature dagger from the North Downs at Botley Hill, near Woldingham**

**Jonathan Cotton**

The artefact shown in the figure was picked up by John Gibson some years ago on ploughland at Botley Hill, east of Woldingham (TQ 395559), just inside the boundary of the county. The findspot lies on the eastern slope of a north-west facing spur on the summit of the North Downs at 265m OD. The geology hereabouts comprises clay-with-flints over both Upper and Middle Chalk.

The piece has been worked on a robust flake of mottled, cherty, light grey "chalk" flint and measures 71mm in length, 25mm in width, 14mm in thickness and weighs 20.89 gms. While the dorsal face (shown left on the figure) has been neatly radially flaked, the ventral face (shown right on the figure) has been steeply and invasively retouched from one long edge only, leaving part of the original ventral surface of the parent flake intact. A small patch of cortex survives at one extremity on the dorsal face, and the high points of both faces and edges are iron-stained.



Superficially, the piece resembles an earlier Neolithic leaf-shaped arrowhead in form, though its size, weight and thickness militate against this. It is here identified as a bifacially-worked knife or possibly miniature dagger of later Neolithic/Early Bronze Age type. Diagnostic flintwork of this date, though never abundant, has been recovered from other localities in the area (eg Slines Oak/Worms Heath (SAC 80 (1990), 133-45) and Limpsfield; equally relevant perhaps is the small series of Beaker-related material recorded from findspots on and around the North Downs east of the Mole gap (see *Archaeology of Surrey to 1540* (1987), 101 & fig 5.4).

The artefact has been returned to its finder, to whom thanks are due for permission to note it here.

### **13 Bell Street, Reigate**

**David Williams**

The writer undertook a watching brief during the digging of foundation trenches on behalf of the Hygate Partnership. On the east of the area of the proposed small extension the main visible feature was a stone wall, associated with a chalk surface, which formed part of a building attached to the rear of the site of the 18th century former White Hart Hotel. The wall is unlikely to be earlier than c 1800. The stone wall which forms the southern boundary to the site may have a similar origin.

Deposits of late 12th/13th century date were encountered beneath the chalk floor but it was clear that all archaeological deposits within the extension and west of the recorded wall had been destroyed without record. A full report is lodged at Castle Arch.

### **Reigate Priory**

**David Williams**

A watching brief also took place last May on behalf of Reigate and Banstead Borough Council during the digging of floodlighting table trenches through the lawn between the Priory School and the yew hedge bordering the sunken garden. This area is thought to have been occupied by the cloister and conventual ranges of the small Augustinian monastery. All of the machine dug trenches were 0.23m wide and 0.50m deep. The route of the cables ran south-eastwards and then south from the south-east corner of the west wing of the Priory. The trench then ran the length of the yew hedge from whose west end a further stretch ran north-westwards. About 92m of trench were dug.

Between the Priory and the sunken garden no features were found. A spread of late 19th century stone and brick rubble overlay a deposit which may represent an 18th

century path or courtyard surface. Earlier layers, perhaps of the 16th or 17th century were observed in the base of the trench. The remainder of the trenches cut through a featureless brown sandy loam. At three points in the base of the trench dug adjacent to the sunken garden were observed the substantial footings of three stone walls bonded with yellow mortar and measuring 1.45m, 1.25m and 0.8m. The two wider walls lay 32m apart at opposite ends of the trench and orientated on the Priory though not aligned with it. The third wall, whose alignment was unclear, lay some 5m further west. A simple survey with a metal probe inserted at frequent intervals between these walls, and a little beyond, met with a solid obstruction at c0.7m and more below the lawn surface. An exploratory hole at one point proved this also to be mortared stone.

Although of very limited extent, this work does demonstrate the existence of the remains of a substantial building beneath the lawns at the Priory. It remains to be seen by other means whether this can be identified with the claustral ranges. Shortly after this work and with a view to extending the scheduled area beyond the walls of the building a resistivity survey of the same area and extending into the sunken garden and beyond was carried out by English Heritage's Archaeometry Branch. Disappointingly, for reasons unclear, this failed positively to identify any buried structures save for service pipes and the pattern of a modern parterre within the sunken garden.

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## **TEBUTT RESEARCH FUND**

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This fund was established as a tribute to the life and work of the late C F Tebbutt, OBE, FSA and applications are invited from individuals and groups for grants towards research, including associated expenses, into any aspect of the Wealden Iron Industry.

It is anticipated that approximately £200 will be available and applications should be sent to Mrs Shiela Broomfield, Hon Sec WIRG, 8 Woodview Crescent, Hildenborough, Tonbridge TN11 9HD, giving details of the applicant together with relevant information of the research envisaged.

Applications must be received by 31st March 1994.

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## **MISCELLANY**

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### **Recent Conferences**

Saturday conferences clearly remain popular in the winter months. On 16th October, over 80 people attended a conference at Sutton, arranged by Sutton Heritage and the SAS, on the subject of Palaces in South London. Palaces at Croydon, Eltham, Greenwich, Kennington, Richmond and Southwark (to put them in alphabetical order), were treated and much unpublished material was included. Prof Martin Biddle gave both an introductory overview and a final summing up.

On the following Saturday, a very successful conference was held by CBA South East at Tonbridge to mark the 1950th anniversary of the Roman invasion of England. Over one hundred people attended and heard talks by Nicholas Fuentes (a challenging reassessment of the early course of the invasion), David Rudling (Roman settlement in Sussex), Dominic Perring (the first century of London), Alec Detsicas (Roman buildings in Kent) and Dr Thomas Blagg (major Roman buildings in the south-east). CBA South East hopes to organise a conference in 1994 on the subject of settlement in the Weald. (D J Turner)

## **Victorian Christmas Party**

Guildford Museum is holding a Victorian Christmas Party for the general public on the 10th December at 8.00 pm. The attractions include carols, Victorian songs, a magic lantern show, displays, a lucky dip, mulled wine and mince pies. Victorian costume is optional. Tickets at £3.75 are available in advance from Guildford Museum, Castle Arch, Guildford. Telephone 0483 — 444750. Profits will go towards the Museum's Volunteer Excavation Unit.

## **East Grinstead Museum**

East Grinstead Museum is mounting a temporary exhibition during January/February and March about Copthorne — the village straddling the Surrey/Sussex border. The exhibition is being co-ordinated by Mr B Davis (a member of the Horley Local History Group), Pentlands, Copthorne Bank (0342-712352), by whom offers of loans or material or other help would be gratefully received.

## **Guildford Museum**

**Mary Alexander**



## **Guildford Museum's Award-winning Archaeologists!**

Guildford Museum's Volunteer Excavation Unit were recently awarded one of the coveted Guildford Heritage Awards in recognition of their work in rescuing the history and archaeology of Guildford. At a ceremony in the Guildhall, the team were presented with a certificate by the Mayor of Guildford, Cllr Richard Marks (standing in for the MP David Howell).

John Boas and Kevin Fryer have been working for the Museum as volunteers since 1991 and have been joined more recently by Andrea Selley. Between them they have investigated 22 sites in Guildford, which have produced 150 boxes of finds. All but one of the sites fell through the planning net and would have been lost forever without the Volunteer Unit. All have produced invaluable information on the history of Guildford. The Museum is very grateful for their work and is delighted that their contribution has been acknowledged by the borough.

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## **PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE**

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### **Special Christmas Offer**

For a limited period the Society is offering members the opportunity to buy, at a very reduced price, "Early Medieval Surrey" by John Blair. This authoritative work is a study of institutions and the economy in Surrey during the early and central Middle Ages. Normally priced at £18.00 and retailing at £25.00, it will be available for £5.00, or £7.00 including postage and packing, from Mrs Maureen Roberts, Castle Arch, Guildford GU1 3SX. Please make cheques payable to Surrey Archaeological Society.

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## **PUBLICATIONS**

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**The Journal of William Schellinks' Travels in England 1661-1663.** Following the note giving brief details of this publication in Bulletin 279, Miss Myatt-Price has written giving more information.

Travel and travellers appear to have a special fascination for readers at all times but perhaps one of the most exciting periods for early travel was the 17th-18th centuries when the Grand Tour of Europe was an important part of a well-to-do young person's education.

William Schellinks (1623-78), observer, diarist and artist, accompanied wealthy merchant shipowner Jacques Thierry's son on travels in southern and south-eastern England between 1661-1663. He recorded his impressions — those of a foreigner from the Netherlands — of English life: towns, religious and secular buildings, rural society, pastimes, entertainments, the horrors of public executions, and the splendour of Court life during the early years of the reign of King Charles II. He also made drawings of what he saw. They are listed in Appendix I to the editor's introduction to the text of Schellinks' Journal but are not illustrated in this volume. Of particular interest to local readers are his comments on Epsom and its waters, the Durdans, Kingston, Hampton and Guildford, all of which he visited. The entire text repays careful reading because of the wealth of detail recorded, and the humour — for example, the "aggressive English fleas" encountered in an overnight lodging. Footnotes on contemporary history and references to "native" diarists such as Samuel Pepys and John Evelyn illuminate the text. The Journal is prefaced by a well thought out introduction which includes interesting speculation on why it was kept. Was it artlessly to record, for Thierry and his son, in prose and in drawings, all that the travellers had seen or was there an ulterior motive, bearing in mind that the drawings included sketches of defence installations, harbours, naval bases and shipping? The editors comment that, three years after Schellinks and his companion left England, the Dutch and the English were at war.

This scholarly and thoroughly researched volume makes excellent reading.

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## **1994 BULLETIN PUBLICATION DATES**

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<i>Issue</i>	<i>Copy date</i>	<i>Estimated Dispatch</i>
281 Feb/ mid-Mar	1st Jan	31st Jan



282 Mar/ Apr	12th Feb	14th Mar
283 May	26th Mar	25th Apr
284 June/ mid-July	30th Apr	30th May
285 July/ August	11th June	11th July
286 September	23rd July	22nd Aug
287 October	27th Aug	26th Sept
288 Nov/ mid-Dec	24th Sept	24th Oct
289 Dec/ January 1995	5th Nov	4th Dec

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## **DAYSCHOOLS : CONFERENCES : COURSES**

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**SERIAC 1994 — Hosted and organised this year by  
the Surrey Industrial History Group**

**Saturday 16th April 1994**

**“Making Air Work”**

09.30 – 10.00 Registration and coffee; displays open

Chairman for first session: Gordon Knowles, Chairman, SIHG

10.00 – 10.10 Welcome and opening remarks

10.10 – 11.10 **Hot Air Engines**

John Day

11.15 – 12.15 **The Development of Coastal Sailing Ships**

Richard Perks

12.15 – 13.45 Lunch break; displays open

Chairman for second session: Prof Alan Crocker, Vice-President, SIHG

13.45 – 14.45 **Air and Music — technical concert**

Michael Ryder

14.50 – 15.50 **Rope of Air — the story of Atmospheric Railways**

Roger Morgan

15.50 – 16.20 Tea; displays open

Chairman for third session: Gordon Knowles

16.20 – 17.20 **Early Days of Flying**

Bill Gunston

17.20 – 17.30 Closing Remarks

17.30 – 18.00 Visit to the site of the School Gas Retort House

## **Gas Retort House, King Edward's School, Witley**

This small, single-storey brick building in the grounds of the school was built in 1878. The plans by Thomas Rider & Son of London were drawn up for the Bridewell Royal Hospital. It is hoped to have the plans on display during the conference. The gas was used for lighting and cooking. As well as the retort house the plans show that originally there was a coal store, lime store and purifying house as well as a chimney. All of the gas making equipment was removed in 1922 and the gas holder in 1925. It may now be the only surviving building associated with domestic production of gas left in Surrey.

Fee: £9.50 per person (inc tea, coffee and all documentation). Pre-booked lunches available at £6 a head. Application forms available from Castle Arch, or Peter Tarplee, "Donard", East Street, Bookham, Leatherhead, Surrey.

**Courses.** The following day-schools are organised by the CCE, University of Sussex. Full details from CCE, University of Sussex. Telephone 0273-678527:-

**"Curious Currencies" — 29th January.** Tutor: Ron Kerridge. An exploration of the diverse forms of curious currency from barter in prehistoric times to modern gambling and amusement tokens. Fee: £15. To be held at Worthing Museum.

**"The Wealden Iron Industry" — 12th February.** Tutor: Jeremy Hodgkinson. The Weald was the location for an iron smelting industry which, in two periods within the last 2000 years was the paramount iron producing region in the British Isles. Fee: £15. To be held at the University of Sussex.

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## **MEETINGS**

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### **13th December**

"Thomas Holloway's College". A lecture by Richard Williams to the Egham-by-Runnymede Historical Society at Egham Museum at 8.00 pm. Entrance fee: £2.

### **16th December**

"Fashion thru' the Ages 1600-1900" as related by Chris Critchmore to the Merton Historical Society at Snuff Mill Environmental Centre, Morden Hall Park, Morden at 2.30 pm.

### **16th December**

"William Waller and the Civil War in the Farnham Area". A lecture by Dr Ann Sumner to the Farnham & District Museum Society in the United Reformed Church Hall, South Street, Farnham at 7.30 pm.

### **17th December**

"Roman Bagshot". A lecture by Geoffrey Cole to the Surrey Heath Group at 8.00 pm at the Archaeology Centre, Bagshot.

## **1994**

### **4th January**

"Lambeth Watermen at Large". A lecture by Roy Edwards to the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society at the Hawkstone Hall, Kennington Road, S.E.1. at 7.00 for 7.30 pm.

### **5th January**

"Cocktails and Laughter". Pottery, porcelain and other arts of the 1920s and 1930s. A lecture by Joy Hallam to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at 8.00 pm at St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell.

### **8th January**

"Rajasthan". A lecture by Pam Vernon to the Beddington, Carshalton & Wallington Archaeological Society in the Milton Hall, Cooper Crescent, Carshalton at 3.00 pm.

### **10th January**

"Virginia Water Church & School". A lecture by Dorothy Davies to the Egham-by-Runnymede History Society at 8.00 pm at Egham Museum. Members £1.50; non-members £2.00.

### **15th January**

"Thomas Holloway's College". A lecture by Richard Williams to the Walton & Weybridge LHS at 3.00 pm in the Weybridge Library Lecture Hall.

### **18th January**

"Richard Coeur-de-Lion and the Third Crusade". A lecture by Christopher Tyerman of Harrow School to the West Surrey Branch of the Historical Association at the Friends' Meeting House, North Street, Guildford at 7.30 pm. Visitors welcome.

### **20th January**

"Cranleigh, the development of a Wealden Village". A lecture by Judie English to the Farnham & District Museum Society at 7.30 pm for 7.45 pm at the United Reformed Church Hall, South Street, Farnham.

### **20th January**

"Prehistoric London". A lecture by Dr Nick Merriman to the Barnes & Mortlake History Society at 8.00 pm in the Main Hall at the Sheen Lane Centre.

### **20th January**

"From Burnt Stubb Zoo to a Theme Park". A lecture by Brian Sedgley, Sales Manager of Chessington World of Adventure to the Esher District LHS at 7.30 pm at Chessington World of Adventure. (Park in coach park near main entrance. Talk will be signposted in Burnt Stubb House.)

### **21st January**

Slides of Fetcham presented by Geoff Hayward (who is at present working on a history of Fetcham) to the Leatherhead & District LHS in the Dixon Hall, Leatherhead Institute at 7.30 pm for 8.00 pm. Members 50p; non-members £1.

### **24th January**

"Magna Carta — Arms and the Men". A lecture by Don Kirby to the Egham-by-Runnymede History Society at 8.00 pm at Egham Museum. Members £.50; non-members £2.00.

### **27th January**

"Guildford Castle Excavations". A talk by Rob Poulton to the Send & Ripley History Society at 8.00 pm at Ripley Village Hall.

### **2nd February**

A photographic study of the River Wey and the Wey Navigations from the courses to Weybridge with comments on historical aspects by Charles Abdy. To the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at 8.00 pm at St Mary's Church Hall, Ewell.

### **3rd February**

"Thorpe Village History". A lecture by Jill Williams to the Spelthorne Archaeological Field Group at the Methodist Church, Thames Street, Staines at 8.00 pm. 50p entrance fee for non-members.

**3rd February**

"Historic Gardens of Surrey". A lecture by Brenda Lewis to the Farnham & District Museum Society at 7.30 for 7.45 pm in the United Reformed Church Hall, South Street, Farnham.

**8th February**

"History and Art at St Thomas's Hospital". A lecture by Moira Rudolf to the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society at the Hawkstone Hall, Kennington Road, SE1 at 7.00 for 7.30 pm.

**12th February**

Annual Symposium organised by the Archaeological Research Committee at Dorking Christian Centre.

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**ADVANCE NOTICE**

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**26th March**

14th West London Local History Conference at Montague Hall, Montague Road, Hounslow. Subject: West London's Open Spaces. Tickets £4.50 from West London Local History Conference, 103 Engadine Street, London SW18 5DU.

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**Editor's Note:** Apologies for the late dispatch of the November Bulletin, which was delayed awaiting receipt of the Annual report and Accounts circulated with the November issue. (which in the event failed to materialise)

I should like to thank all those who send contributions for inclusion in the Bulletin. The aim of the Bulletin is to make known work undertaken and information relevant to all parts of the historic county and I welcome items of interest, notes or requests for information.

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We send all members the Season's Greetings and good wishes for the New Year

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**Editor:** Audrey Monk, Bryony Bank, Beech Hill, Hambledon, Nr. Godalming, GU8 4HL.  
**Next Issue:** Copy to the Editor requires by 1st January 1994 for January/February issue.