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SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
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Bulletin

Number 300

March/April 1996

To mark the 300th issue of the Bulletin, the Roman mosaic uncovered during the Society's 1995 Training Excavation is illustrated below.



RC/DSN

Early 4th century mosaic excavated near Abinger Hammer in 1995, drawn by Steve Cosh and David Neal. ©

Bulletin No. 1

Dennis Turner

So the Bulletin has passed 30 years and reached issue 300. It has also grown and technology plus budget now allows illustrations. I have been asked once or twice whether my wife and I, when we produced Bulletin No 1, thought it would run for three decades and how we thought it would develop and I have to say that — as far as memory can be trusted — I don't think we gave it a thought. We were far too busy with the day-to-day problems of copy dates and delivery dates (to say nothing of persuading people to write the copy) to think long term. Council had only approved publication for a year and we had to show in that time-scale that a monthly Bulletin could work and was more effective as a way of communicating with the members than ad hoc circulars from the Visits and Excavations Committees. We were helped by the sympathetic Raynes Park Press and the redoubtable Ruth Childs, stalwart of the Visits Committee (who put Bulletins into envelopes and carted them off to the Post Office). The printer gave us a competitive price but meeting our deadlines couldn't always be his top priority: sometimes it became touch and go whether members would receive visits' notices in time. With mechanical type setting, proof corrections became a nice matter of judgement — there was always a risk that new errors would be introduced while original errors were being corrected.

News paragraphs were hard to come by at first and potential contributors had to be cajoled (we could never afford to bribe). Some contributors were particularly supportive — the late James Batley was especially so and even sent us a congratulatory ode at one milestone date (I fear a can't remember which). At about issue number 5, Bernard Pardoe suggested that we should start a queries column, a good idea I always thought, but it never really took hold. I wonder what that says about our members.

Who knows whether the Bulletin will survive another 300 issues. The last 300 have seen the progress from scissors, paste and hot lead to computer formatting in the Society's office and at the last Council Meeting we were told that the Society now has a page on Internet. Technology may replace the Bulletin just as the Bulletin itself replaced stencilled notices. But for the moment, Congratulations to all our successors — astoundingly we are all alive.

Bulletin No. 300

Richard Muir

This is the 300th issue of the Bulletin. Number One was produced in January 1965 by Dennis Turner so it has been going, and going from strength to strength, for 31 years — a notable achievement by any standards. Congratulations to all who have been involved in its publication over the years.

A publication such as the Bulletin must, of course, meet two criteria. Firstly it must be informative and interesting and secondly, and this is almost as important, it must appear regularly and to a schedule. Ours certainly does both of these things.

A glance at the contents of number 300 shows how well it keeps our members informed. As well as articles on archaeological sites and finds in the County there are, among other things, news of members, notices about future lectures and symposia and visits, notices and reviews of books and other publications and information on forthcoming events organised by other Societies and Groups. The fact that it goes out so regularly allows "flyers", such as notices and application forms about future excavations, to be mailed with it. Number 299, for instance, contained a notice for the Spring Meeting of our sister organisation, the Surrey Local History Council.

I recently attended an informal meeting of officers from five archaeological societies from neighbouring counties in the south. Among other things we discussed and

compared publications. All the societies have some form of news sheet in addition to their more scholarly "Collections", "Proceedings" or whatever. Some of these sheets are more "glossy" or in a larger format but none are issued as often as ours or are, in my opinion, more informative and useful. We are indeed fortunate in our Bulletin.

The Society owes a big vote of thanks to Audrey Monk, the Editor, and Maureen Roberts, from the Castle Arch Office, who currently produce the publication as well as to those who have done so in the past.

COUNCIL NEWS

Treasure Bill

The Bill is to be introduced by Sir Anthony Grant in the House of Commons for its second reading on 8 March. The measure has the support of the Government, the Labour Party and the Liberal Democrats. The Dept of National Heritage has recently issued a consultation paper on portable antiquities, dealing with the vast majority of artefacts which are outside the scope of the Bill. The green paper sets out options for the reporting of antiquities and asks for opinions. The Treasure Bill and the options in the green paper, if brought into effect, will greatly improve the way in which portable antiquities are dealt with in England, Wales and N Ireland.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE **Judie English** **Chairman**

This Committee exists to provide training, expertise and co-ordination for individuals and groups undertaking archaeological work in the County. Our members serve for four years and are only eligible for re-election after a year's break, we try to ensure that the membership represents all areas of the County and a wide range of archaeological interest. The Surrey County Archaeological Unit and the County Archaeologist are also represented. We are able to give grants (maximum £600.00) which in recent years have included funding the dendrochronological dating of timbers exposed during a church restoration, an expert report on mid-Bronze Age bracelets from Cranleigh, a resistivity study at Cock's Farm and documentary research on the medieval moated site at Tolworth.

1996 will see the second season of our excavation at Cock's Farm, Abinger (20th July — 11th August) under Steve Dyer's directorship, processing of the finds from the first season continues on Tuesday evenings at Salters, Guildford. We also organise an Annual Symposium which takes place in February and which consists of talks and displays on recent work, both amateur and professional, in Surrey. The Lithic Tools Group holds a workshop each Spring and other workshops are organised as the needs show themselves.

Work on various projects takes place most Sundays, at present intermittent work is taking place at Abinger, and the suggested Area of Historic Landscape Value in Sidney Wood, Alfold is being studied. We are also trying to record the numerous deserted settlements in the County and to assess the possibility of reducing the number of unpublished excavations — a blacklist containing many famous names.

A major concern is ensuring that local knowledge is incorporated into archaeological responses to Planning Applications. We are helping to set up a pilot system in Waverley Borough and, if this is successful, hope to extend to cover other areas.

CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Peter Gray, Chairman

The formation of the Conservation Committee of the Society was announced in Bulletin 66 in 1970. One of its main tasks was to act as the Society's primary channel of communication on conservation matters with Government departments, Local Authorities and local amenity societies. Inevitably this role has developed particularly to keep pace, if not lead, public opinion and to take advantage where possible of government guidance in its formal publications such as its Planning Policy Guidance notes.

The Committee acts as correspondent for the Council for British Archaeology on all matters relating to demolition or alteration of listed buildings in Surrey. The Society has amongst its members expertise, often second to none, on the whole range of local antiquities and it is this knowledge which we would like to see used before planning decisions in particular are taken. To this end the Committee has worked hard to build up a good relationship with Surrey Local Authorities. In spite of all this effort, there is still much to be done. We would welcome contact with Parish Councils and Local History and Amenity Societies particularly where this will facilitate early independent advice in the historic and architectural background and so make historically sensitive development more likely. Such positive involvement is so much better than inevitably somewhat negative opposition to schemes when those involved have got a vested interest in a particular solution.

It is the publication of accurate historic information on buildings and other antiquities which is potentially one of the most important means of protecting the historic environment. The Committee made a major contribution to the production of the 6th edition of Antiquities of Surrey by the County Council in 1976. We would like now to see a 7th, expanded, edition of this work produced.

The Committee needs help with secretarial duties, either just arranging meetings and taking minutes etc. or something more involved, according to taste. Any offers?

LIBRARY COMMITTEE

**Gillian Drew
Hon Librarian**

One sometimes hears the cry (particularly when subscriptions go up!) "What does the Society offer to members?"

Surely one of the most tangible benefits must be the use of an extremely fine library. The collection at Castle Arch has extensive material on the archaeology of Surrey, and archaeology in general, and much totally unique material on local history.

It does deserve to be better utilised, and if you have not visited Castle Arch before, we would be delighted to see you. A 'phone call before you come is vital, however, particularly if you have not been before as staff are not always available to help you.

We do offer Saturday morning opening on the first Saturday of the month, and if you find it difficult to get to Guildford, are quite happy to accept enquiries by post, or telephone. We provide photocopies, for a fee, and can arrange loans from the British Library for material we do not have in stock.

Many members can testify to the extremely friendly welcome you will receive at Castle Arch from our three very helpful staff, one of whom devotes all her working hours to the Library. Mrs Sheila Ashcroft will be delighted to receive your enquiries.

It is impossible to give a full list here of what the Library has to offer — lists of new accessions appear regularly in the Bulletin, and for research material in the Annual Report. There is a fine map collection, paintings, prints and drawings — many of them quite unique — press cuttings, scrapbooks, lantern slides, and notebooks as well as books, pamphlets and journals.

It is perhaps the Society's greatest asset, in academic as well as purely financial terms. We would like to encourage members to use it, and to let us know what they think of it.

Missing Books

Does anyone know the whereabouts of the following books?:

East Horsley: the history of a Surrey village, by Pam Bowley P31 HrsE.

Village and farmstead: a history of rural settlement in England, by C Taylor MB1.

If you think you have borrowed or returned them recently, please would you contact Sheila Ashcroft at the Library?

LIBRARY

Local Publications

**Gillian Drew
Hon Librarian**

May I take this opportunity of thanking all the local secretaries and societies who responded so nobly to our appeal for information on publications covering their areas.

We have now checked through all the lists we have been sent, which will be of enormous help in updating our stocks. If anyone could spare the time in future to put in a phone call to Castle Arch if they get to hear of a new local publication for their area, this kind of 'intelligence service' would be very much appreciated.

VISITS COMMITTEE

Sunday, 12th May 2000 Years of Coastal History (Part 2)

Following last year's successful visit to Romney Marsh, Barbara Blatchford has organised a Guided Tour of Winchelsea — Edward I's planned Port, followed by a visit to Pevensey from the Romans to WW2. Coach will pick up at Guildford, Dorking and Reigate, Cost £13.00. Further details from Barbara Blatchford, 49 Minstrel Gardens, Surbiton KT5 8DX.

Wednesday, 15th May at 7.00 pm.

Landscape Walk led by Steve Dyer to Ewood, Newdigate.

Meet at Surrey Oaks car park, Parkgate Road, marked PH on OS map, TQ206437. An area of Wealden oak woodland, an early possession of the Earls of Warenne. From 1553 documented as ironworks, but probably earlier. After closure the former Great Pond remained for recreation, until drained early 19th century. Bank and culverts still remaining.

Walking distance about 3 miles. Lifts possible for part of the way if needed. Duration about one and a half hours. Refreshments available at Surrey Oaks. Joint visit with the Newdigate Society. Members £2, non-members £2.50, students £1. Please send sae with payment to David Evans, 48 Guildford Park Road, Guildford, GU2 6NF.

SURREY INDUSTRIAL HISTORY GROUP

SET 96.

A National Celebration co-ordinated by the British Association

15-30 March 1996

SIHG is putting on an exhibition in conjunction with Guildford Museum in Salters, Castle Street, Guildford. This will be an opportunity to show the collection of display panels the Group has accumulated over the years, and to create some new ones, and, of course, to publicise the Group. The exhibition will be open from 15th – 30th March 1996, 11 am – 5 pm daily except Sundays.

Elmbridge Guide

The SIHG guide for the Borough of Elmbridge was mainly written by Rowland Baker before he died in 1987. It is intended to publish a revised guide in the format of our more recent books within a year or so.

Members living in or near the Borough of Elmbridge (Esher, Thames Ditton, Long Ditton, East and West Molesey, Weybridge, Walton and Hersham, Cobham, Oxshott, Stoke D'Abernon), are invited to help with this task.

Anyone interested in taking part is invited to contact Peter Tarplee who will send them a copy of the old Elmbridge Guide. You will then be able to visit any of the sites listed and note any changes required to the original entry, or provide additional information about them. Sites not listed in the book (such as defence structures, race tracks, etc) could also be written up and included in any revised publication.

The winter is the ideal time for looking out many structures and buildings whilst there are no leaves on the trees and the undergrowth is not so long. Why not add interest to your walks and travels in this area by helping to check on the industrial monuments.

The existing guide will provide details of most of the places to check and even if you only look at a few sites your help would be very much appreciated. You may find that you enjoy searching the area as well as carrying out any documentary research which you may choose to do.

The following is a list of guides currently available post free from Peter Tarplee:

<i>Industrious Surrey — Historic Images of the County at Work</i> by Chris Shepheard and SIHG	£7.99
<i>A Guide to the Industrial Archaeology of Surrey</i> by Glenys Crocker	£3.50
<i>A Guide to the Industrial History of Guildford and its Borough</i> by Francis Haveron	£3.95
<i>A Guide to the Industrial History of the Mole Valley District</i> by Peter Tarplee	£8.95
<i>A Guide to the Industrial History of Spelthorne</i> by John Mills	£4.35
<i>A Guide to the Industrial History of Surrey Heath Borough</i> by John Mills	£5.50
<i>A Guide to the Industrial History of Tandridge District</i> by Malcolm Tadd	£5.75
<i>A Guide to the Industrial History of Woking and its Borough</i> by Iain Wakeford	£5.50

<i>A Guide to the Chilworth Gunpowder Mills</i> by Glenys Crocker	£0.80
<i>The Thames Ditton Statue Factory — The Story of the Factory and the preservation of its Gantry Crane</i> by various authors	£2.50

Copies of the above books may be obtained post free from Peter Tarplee, Donard, East Street, Bookham, Leatherhead, Surrey KT23 4QX Tel: 01372 452301. Cheques should be made payable to *Surrey Industrial History Group*.

NOTES

The Great Roof: Farnham and Westminster Hall

John Price

'A singular edifice and specimen of scientific construction'

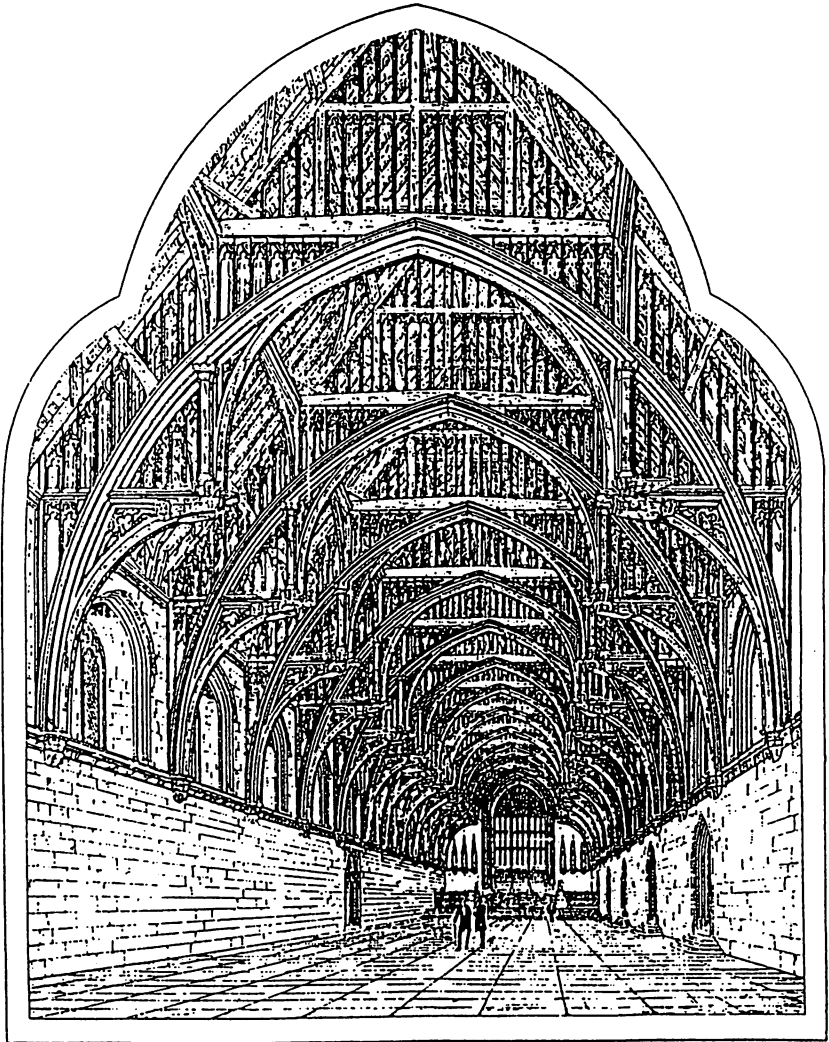
Over 600 years ago Richard II gave orders to rebuild the great hall of the Palace of Westminster. Nearly 300 years old and one of the largest in Europe it had suffered from previous fires, possibly flooding and the wear and tear of centuries. The roof was probably supported by two rows of wooden pillars and there must have been proposals to create a larger space free from interruption and suitable for occasions of state. The problem was, of course, its width, nearly 68 feet. No trees were long enough to bridge it and provide support for a heavy roof structure.

The problems were solved in a remarkable construction which was prefabricated in the Farnham area and transported by cart and on the River Thames to Westminster. The overall work and design was entrusted to two very experienced pensioners, the King's Master Architect, Henry Yevele and the Royal Master Carpenter, Hugh Herland. One authority in recent years has written that 'the oak roof remains as the greatest single work of art of the whole European Middle Ages. No such combined achievement in the fields of mechanics and aesthetics remains elsewhere, nor is there any evidence for such a feat having ever existed.'

At about the time that Geoffrey Chaucer was probably finishing his *Canterbury Tales* a Royal edict went out from Westminster on 1st June 1395:

To the Sheriffs of Berkshire, Southampton and Surrey, strict order to cease every delay and excuse, and to appoint and purvey within his bailiwick in such places as he shall think meet thirty strong wains and sufficient horses and the harness and gear to the same belonging, and as many carters as shall be needful for driving them, causing them to come with their wains etc, to a place called the frame by Farnham for carriage of timber there wrought for the King's great hall within Westminster Palace, so that every such wain be ready for the King's money to be paid to John Godmanston clerk of the said work to carry five loads of timber from thence to Hamme and order to arrest all who shall be found contrary or rebellious and commit them to prison, there to abide until further order, so behaving in the execution of this command that the work which the King desires to complete with all speed, be not delayed by default of the sheriff.

The remodelling involved raising the walls two feet and inserting large stone corbels from a quarry in Yorkshire. Lead for the new roof came from the counties of Derby, Nottingham and York and the timber from forests at Alice Holt, Odiham, Stoke D'Abernon near Leatherhead and Sussex. The giant hammerbeams were combined with great curved arches enabling thirteen spans of carved and decorated oak to cover nearly half an acre.



Medieval records show that nearly 500 cart loads of timber left Farnham, 52 journeys being made by the Royal Chariots hauled by 16 horses which carried the huge half beams and pendant posts that were to be the main roof supports. At the same time 200 oaks were felled in Stoke D'Abernon and many loads of timber, 'Taliwode' and faggots transported to Ditton-on-Thames. The site of 'Le Frame by Farnham' is not known although there is documentary evidence that one existed near the castle gates in the following century. A medieval roll in the British Library indicates the carts travelled 16 leagues to 'Ham' which may have been the Weybridge wharf which handled goods destined for Farnham.

In 1397 when Richard Whittington was becoming Lord Mayor of London for the first time, the roof was largely completed although the final work, which involved the building of two towers at the North end, was not finished until 1400.

In recent years controversy and debate has broken out over the structural importance of the great hammer beams, posts and arch that formed each frame. Jacques Hayman at Cambridge in 1967, suggested that the main load-carrying members were the principal rafters with the great arch and wall posts providing bracing. Rowland Mainstone, another prominent engineer, provided an alternative argument with the idea that the roof support came through the great arch and lower curved braces from the corbel level. Using a scaled-timber model (1:10) and computer modelling, Yun Sheng Huang, with help from Robert Mark and Avery Wellman from the School of Architecture at Princeton University, demonstrated that the vertical support of the roof frames is given by the corbel and wall post and not the wall plates. The main thrust is supported half way down the wall. Restoration has been undertaken at periodical intervals and although much of the original timber survives, it is now supported by steel reinforcing carefully inserted in the large scale repairs in the 1920s, supervised by Sir Frank Baines of the Office of Works.

On 21st October 1995, a plaque commemorating the 600th anniversary of the fabrication was unveiled at the side of 2 Timber Close, Farnham, by the Secretary of State for National Heritage, Virginia Bottomley. Organised by the '1395' Committee, formed 18 months ago, the ceremony was followed by three talks at the nearby Surrey Institute of Art & Design, which is just possibly sited on part of the 14th century 'Frame by Farnham' which gave birth to this medieval masterpiece.

Notes

* from *Illustrations of the Public Buildings of London*, J Britton and A Pugin, 1828, p. 102.

Reprinted with thanks from the Farnham & District Museum Society Newsletter.

A Trial Excavation of the Moat at the Homewood NHS Trust Site, Chertsey, Surrey (TQ 215 648)

**Jane Robertson
Archaeological Officer,
Surrey County Archaeological Unit**

In July 1995 staff of the Surrey County Archaeology Unit (SCAU) undertook a trial excavation of the backfilled Botley's Moat site adjacent to St Peter's Hospital in Chertsey, in the area of the proposed Homewood Public Park. The Surrey Sites and Monuments Record No. 584 suggests that the moat was a waterfilled feature until relatively recently. The purpose of the work was to determine whether reinstatement of the moat as a feature within the proposed public park was possible and if so to identify the appropriate methodology and assess the archaeological implications. The work was undertaken on behalf of P & O Developments.

Using a JCB excavator, two trenches were excavated across the span of the moat and a small area of the interior leading away from the moat was stripped; the surfaces were subsequently cleaned by hand. The backfill of the moat was removed to a depth of 1.2m. the level of the water table, and consisted of a mixture of modern building materials and household rubbish sealed by clean sandy clay. Excavation was not continued below the water table and so it could not be determined to what depth the modern material extends or whether waterlogged archaeological deposits might remain. The test excavations suggest that a similar sequence of deposits is likely to exist for the rest of the site and also confirm the essential accuracy of the position of the moat on Ordnance Survey Records. The original roughly U-shaped upper profile of the moat was revealed with a span of 11m from the inner to the outer side.

Botley's moat is generally considered to have surrounded a small early medieval farmstead of 12th/13th century date. The investigation of the interior did not reveal direct evidence for buildings and structures, but the quantity of roof tile recovered implies the existence of a substantial roofed structure of undetermined date.

Thirty-four sherds of pottery dated to the late 15th/16th century were also recovered and date a phase of activity on site. In view of the limited area examined there is no reason to assume that it represents the only period of activity on the site, and it is probable that remains of earlier occupation exist elsewhere within the moat island.

The development proposal is to echo the line of the former moat creating a shallow (dry) ditch reflecting its former alignment and width, but not its depth. This is highly unlikely to affect anything other than recent deposits and is a preferred solution from the archaeological point of view. Any further work will be carried out with care and under archaeological supervision to ensure the recreation of the genuine original alignment and cover the slight possibility of archaeological deposits being revealed.

There seems to be very little recorded about the moat before it was infilled, and any information on photographs and surveys would be gratefully received by the author at the SCAU offices (Old Library Headquarters, 15 West Street, Dorking, Surrey, RH4 1DE).

Excavations at Frank's Sandpit, Betchworth

David Williams

Following unsupervised topsoil removal for sand extraction in the summer of 1995 this site was visited by the writer, who discovered areas of prehistoric and Roman occupation. For various reasons, following a planning appeal no archaeological condition had been applied to the consent for extraction. Consequently, following an approach to the Society for emergency funding, an excavation commenced on Oct 28th, lasting five weeks and being completed before the December snow. Considerable and enthusiastic help was given by Mr P Crate, the sandpit manager, both with regard to access and storage. A yellow mobile heritage centre was lent by Mr Maurice Keen and proved a most useful base for pot washing and tea making, as well as a retreat from the rare November cold. Negotiations are presently in hand for a return to the site in the coming Spring so a fuller account must await the completion of the work. A summary is presented here.

Two sites were excavated:

Site 1. This was centred around spreads of charcoal exposed following the topsoil removal. The spreads proved to be the disturbed contents of a variety of pits, many containing charcoal and cremated bone. Three further pits contained large quantities of Late Neolithic pottery, mostly grooved ware, a type of flat-bottomed pottery often associated with sites of a ritual or prestigious nature. One pit also contained more than thirty flint scrapers, whilst from another was recovered a small spiral metal ring. Unfortunately, initial hopes that this may have been Late Neolithic were not realised after tests by the British Museum showed it to contain metals other than copper. It is looking possible that the charcoal- and bone-filled pits may be of Bronze Age date and that one of these had cut the Neolithic pit containing the ring.. Large quantities of struck flint were recovered from the sand around the pits along with a fine knife and a broken arrowhead. Surrounding areas also produced sherds of decorated Mortlake-style bowls.

Site 2. On the highest ground were found the terminal of a Late Bronze Age ditch (unexcavated) and a ditched enclosure of late Iron Age/early Roman date. The small enclosure, clearly agricultural in origin, was shaped like an elongated D and measured 68 x 44m externally, being open to the east. The long west side contained a group of five small clay ovens while a sunken path led away from the centre of the south side. Internally traces of a building were meagre. One pit within the enclosure contained two animal jaws within a burnt layer and may be ritual. Large quantities of first century pottery were found, most coming from the ditches, particularly at the southwest corner of the enclosure. Finds other than pottery were few but included half the lower stone of a greensand rotary quern and a brooch of late Iron Age type.

Further work is intended for the Spring, perhaps in May. This will concentrate on tracing the full extent of the important grooved ware activity. On Site 2 the Bronze Age ditch needs to be dug together with an area extending from it to the west.

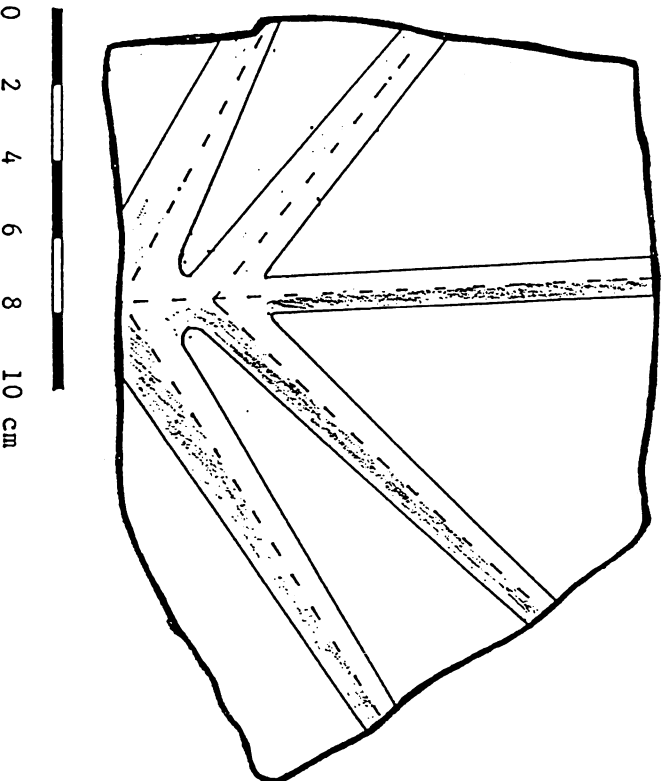
The excavation proved to be extremely successful and would certainly have proved impossible without the considerable help both of members of the Society and other local people. On most days there were seldom fewer than ten people at work and occasionally as many as fifteen, though there were fewer at weekends. Others who may wish to work on the site in the spring are advised to contact me now so that they may be informed when work starts.

St John's Church, Wonerish TQ 01454510

Judie English

A watching brief at St John's Church, Wonerish took place in September 1995 in advance of building an extension to the west end of the nave. Topsoil stripping to a depth of 0.30 – 0.35m revealed four pier foundations of greensand chips in heavy mortar which related to the porch built in 1913. Excavation of the new foundation trenches to a depth of 0.9m over an area 10m by 7m showed the ground to have been extensively disturbed with bone fragments, pieces of brick and tile and a few sherds of nineteenth and twentieth century pottery randomly distributed.

Demolition of the 1913 porch and excavation to a depth of 0.9m at the base of the west wall of the church exposed several phases of that wall. Above ground level (OD 43.69m) the wall is of brick and dates to the major rebuilding of 1793/4. This wall rests on a well built wall of greensand blocks within which have been incorporated two re-used pieces of moulded, fine grained stone, possibly Caen stone. The only similar moulding now obviously visible within the church is the arch between the chancel and



Incised stone at St. John's Church, Wonerish, exposed during building outside west hall.

the north chapel, which is dated to the early fifteenth century. Also included within the fabric of this greensand wall is a piece of fine-grained stone incised with a line design resembling the veins of a leaf (fig). This stone appeared to have undergone neither wear nor erosion. This wall may represent foundations for the 1793/4 west wall or may be the remains of an older phase but the re-use of the late medieval material makes the former identification more likely.

In the bottom of the modern trench, and protruding slightly from beneath the greensand, was a row of chalk or clunch blocks. These could only be located for 7.5m south from the north-west corner of the nave. Whilst these chalk blocks may have continued for the entire length of the west wall, probing in the base of the trench failed to locate them. The length over which the chalk blocks were exposed corresponds to the width of the nave, without that of the south aisle which is now combined with the nave as a single space.

The south aisle and much of the nave were rebuilt in 1793/4 and it is not now possible to date the original south aisle. However, Womersley is thought to have been one of three churches assessed under the Bramley estate in the Domesday Survey and, as such, is considered to have been one of a group including Hascombe, Alfold and Cranleigh which testify to the consolidation of Wealden settlement in the eleventh century. These early churches had a simple two cell plan and it may be that the chalk foundations exposed during the recent work relate to the Saxo-Norman church.

Bronze Age Metalwork from Ewell

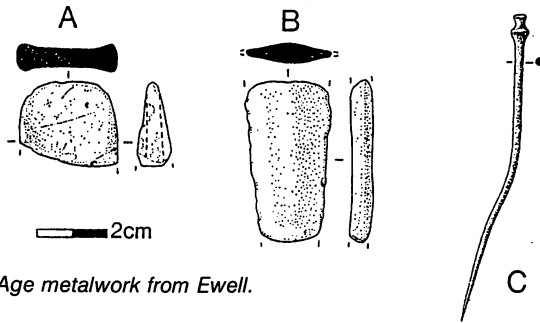
Jonathan Cotton

The writer was recently shown a small collection of mainly Roman and later finds recovered some years ago by John Gibson from various points in and around Ewell, amongst which were the three pieces noted here. All were found with the aid of a metal detector: the first two on ploughland south-east of Howell Hill, East Ewell, and the third from Seymour's Nursery ('Hatch Furlong') on the south-eastern outskirts of the village itself. Both localities lie on the Upper Chalk close to its junction with the Thanet Sand outcrop.

The first piece (A on the accompanying figure) was found on the floor of a steep-sided dry valley at TQ 2350 6215 and 'in the middle of a patch of particularly stony ground disturbed by deep ploughing'. It comprises the symmetrically rounded butt of a copper alloy axe weighing 18.75g. The piece has a stable, dark green-brown patina, although the high points of the flanges are chipped and damaged. The fragment is too slender for a palstave and may therefore belong to an early Middle Bronze Age haft-flanged axe, or possibly a late Early Bronze Age flanged form (Stuart Needham pers comm).

The second piece (B on accompanying figure) was found in an adjacent field several hundred metres further up the same valley to the south at TQ 2345 6184. It comprises a segment of a tapering copper alloy blade with a low rounded midrib, 44mm in length and weighing 20.38g. It is in poor condition: no original metal surfaces survive and the worn, red-green patina has been chipped in two or three places, probably through plough action. The small size and worn condition of the piece makes identification difficult: it may form part of a Late Bronze Age leaf-shaped sword, or just possibly a late Middle Bronze Age rapier — the former being the more likely.

The third piece (C on accompanying figure), from Seymour's Nursery, was found at TQ 2225 6240. It comprises a complete but slightly bent copper alloy 'vase-headed' pin with a plain shank of circular section. It is 86mm in length (somewhat longer when straight) weighs 3.16g and has a stable, dark green-brown surface patina. Such pins are not common in Britain, but characteristic of parts of central and northern Europe, with a date-range spanning the Late Bronze Age. Locally, there are several examples in the Layton Collection (Museum of London 0.1541 & 0.1543), presumably from the



Bronze Age metalwork from Ewell.

Thames in west London, and another, stratified, piece from Runnymede Bridge (SAS Res Vol 6 (1980), 21 & fig 12, no 12).

As far as the writer is aware, these are the first pieces of Bronze Age metalwork to have been recorded from the Ewell area (though there are unconfirmed reports of the discovery of a 'bronze spearhead' in the North Looe locality (Jeremy Harte pers comm). The size and weight of the first two suggests that they had been broken up as scrap for re-casting.

All three have been returned to their finder, to whom thanks are due for allowing publication here. Thanks are due to Stuart Needham for commenting on the pieces. It is hoped to record the other Ewell finds in due course.

An Archaeological Watching Brief at the Angel Hotel, Guildford (SU 996 495) **Jane Robertson**
Archaeological Officer, SCAU

Between November 1994 and February 1995 staff at the Surrey County Archaeological Unit (SCAU) carried out a watching brief on construction work to create an extension to the Angel Hotel, Guildford following an archaeological evaluation carried out by SCAU in May 1994.

A total of eleven features (nine pits and two wall foundations) were identified during the different stages of construction work. Six of the pits were dated to the medieval period (between the late 12th and 14th centuries) and one pit was dated to the late 17th/early 18th century. Four of the features (two pits and two wall foundations) produced no dateable finds. The undated pits possessed similar fills to those of medieval date which lay close by. It is therefore quite possible that they are of a similar date.

The dates of the medieval pits indicate that they may be nearly contemporary with the initial construction of the Undercroft which survives near the front of the hotel.

A 12th Century Room found in Guildford **John Boas, Mary Alexander**
and Kevin Fryer
Guildford Museum Excavation Unit

During evaluation work before re-development in a High Street shop we realised that there was a large area below the middle of the shop that could not be accounted for. There was no access to it and the cellar in front of it seemed unusually short for the property. The developer needed to know what was in this area so the Unit investigated. Small holes in the modern brick wall of the cellar revealed chalk walls behind, so a bigger hole was made revealing a large doorway of good quality dressed chalk blocks. The doorway and the space beyond was filled with chalk rubble. This was removed by hand, all 25 tons of it, and the few pieces showing signs of working were kept.

As the work progressed a 12th century room appeared, complete up to about 4 feet above floor level. The room is about 10 feet square, with a door in the NW corner and another opening in the SE corner. All round the rest of the walls runs a stone ledge or bench, with a chamfered edge, about 16 inches above existing floor level. On the east and west sides are two pilasters with traces of red and black paint. One of the pilasters (NW) has the slight remains of mouldings at the top, showing that they survive to almost their original height. Above them would presumably have been round-headed arches of a blind arcade. Parts of what may be two capitals were found in the rubble. The N and S walls have squared stonework at either side of a recess.

The SE corner had an opening with a chalk staircase surviving to the height of the rest of the room, which had been crudely blocked in. There was little wear on the steps, and the bottom step, which would have projected into the room, had been removed. The stonework is of poorer quality than the rest of the room and is likely to be of a different date.

The room is a remarkable survival and according to English Heritage nothing similar is known. We were pleased with that, but the room became even more extraordinary when a Jewish archaeologist suggested that it might be a synagogue. Remains of Jewish buildings in this country are very rare so it is difficult to find anything to compare it with. However, several Jewish historians and archaeologists have seen the room and all agree that it could be a synagogue. There are many factors that point to this — the elaborate architecture in such a small room, the stone bench, holes in the walls where necessary furnishings may have hung, fire-damaged stone-work possibly caused by a continuously burning lamp, paintings on the walls. Although some of this is conjecture the archaeological evidence is very clear: the stonework is late 12th century and the room was deliberately demolished in the late 13th century when it was still in good condition and usable. The only find from the room itself is a silver penny of Henry III (class 5 a-c) dated 1251-1272, by Walter of London, withdrawn from circulation in 1279. The Jews were expelled from the Queen Mother's dower towns in 1275 (Guildford was one of these) and from the rest of the country in 1290.

The fact that the room was demolished and sealed over for 700 years suggests that it may have been a synagogue which no mediaeval Christian would have a use for. We may never know whether it was a synagogue or not but we do know that it is a very unusual building. It has opened up a fascinating aspect of the history of Guildford which has not been studied before. It has also proved yet again that every inch of Guildford town centre needs archaeological investigation.

We have been very fortunate that the owners of the site, The Equitable Life Assurance Society, have taken such trouble to investigate it before submitting a planning application. The occupiers of the shop have been unfailingly helpful and friendly, so we must respect the wishes of the owners that the location is kept confidential at present. The awkward access to the site and the security of the shop make it impossible at present to organise visits but we hope that the site will be accessible to the general public in the future.

GUILDFORD MUSEUM EXCAVATION UNIT: RECENT WORK

16, Buryfields, Guildford

A hole in the ground found by the owner of the house proved to be a Victorian soakaway, made from an early well shaft. There were no finds. Buryfields is an old road, but the houses were built in the late 19th c.

Old Electricity Works, Guildford

During excavation for a new basement at the 1913 works by the river, the skeleton of a horse was found in the river silt. Old cable tunnels leading towards the town centre were observed.

61, Quarry Street

During alterations a site visit showed evidence of chalk walling under the later brick walling of the cellar.

6, Baillie Road, Guildford

Another hole in the ground found by a disconcerted owner was a brick-lined soakaway, contemporary with the house of about 1890.

Church Cottage, Pirbright

A watching brief, carried out after workmen had dug the foundation trench for an extension at the side of the house, produced sherds of pottery from the 12th to the 18th centuries, in a continuous sequence. The pottery was recovered from the spoil heap and so was not stratified, but it included sherds of an earlier date than the existing house. More significantly, four of the sherds are wasters. A fuller report has been lodged with the SAS and the SMR.

Manor House, Pirbright

A watching brief was undertaken during the laying of a new water main to the moated manor house. Evidence for the filled-in areas of the moat was found. Most of the pottery was post-mediaeval, with only one sherd of mediaeval pottery. The Manor House is a very interesting timber-framed building, with a stone cellar. It has been altered and added to over several centuries.

6, Quarry Street, Guildford

During alterations to the 16th-17th c. timber-framed building, chalk walling from an earlier structure was found in the cellar. A small excavation was undertaken on the line of a new sewer trench. Evidence for an earlier building came from a brick floor some 40 cm below present floor level in the cellar. This was covered with a layer 25 cm thick of burnt material. This burnt layer was found again in another room (room 3).

The finds included red ware of 14th-15th c. date; White Border Ware, 1650-1799; Red Border Ware, late 17th-early 18th c.; and tin-glazed ware of 1720-40. Metal door furniture, animal bones and clay pipes were found.

112, High Street, Guildford

A site visit during alterations has shown what is most probably the walls of a badly damaged undercroft: parts of a possible corbel with the surface destroyed, steps leading to a filled-in door and a mediaeval opening now filled in but still showing the recessed stone edgings. This cellar lines up with further chalk walls found at 120, High Street, where pottery from the 12th, 13th and 15th centuries was found.

King's Head P.H., Quarry Street, Guildford

During the watching brief on the continuation of the work at the King's Head, trial trenches have produced 12th-13th c. pottery, and from one context a number of scratched ware sherds of the 11th c.

During the alterations a further two areas of pargetting have been found. One is a continuation of the area recorded by the Guildford Group on the original east gable, hidden by a later extension. The second area is on the south wall in the present stair-well, showing that this wall was once also an outside wall, before the southern half of the building was built.

Chalk block walls which do not, apparently, relate to the timber-framed building have been found beneath it. In conjunction with the pottery this shows that there was habitation in the area before the building which is now the King's Head. The walls are not large enough to be major castle walls, which throws even more doubt on the idea that there was a corner tower here.

59, Quarry Street, Guildford (Baldock's Solicitors)

During work in these offices 52 century decorated floor tiles made in Penn in Bucks in the 14th c. were found, bedded in three fire places on the top floor. They probably came from the chancel of St Mary's church, opposite, which was shortened in 1825 when no. 59 was being rebuilt, as the rectory.

49-50, Quarry Street, Guildford (Traylen's bookshop)

Whilst investigating cellars under the book shop several chalk block walls were discovered. Two are of great thickness, the largest being over 7 feet thick. The wall running at right angles had a visible thickness of 2' 9", the rest being hidden behind a modern wall. Their size gives rise to the possibility that they are the elusive corner tower of the castle. Further investigation will be carried out.

20, Chapel Street, Guildford (formerly La Boulangerie)

Alterations to the now-empty shop have given the Museum Unit the chance to investigate the property. Large parts of the cellar are of chalk block walls, including several dressed stones 12" deep. In the north wall is a blocked-in door or other access. There is an unusual curved stone wall marking the boundary of the property at the rear. The watching brief continues.

Somerset House, High Street, Guildford

Alterations to turn part of this building of c1700 into a pub were observed. The foundations of an early Victorian bay window were seen. The construction of a cellar chute from the street revealed an earlier, smaller opening. Otherwise, very little work was done below ground. Conversation with a previous tenant revealed that there had once been two levels of cellar, but the lower one is now filled in. The house is of architectural and historical interest as it belonged to the wealthy Duke of Somerset in the early 18th c., but unfortunately very little documentary evidence has been found about it.

MUSEUM OF LONDON ARCHAEOLOGY SERVICE

A brief note of some of the recent work undertaken by MoLAS in the historic County between May and September 1995:

KINGSTON

Turks Boatyard (Steve Tucker) Site Code: TJR 95

An evaluation was undertaken to ascertain the presence and activity of the waterfront during the period of medieval Kingston. In Trench 1, evidence was found of two waterfronts. The first was a low wattle revetment held together by timber stakes of ?medieval date. The second was a pile and plank revetment introduced during the post-medieval period. Trench 2 contained the remains of a late medieval revetment, formed with re-used boat timbers supported by heavy driven posts. A number of environmental samples were collected and assessed. These produced seeds representing very few food plants (eg Grape), a range of weeds of disturbed/wasteground and plants of wet/marshland environments, freshwater and terrestrial molluscs and animal bones (including sheep/goat, rabbit, dog) and occasional fish vertebrae. Collectively this material may provide information on the character of the local environment and human activities in this area.

LAMBETH

127 Stamford Street (Steve Tucker) Site Code: SMF 95

A watching brief was carried out during the excavation of engineering test pits in order to ascertain the survival and presence of underlying peats and clay. A series of lower peat horizons was recorded at +0.03m OD down to -0.26m OD, which may have been laid down during the mid-late bronze age. Samples of the peat were taken. Further work is planned after the demolition of the standing building.

MERTON

56 Parkside (Carrie Cowan) Site Code: PKG95

An evaluation revealed two small gullies, one containing pottery dating to the 1st millennium BC, and a post-medieval bedding trench.

Wates Way, Mitcham (Dave Saxby) Site Code: WWY95

An evaluation produced no features of archaeological significance. Three trenches were excavated to a depth of c2m. Within all trenches the natural alluvium was overlain by made ground (c1-2m deep) dating from the 19th century.

SOUTHWARK

Borough High St Ticket Hall JLE (James Drummond-Murray/Pete Thompson) Site Code: BGH95

An excavation is being carried out during the construction of a new ticket hall. Conditions are unusual; staff are working under a major road with live services (BT, water, electricity) suspended from the underside of the road.

Area A: Remains of several post-medieval cellars from buildings on the west frontage of Borough High Street were uncovered. These cellars truncated all stratigraphy down to the Roman period. A series of linear features along the east side of the Roman road running up to London Bridge were recorded. These included a large masonry wall (robbed out) with pile foundations and a series of monumental foundation pads, possible for a portico alongside the road. Two east-west roads running up to the main north-south road have tentatively been identified.

Areas B and D: Early clearance has revealed c2m of clay and timber and masonry Roman buildings on the east side of the Roman road.

Nearly 100 coins have so far been recovered, mainly by metal detector.

London Bridge Station Area 5 (Pete Thompson) Site Code: LBE95

An excavation uncovered a broad sequence of post-medieval dumps, and late Roman dumps sealing earlier Roman dumps or waterlain deposits. Within this sequence a medieval drainage/boundary ditch ran west-east across the site. Beneath the later Roman dumps were the remains of a chalk foundation raft for a masonry building. The stone had been removed from a 1.10m wide robber trench, in the late 3rd- or 4th-century AD. The chalk foundation formed the east wall and north-eastern corner of the building. No internal features survived within the area of excavation.

A series of three west-east Roman drainage/boundary ditches crossed the site. The later ditch had disturbed two inhumations, both burials though truncated were orientated roughly north-south. The shallow graves contained no coffin evidence or grave goods.

An earlier series of two pits, post-holes and a north-south ditch were revealed in the northern area of the site. The south-eastern part of the site had a full sequence of post-medieval dumps to early Roman inundation deposits, with several pits cut into the top of the inundation deposits. Natural sands occurred at 0.50m OD. No evidence of prehistoric activity was revealed.

Spot-dating on the Roman pottery is underway. There is a high proportion of amphorae from numerous sources including Spain, Italy and Gaul. There is also a large and interesting selection of Samian ware from South Gaul. This material bears a remarkable similarity to material on the other side of London Bridge — such as Regis House.

London Bridge Area 7 (JLE) (Pete Thompson) Site Code: LBH94

The eastern half of the excavation has been completed. A wall foundation, including a ?18th century brick construction and an earlier construction of rag, chalk and brick on elm and oak planks and piles, has been found. Post-medieval dumps overlie waterlain deposits, one containing Roman building material. The western half of the excavation is on-going. A W-E orientated ragstone and chalk wall foundation, abutted by ?18th century brick wall foundations, and a series of medieval pits and fragments of wall foundations of ?16th-17th century date, have so far been located.

Tooley Street (Ian Grainger) Site Code: TLY95

An excavation has been undertaken following an earlier evaluation this year. Traces of a small inlet to the south of the Thames was found. This natural feature contained a number of worked timbers, including a number of stakes and one probable house timber in excess of 6m long, together with a limited amount of Roman pottery including a nearly complete miniature carinated bowl in Hadham oxidised ware, and three cattle skulls. This inlet was sealed by up to 1.5m of clay deposited by the Thames in the medieval period. This deposit was cut by a number of ditches used for drainage or property boundaries which were dug and filled between the late medieval periods and the 17th century.

Trocette (Al Steele) Site Code: TOB95

An excavation revealed part of an east-west aligned barrel-vaulted drain which may prove to be part of the large drain found to the south of the reredorter in excavations at Bermondsey Abbey. A large wall at the south end of the site is a good candidate for the abbey precinct wall. Otherwise the site produced mainly Roman cut features truncating natural gravel.

WANDSWORTH

Southlands College (Kieron Heard) Site Code: SCR95

An evaluation was undertaken in advance of the construction of new academic and residential buildings. The main aims were to find evidence for prehistoric activity and 18th century landscaping/gardens. Two 18th-19th century brick drains and ploughsoil containing 17th-18th century material, and one possible sherd of prehistoric pottery, were found.

MISCELLANY

London Brown Stoneware Hunting Mugs

At SAS HQ we have received a request for information on the origins and purpose of certain London Brown Stoneware Hunting Mugs, produced between 1713-1775. They bear Jacobite symbols, hunting scenes and some carry lines from a ballad "The Hunting of the Hare...as 'twas performed on Banstead Downs..."

Our enquirer would like to know if there is a connection between these mugs and a Hunting Club on Banstead Downs, on land leased from a Mr Lambert c.1720.

If you think you can help please contact Mr W Hamilton-Foyn on 01285 652012 or the SAS Library, where a full account of Mr Hamilton-Foyn's research, together with an illustration, list and description of existing mugs and the ballad, is held.

EXHIBITION

The Wey Navigation

An exhibition mounted by the National Trust at Dapdune Wharf, Guildford to mark the centenary of the Trust has been opened up to the whole of the Wharf and, in addition, describes the history of the Navigation from the time of its construction and contains a number of recorded commentaries and interactive displays. Among the models there is one which will enable visitors to learn how to operate a lock.

This permanent display, at what is probably Guildford's most important industrial heritage site also includes the Wey barge "Reliance" which will be restored so that it can be opened to the public to show the accommodation which existed in these boats.

The general displays at the Wharf have been improved and the water turbine from the Town Mill has been mounted at the entrance with the stator and rotor separated to show its construction.

The exhibition identifies an important property of the National Trust which so often does not get the same publicity as its stately homes. The displays are in the old stable at Dapdune Wharf which is open at all times accessible from the car park.

Further information is available from the Navigations Office on 01483-561389.

PUBLICATIONS

"**A History of Ashted**", edited by J C Stuttard. The Leatherhead & District Local History Society has produced this book in response to local demand, as their previous history, 'Ashted, a Village Transformed', has been out of print for many years. The

new history gives a much more detailed account of the 19th and 20th centuries than the former book, as the writers have had access to much new material which has become available. It includes chapters on schools, sport, the arts, etc and there are over 70 black and white photographs, drawings and maps. Copies of the book, price £9.99, will be on sale in most local bookshops and in Ashted Public Library and Memory Lane Antiques, The Street; and in Leatherhead at the Public Library and the Museum, 64 Church Street.

“Palaces and parks of Richmond and Kew, Volume I: the palaces of Shene and Richmond”, by John Cloake. Published by Phillimore, 1995, ISBN 0 85033 976 6. Hardback, £37.50, 304pp, 11 col plates, 130 black-and white illus. This is the first volume of a two-volume work which will cover the history of the royal estate of Richmond and Kew from its origins to the present day. Volume I deals with the earlier history, from the original manor house and two medieval palaces of Shene to the great Tudor palace which was re-named Richmond, up to 1660. The second volume is to be published during 1996.

The Breweries and Public Houses of Guildford Part Two. 1995, which continues The Breweries and Public Houses of Guildford, 1990, by Mark Sturley. Part Two describes the history of all the breweries and public houses in the former Guildford Rural District which is now within the modern Borough, while the earlier book dealt with the historic Borough: as such it describes every parish from Ash and Seale in the west to Effingham and Holmbury St Mary in the east, as well as some adjacent parishes that are outside the Borough. Both books are available from the writer at 16 Great Goodwin Drive, Guildford GU1 2TX. Price: Part 1 £9.95. Part 2 £10.95.

CONFERENCES

Council for Kentish Archaeology CHATHAM'S HISTORIC DOCKYARD

Saturday, 20th April 1996

An all-day event at Kent's famous Royal Dockyard covering various aspects of its four centuries of naval and defensive history.

GUIDED TOUR (11.00am — 1.00pm)

of either FORT AMHERST (Britain's premier Napoleonic fortress and a major part of the Dockyard's defences)

OR of the DOCKYARD MUSEUM (created by the Dockyard workers giving a unique insight into the life of the Dockyard)

ILLUSTRATED LECTURES (2.15 – 5.30pm) in the DOCKYARD CHURCH

“Evolution (some aspects) of Chatham Dockyard”

by Keith Slade, (Chairman CDHS)

“Chatham and the architecture of the Royal Dockyards”

by Jonathan Coad (English Heritage)

“Defences of Chatham Dockyard”

by Geoff Harvey (Medway Military Research Group)

TICKETS:	All day	£5.00
	Morning only	£1.75
	Afternoon only	£3.50

Please state WHICH TOUR IS REQUIRED, when applying for ticket, from CKA, 5 Harvest Bank Road, West Wickham, Kent BR4 9DL (payable CKA, with sae please).

DAYSCHOOLS

The following are organised by the Centre for Continuing Education, University of Sussex in association with the Sussex Archaeological Society. Further details may be obtained from CCE, University of Sussex, Brighton. Telephone 01273 678527.

30th March. "Archaeology of Sussex". From Palaeolithic era to the nineteenth century. Tutor: Luke Barber. To be held in Rye. Fee £16.

13th April. "Avebury and the Neolithic in Wessex". An exploration of the monuments in the Avebury region, Tutor: Paul Garwood. To be held at Sussex University. Fee £16.

13th April. "Woodlands Ancient and Modern". Learn how to recognise ancient woodland in Sussex and discuss the ecological history and management of woods. Tutor: Simon Davey. To be held at the University with a possible visit to Parham. Fee £16.

27th April. "Celts and Romans on the Rhine". This is an introduction to the Study Tour to Trier (see below). Tutors: Con Ainsworth and Colin Baddeley. To be held at the University. Fee £16.

STUDY TOUR

"Roman Trier and the Moselle". Sunday 4th-11th August 1996. An eight day air and coach study tour offering an opportunity to gain and understanding of the history and development of a key area of the Roman Empire. Trier, a fourth century AD Imperial Capital, has a rich Roman Heritage including the Porta Nigra, the Basilika, three major bath complexes and a fine amphitheatre. The City Museum houses an outstanding collection of exhibits, and a wide range of monuments representing Roman provincial culture in the vicinity of Trier will also be visited. Tutors: Colin Baddeley and David Rudling. Fees £535 to include half-board accommodation, transport and entrance fees. Further details from Rosemary Millen at CCE, University of Sussex, 01273 678924.

COURSES

Talking about Archaeology III. "From Coaches to Railways". A study of information and artefacts from archaeological excavations in Bagshot. Fridays 10.00-12.00 commencing 26th April 1996. 10 weeks. Fee £44. Tutor Geoffrey H Cole MIFA. Further details from the Surrey Heath Adult Education Area. Telephone 01276-20145.

EXCAVATIONS

SAS Training Excavation, 20th July-11th August 1996 at Abinger under the direction of Steve Dyer. Further details and application forms from Judie English at Flat 1, 2 Rowland Road, Cranleigh, GU6 8SW.

Bignor Roman Villa

The Field Archaeology Unit, Institute of Archaeology, University College London, will be running Archaeological Training Courses at Bignor Roman Villa, West Sussex. The Director will be David Rudling, MA, BSc, FSA, MIFA. The Courses available are:

Weekday Courses

a	8th-12th July	—	Excavation Techniques
b	15th-19th July	—	Excavation Techniques
c	22nd-26th July	—	Excavation Techniques
d	29th July-2nd August	—	Excavation Techniques
e	5th-9th August	—	Surveying for Archaeologists
f	12th-16th August	—	Excavation Techniques

Weekend Courses

g	13th-14th July	—	Geophysical Prospecting for Archaeologists
h	13th-14th July	—	Surveying for Archaeologists
j	20th-21st July	—	Planning and Section Drawing
k	20th-21st July	—	Timber-Framed Buildings
l	27th-28th July	—	Surveying for Archaeologists
m	10th-11th August	—	Geophysical Prospecting for Archaeologists
n	17th-18th August	—	Planning and Section Drawing

For further details and application forms contact Mrs Sheila Maltby, The Field Archaeology Unit, Turner Dumbrell Workshops, North End, Ditchling, East Sussex BN6 8TG. Telephone/Fax 01273-845497.

MEETINGS

15th March

“New Evidence for the Origin of Man”. A lecture by Dr David Price-Williams, University of London, to the Richmond Archaeological Society in The Vestry Hall, Paradise Road, Richmond at 8.00 pm. Admission: members free, non-members £2.

19th March

“The Collections of Kingston Museum”. A lecture by Paul Hill of the Museum and Heritage Service to the Friends of Kingston Museum in the Antechamber, the Market Place, Kingston at 8.00 pm. Suggested donation £1.50.

20th March

“Chipstead and the 800th anniversary of its church”. A lecture by Charles Pringle to the Holmesdale Natural History Club at The Museum, 14 Croydon Road, Reigate, RH2 0PG at 8.15 pm. Visitors £2.

21st March

“Looking for old tracks round Surrey and Hampshire”. A lecture by John Culshaw to the Farnham & District Museum Society in the United Reformed Church Hall, South Street at 7.30 for 7.45 pm.

21st March

The AGM of the Barnes and Mortlake History Society followed by a slide show "Hot air balloons in south-west London" by David Catford. To be held in the Main Hall at the Sheen Lane Centre at 8.00 pm.

23rd March 1996

Surrey Local History Council Spring Meeting. "Hospitals and Nursing" to be held at Dorking Christian Centre at 2.00 pm. Details circulated with *Bulletin* 299.

23rd March

The 16th West London Local History Conference. Theme: One Hundred Years of Cinema. To be held at Montague Hall, Hounslow. *Details in Bulletin* 299.

23rd March

The 33rd Annual Conference of London Archaeologists at the Museum of London. *Details in Bulletin* 299.

23rd March

"Pictures and Painters in Elmbridge". A talk by Avril Lansdell to the Esher & District LHS at the United Reformed Church, Speer Road, Thames Ditton at 2.30 pm. This event forms part of the Elmbridge Arts Festival.

26th March

"Recent Archaeological and Historical Work". A series of talks to the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society at Hawkstone Hall, Kennington Road, Lambeth at 7 for 7.30 pm.

29th March

"Samian Pottery". A lecture by Joanna Bird to the Holmesdale Natural History Club in the Museum, 14 Croydon Road, Reigate at 8.15 pm. Visitors £2.00.

3rd April

"Life in a Pot Shed". A lecture by Suzanne Huson of the County Archaeological Unit to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at St. Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell, at 8 pm.

12th April

"The Crystal Palace". A lecture by Ian Bevan of Crystal Palace Foundation to the Merton Historical Society at Snuff Mill Environmental Centre, Morden Hall Park at 8.00 pm.

18th April

"London in the Blitz". A lecture by Mr Terry Charman of the Imperial War Museum to the Barnes and Mortlake History Society in the Main Hall at the Sheen Lane Centre at 8.00 pm.

19th April

The AGM of the Leatherhead & District LHS followed by a lecture by Dr Derek Renn on "Old Sarum" at the Dixon Hall, Leatherhead Institute at 7.30 pm for 8.00 pm. Admission 50p members, £1 non-members.

19th April

"Excavations at No. 1 Poultry". A lecture by Peter Rowsome of MoLAS to the Richmond Archaeological Society in The Vestry Hall, Paradise Road, Richmond at 8.00 pm. Admission: members free, non-members £2.

23rd April

"The Story of Garson's Farm". A talk by Mr Peter Thompson to Esher & District LHS at the United Reformed Church, Speer Road, Thames Ditton at 7.30 pm.

~~23rd April~~ "The Roman Port of London". A lecture by Bruce Watson to the Lambeth and Lambeth Archaeological Society at Hawkstone Hall, Kennington, Lambeth at 7.00 pm for 7.30 pm.

~~29th April~~

"The History of the Domestic Clock". A lecture by Mr K Blake-Roberts to the Mayford and Woking District History Society at Mayford Village Hall at 7.30pm for 8.00 pm. Admission £2 — visitors welcome.

Editor's Note:

I should like to express my thanks to all those who respond to pleas for copy, and especially to those who have contributed to this special edition marking the 300th issue. The result, I hope, demonstrates the range of activities undertaken by Council through its committees, to support the work of members and member societies throughout the historic County and, also, the variety of archaeological and historical research by groups and individuals.

As Dennis Turner (first Bulletin editor) writes, it was intended as a regular means of communicating with members and to convey information, items of interest, research and activities. And so it remains. I echo his plea for copy — the future success of the Bulletin depends on continuing support from members.

Our thanks are due especially to Maureen Roberts at Castle Arch, who types the Bulletin and copes with last minute copy and changes with unfailing good humour and efficiency and, also, to Sue Janaway and her family who dispatch each issue.

Appreciation is also due to our printers, Arrow Press, who manage to incorporate new information at the very last minute and still keep to the deadline, and finally, a special note of thanks to Tony Nash of Arrow Press who kindly donated the costs of printing the colour representation of the Abinger mosaic.

My thanks to you all.

Editor: Audrey Monk, Bryony Bank, Beech Hill, Hambledon, Surrey GU8 4HL

Next Issue: Copy required by 23rd March 1996 for May issue