

Registered Charity No: 272098

ISSN 0585-9980

SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

CASTLE ARCH, GUILDFORD GU1 3SX

Tel/ Fax: 01483 532454

E-mail: surreyarch@compuserve.com

Website: ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/surreyarch

Bulletin

Number 328

April 1999

The True Levellers Standard ^{5.} ADVANCED:

O R,
The State of Community opened, and Presented to the
Sons of Men.

By

*William Everard,
John Palmer,
John South,
John Courton.
William Taylor,
Christopher Clifford,
John Barker.*

*Ferrard Winstanley,
Richard Goodgroome,
Thomas Starre,
William Hoggrill,
Robert Sawyer,
Thomas Eder,
Henry Bickerstaffe,
John Taylor, &c.*

Beginning to Plant and Manure the Waste land upon
George-Hill, in the Parish of *Walton*, in the
County of *Surrey*.



April 26

L O N D O N,
Printed in the Year, MDCXLIX.

Surrey: Seed-bed of Christian Socialism

350th Anniversary of the True Levellers on George's Hill

Introduction

Tony Benn MP

In Gerrard Winstanley's pamphlet *The True Levellers' Standard Advanced*, published on 26th April 1649, these words appear that anticipated the conservationists and commune dwellers of today, that denounced the domination of man by man, proclaimed the equality of women and based it all on God and Nature's laws:

In the beginning of Time, the great Creator, Reason, made the Earth to be a Common Treasury, to preserve Beasts, Birds, Fishes and Man, the lord that was to govern this Creation; for Man had Domination given to him, over the Beasts, Birds and Fishes; but not one word was spoken in the beginning, that one branch of mankind should rule over another.

And the reason is this, every single man, Male and Female, is a perfect creature of himself; and the same Spirit that made the Globe dwells in man to govern the Globe; so that the flesh of man being subject to Reason, his Maker, hath him to be his Teacher and Ruler within himself, therefore needs not run abroad after any Teacher and Ruler without him, for he needs not that any man should teach him, for the same Anoynting that ruled in the Son of Man, teacheth him all things.

But since humane flesh (that king of Beasts) began to delight himself in the objects of the Creation, more than in the Spirit Reason and Righteousness ... Covetousnesse, did set up one man to teach and rule over another; and thereby the Spirit was killed, and man was brought into bondage and became a greater Slave to such of his own kind, than the Beasts of the field were to him.

And hereupon the Earth (which was made to be a Common Treasury for relief for all, both Beasts and Men) was hedged in to Inclosures by the teachers and rulers, and the others were made Servants and Slaves; And that Earth that is within this Creation made a Common Store-house for all, is bought and sold, and kept in the hands of a few, whereby the great Creator is mightily dishonoured, as if he were a respecter of persons, delighting in the comfortable livelihood of some, and rejoycing in the miserable povertie and straits of others. From the beginning it was not so.

That plain advocacy of absolute human equality, and the emphasis on the common ownership of land and natural resources, speaks to us today with the same power as when those words were written by Winstanley.

Remembering the Diggers 1649-1999

Andrew Bradstock

1st April 1999 sees the 350th anniversary of the start of the occupation of St George's Hill in Surrey by Gerrard Winstanley, William Everard and others known as *Diggers*. Arguing their legal and moral right to the common land, and that the execution of Charles I two months before obliged a full dismantling of the old corrupt order, they began to settle on the Hill, erect huts and dig and plant the soil.

The principle on which they operated was 'common ownership'; the earth was originally created for all to share, they argued, and allowing the rich to divide it up among themselves denied the poor their birthright. Their occupation of St George's Hill was an attempt literally to make the earth once more the 'common treasury' it had been created to be.

Effectively the Diggers tried to instigate a 'general strike', and envisaged a situation where, as people realised that living in community was the most rational and satisfying way to live, and came and joined them on the Hill or started their own similar communities, no one would own more land than he or she could cultivate on their own. Indeed, in the end even the concepts of ownership and property — and money itself — would disappear.

Though known as *Diggers*, a term they came to use themselves, they originally chose for themselves the name *True Levellers*. Among other things this emphasised the difference between their own communistic beliefs and those of the mainstream Levellers, who upheld the principle of private property.

At the heart of the Diggers' philosophy was action: although they believed their theoretical arguments for taking over the common land to be sound, they knew that their goal of a better and fairer society could only be achieved by the sweat of their brows. As Winstanley wrote in one of his tracts ***A Watchword to the City of London and the Armie***, ... *action is the life of all, and if thou dost not act, thou dost nothing*. Though committed to direct action, the Diggers firmly eschewed violence as a vehicle for political and social change, though this did not stop their opponents physically and sometimes brutally attempting to put a stop to their endeavours.

Despite sustained and often violent opposition from local gentry and people, the Diggers survived for a year, first at George Hill (as they preferred to call it, adopting the radical puritan tradition of not acknowledging the saints of the established church), and then at nearby Cobham, and a number of similar communities sprang up around the country, some as far away as the Midlands. In the end, however, the fear, intransigence and self-interest of their opponents won out, though had the Diggers' vision been allowed to spread unhindered the revolution of the 1640s might have taken an altogether different turn.

Despite their defeat, and the scant attention generally paid to them by mainstream historians, the Diggers' ideas — and ideals — live on. Their main theorist, Gerrard Winstanley, wrote more than twenty tracts outlining his political/religious vision of a society based on common ownership of the land and its fruits, and these have inspired many down to the present day. They still have much to say, for example, to contemporary green and landright debates.

In an attempt to raise public awareness of the Diggers, and celebrate the cause for which they stood and suffered, a number of groups and individuals sympathetic to their principles have come together to organise some events in and around the St George's Hill area this April.

1st April (Thursday) A public meeting at 7.00 pm in Weybridge Library Hall, Church Street, Weybridge, with well-known speakers and entertainers.

3rd April (Saturday) March and Pageant to St George's Hill, culminating in the placing of a specially crafted memorial stone to the Diggers. The march will assemble at 12.30 pm at The Centre, Hepworth Way, Walton-on-Thames, and participants are encouraged to bring banners, costumes and music.

27th February-10th April A special exhibition about St George's Hill in Elmbridge Museum, Church Street, Weybridge.

9th and 10th April (Friday and Saturday) A major conference on the Diggers at Brooklands College, Weybridge and St Mary's Church, Walton. (See p 17).

Further information: **Public Meeting and March:** 'Diggers 350', 2 St Paul's Road, London N1 2QN (tel: 01865 722016; e-mail: <Tony@gaia.org>);

Exhibition Elmbridge Museum, Church Street, Weybridge KT13 8DE (tel: 01932 843573; fax: 01932 846552); e-mail: <info@elm-mus.datanet.co.uk>

A Note on Gerrard Winstanley — A Surrey Disturber of the Peace

WPD Stebbing

This curious character, who flourished between 1648 and 1652, has in recent years come into the limelight through his tracts and his *Utopia* of 1652. He and his followers who came up against constituted authority created some stir, especially in Surrey, by

building huts and starting to cultivate open land on St George's Hill. He asserted that it was *an undeniable Equity that the common people ought to dig, plow, plant and dwell upon the Commons without hiring them or paying rent to any*. Satirically known as *digger* or *leveller*, and spoken of in the late 17th century as the real founder of the Quakers, he claimed that *The fight against the King of Glory within lies not in the strength of memory, calling to mind what a man hath read and heard, being able by a humane capacity to join things together unto a method; and through the power of free utterance to hold it forth before others, as the fashion of students are in their sermon work, which a plow man that was never bred in their Universities may do as much; nay, they do more in this kind (as experience shows us) than they that make Tythes to tell a story*. The discourse just quoted from was printed for Giles Calvert, at the black-spread Eagle at the west end of *Paul's* in January 1649. It runs to 120 12-mo pages and includes much invective against the Established Church, Justices of the Peace, Bailiffs and Officers, and the Universities.

A passage in it informs us that *he was bred a tradesman, yet it is so hard a thing to pick out a poor living that a man shall sooner be cheated of his bread than get bread by trading among men, if by plain dealing he put trust in any*. He ends up: *Well, I will conclude, and leave this writing in the hand of the world: some may be offended at it, if they be, I care not: ... so I rest"*

Another discourse, also printed for Calvert, and dated 1650, has a preface addressed to *The Schollars of Oxford and Cambridge, and to all that call themselves Ministers of the Gospel in City and Country*. After some pages of bitter argument as to the capacity of the above he addresses himself *To the gentle Reader. dear friend, it is slanderously reported (by reason whereof some of you may be troubled to here) that Chamberlain the Redding man, called after the flesh, William Everard, doth hold blasphemous opinions: as to deny God, and Christ, and Scriptures and prayers; and they call him a deceiver, and many filthy names; and upon this report of the raging multitude (some that call themselves Ministers, and some common people) the Bayliffs of Kingston have put him in prison, as he came through their Town and tooke a night's lodging; and hath kept him there this weeke, upon these supposed scandals*.

Now I was moved to write what here follows, as a vindication of the man and myselfe, being slandered as well as he (by some of the Ministers) having been in his company; that all the world may judge of his and my innocency in these particular scandals; and that it may appear as it will upon tryall, that the parish Ministers themselves and everyone that followes their way of worship; doth turn the Scriptures into a lye, by leaving the old letter that the Apostles writ, and new moulding those Scriptures into their own language; ... This discourse runs to 45 pages, he in it explaining his theology by question and answer.

Winstanley's *Utopia* is important at the present time through his advanced views on education combined with handiwork, and the encouragement of initiative. The following passage is worth quoting in full:-

In the managing of any trade let no young wit be crushed in his invention. If any man deserve to make a new trial of his skill in any trade or science, the Overseer shall not injure him but encourage him therein; that so the spirit of knowledge may have his full growth in men, to find out the secrets in every art. But let everyone who finds out a new invention have a deserved honor given him; and certainly when men are sure of food and raiment, their reason will be ripe and ready to dive into the secrets of the Creation, that they may learn to see and know the God (the Spirit of the whole Creation) in all his works. For fear of want and care to pay Rent to Task-Masters hath hindered many rare inventions.

From Surrey Archaeological Collections Vol 49, 1946, p122-124.

...A century later an attack on the commons was made by Gerrard Winstanley and his followers. Winstanley was probably born at Wigan in 1609, and having become some kind of clothman in London was bankrupted by the outbreak of the Civil War. About 1643 he accepted the hospitality of friends in Church Cobham, where he earned a precarious living pasturing his neighbours' cattle while his active brain conceived the political and religious ideas expressed in the Digger movement of 1649. This formed the first example of modern utopian socialism designed as a party programme, and represents the beginning of modern socialism. St George's Hill where the experiment started is in Walton-upon-Thames, and until some time between 1548 and 1609 was known as Oldebury from the earthwork which crowns its summit. Since another site of the Diggers was at St Margaret's Hill some George and Margaret ceremony as at Norwich may have originated the name. Winstanley's 70 or so disciples began to dig up part of St George's Hill for crops in April 1649, but it is not clear if the name of the site or the day of St George had any significance for them. The most detailed and vivid account of the Diggers at Cobham is in Sabine's *Works of Gerrard Winstanley*, full of local family names familiar in other contexts. From this book we see that if unrestrained consequence alone could have brought success, Winstanley's experiment would indeed not have failed. In the autumn of 1649, the crops on St George's Hill having been destroyed, the Diggers started operations on Little Heath at Cobham, then larger than it is now. By April 1650 their 11 acres of corn and half a dozen temporary houses were destroyed by the Lord of the Manor, John Platt of West Horsley, in company with Thomas Sutton, the proprietor of the living, and Sir "Anthony" (probably Francis) Vincent whom the Diggers had offended by cutting wood on Stoke Common. It is only fair to say that one of Winstanley's worst tormentors, Ned Sutton, was possibly Edward Sutton who in 1621 was described as a *lunatique*. The later life of Winstanley is obscure, but one of his names, prosperous and respectable, was living in Cobham until after 1670. As to his followers, it is not quite clear if all of them had no grazing or fuel rights at all on the common waste, but the fact that they dug up part of this common waste indicates a too small or non-existent share in the common arable fields."

*An extract from SyAC Vol 58, 1961: **Cobham: Manorial History**, p70 & 71.*

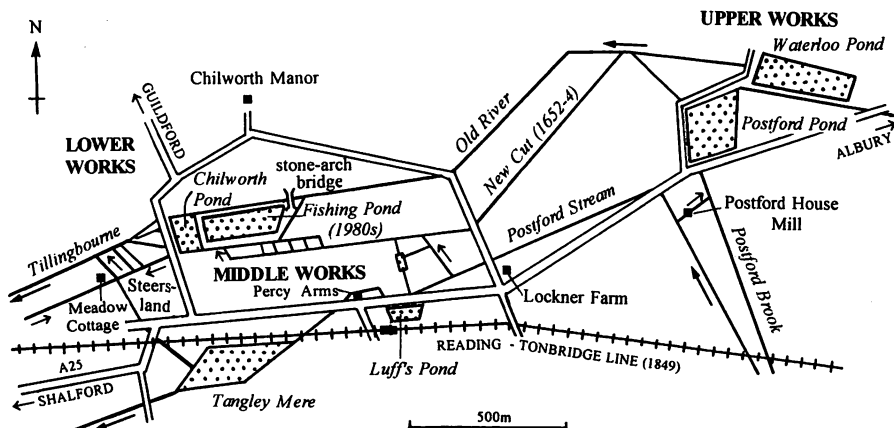
*Many thanks to Tony Benn for his extract from a recent speech, and to Andrew Bradstock, author of a recent study of Winstanley (**Faith in the Revolution, SPCK, 1997**), for responding to my requests for some appropriate words for the Bulletin. I must admit to having had a chuckle or two when imagining what some members might have thought if they received this issue on the 1st April. No hoax, however, and not just a celebration of an event of great historical importance. Out on St George's Hill and Little Heath, Cobham, archaeological features of Leveller settlements and clearances may still survive. Has there been any survey work? Has anybody identified possible earthworks? Not now, but soon, I'm sure, someone will be digging the Diggers.*

Watercourses and Mill Sites in the Manor of Chilworth: Research in Progress

Glenys Crocker

Recent documentary research on the Chilworth gunpowder mills and their proprietors in the 17th century helps to explain unusual features of the watercourses and provides clues to the locations of early mill sites, both of the gunpowder industry and of an earlier wireworks.

In the late 17th century the powdermills occupied a 2km stretch of the Tillingbourne valley, largely in the parish of St Martha, and comprised, from east to west, Upper, Middle and Lower Works. A written survey carried out in 1677 by Sir Jonas Moore,



Schematic map showing historic ponds and watercourses at Chilworth. The number of channels at the Lower Works corresponds to those on an estate map of 1728.

Surveyor General of the Ordnance, is held by the Staffordshire Record Office (D742/M/1/13). Seller's near-contemporary map of Surrey names the three sites but the features it depicts correspond only to the Upper and Lower Works as described by Moore.

Chilworth Pond, the mill pond of the Lower Works at Blacksmith Lane (TQ 024 474), has an unusual form, considered possibly unique by members of the Mills Research Group. It is fed by two streams, both of which are above the level of the valley floor and are therefore artificial. The pond has a dam at the upstream as well as the downstream end and a culvert passes under both dams and the pond to drain the valley floor. The southern mill stream is named *New Cut River* on a 1728 estate plan, the *General Survey of Chillworth St Martha* (British Library MSS, Althorp Papers, P4). It served the Middle Works, which Moore stated were established in the First Dutch War, ie 1652-4. The north stream, called the *Old River* in 1728, may have been cut originally to serve the corn mill which is recorded in Domesday, without the use of a pond. Alternatively, the original mill may have had a dam retaining a conventional triangular mill pond fed by the natural watercourse of the Tillingbourne, in which case the *Old River* would be later.

Moore stated that the Lower gunpowder works were the earliest of the three. It is known from other sources that they were established in 1626 by the East India Company, whose ten-year involvement in the site was fraught with problems (Brandon, 1986; Fairclough). In particular, from the point of view of the topography, the owners of Chilworth Manor were in dispute with the Company about the mismanagement of the watercourses. Depositions made by local people to the Court of Exchequer in 1631 (Public Record Office, E134/ 7 Chas 1/ 5 Mich) show that in 1626 there was a millpond, a dam in need of repair, and a disused corn mill, fulling mill and fulling mill house. The Company replaced these buildings with three powder mills but neglected to repair the dam. Indeed they raised it to get more power, flooded the hop grounds immediately upstream and caused a breach in the dam which emptied the pond of water and the landlords' carp. Presumably the second dam was built on the upstream end of the pond to overcome these problems. A channel was then needed to take water into the pond so the north mill stream was either reinstated, if it had been a medieval leat made redundant by the dam, or newly constructed after 1636. Dating of the stone-arch bridge which crosses the north mill

stream at TQ 0277 4758, for example by carbon 14 dating of the mortar, might cast light on this.

Witnesses in 1631 stated that the three powder mills had been destroyed by an explosion and only two had been rebuilt on their original sites at the pond. The third was replaced with a mill nearby on *Steersland*, a name associated historically with an area west of Blacksmith Lane and alternatively known as Berkeley Land. It is known that wireworks were operated briefly (1603-6) by one Thomas Steere in defiance of a monopoly held by the Mineral and Battery Works (*VCH*, 2, 410-11; G Crocker, forthcoming). Records of the resulting court case state only that the wireworks were at Chilworth. They were evidently not at the pond site since in 1626 the corn mill and fulling mill were still standing. They were probably therefore on the cut below the pond. They probably had a substantial building of compact plan, unlike gunpowder mills which consisted of a number of separate process units, spaced out.

The 1677 survey names six such units along a leat from the Lower Works pond, of which the last and most westerly was called *Shifford Mill*. This is probably a corruption of Shalford, the next parish downstream from St Martha's, and suggests that the Lower gunpowder works extended farther down the Tillingbourne than has previously been realised, to the vicinity of Meadow Cottage (TQ 022 473). The Lower Works were converted to papermaking in 1704, and the eastern part of the leat then served the Little Paper Mill, as shown on the 1728 estate map. After the paper mill closed in the mid-19th century its immediate site went out of industrial use and has remained so. The area between the millpond and Meadow Cottage, particularly at the less-disturbed Shalford end, has archaeological potential as one of very few sites in Britain where traces of pestle-operated gunpowder mills may remain. This type of mill was replaced by edge-runner mills from about 1690 onwards and became obsolete in Britain by the late 18th century, being replaced at Chilworth c1735 (G Crocker & Fairclough, 1998).

At the Upper Works in 1677 there were six mills which correlate with mill sites on the 1728 survey, which however shows the dams breached and the ponds drained. One mill, on a leat from the Postford Brook near the present Postford House, was later used for papermaking and was latterly a sawmill powered by a water turbine, which survives. One was at Pens (Waterloo) Pond, where there was a later paper mill, and four were at Postford Pond, three of them on the north side where a residential estate and offices have been built in the 1990s and where there was previously a paper mill followed by a flock mill, corn mill and trout farm (A Crocker, 1988). Most of the remains of powder mills at the Upper Works have probably been disturbed by these developments.

It is puzzling that there is a marked increase in the gradient of the north mill stream, the *Old River* where it is crossed by the lane from Lockner Farm to Chilworth Manor at TQ 032 477. This suggests a mill site, and the fact that the lane follows a causeway across the valley might suggest a dam. However no documentary evidence has been found for a mill at this location.

The system of water management in the manor of Chilworth was further complicated by the construction of channels for flooding the meadows from about 1700 onwards (Northants Record Office, SOX 488, 1766 abstract of lease). The main channel, the Postford Stream, can be seen at the rear of the Percy Arms. It runs west from the leat of the Postford House mill, and connects points on the spring line between the Atherfield Clay and the Hythe Beds, for example at Luff's Pond and Tangle Mere. Secondary channels feed into the system for serving the mills in several places.

Documentary research on Chilworth is continuing. It is hoped that this will reveal when and by whom the Chilworth mill pond was reconstructed and the Upper Works were built - whether by the king, who lent £2000 for the repair and expansion of the

mills in the 1630s (*VCH*, 2, 319; Fairclough) or by later proprietors. Ideally this work needs to be matched by detailed recording of the physical features of the Chilworth site and by a systematic landscape survey. A small working group, consisting of representatives of Guildford Borough, St Martha Parish Council and local history, natural history and archaeology interests, has been meeting regularly to consider the management of the site. Some survey work has been started. However the scale of the project requires major backing and commitment and this is being actively pursued.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Alan Crocker and Andrew Norris for collaborating on this project and Keith Fairclough for valuable discussions on the history of the powder mills and for exchanging information with me.

References

- Brandon, P, 1986 Land, technology and water management in the Tillingbourne valley, Surrey, 1560-1670, *Southern History*, 6, 75-103
- Crocker, A, 1988 *Paper mills of the Tillingbourne* (Oxshott, Tabard Press)
- Crocker, G, Seventeenth century wireworks in Surrey and the case of Thomas Steere, *Surrey History*, forthcoming (November 1999)
- , & Fairclough, K R, 1998 The introduction of edge-runner incorporating mills in the British gunpowder industry, *Industrial Archaeology Review*, 20, 23-36
- Fairclough, K R, The East India Company and gunpowder production at Chilworth; The Cordwell family: gunpowder producers at Chilworth, 1636-1650 (accepted for publication in *SyAC*)

FIELDWORK BY THE SURREY COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNIT DURING 1998

Introduction

Rob Poulton

The quantity of archaeological fieldwork carried out by the Surrey County Archaeological Unit in 1998 has remained at a comparable level to that in the previous two years. The map shows an odd distribution, with areas of concentrated activity and large zones with little or no archaeological work. This reflects, for the most part, the distribution of development activity, since the system (under PPG 16) creates an expectation of archaeological work wherever the development area exceeds 0.4Ha. Smaller sites receive attention where there is a high expectation of discoveries and this explains the bias towards historic towns.

One result of this approach is that quite a lot of the work carried out has produced no positive results. This does not mean that it is of no value. The cumulative effect of these pieces of work over recent years has been to provide an extended test of the validity of archaeological distribution maps and the validity of inferences drawn from them as to the nature of ancient settlement. These results are now in urgent need of being drawn together. The evaluation at Hevesta, St George's Hill (no. 2) may be cited as an individual example of the value of negative evidence.

Evaluation (followed now by a careful watching brief early in 1999) of this site, which occupies almost 25% of the hillfort, has revealed no archaeological features and not a single sherd of Iron Age pottery. Other recent smaller-scale investigations within the hillfort have been similarly unproductive. This would seem to cast serious doubt on the usual interpretation of St George's as a major Iron Age tribal centre (cf Hanworth 1987, 139).

The more important details for each site are given in the individual entries. Reviewing

the work chronologically it is noticeable that the earlier prehistoric period is scarcely represented. The Bronze Age, however, has produced some of the most important results, with an interesting farmstead at Wey Manor Farm (33) and confirmation at Home Farm, Laleham (40) that this substantial (60Ha) tract of gravel terrace seems only to have seen significant ancient settlement activity in the Bronze Age, and, perhaps, the later Neolithic. The Iron Age is represented, apart from the evidence at St George's Hill (2) already mentioned, by the field system identified at Runfold (47).

Roman settlement was better represented. Work in and around Staines was of particular interest. At the Elmsleigh Centre valuable evidence was recovered for the limits of the town proper, while a number of investigations along London Road to the east (34, 36, 42) build on other recent work to suggest it was an area of floodplain only intermittently suitable for settlement. Limited prehistoric activity is followed by burials, possibly of earlier Roman date. These (36, 42) are too scattered to describe as a cemetery but are, perhaps, outliers to one. In the later Roman period settlement develops with plentiful evidence for formal land division. There is then a lack of evidence until about the 12th century, when occupation is renewed, only to cease again in the 14th century.

The most substantial Roman site was that at Barnwood School, Guildford. The large building identified in 1998 is probably part of a substantial complex associated with the villa found nearby in 1829 (the Broad Street villa; see Bird 1987, fig. 7.2 and 176). The site forms part of an increasing body of evidence for Roman activity on the London Clay in this area.

The only Saxon material of note was that recovered at Mizen's Farm, Woking (50), while, Staines apart, the most interesting medieval discoveries were those at Boots, Guildford (12), which suggested backlands development of unexpected sophistication.

Many members of the team were involved in carrying out this work. The great majority of the excavations and evaluations were directed by Graham Hayman and Jane Robertson. Some were directed by Mark Dover, Giles Pattison, Rob Poulton, and Jim Stephenson, and the first and last named were also responsible, together with Nick Marples, for many of the watching briefs. Further assistance with fieldwork was given by Simon Hind and Ally Holly. Finds work was undertaken by Phil Jones and Nicola Hembrey, and Giles Pattison was responsible for all the illustration and design work. Nowal Shaikhley was responsible for much of the organisation of the work, and also assisted with and carried out a number of fieldwork projects.

NSFF indicates that no significant finds or features were identified at a site.

References

- Bird, DG, 1987 The Romano-British period in Surrey, in Bird & Bird 1987
Hanworth, R, 1987 The Iron Age in Surrey, in Bird & Bird, 1987
Bird, J & Bird, DG, *The Archaeology of Surrey to 1540*

Elmbridge

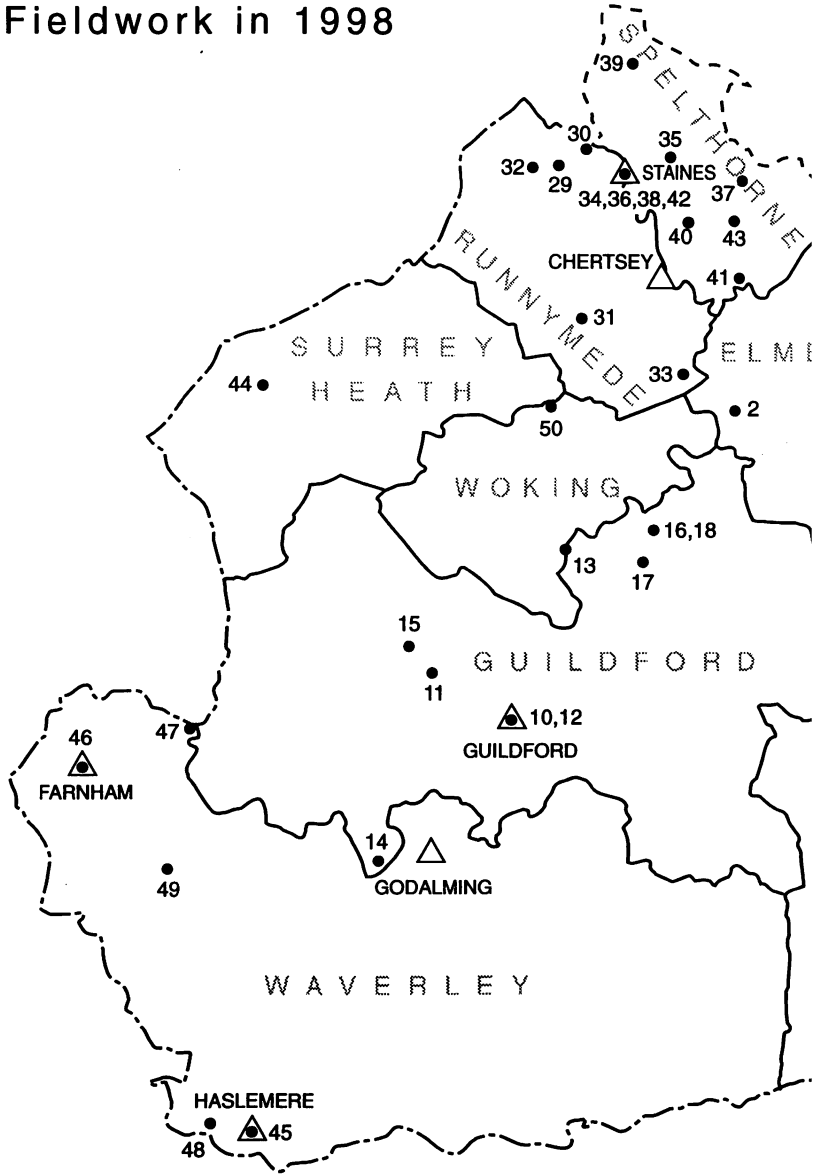
- 1 **Molesey**, Molesey Reservoir (TQ 1204 6875). Watching brief during October. *NSFF*.
- 2 **Weybridge**, 'Hevesta', St George's Hill (TQ 0847 6188). Evaluation in February, within the circuit of the Iron Age hillfort enclosure. *NSFF*.

Epsom and Ewell

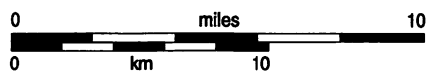
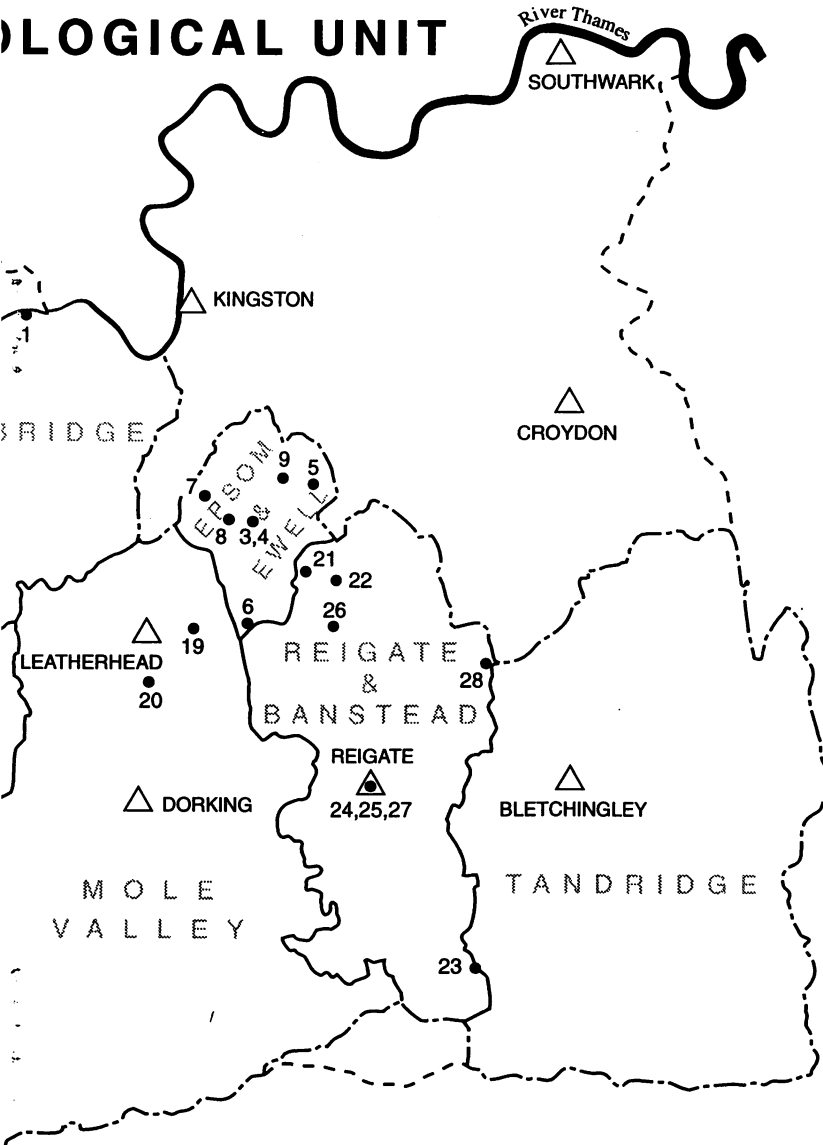
- 3 **Epsom**, 14-18 Upper High Street (TQ 2114 6087). Watching brief during November. *NSFF*.

SURREY COUNTY ARCHAEOLOGY

Fieldwork in 1998



OLOGICAL UNIT



- 4 **Epsom**, Central Area Development (TQ 208 608 centered). Watching brief during July. *NSFF*.
- 5 **Ewell**, Cherry Orchard (TQ 225 633). Evaluation in January. A scatter of features, mainly small pits and gullies suggesting prehistoric (probably mostly Bronze Age) and later Roman, and perhaps medieval, activity.
- 6 **Epsom Downs**, Epsom Downs School (TQ 2148 5740). Evaluation in January. *NSFF*.
- 7 **Epsom**, Epsom Hospitals trunk road (TQ 1936 6192). Watching brief during October and November. *NSFF*.
- 8 **Epsom**, Manor Hospital (TQ 1971 6142). Watching brief during October and November *NSFF*.
- 9 **Ewell**, 121 London Road (TQ 2240 6332). Evaluation in May. *NSFF*.

Guildford

- 10 **Guildford**, 65-66 North Street/23-27 Market Street (SU 9971 4958). Watching brief in July. *NSFF*.
- 11 **Worplesdon**, Barnwood School (SU 9690 5095). Rescue and training excavation from mid-August to late November revealed a substantial Roman building with ancillary enclosures, mostly occupied in the 2nd to 4th centuries AD.
- 12 **Guildford**, 'Boots', Swan Lane (SU9963 4950). Evaluation in June, which revealed a number of features, mainly pits and walls, ranging in date from the late 12th or early 13th century to the 17th century. The substantial chalk foundations along the western side of the plot suggest buildings of at least two storeys with the rubbish pits dug on their eastern side. This was followed by a watching brief throughout July.
- 13 **Send**, Cart Bridge (TQ 0162 5583). Watching brief in February and May. *NSFF*.
- 14 **Eashing**, Eashing Mill (SU 9458 4375). Watching brief in May and July. *NSFF*.
- 15 **Worplesdon**, Fairlands Practice (SU 9620 5240). Watching brief during May. *NSFF*.
- 16 **Send**, Ripley Church (TQ 051 567). Evaluation in February. *NSFF*.
- 17 **Send**, Sendmarsh Works (TQ 036 557). Evaluation in March. *NSFF*.
- 18 **Ripley**, Wentworth Close (TQ 0486 5669). Evaluation in February. *NSFF*.

Mole Valley

- 19 **Leatherhead**, Green Lane (TQ 1773 5685). Evaluation in October and December. *NSFF*.
- 20 **Leatherhead**, Naome Acres (TQ 1741 5545). Evaluation in September. *NSFF*.

Reigate and Banstead

- 21 **Banstead**, Great Burgh (TQ 2338 5884). Watching brief in February. *NSFF*.
- 22 **Banstead**, Land off Height's Close (TQ 2431 5902). Evaluation in September. *NSFF*.
- 23 **Horley**, Langshott Manor (TQ 2953 4396). Evaluation in May. *NSFF*.
- 24 **Reigate**, Grammar School (TQ 2622 5018). Watching brief in December. *NSFF*.
- 25 **Reigate**, Town Hall (TQ 2539 5040). Excavation in February revealed the bailey ditch of Reigate Castle, sealed by over a metre of material which had been dumped to level up the area. Its width was c18m, but its full depth was not reached, as at 3.7m it was considered unsafe to continue excavation. The ditch had been cleaned out in the 18th century and used as a moated feature within the landscaped grounds of the former castle. It had been filled in during the late 18th or early 19th century, perhaps when the adjacent Tunnel Road was constructed in 1821.
- 26 **Tadworth**, Tadworth Court (TQ 2375 5654). Evaluation in May. *NSFF*.

- 27 **Reigate**, The Barons (TQ 2553 5023). Evaluation in May revealed a scatter of medieval pottery, probably dumped from the nearby town.
- 28 **Couldson**, Netherne-on-the-Hill (TQ 296 562). Evaluation in May. *NSFF*.

Runnymede

- 29 **Egham**, Boshers's Allotments (TSU 0092 7073). Evaluation in June. *NSFF*.
- 30 **Egham**, Glanty Loop (TQ 0184 7162). Evaluation in April. *NSFF*.
- 31 **Chertsey**, Hillswood NHS/Botleys Moat (TQ 015 648). Watching brief in January. *NSFF*.
- 32 **Egham**, Royal Holloway College (SU 9975 7050). Evaluation in April. *NSFF*.
- 33 **Addlestone**, Wey Manor Farm (TQ 061 632). Watching Brief in July. A Bronze Age round house and associated enclosure, and some other features. (See *Bulletin* 326).

Spelthorne

- 34 **Staines**, 18-32 London Road (TQ 0414 7182). Excavation in April. Prehistoric finds and one feature: a Bronze Age ditch. Two Roman inhumation burials, one with hobnailed boots and several later Roman ditches. Settlement was renewed in the 12th century, and ditches, pits and postholes were found of the 12th-14th centuries.
- 35 **Staines**, 22 Leacroft Close (TQ 0456 7165). Evaluation in July, followed by a watching brief in October. *NSFF*
- 36 **Staines**, 42-54 London Road (TQ 0414 7182). Evaluation in May and June *NSFF*.
- 37 **Ashford**, BT Depot, Poplar Road (TQ 083 712). Evaluation in May. *NSFF*.
- 38 **Staines**, Elmsleigh Centre (TQ 0414 7182). Evaluation in May and June.
- 39 **Stanwell**, Hithermoor Pit (TQ 0388 7464). Watching brief in June and July. *NSFF*.
- 40 **Laleham**, Home Farm (TQ 055 687). Evaluation in September, November and December of this large gravel pit has been organised on a phased basis since 1992. A number of occupation areas and other features have been identified, some of Neolithic, but most of Bronze Age date. The latest work revealed scattered features of similar date, but no major occupation area.
- 41 **Shepperton**, St Nicholas' Churchyard (TQ 0770 6661). Evaluation in March, followed a watching brief in November. Several human burials of uncertain date were identified.
- 42 **Staines**, Staines House, 158-162 High Street (TQ 03997178). Evaluation in April and July, followed by an excavation in August and a watching brief in December. Two Roman graves, one with two inhumations. Three parallel Roman ditches seem to be plot boundaries at right angles to the adjacent London-Silchester road. Several 13th/14th century features were also identified, including probable plot boundary ditches.
- 43 **Shepperton**, Staines Road Farm (TQ 076 682). Watching brief in May. *NSFF*.

Surrey Heath

- 44 **Camberley**, A30 Camberley to Bagshot, Jenkins Hill (SU 8968 6185). Watching brief in March and May. *NSFF*.

Waverley

- 45 **Haslemere**, 24 Petworth Road (SU 9061 3273). Evaluation in October. *NSFF*.
- 46 **Farnham**, Farnham Castle (SU 8373 4731). Standing building survey in November and December on parts of the medieval domestic buildings of the castle.
- 47 **Runfold**, Runfold Farm Pit (SU 875 485). Watching brief in May. Evidence for an

extensive field system was identified. It is most probably part of a 'Celtic' field system associated with the substantial Iron Age settlement identified in nearby trial trenching in 1997 (*Bulletin* 321), although the sparse dating evidence precludes certainty.

- 48 **Haslemere**, Shottersmill Recreation Ground/'Tesco' (SU 8898 3270). Evaluation in November. *NSFF*.
- 49 **Tilford**, Tilford Bridge (SU 8737 4345). Watching brief in January, following an earlier watching brief and a standing structure survey during late 1997. Minor further observations to add to the earlier work on the medieval stone bridge.

Woking

- 50 **Woking**, Mizen's Farm (TQ 013 616). A second phase of archaeological work, following earlier work in 1997 (*Bulletin* 321). Evaluation in May revealed thirteen features including pits, ditches and gullies. Two of the features were of Saxon date and produced fragments of a bag-shaped pot and fragments of burnt bone and charcoal suggesting the presence of a cremation. Four features were of Bronze Age date adding to the total number of prehistoric features previously identified, providing evidence for two areas of Bronze Age activity. Of the remaining features, one was of post-medieval date and the rest were undated.

COUNCIL NEWS

At the last meeting of Council, newly-elected President, Alan Crocker, welcomed members and said he hoped to attend many meetings of sub-committees of Council, and had already been impressed by the amount of work being done. Mr Matthew Alexander and Dr D G Bird were unanimously co-opted to Council for the year.

Council approved the grant of £1000 to Guildford Museum towards the costs of illustrating the finds from the Buckingham Collection; and a maximum of £4000 to enable further excavation to take place at the site of the Wanborough temple. This work was being undertaken following geophysical surveys by English Heritage, to determine the nature of the anomalies and to define the area to be scheduled.

It was reported that Surrey County Council had proposed a partnership agreement with the Society to further the aims of the Community Archaeology project. The County Council offered to contribute £4000 to the Society towards research into areas of potential historic landscape value, providing the Society contributed matching funds. The funding would enable a professional archaeologist to be appointed, to lead the surveys and provide additional training and guidance for volunteers. Council approved the proposal to provide £4000 to meet Surrey County Council's funding, and authorised a further £1000 to meet additional expenses in administering the project.

It was reported that Mr John Strudwick had kindly agreed to act as Local Secretary for the Haslemere area.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Training Excavation, Hopeless Moor, Seale 1999.

A second season of excavation at this medieval and Romano-British site will start on July 24th 1999 and run for either two or three weeks. The duration will not be decided

until the results of the geophysical survey carried out during March are to hand.

Acceptance of this project as providing suitable fieldwork experience for Certificate, Diploma and degree level students will be sought from the Universities of Surrey and London (Birkbeck College).

Application forms, which will be available from the first week of April can be obtained from Judie English, 2 Rowland Road, Cranleigh, Surrey GU6 8SW Tel: 01483 276724.

Surrey Symposium 1999

Rose Hooker

This was chaired by our Vice President, Richard Muir, who welcomed the audience and speakers to a varied and interesting programme, for which Judie English was warmly thanked.

The first two speakers represented professional archaeological units contracted by developers to work at sites in Surrey. Dylan Hopkinson of AOC Archaeology spoke of their excavations at Guildford Street, Chertsey, south of the major ancient cross routes. A series of pits and gullies found in every phase suggested the gradual growth of this medieval suburb. Robin Taylor-Wilson of Preconstruct Archaeology followed with a report on excavations at Fairylands, Laleham, where the majority of features were Iron Age or Roman. Here, the many pits and gullies suggested agricultural settlement during the Middle to Late Iron Age, with the focus gradually shifting away from the site.

These accounts of professional work were followed by Jill Williams, for Thorpe, and Ann Noyes, for Shere, who gave resumes of their work so far for the Surrey Millennium Project. The development of Thorpe is being traced with the help of good manorial documents though hampered by the lack of maps previous to enclosure. In Shere, a lot of work has shown that there has been no change in the basic settlement plan for 500 years. Both speakers clearly demonstrated not only how much work could be done, but the variety of pathways which could be used.

Audrey Monk, deputising for David Graham, then reported on progress made in the Community Archaeology Initiative. Landscape and Millennium Projects have been running for some time, but Surrey County Council is now entering into partnership with the Society which, it is hoped, will enable a professional archaeologist to be employed to help volunteers with various projects. A number of other initiatives are now being developed, and the Community Archaeology Committee are trying to set up a structure to integrate volunteers into worthwhile activities.

Audrey was followed by Ellie Jay and Robert Nash of the Surrey Young Archaeologists Club. The YAC report is often a highlight of the Symposium and we were not disappointed. Ellie Jay described the pleasures and pains of digging at Hopeless Moor last summer, after which Robert Nash entertained us with a dramatic account of the dinosaur talk he and others had attended in January. It was a lively and humorous interlude which was much appreciated.

The next speaker was Jackie McKinley from Wessex Archaeology, who gave an excellent presentation of the Unit's work in Staines, on the old trading estate north of the High Street. Once a gravel island, this area produced evidence of activity from the Neolithic onwards, with some deposits sealed with alluvium from episodes of flooding. The pits and gullies found here in most phases were again indicators of occupation and boundaries, but it seemed that much evidence was lost due to the nature of the site.

After lunch, the Margary Award was presented by Richard Muir. The exhibition of clay pipes by the Surrey Heath Group gained second place, but the main award was given to the Guildford Group for an excellent presentation of their work.

Judie English then gave an account of the 1998 Research and Training Excavations at Hopeless Moor, Seale. This had essentially planned to confirm the details of the 1939 dig, since the archive was incomplete. However, once trenches were opened, it became clear that the early plan of the site, written while on active service, was inaccurate, and also that the 1939 trenches, which had been left open, had been robbed. Although the medieval kiln and building were confirmed, it was also apparent from the amount of Romano-British pottery being recovered, that a Romano-British site was nearby. This is to be further investigated during the summer training excavation this year. Much had also been discovered about the medieval history of the site, due to the researches of Pat Heather, and the Society was grateful to Sir Richard Thornton for enabling these excavations to take place.

A round-up of the activities of Surrey County Archaeological Unit was provided by Rob Poulton, who concentrated on a few sites including the Mizen's Farm site at Woking, with largely unfocused results; the Bronze Age round house at Wey Manor Farm (Bulletin 326); the unexpectedly negative results at St George's Hill hillfort, viewed as central to the area and now suggesting a reconsideration of the interpretation of the Iron Age settlement pattern; the first positive indication of Roman cemeteries at Staines; work on the Broad Street Roman villa at Guildford where the structure of the building suggested towers at the corners of the front of the villa; medieval stone-built buildings behind the High Street frontage at Guildford implying unusual prosperity, and confirmation of the Castle ditch at Reigate. This rapid but informative tour of Surrey showed the range of work being done and the problems of various working conditions.

After tea, Robert Cowie of the Richmond Archaeological Society talked about the Time Team at Richmond Palace. A brief history of the Palace established the importance of the building in the past and that there was little standing evidence to reconstruct a plan of it. Without Time Team, however, the residents of Trumpeter House might not have been won over for an investigation beneath their immaculate lawn. The conclusions reached by Time Team during the programme have now been superseded by the post-excavation work and the fortuitous discovery of new evidence. An American researcher contacted John Cloake to inform him of a plan in the National Archive of Florence which seemed to be a plan of the Palace. It was, indeed, and has enabled the Richmond Society to establish the size and location of the privy lodgings, and to show that only one Time Team trench was actually on the site of these buildings. Altogether, an illuminating and entertaining talk with which to end the afternoon.

Richard Muir thanked the speakers and exhibitors for an excellent day, and Judie English thanked him for his support as President in encouraging the training excavations of the Society.

MISCELLANY

Editor's apologies yet again

Those who tried to access the Society's web site with the address I gave in the last Bulletin will have become very annoyed at me for getting it wrong. I'd been given it right, but was worried about its length for the front page until I was told that the first part wasn't necessary. It is, and I am sorry to have been the cause of much frustration. Special apologies to those who set it up in the first place. The full address is now in the titles but I'll repeat it here anyway:
ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/surreyarch

Flag Fen Bronze Age Farm near Peterborough

Saturday 18th April 1999

Anyone interested in a visit?

Our coach leaves Farncombe Railway station at 8.00 am and will return from Flag Fen at 4.30 pm. The journey is about two and a half hours each way, but we will be stopping at services for breaks.

Cost: £12 to include coach, admission and a guided tour. There is only a limited number of seats available, so book early to avoid disappointment.

For details contact Elizabeth Whitbourn. Tel: 01483 420575, or e-mail: JAW@telinco.co.uk

Flag Fen is one of the most important archaeological sites in Europe and yet it was only discovered in 1982. 3000 years ago, in the Late Bronze Age, the people living around Flag Fen in the wetlands of Cambridgeshire built an extraordinary wooden structure, consisting of c60,000 large timber posts arranged in five rows to form a wall or barrier. Alongside the posts are walkways and a massive island or platform of around a million timbers.

The site extends for a kilometre and excavation has revealed hundreds of finds and offerings, including locally made objects as well as imports of bronze, gold and iron. Visitors can see the research excavation site, excavated timbers and finds, and there is also a reconstructed Bronze Age landscape park, complete with 'prehistoric livestock'!

COURSES

New Light on Old Gardens

A course of six lectures organised by the Lectures and Symposia Committee of SyAS and the Surrey Gardens Trust. The Leatherhead Institute, High Street, Leatherhead on consecutive Fridays through April and May 1999, 7.30 for 8.00 pm. For details see last issue.

The Reigate Stone Quandary

***Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society
14th April***

Three short lectures on the nature of this unique British building stone, the conservation problems it presents in historic buildings such as the Tower of London, and the practicalities of quarrying new stone for restoration work.

Robin Sanderson, consultant geologist and building stone analyst.

Keith Garner, architect for the Historic Royal Palaces Agency.

Paul Sowan, of *Subterranea Britannica*.

Meeting starts at 7.45 pm at the United Reformed Church Small Hall, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon, two minutes walk from East Croydon station.

For further information Tel: Carol Machin on 0181 693 4887.

CONFERENCES

Hearts and Spades

Major conference on the Diggers of 1649

Brooklands College, Weybridge and St Mary's Church, Walton

Friday 9th and Saturday 10th April

The conference will look afresh at the Diggers and their ideas, and consider their legacy and continuing relevance today. St Mary's Church has strong connections with them: they were illegally imprisoned there in 1649!

Speakers to include **Michael Foot, George Monbiot, Ann Hughes, Gerald Aylmer, James Holstun, James D Alsop, Elaine Hobby, Nigel Smith, David C Taylor and Christopher Rowland.**

Included in the programme will be a showing of the 1975 film '*Winstanley*' introduced by its producers and members of the cast.

Cost: £16 full programme, less for single days or film only.

Friday supper £4; Saturday two-course lunch £8.

The conference is run on a non-profit basis. Prices have been kept as low as possible to enable all who are interested to attend.

For further information contact Sonia Craig, School of Cultural Studies, King Alfred's College, Winchester SO22 4NR, Tel: 01962 827289, fax: 01952 827458, e-mail: <S.Craig@wkac.uk>

Surrey Local History Council Spring Meeting

Virginia Water Community Centre, Cabrera Avenue, Virginia Water

Saturday 17th April 1999

Surrey Manors

2.00 pm Chairman's Introductory Remarks.

2.05 The Peasant Land Market at Farnham before the Black Death, with some preliminary remarks on the Bishopric Estate. *Mark Page*

3.05 The Manor of Trotsworth. *Ron Davis*

3.50 pm Tea

4.20 Manorial Officials on the Manors of Cherstey Abbey. *Mark Forest*

5.30 Close.

There will be time for a few questions after each speaker and a general discussion at the end.

Tickets: Members, in advance £4.00; visitors and all tickets at the door, £5.00. Applications to the Hon Secretary, Mrs Ann Milton-Worssell, 62 Harriotts Lane, Ashtead, Surrey KT21 2QB. Please include a stamped, addressed envelope.

LECTURE MEETINGS

1st April

"Dating Houses from fixtures and fittings" by Linda Hall to the Spelthorne Archaeological Field Group and the Friends of Spelthorne Museum at the Methodist Church, Thames Street, Staines, at 8.00 pm.

7th April

"The Epsom Riot of 1919 and the death of Sgt Green" by Tim Richardson to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society, at St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell, at 7.45 for 8.00 pm.

10th April

"Croydon Airport" by Frank Anderson to the Beddington, Carshalton & Wallington Archaeological Society, at Milton Hall, Cooper Crescent, off Nightingale Road, Carshalton at 3.00 pm.

15th April

"Barnes Water" by Ron Howes to the Barnes and Mortlake History Society at the Main Hall, Sheen Lane Centre, at 8.00 pm.

15th April

"Nelson at Merton" by Judith Goodman to the Merton Historical Society at Merton Civic Centre, Morden at 7.30 pm.

22nd April

"Historic Locks and Keys" by Victor Leonardi to the Byfleet Heritage Society after the Society AGM at Byfleet Village Hall, Room A at 7.30 pm. Guests £1.

26th April

"Horsell Church" by Richard Christophers and J Mihell to the Woking History Society at Mayford Village Hall, Saunders Lane, Mayford, Woking, at 7.45pm. Visitors £2.

27th April

"London's Surviving Medieval Churches" by Stephen Humphrey to the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society, at Hawkstone Hall, the Lambeth North end of Kennington Road, at 7.00 for 7.30 pm.

29th April

"The History of Heathrow" by Philip Sherwood to the Egham-by-Runnymede Historical Society at the Literary Institute, Egham High Street, at 8.00 pm.

5th May

"London Bridge is Broken Down" by Bruce Watson to the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society at the United Reformed Church Small Hall, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon, at 7.45 pm.

6th May

"Visby and the Hanseatic League" by Charles Abdy to the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society at St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell, at 7.45 for 8.00 pm.

12th May

"A Mole's Eye View of South-East England" by Harry Pearman of Chelsea Speleological Society. Harry has collected and published information on artificial holes in the ground, and a few natural caves, in south-east England since 1963. To the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society at the United Reformed Church Small Hall, Addiscombe Grove, East Croydon, at 7.45 pm.

21st May

"Exploring and Understanding Surrey's Historic Landscape" by Steve Dyer to the Byfleet Heritage Society at Byfleet Village Hall, Room A, at 8.15 pm. Guests £1.

25th May

"Recent Discoveries in Tudor and Stuart London" by Rosemary Weinstein to the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society, at Hawkstone Hall, the Lambeth North end of Kennington Road, at 7.00 for 7.30 pm.

27th May

"Henry Strode - An Egham Farming Chronicle" by John Hardaker to the Egham-by-Runnymede Historical Society at the Literary Institute, Egham High Street, at 8.00 pm.

28th May

"The Archbishop of York's Battersea Manor House - on the Recent Archaeological and Historical Work at Price's Candle Factory" by Duncan Hawkins to the Wandsworth Historical Society at the Friends' Meeting House, Wandsworth High Street at 8.00 pm.

Next Issue: Copy required by 9th April for the May issue.

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

A DECLARATION

TO THE

Powers of England,

AND

To all the Powers of the VVorld, shewing the Cause why the common People of England have begun, and gives consent to dig up, manure, and sow Corn upon *George-Hill in Surrey*; by those that have subscribed, and thousands more that give consent.

O R,

The state of Community opened, and presented to the Sons of Men.

BY

*William Everard,
John Palmer,
John South,
John Courton,
William Taylor,*

*Christopher Clifford,
John Barker,
Ferrard Winstanley,
Richard Goodgroom,
Thomas Starre,*

*William Hoggrill;
Robert Sawyer,
Thomas Eder,
Henry Bickerstaffe,
John Taylor, &c.*

Beginning to plant, and manure the wast Land upon *George-Hill*, neare *Walton*, in the County of *Surrey*.

LONDON,

Printed for *Giles Calvert*, at the Black Spread-Eagle at the West end of *Pauls*. 1649.