



SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD GU1 3SX
Tel/Fax: 01483 532454

Bulletin

Number 314

October 1997

COUNCIL NEWS

Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the incorporated Surrey Archaeological Society will be held at 3.15 pm on Sunday, 7th December at Gatton Hall, Royal Alexandra and Albert School, Gatton Park, Reigate, Surrey (*for directions see below*).

Arrangements are being made for members to be able to visit St Andrew's Church and the gardens being restored before the meeting (*see below*).

AGENDA

- 1 Apologies for absence.
- 2 To consider and, if appropriate, to sign as correct, the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the 30th November 1996. (*A draft copy of the Minutes may be inspected at Castle Arch, and copies will be available at the meeting*).
- 3 To receive and consider the Annual Report, the Statement of Accounts, and the Auditor's Report for the year to 31st March 1997 and, if approved, to accept them.
- 4 To elect the President for 1997-1998.
- 5 To elect Honorary Vice-Presidents for 1997-1998.
- 6 To elect Vice-Presidents for 1997-1998.
- 7 To elect Honorary Officers for 1997-8.
- 8 To elect six Ordinary Members of Council to retire in 2001 under Article 21a.

Nominations for election under items 4-8 should be sent to the Honorary Secretary not less than seven days before the meeting. All nominations require a proposer and a seconder, who must be members of the Incorporated Society, and nominations must be accompanied by a signed statement by the nominee of his or her willingness to stand for election. Institutional members are not eligible for election.

- 9 To re-appoint as Auditors M G Beattie & Co and to authorise Council to determine the Auditor's remuneration.
- 10 Any other Business.

The Annual General Meeting will be followed by a talk on Gatton Park and the Restoration of the Gardens by Mrs Brenda Lewis. Tea will be served at the end of the talk at approximately 4.30 pm.

St Andrew's Church (in the Park on the approach to Gatton Hall) will be open at 2.00 pm when the Church Warden, Mr Frank Knox, an authority on the history of the church will give a short talk, and at 2.30 pm Mrs Pat Pay, who is the Environment

Director for the Gatton Park Educational Trust, will give a guided tour of The Gardens and plans for restoration.

Directions

By Road from M25 Exit Junction 8, taking A217 towards Reigate. After 400 metres fork left into Gatton Bottom, signposted Merstham. After one mile turn right into Rocky Lane (signpost: Royal Alexandra and Albert School). The school entrance is on the right after a further 400 metres. St Andrew's Church is on the left. There is parking at the School.

By Road from Reigate Follow A217 and signs to the M25. You cannot turn right into Gatton Bottom from this direction, and will need to go round the roundabout (Junction 8), and exit as above.

By Train Merstham Station is 1.5 miles from the School. Redhill Station is 2.5 miles.

New Members

We are pleased to welcome the following new members to the Society:

Billingham, P R, Page Wood Cottage, Rectory Lane, Charlwood, RH6 0EF
Boyd, Ms M A, 144 Peperharow Road, Godalming, GU7 2PW
Finden-Browne, Mrs H M, 111 Potters Lane, Send, GU23 7AW
Burchell, C J, 85 Sun Brow, Haslemere, GU27 2QL
Cottle, Ruth, 9 Juniper Place, Shalford Common, Guildford, GU4 8DA
Cowie, R, 15 May Road, Twickenham, Middx. TW2 6QW
Davis, D, 5 Epsom Down, Alton, Hants, GU34 2TJ
Eades, Lucy H, 11 Chailey Place, Hersham, KT12 4LQ
Faulkner, Miss C E, Hunters Lodge, 1 River Avenue, Thames Ditton, KT7 0RS
Le Neve Foster, Miss J C, Old Croft, Christmas Hill, Shalford, Guildford, GU4 8HP
Franklin, Captain J E, Wey Cottage, Squires Hill Lane, Tilford, GU10 2AD
Furlong, D R, 33 Beacon Hill Court, Beacon Hill, Hindhead, GU26 6PO
Laver, Mrs A, High Elms, Ripley Lane, West Horsley, KT24 6JJ
Manton, R D, Bakery Cottage, The Green, Dunsfold, GU8 4LZ
Marriott, J D, 41 South Road, Bisley, Woking, GU24 9ET
Melesi, Mrs A, Lynwood, Cliftonville, Dorking, RH4 2YF
Nice, B A, 4 Eastdean Avenue, Epsom, KT18 7SN
Powell, R, 34 Windsor Way, Maybury, Woking, GU22 8DJ
Primrose, A, Farthingworth, Cranmore Lane, West Horsley, KT24 6BY
Pruce, J C, 128 Mid Street, South Nutfield, RH1 4JH
Vaughan, D W, Meadows, Lawns Road, Baynards, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 3AE
Vickerstaff, P D, 41 Onslow Road, Guildford, GU1 4HU
Walder, Ms E A, 2 Riding Hill, Sanderstead, CR2 9LN
Watson, Mrs C M, Ridge Cottage, High Barn Road, Effingham, KT24 5PX

YOUNG ARCHAEOLOGISTS CLUB

Tudor Fair July 6th 1997

Despite the very hot weather, the Tudor Fair broke all previous records for attendance. Over 1500 people came to watch and take part in the activities. There were cooks, shoemakers, dancers and musicians as well as cloth sellers, spinners and weavers.



YACs at the Tudor Fair in the grounds of Guildford Palace.

The YACs who attended enjoyed taking part in the boisterous country dancing, and listening to Matthew Alexander's talk, describing the origins of his costume. They also tried spinning on spindle and wheel. The YAC cake stall was popular, and the Club is thankful to all who donated cakes.

The competition for schools was also very successful. The theme of Tudor Collages was popular, and the entries were of a high standard. The first prize, of books on the Tudors, was won by St Peter's School in Farnham, with a very jaunty portrait of Queen Elizabeth.

The Club would like to thank the SyAS for the generous donation to the day. It gave the extra support we needed to make the day succeed.

GUILDFORD ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP

The Historic Landscape Survey of Whitmoor Common, Worplesdon, will be starting again on approximately alternate Sundays from late September. We are mapping a field system of uncertain but possibly prehistoric age; no experience is necessary but stout shoes, thick trousers and a good eye come in useful! Anyone who is interested please ring me on any Thursday or Friday to find out if and where we are meeting the following Sunday. Judie English, 01483 276724.

NOTES

Riddlesdown: Traffic Ruts

Dennis Turner

John Matthews has taken me to task for a number of mistakes in my note on Riddlesdown in *Bulletin* 311. Gwyneth Fookes was misspelt, as was Whyteleafe.

Several compass points were given wrongly: the 'south-western shoulder' should probably have read 'western shoulder' and the 'earthwork along the western boundary' should have been 'earthwork along the north-western boundary'. John points out that I missed the note on the earthwork in SyAC 42: true, but I was writing a short news item for the Bulletin describing some casual observations made during a brief field trip, not a comprehensively referenced account of a detailed survey. He complains that I gave no Grid References — I did not have a large enough scale OS map to hand to give NGRs that would mean anything and, in any case, NGRs seem to have been optional in Bulletin notes for some years.

More controversially, John criticises my use of 'Purley Crossroads' and 'Whyteleafe valley', claiming that there are no such places. I can only respond that I used the names by which I, and many others of my generation, have known these points for over fifty years, whether or not they are to be found on current maps. The Purley Cross Roads (also known as the Fountain) is now lost in the one-way system that successfully entangles the traffic between the A22, A23 and A235: a similar fate has overtaken many cross roads and perhaps they will all lose their names in time. The Whyteleafe valley is a particular stretch of the valley leading up toward Caterham: John would prefer to call the whole valley from Purley to Caterham the 'Caterham valley' and I certainly see no reason why he shouldn't if he wants to. Both names are recognizable.

Lastly, John queries 'traffic ruts'. This is colloquial short-hand in current use by historical geographers and landscape archaeologists for multiple and roughly parallel hollow-ways, usually (although not punctiliously) for parallel hollow-ways that are not deeply developed: I think the term has a respectable ancestry and goes back to O G S Crawford (but I haven't been able to check). Like all such jargon, its meaning may seem self-evident to some and incomprehensible to others. The nature of the 'traffic' involved can but rarely be specified from superficial examination. John asks why the traffic ruts 'appear to be later than the earthwork' and the answer is that, as far as one could see beneath the scrub in the time available, the hollow-ways cut the earthwork rather than vice-versa. But isn't that what my words implied?

Prehistoric Pottery from Surrey

Phil Jones

On Saturday 25th October the Autumn meeting of the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group will be taking place at the Dorking headquarters of the Surrey County Archaeological Unit. The theme will be later prehistoric pottery from some recent excavations in Surrey, and the proceedings will involve informal lectures and discussions, as well as a 'laying-out' of a good deal of the pottery involved. Only the more important collections of those excavated by the Field Unit will be shown, and these are:

Brooklands II (TQ 068619): large collection of Early to Late Iron Age date from a huge round house and associated features, next to the River Wey on the floodplain below the hillfort on St George's Hill.

Thorpe Lea Nurseries (TQ 018698): collection includes important groups of Deverel-Rimbury (Middle Bronze Age) material; pottery from two clusters of Late Bronze Age features; and from two Iron Age settlements that spanned the second half of the first millennium BC.

Church Lammas, Staines (TQ 028723): collection of Deverel-Rimbury type pottery from within and outside of a rectilinear enclosure. The site lay on the same island in the Thames/Colne confluence area as the Yeoveney causewayed camp, only 500m distant.

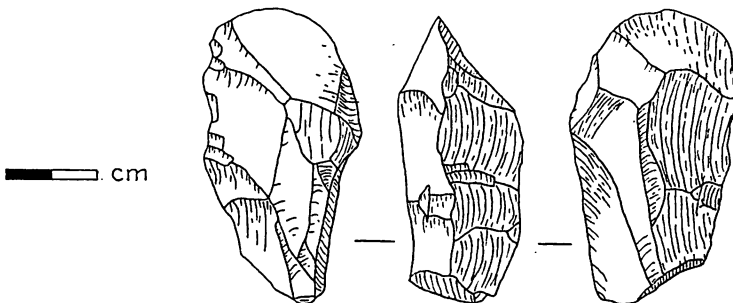
Tongham Nurseries (SU 881489): Mid to Late Iron Age collection from a remarkable complex of nineteen round houses lying within and outside of several rectilinear enclosures, and their associated features. A large pit group of wasters from the production of saucepan pots and globular jars was one of several important finds.

Please note that the Saturday meeting will be closed, but the pottery will remain on show for the following week to allow interested members of the Society an opportunity to view. You would be most welcome during the week of Monday 27th through to Saturday November 1st, and between 10 am and 4 pm. If interested, please call the Unit to arrange a convenient time, and ask to speak to myself or Nicki Hembrey. Tel: 01306 886466.

Mesolithic Axe Discovered

Peter Harp

An unusually fine tranchet axe was found in March 1997 whilst fieldwalking a flint scatter near the Tumble Beacon, Banstead. The site, about 100 metres in diameter, has produced predominantly Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age lithic material, mainly scrapers, awls and secondary flakes; but approximately 15% of the material is Mesolithic, including a blunted-back microlith. The axe is very small, being only 64mm in length, and shows no signs of wear, with edges still sharp. It is made from grey flint and has a grey/blue patination. The axe is retained in the Banstead History Research Group Collection, accession number 462.



Mesolithic Axe from Banstead. Scale 1:2.

Slyfield Green, Guildford

Mary Alexander

Slyfield Green is now an unlovely area to the north of Guildford, best known for its industrial estate, but also comprising council housing, a sewage works and rubbish dump. However, it was not always so. The earliest reference to Slyfield in "*The Place Names of Surrey*" was in 1217, and the authors suggest that the name comes from two Saxon words meaning something like "slippery place" and referring to its situation near to the river Wey. It is suggested that Slyfield in Great Bookham has the same name for the same reason, in this case being by the river Mole. There was a manor of Slyfield in Bookham and it is possible that Slyfield Green was once a possession of that manor, but I know of no evidence for this.

The modern Slyfield Green is the product of the last twenty or thirty years. Before that it was a small hamlet around a green, as the name implies. It is on an island of sand and gravel to the west of the river Wey and was clearly deliberately placed there to take advantage of the soil. To the east and west there is clay, and to the north there is

infertile Bagshot sand. The hamlet is on the northern boundary of Stoke parish, with Worplesdon to the north. The boundary runs roughly east-west but just near Slyfield Green it turns north-east to include a tongue of land within Stoke. It is difficult to account for this but there must have been a specific reason for it. Modern development would make fieldwork impossible but documentary research may find an explanation.

Slyfield Green is east of the road from Guildford to Woking, and is linked to the Woking road by roads running from the north-west to the south-west. 19th and 20th century maps show that the hamlet was tiny, and it is slightly surprising that such a small place should have two roads running to it. However, it is possible that these roads originally led to a river crossing, which would be the Roman river crossing which has been postulated between Burpham and the west of the river.¹ 19th century maps show the two approach roads to Slyfield Green continuing as a track towards the river.² On the east of the river the same maps show roads or tracks running from the Guildford-London road towards the river but stopping short. The track to the south has disappeared from modern maps but Burpham Lane to the north, leading to the original hamlet of Burpham, still turns through a right-angle to the north in a rather unnatural fashion. Between the right angle and the river is the area where Roman burials and pottery were found in the 19th century³ and where evidence of Bronze Age and Iron Age activity was found more recently.⁴ Apparently Roman coins and perhaps pottery have been found by metal-detector users on the Slyfield side of the river which may lend weight to the idea that there was a Slyfield crossing here in Roman times.⁵ Burpham Lane runs through another right angle at the church apparently to make use of another island of sand and gravel to reach the bridge by Burpham Court Farm and beyond to Jacob's Well. The river Wey was made navigable in the 1650s and it is possible that an early ford across the river between Burpham and Slyfield Green was replaced by a bridge further down stream with the road on higher, drier ground. Alternatively the road to Jacob's Well may have existed at the same time as the postulated ford and when the ford went out of use became the only river crossing in this area. Another possibility is that the ford, or other river crossing, of Roman times had become unsatisfactory by Saxon or later times. Perhaps changes in the climate meant that the earlier crossing had become a "slippery place" which went out of use and was finally ended by making the river navigable.

None of this has been tested by field-work and it is offered here as a working hypothesis rather than a fully researched explanation. It is generally recognised that there ought to have been a Roman settlement near Guildford, though there was clearly not one on the site of the modern town. The finds from Burpham make that the most likely place to have been a settlement, if not a small town. It is unfortunate that quarrying, and recent roadworks make it unlikely that we will ever know for certain.

1 D G Bird "*The Romano-British period in Surrey*", in Bird and Bird, eds, "*The Archaeology of Surrey to 1540*". 1987. 168.171.

2 Ordnance Survey maps XXIII SE and XXIV SW, 1897; XXIII 8, 12 and XXIV 5, 9, 1870.

3 J Bird, "*The Roman Pottery from Burpham*", SAC 74, 1983, 221-3.

4 M O'Connell, "*Burpham Excavations in 1978*", SAC 73, 1982, 97-100.

5 J Boas, pers comm.

REPORTS FROM ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNITS

FIELDWORK BY THE SURREY COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT IN 1996

1996 was a busy year for SCAU. Fieldwork projects were undertaken at fifty sites within the county, and desk-top assessments prepared for many more clients; all in addition to the completion of several programmes of post-excavation work, and the preparation of reports for publication of previously excavated sites.

This review of the more important results from fieldwork is followed by a catalogue of all such projects in Borough order anti-clockwise through the county, and an accompanying map shows all sites.

Few finds of earlier prehistoric date were discovered. Soil-sieving at Horsell (20), from close to a previously discovered scatter of Mesolithic and Upper Palaeolithic material, yielded only a few flints; but some of the flints and sherds from Duncroft, Staines (4) and Home Farm, Laleham (9) are likely to be of Neolithic or Early Bronze Age date, rather than later.

The emerging pattern of intensive Late Bronze Age settlement on the gravel terraces of north-west Surrey was further augmented with the discovery of settlements represented by pit, post-hole and gully complexes at Duncroft, Staines (4) and Home Farm, Laleham (9); and by flints and sherds from Kingston Road, Staines (5) and Guildford Street, Chertsey (17). Two important new sites of the period were discovered elsewhere in the county. Sherds from Pirbright Manor (25) are from very deep within the vastness of the Tertiary heathland of north-west Surrey; and features from Hurtwood, Shere (31) may represent the periphery of a previously undiscovered hill-top settlement in the Greensand of south-west Surrey. Other possible prehistoric sites are represented by enigmatic features sampled at Highlands Farm, Leatherhead (42) and Horsell Vicarage (21).

Iron Age pottery was also recovered from Pirbright (26) and Duncroft (4), but the most important project of this period in 1996 was the excavation of the settlement and field systems at Wey Manor Farm (19). This Iron Age site is the third to have been excavated by the County Unit in recent years within a kilometre of the original Brooklands Iron Age settlement (Hanworth and Tomalin 1977). All lie within the floodplain of the River Wey below the hillfort on St George's Hill, and most have provided evidence of iron-working. Such a density of sites is unusual and comparable only with the dispersed clusters sometimes found associated with lowland *oppidae*, such as at Prae Wood near *Verulamium*.

The Wey Manor Farm site continued to be occupied into the Roman period. Elsewhere in north-west Surrey, Roman sherds and a gravelled yard (? road) surface were noted at Staines Bus Garage (7), and a few late Roman sherds were sampled at Lord Knyvett's School, Stanwell (1). The only other significant discovery was in an area in the south-west of the county intended for sand quarrying; at Runfold, east of Farnham (23). A large dump of 2nd to 4th century occupation debris (mostly pottery) was sampled in trenches through a deep accumulation of hillwash. Unfortunately, earlier extraction uphill from the dump had, almost certainly, destroyed the settlement from whence the rubbish derived.

Another important discovery during the year was a complex of Late Saxon domestic and industrial features at Duncroft in Staines (4), yet closer to the parish church (then a minster) than the High Street core of the Roman and medieval towns. Virtually no Roman or earlier post-Roman features or finds were made and little else of post-Conquest date. A great deal of iron slag was present across the site. Early

medieval pottery sherds were also an unexpected discovery at Lord Knyvett's School (1) since the site lies 350m distant from the parish church and supposed historic core of Stanwell village.

Of the medieval towns of Surrey there were three fieldwork projects in Guildford (28-30), three in Dorking (25, 37, 38), two in Reigate (45, 46), two in Chertsey (16,17), and three in Staines (4, 5, 7). Little of archaeological importance was gained from most except Chertsey, where two areas on its periphery were examined for the first time. An excavation of the western fringe of Chertsey (16) revealed 12th and 13th century quarries that became the dumps for midden until a multiple-bayed timber-framed building was built over them along its Windsor Street frontage during the later 15th century. At the southern end of the medieval town along Guildford Street, the Bourne Stream separated Chertsey from its suburb of *Styventon*, which is currently in the early stages of large-scale redevelopment. A site immediately south of The Bourne and next to the bridge (17) revealed deeply-stratified deposits of 13th century and later date which were explored this year (Robertson, forthcoming).

Out in the villages of Surrey, medieval pits were sampled at Egham (14), Horsell (21), and, perhaps, even the long-lost village of Cuddington below the grounds of Nonsuch Palace (52). Work within the moated area of Pirbright Manor (26) failed to find any significant features or finds of medieval date, but a buried system of medieval field ditches were planned and sampled at Wey Manor Farm (19). South of Ash village in the Surrey/Hampshire border district, part of a ploughed-out waster heap of whiteware pottery sherds was collected from the subsoil, but no kiln or workshop features were observed. The sherds represent one or more firings during the later 14th or 15th century.

The most significant work on post-medieval remains by the Unit included both surveys and excavations. At Nonsuch Palace (52) trial trenches confirmed the presence of buried Tudor wall foundations suggested by an earlier resistivity survey of the gardens. In the grounds of the later grand house of Botley's, south-west of Chertsey(18), an on-going programme of monitoring and excavations led to the discovery of several 18th century, and possibly earlier, buildings and garden features, as well as evidence of brick-making, presumably for the mansion. Other surveys include one that disproves any earlier masonry than of 17th century date in two recently exposed elevations of walls at the Reigate Priory School (46); and a close examination of the surviving features of the 19th century Lime Works at Brockham (40).

Few other post-medieval remains excavated by the Unit were of archaeological significance. Next to Kingston Road in Staines (5), an interesting succession of three roadside ditches of 15th-17th century date were identified, each of which had successively encroached upon the highway. Of greater significance is the excavated evidence from the suburb of Chertsey along Windsor Street near Colonel's Lane (16). During the re-modelling of these late medieval timber-framed buildings ashlar fragments and salvaged Chertsey tiles from the demolished Abbey had been used. The later use of, at least part of, these buildings had been as workshops for tobacco pipe production, and two late 17th century pipe kilns were found: one hard by the street frontage, and another a little further back.

Rob Poulton continues as Unit Manager and the direction of most excavations and evaluations during 1996 were by Graham Hayman, with some by Jane Robertson, Mark Dover and Giles Pattison. Other members of the fieldwork team were Simon Hind, Nick Marples, Jim Stevenson and Bill Dixon; finds work was undertaken by the author (Phil Jones) and Nicola Hembrey; and Giles Pattison also acted as illustrator and IT graphics specialist.

NSFF : No significant finds or features.

Spelthorne

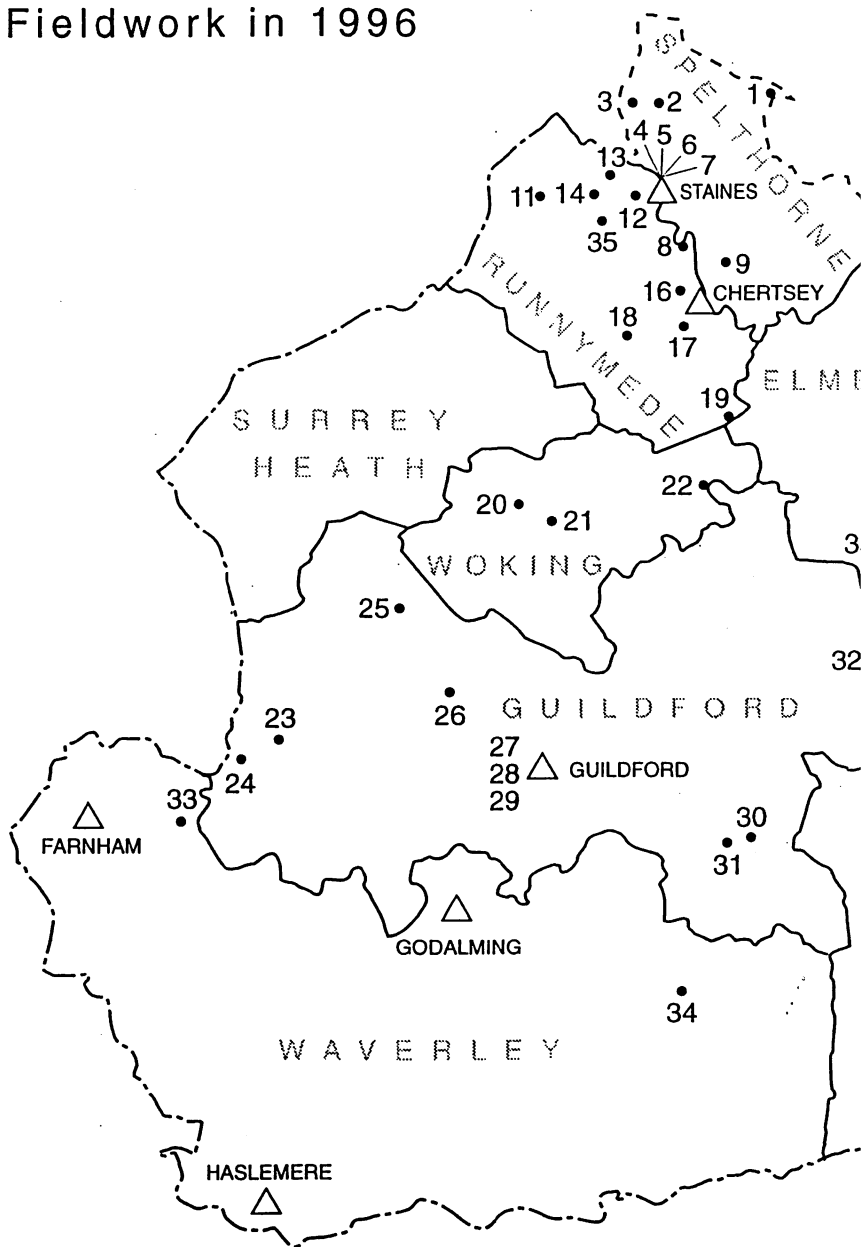
- 1 **Stanwell**, Lord Knyvett's School (TQ 060743). Evaluation in June. Late Roman and early medieval sherds, but no contemporary features.
- 2 **Stanwell**, Hithermoor Pit (TQ 037744). Evaluation in May 1996. No significant features or finds (hereafter NSFF is used).
- 3 **Stanwell**, Lower Mill Farm (TQ 034741). Evaluation in July 1996. NSFF
- 4 **Staines**, Duncroft (TQ 032720). Excavations in June and July following an evaluation in April and May. Bronze Age and possibly Neolithic features and finds; some Iron Age sherds; Late Saxon complex of features with evidence of iron-working. Very little post-Conquest material. See note in Bulletin 309.
- 5 **Staines**, Kingston Road (TQ 040716). Excavation in March. A sequence of late medieval and early post-medieval roadside ditches were investigated. Finds also suggested contemporary occupation nearby, and some earlier medieval sherds were recovered. A few prehistoric sherds and flints, possibly of Bronze Age date, were also found in underlying alluvial 'brickearth'.
- 7 **Staines**, London Road, Bus Station (TQ 042718). Evaluation in November. A gravel layer associated with Roman crushed pot and tile fragments was identified, but was much disturbed by later activity and contaminated with petrochemicals.
- 8 **Laleham**, Worple Road (TQ 047698). Evaluation in May. NSFF
- 9 **Laleham**, Home Farm (TQ 055687). Excavations in July and August following an evaluation earlier in the month. Late Bronze Age complex of pits and post-holes, a possible trackway defined by parallel ditches, and a waterhole. See note in *Bulletin* 311.

Runnymede

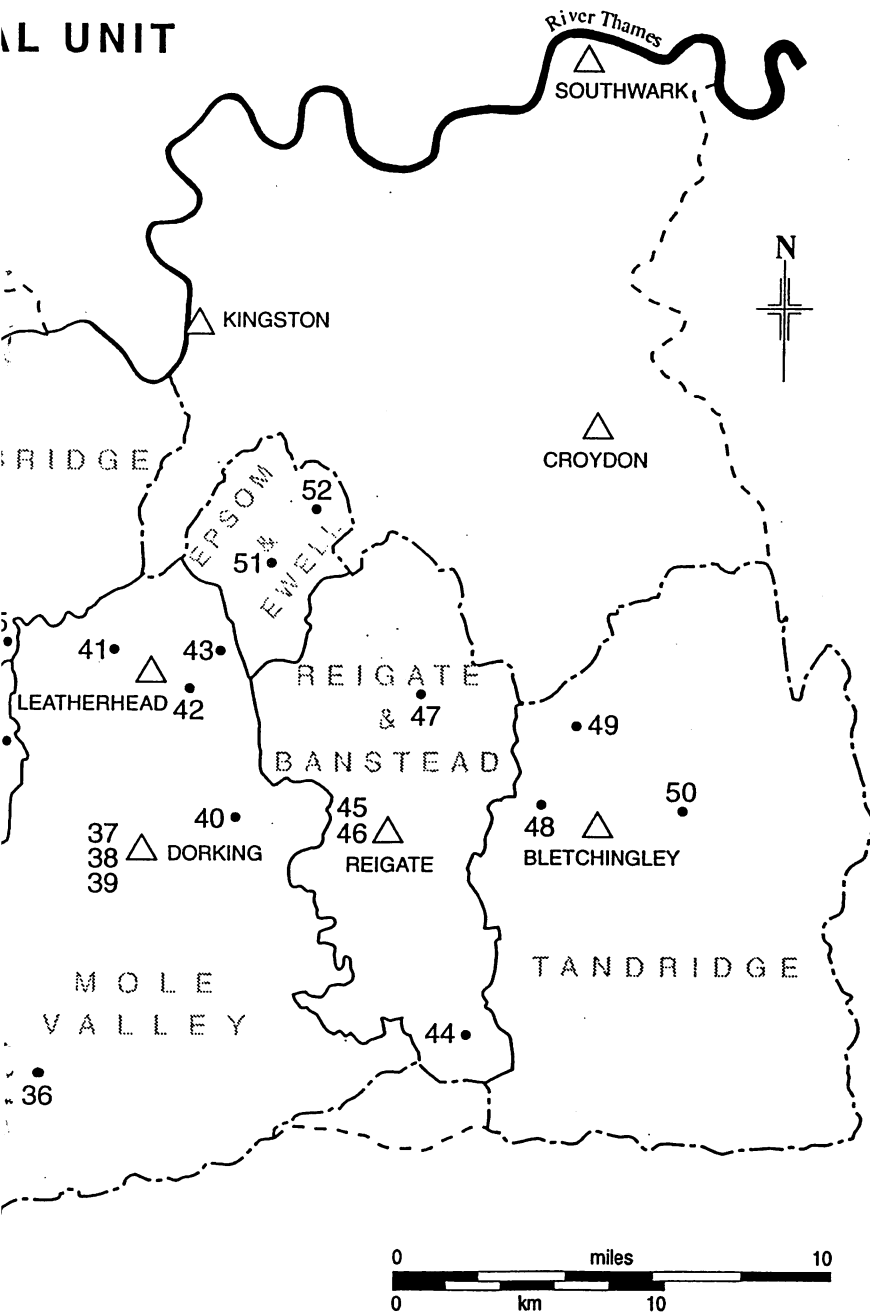
- 11 **Egham**, Castle Hill, Englefield Green (SU 990718). Evaluation in April. NSFF
- 12 **Egham**, Englefield Green, Lime Lodge (TQ 001712). Evaluation in December. NSFF
- 13 **Egham**, 20 The Avenue (TQ 016717). Evaluation in September. Some insignificant post-medieval features were sampled.
- 14 **Egham**, Katherine Wheel P.H. (TQ 012714). Evaluation and excavation in May recorded some medieval pits and other features. A watching-brief during redevelopment noted other features being destroyed without record.
- 15 **Egham**, Manor Farm (TQ 013714). Evaluation in May. NSFF
- 16 **Chertsey**, Colonel's Lane (TQ 041671). Excavations following an evaluation through February, March and April. 13th century or earlier quarrying and infilling; street frontage timber-framed building of several bays, and of 15th to 17th c usage; two late 17th c tobacco pipe kilns. Many re-used Chertsey tiles were recovered. See note in *Bulletin* 308.
- 17 **Chertsey**, Guildford Street (TQ 039666). Evaluation in December next to the Bourne Stream and within the southern bridgehead medieval suburb of *Styventon*. 13th and 14th century features; and some deeper stratigraphy with occasional prehistoric flints and sherds were discovered.
- 18 **Chertsey**, Botleys Park (TQ 025648). Evaluations, minor Excavations and a Watching Brief. Garden features and other structures possibly associated with a precursor of the mid 18th c Botleys mansion; and evidence of 17th and 18th c brick-making.
- 19 **Addlestone**, Wey Manor Farm (TQ 061632). Excavation in June/July. Iron Age and Roman settlement areas and some medieval features.

SURREY COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL

Fieldwork in 1996



AL UNIT



Woking

- 20 **Woking**, Horsell Birch, Parley (SU 983595). Evaluation in September, adjacent to a previously salvaged Upper Palaeolithic/Early Mesolithic site (see *Bulletin* 139). Despite sieving, very few struck flints were recovered. No further work could be justified.
- 21 **Horsell**, St Mary's Vicarage (SU 9975 5921). Evaluation in October. Medieval pit and undated gully, possibly of prehistoric date. See note in *Bulletin* 309.
- 22 **Pyrford**, Pyrford Golf Course (TQ 045596). Evaluation in May. NSFF

Guildford

- 23 **Ash**, Ash Barn, Ash Green (SU 901504). Watching Brief in early 1996. NSFF
- 24 **Ash**, South Lane (SU 897502). Evaluation and Watching Brief. A large quantity of medieval pottery waster sherds were recovered from the subsoil of one area, presumably from a ploughed-out dump as no features were identified.
- 25 **Pirbright**, Manor House (SU 942556). Evaluation within the moated area. Some unexpected prehistoric sherds, and some medieval and later features.
- 26 **Worplesdon**, Fairlands Practice (SU 962524). Evaluation in November. NSFF
- 27 **Guildford**, 80-82 High Street (TQ 996494). Excavation in May/June and subsequent Watching Brief. Pits and other features of 12/13th and 17/18th c date.
- 28 **Guildford**, Army & Navy Store (SU 996495). Watching Brief in March. NSFF
- 29 **Guildford**, Oversby House (SU 9940 4960). Watching Brief in October. NSFF
- 30 **Shere**, Coal Yard (TQ 074479). Watching Brief in June. NSFF
- 31 **Shere**, Hurtwood Main Pipeline (TQ 074476 — 084475). Watching Brief in June. NSFF
- 32 **Effingham**, The Convent (TQ 1178 5393). Watching Brief in December. NSFF

Waverley

- 33 **Runfold**, Princess Royal Sand Pit (SU 861473). Evaluation in October. Several thousand 2nd to 4th century Roman sherds found in colluvium of minor dry brook valley probably derive from an up-hill occupation site previously destroyed.
- 34 **Shere**, Alderbrook Main Pipeline (TQ 056421). Watching Brief and minor excavations in March. Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age features; perhaps of a hilltop occupation site.

Elmbridge

- 35 **Cobham**, New Barn Farm (TQ 113577). Evaluation in March. NSFF

Mole Valley

- 36 **Forest Green**, Gosterwood Manor (TQ 125415). Evaluation in August. NSFF
- 37 **Dorking**, 164 High Street (TQ 167494). Watching Brief in August 1996. NSFF
- 38 **Dorking**, Flint Hill (TQ 166478). Evaluation in January on the possible line of Stane Street. No evidence for the road was found.
- 39 **Dorking**, Old Abattoir (TQ 1650 4930). Survey in December.
- 40 **Brockham** and **Betchworth Quarry** (TQ 205515). Landscape Survey in May. Post-medieval lime works and associated features. The quarry is to be listed as an Area of Historic Landscape Value.
- 41 **Leatherhead**, former National Power site (TQ 157575). Evaluation in March. NSFF
- 42 **Leatherhead**, Highlands Farm (TQ 180563). Evaluation in August. Some possible prehistoric features identified.
- 43 **Ashted**, City of London Freemans School (TQ 194579). Evaluation in October. NSFF

Reigate & Banstead

- 44 **Horley**, Balcombe Road (TQ 288436). Evaluation in November. NSFF
- 45 **Reigate**, no. 6 Slipshoe Street (TQ 250503). Evaluation and Watching Brief. NSFF, but some medieval sherds.
- 46 **Reigate**, Priory School (TQ 253500). Building Survey in April, prior to the re-rendering of two elevations. The building lies on the site of Reigate Priory (founded 1235; dissolved 1535), but the earliest structural work recorded was of late 17th c date.
- 47 **Ewhurst**, Ewhurst Golf Course (TQ 263561). Evaluation and Watching Brief in May. NSFF

Tandridge

- 48 **Bletchingley**, Pendell Court School (TQ 317519). Evaluation in July. NSFF
- 49 **Caterham**, St Lawrence's Hospital (TQ 326558). Evaluation in April. NSFF
- 50 **Godstone**, Streete Court School (TQ 362522). Evaluation in May. NSFF

Epsom & Ewell

- 51 **Epsom**, 2 Church Street (TQ 210608). Watching Brief in January and February. Two post-medieval wall footings, brick relieving arch, and strip of crushed chalk.
- 52 **Ewell**, Nonsuch Palace (TQ 226 631). Evaluation following a geophysical survey by the Bartlett-Clark Consultancy. Tudor walls between the Privy Garden and The Wilderness were revealed, as well as walls between The Orchard, The Wilderness and The Plain. A medieval pit was found in one trench. See note in *Bulletin* 312.

MISCELLANY

Surrey County Council: Important Corrections

Thus far my most embarrassing mistakes as editor appeared in the last *Bulletin*. Not one, but two of the new telephone numbers given out for fellow SCC staff were wrong, and I apologise to both concerned, and to all other members. Instead of what was stated, David Bird can be reached on 0181 541 8991, and Brenda Lewis has the number 0181 541 9419. In addition, and because of a recent query, it seems appropriate to provide the current job titles of the Archaeology and Historic Landscapes team. David Bird is Principal Archaeologist, Dinah Saich and Gary Jackson are Archaeological Officers, and Brenda Lewis is Historic Parks and Gardens Advisor.

The Guildford Coal Mine

David Bate

The proposal to search for coal near Guildford in 1850, noted by you in SIHG Newsletter No. 97 (see *Bulletin* 313), perhaps comes as no surprise. During the first half of the 19th century there were many speculative attempts up and down the country to locate deposits of coal in places that were, from a geological standpoint, entirely inappropriate. Examples of some of these fruitless endeavours conducted in the county of Sussex are noted by William Topley in his memoir on *The Geology of the Weald* (1875, pp 347-9).

I have no knowledge of the particular undertaking near Guildford, but there is a curious reference from the late 17th century that might explain why an attempt was made to locate coal there. The antiquary, John Aubrey, kept a notebook (his *Faber Fortune*) in which he noted down as they occurred to him, ideas for recouping his

fortune. One of these reads: 'Gett a Patent to digge for the Coale that I have discovered in Slyfield common in Surrey, near Gilford'. (This reference can be found in the introduction to the Penguin edition of Aubrey's *Brief Lives*, 1792, p 82). It is quite possible that a reference to this occurrence may also be found in Aubrey's *Natural history and Antiquities of the County of Surrey*. Unfortunately I am not able to check this, but perhaps the Rector of Stoke was!

The modern Slyfield Green is located on terrace gravels of the River Wey. Peaty mud with wood occurs locally within these terrace deposits, but it seems hard to believe that they could have been mistaken for coal, unless the peat is very compact. Nearer to Worplesdon there are outcrops of Bagshot and Bracklesham Beds, both of which formations contain lignite, 'fossil wood' and plant remains, all of which might mistakenly have been taken as evidence for more extensive coal seams.

Hope this is of some interest.

The above is a letter first published in the July 1997 Newsletter (no. 98) of the Surrey Industrial History Group. My thanks to Peter Tarplee. I have wondered why Aubrey went into as much detail describing this hole in the ground as on the most sumptuous of Surrey church monuments, and Davis Bate has provided the answer: he had a vested interest in the project. Aubrey's description is so entertaining that I have copied it below. Remember, it would be another 122 years before Lyell founded his Principles of Geology.

"Mr. Giles Thornborough, Rector of St Nicholas and the Holy Trinity at Guildford, one of his Majesty's Chaplains, digging and boring after Coal in Slyfield Green in this Parish, found first of Sand and Gravel seven Feet Depth, then a Spring; within a little of that a Bed of Stones, like square Caps, and about two Foot every way: On the out-side whitish, within full of Sulphur, out of which was extracted Tinn by Lander Smyth of London, Engraver: These stones are call'd at the Coal-Pits at New-Castle, CATTS-HEADS, lying always (they say) where Coal is. The Depth of this Bed lay not above a Yard. These Catts-Heads are all full of small Pipes for the Mine to breathe through. Next under them lay a Body of black Clay (without any Stone or Mixture) for fifteen Fathoms; then a Rock of Stone about a Yard thick, which was very hard: then they came to black Clay again for about three Fathoms, and then another Rock: After that Clay mix'd with Minerals (of which Prince Rupert hath some, as also had King Charles II, in his Closet, which then was plac'd by the Indian Oar.) Then Cockle-shells, Muscle-shells, and Periwinkle-shells, some fill'd with Oar (out of which Prince Rupert extracted Tinn, and other Things) and some fill'd with Clay; after sprung a Bed of Oker twelve foot thick, which the Painters us'd. After that, about a Foot thick, a Kind of Mother of Pearl; after that a green Quick-Sand: Then came Coal, which how deep it is is unknown, for here the Irons broke, thought by Mr. William Lilly (Astrologer) to be by the Subterranean Spirits: For as fast as the Irons were put in, they would snap off. This is a kind of Rocky Coal (like that which they call Kennell-Coal) which burns like a Candle.

The Inducement to Mr. Thorneborough to be at this Charge and Search was, that there was a kind of Stony Coal, (that would burn) which he found by grubbing up the Roots of an old Oak in his Ground here. The Reason why he did not proceed was, because the Pit fell in after he had been at 400l. Charges: And was also discourag'd by the Lord Chancellour Hyde, and Secretary Maurice, and others, who pretended to have a Patent for all Mines in the Forest of Windsor.

Fullers Earth like Clay (which is mix'd with Brimstone) lay above twenty Fathom deep, and one or two Yards thick. Most of the Stone beforemention'd the People us'd for Fire-Locks: And from them, one in Guildford extracted an excellent Medicinal Water."

Aubrey, J, 1718 "*The Natural History and Antiquities of The County of Surrey, Vol III*", 327-9.

PUBLICATIONS

The Churches of Surrey, by Mervyn Blatch, Phillimore, 1997, hardback, 232pp, 255 illus, ISBN 1 86077 002 9, price £30.00.

This is an attractively designed and produced book with illustrations of consistently high quality. Most of the 212 black and white and 43 colour illustrations are reproduced from photographs by the author, who has spent many years studying churches in England and on the continent and beyond, and in particular in his home county of Surrey. Sixty pages of introduction, arranged by period, are followed by a gazetteer in which each entry gives an account of the building followed in most cases by a description of the furnishings. The book will be reviewed in a future volume of *Surrey Archaeological Collections*.

Glenys Crocker

CONFERENCES

St Augustine: AD 597 and All That!

Council for Kentish Archaeology

Christ Church College, North Holmes Road. Canterbury

Saturday 8th November 1997, 2.00pm – 5.30 pm

Illustrated lectures to commemorate the 1400th anniversary of St Augustine's landing in Kent.

St Augustine's mission Martin I Taylor (Local historian)

Churches in Kent in the 6th and 7th centuries Tim Tatton-Brown (Architectural historian and Archaeologist)

St Augustine's Abbey: rediscovery and redisplay Judith Roebuck (English Heritage)

Tickets: £2 from CKA, 5, Harvest Bank Road, West Wickham, Kent BR4 9DL (sae, please).

The Future of London's Past

Saturday 6th December 9.30-5.30pm

Museum of London

organised by the Standing Conference on London Archaeology

Fee: £8.50 (£6 members of SCOLA), to include tea and coffee.

Do you remember the excitement generated by the publication of "*The Future of London's Past*" 25 years ago? This conference will celebrate that epoch-making event, will scan the achievements since 1973, and will look forward to the new millennium.

The scene will be set by **Martin Biddle**, one of the original authors of "*The Future of London's Past*", and **Simon Thurley**, the new Director of the Museum of London. **John Lewis, Dominic Perring, Bob Cowie, Derek Keene** and **John Schofield** will update us on the prehistoric, Roman, Saxon, medieval and post-medieval periods. In the afternoon the conference will look to the future — its opportunities and difficulties. **Tim Williams** of English Heritage will talk about the Archive and Publication, and

Martin Welch about future research requirements and a programme for it. **Peter Addyman** will look at threats, difficulties and solutions, and **Mark Hassall** will sum up. Application forms for tickets can be obtained from P E Pickering, 3 Westbury Road, N12 7NY.

COURSES

Horley WEA

Landscape Archaeology: Reconstructing the Local Past

20 meetings, 2.30 – 4.30 pm each Thursday from 25th September
Court Lodge Centre, Court Lodge Road, Horley

British archaeology has traditionally been done by volunteers not professionals. Many of the real experts are those who have learnt their skills through archaeology as a hobby.

There are opportunities for everyone and aspects of archaeology to suit all ages, aptitudes, interests and timetables; there is research into old records, maps and air-photos; field reconnaissance to locate and record visible earthworks; geophysical survey to find buried features; fieldwalking to recover and plot scatters of pottery and other debris; surveying to produce precise records of buildings and earthworks; the classification and analysis of artefacts and other finds; and, of course, there is excavation.

These and other skills will be taught while we making an in-depth study of part of the local landscape. Whether you plan to get stuck into some real research, or just want to come along to the classes, you will be extremely welcome to join the Horley Time Team!

Tutor: Neil Faulkner

Fees: £70, retired over 60s £58, UB40s etc no charge.

Surrey in a Century of Change: c1800-1900

10 meetings and a day visit, 7.45 – 8.45 pm each Tuesday from 13th January
Methodist Hall, Victoria Road, Horley

The best local history is that which contributes to our overall understanding of national development. This course will focus on Surrey, looking at industrial and agrarian change, political reform, urbanisation, popular protest movements, poor laws, public health, the growth of local administration and military reform.

In each area, the course will give a detailed national background, followed by local examples and illustrations. Students will complete a research project on a topic of their choice and be guided in the use of local and national repositories.

The course has been arranged in collaboration with the University of Surrey, and is part of the University's Certificate in Local History. The full Certificate Programme consists of this and the course listed below, together with one later in 1998 to be tutored by Peter Gwynne (Horley Local History Society). You are welcome to attend any of the courses without working for the Certificate.

Tutor: Steven Grainger

Fees: £45, retired over 60s £38, UB40s etc no charge.

Local Records Offices: An Introduction to a Living History

10 meetings and a day visit, 7.45 – 9.45 pm each Tuesday from 23rd September
Methodist Hall, Victoria Road, Horley

Coverage of historical topics on television and other media reminds us that public awareness of history has never been greater. When starting a research project, however, there is often a gap between expectations and results. The magic of the professional documentary appears very elusive when you visit an archive and are confronted with endless catalogues of seemingly mundane documents.

This course sets out to bridge that divide, giving a sound introduction to historical study, research and writing, showing how to get the best out of local and national repositories. We shall look at the different kinds of document available from the fifteenth to the twentieth century and what they mean to the local researcher.

This course has been arranged in collaboration with the University of Surrey, and is part of the University's Certificate in Local History. The full Certificate programme consists of this and the other course listed above, together with one later in 1998 to be tutored by Peter Gwynne (Horley Local History Society). You are welcome to attend any of the courses without working for the Certificate.

Tutor: Steven Grainger

Fees: £45, retired over 60s £38, UB40s etc no charge.

The three courses described above are organised by the Workers Educational Association in Horley, and you may enrol for them at any meeting. For further information contact the Membership Secretary, Mrs B Emmett, Glen Bracken, Domewood, Cophthorne. Tel: 01342 712429.

University of Surrey

The following day and evening classes in Archaeology are organised by the University of Surrey. For courses starting in September enrolment can take place at the class — for more details please ring Dr Linda Merricks on 01483 300800 ext 3159:

Bronze and Iron Ages Level 1

Guildford — Thursdays at 2.00 pm, starting 25th September

Dorking — Thursdays at 10.30 am, starting 2nd October

Bagshot — Tuesdays at 10.00 am, starting 13th January

Dorking — Mondays at 7.30 pm, starting 20th April

Stone Ages Level 1

Reigate — Wednesdays at 7.30 pm, starting 24th September

Guildford — Thursdays at 7.00 pm, starting 25th September

Ashford — Thursdays at 7.30 pm, starting 23rd October

Bagshot — Tuesdays at 10.00 am, starting 23rd September

Dorking — Mondays at 7.30 pm, starting 12th January

Dark Age and Medieval Level 1

Guildford — Thursdays at 2.00 pm, starting 15th January

Bagshot — Fridays at 10.00 am, starting 16th January

Archaeology without digging Level 1

Guildford — Thursdays at 2.00, starting 23rd April

Bagshot — Fridays at 10.00 am, starting 24th April

Archaeological Excavation Methods Level 1

Guildford — Thursdays at 7.00 pm, starting 23rd April

Reigate — Wednesdays at 7.30 pm, starting 14th January

Bagshot — Tuesdays at 10.00 am, starting 21st April

Romano-British Archaeology Level 1

Bagshot — Fridays at 10.00 am, starting 26th September

Reigate — Wednesdays at 7.30 pm, starting 22nd April

Human Evolution Level 1

Churt — Mondays at 10.00 am, starting 22nd September

Ancient Egyptian Society in the Late Period Level 1

Guildford — Mondays at 2.00 pm, starting 22nd September

Archaeology of Surrey Level 1

Dorking — Mondays at 7.30 pm, starting 22nd September

Ancient Egypt — finds and records Level 1

Guildford — Tuesdays at 7.00 pm, starting 23rd September

Introduction to Social Anthropology Level 1

Woking — Wednesdays at 10.00 am, starting 24th September

Hittites — Etruscans Level 1

Dorking — Wednesdays at 10.30 am, starting 1st October

Industrial Archaeology Level 1

Guildford — Tuesdays at 7.30 pm, starting 7th October

Roman Britain Level 2

Guildford — Thursdays at 2.00 pm, starting 25th September

Artefacts Level 2

Guildford — Wednesdays at 7.00 pm, starting 24th September

Introduction to medieval manuscripts Level 1

Guildford — Mondays at 2.00 pm, starting 22nd September

Reading medieval documents Level 2

Guildford — Tuesdays at 7.30 pm, starting 23rd September

Life, art and culture of the Anglo-Saxons Level 1

Ewell — Mondays at 1.30 pm, starting 22nd September

Woking — Wednesdays at 1.30 pm, starting 5th November

DAY SCHOOLS

University of Sussex

The following courses are organised by the Centre for Continuing Studies, from whom further details may be obtained: CCE, Education Development Building, University of Sussex, Falmer, Brighton BN1 9RG, Tel 01273 678926.

Community Archaeology. Saturday 25th October 10am to 5pm

A practical introduction to community archaeology, looking at the methods and techniques that can be used in surveying the archaeology of a parish or local area.

Fee: £16.50

To be held at the Education Development Building (see above). Course no. 1597.

Wetlands Archaeology. Saturday 22nd November 10am to 5pm

Wetlands have preserved archaeological sites and artefacts for thousands of years and with today's techniques information has been revealed which was undreamed of 100 years ago when Glastonbury Lake Village was first discovered. Focusing first on Neolithic and Bronze Age finds from the Somerset Levels, and the famous Lake Villages from the same area, this course will also consider the results of archaeological survey and excavation from other wetland sites in Britain including Lindow Moss.

Fee: £16.50

To be held at Fishbourne Roman Palace, Chichester. Course no. 4597.

LECTURE MEETINGS

1st October

"Roman Remains: Rome, Pompeii, Herculaneum and Verona" by Charles Abdy to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 7.45 for 8.00 pm.

2nd October

"Recent Excavations in Spelthorne and Runnymede" by Phil Jones, to the Spelthorne Archaeological Field Group and the Friends of Spelthorne Museum, at the Methodist Church Hall, Thames Street, Staines, at 8.00 pm. 75p to non-members.

6th October

"A Heathland Harvest". A lecture by Mr C Howkins to the Mayford and Woking District History Society, at Mayford Village Hall, Saunders Lane, at 7.45 pm.

7th October

"The Wey Navigation" by Bob Pounder to the Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society, at the Lower Hall, Friends Meeting House, Eden Street, Kingston, at 8.00 pm.

7th October

"Glass" by John Hardaker to the Addlestone Historical Society, at Addlestone Community Centre, at 8.00 pm.

16th October

"History of Fire-Fighting in Surrey". A talk by Ron Shettle to the Esher District Local History Society at the United Reformed Church, Speer Road, Thames Ditton, at 7.30 pm.

17th October

"A Walk round West Barnes" by Pat Nicolaysen to the Merton Historical Society, at Raynes Park Assembly Hall, next to the Library, at 7.30 pm.

17th October

"The Royal Pavilion at Brighton" by Cynthia Campbell to the Leatherhead & District Local History Society at The Leatherhead Institute, 7.30 for 8.00 pm. Non-members £2.

18th October

"Anne of Cleves" by Mary Saaler, to the Walton & Weybridge Local History Society, at the Elmgrove Hall, Hersham Road, Walton-on-Thames, at 3.00 pm. Visitors £1.

21st October

"The Ancient City of Athens" by Dr Tom Ryder to the Historical Association at the Friends Meeting House, Ward Street, Guildford at 7.30 pm.

23rd October

"The Marshalsea Prison — Dickens and the Debtors' Prisons of London" by Stephen Humphrey to the Farnham & District Museum Society, at the United Reformed Church, South Street, at 7.30 for 7.45 pm.

30th October

"Railways from Staines to Sunningdale 1856-1996" by Ron Davis to the Egham-by-Runnymede Historical Society at the Literary Institute, Egham High Street at 8.00 pm.

1st November

"Historic Stones" by Richard Butler to the Beddington, Carshalton & Wallington Archaeological Society, at Milton Hall, Cooper Crescent off Nightingale Road, Carshalton, at 3.00 pm.

3rd November

"The History of James Walker & Co Ltd". A lecture by Mr R B Lewis to the Mayford and Woking District History Society, at Mayford Village Hall, Saunders Lane, at 7.45 pm.

4th November

"Archaeological Reflections on a Holiday in Turkey" by Richard Watson to the Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society. at the Lower Hall, Friends Meeting House, Eden Street, Kingston, at 8.00 pm.

4th November

"Hampton Court Palace" by C Johnson, to the Addlestone Historical Society, at Addlestone Community Centre, at 8.00 pm.

6th November

"Charles Rennie Mackintosh — Architect and Designer" by Nick Pollard, to the Spelthorne Archaeological Field Group and the Friends of Spelthorne Museum, at the Methodist Church Hall, Thames Street, Staines, at 8.00 pm. 75p to non-members.

6th November

"Historic Fish Ponds" by Chris Currie to the Farnham & District Museum Society, at the United Reformed Church, South Street, at 7.30 for 7.45 pm.

13th November

"Two Uncrowned Queens of England". The Richard Burr Memorial Lecture by Kenneth Marsh to the Esher District Local History Society at 7.30 pm.

20th November

"Members Medley (an assortment of short Local History talks) to the Farnham & District Museum Society at the United Reformed Church, South Street, at 7.30 for 7.45 pm.

22nd November

"Explaining and Understanding Surrey's Historic Landscape" by Steve Dyer, to the Walton & Weybridge Local History Society, at the Elmgrove Hall, Hersham Road, Walton-on-Thames, at 3.00 pm. Visitors £1.

27th November

"The History of the Red Cross" by Alison Kearns, to the Egham-by-Runnymede Historical Society, at the Literary Institute, Egham High Street, at 8.00 pm.

Next Issue: Copy required by 26th September for the November/December issue.

Editor: Phil Jones, 15 Grove Crescent, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT1 2DT. Tel: 0181 549 5244.