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# Bulletin 454

December 2015



**EARLY MEDIEVAL GLASS LINEN SMOOTHER (see p2)**

*Photo: Giles Pattison of SCAU*

Your officers, members and friends have been very active both in trying to improve the situation for the Society at Guildford Museum and in finding alternatives if, after over 100 years of co-operation, we are nevertheless evicted from the Museum by Guildford Borough Council. We have met councillors, heritage organisations, representatives of local heritage groups and the local press to explain our concerns and they have done what they can. We have taken part in the Guildford Museum Review and met the museum consultants now working to help find a constructive way forward. There is a strong feeling shared by many that this is all a dreadful mistake and it would be a sad loss to Guildford if the Society has to move out of the Borough but that may yet happen.

After numerous meetings and letters Guildford Borough Council has recognised that the Society owns 55% of the 105,000 objects in Guildford Museum and has suddenly announced that their Section 25 Notice no longer applies to our collections. They still insist we must pack our books and bags and go to make space for their new plans but our collections can stay. This is probably good news, at least for the short term, but it offers us nothing in exchange and without a clear written agreement to protect our interests it is just a first step.

Working closely with our lawyers we have submitted very reasonable proposals for a more constructive solution. As I write our letter has been acknowledged but we have heard no more. Our lawyers have further steps ready.

A preliminary but detailed report about Guildford Museum was submitted to the Executive of Guildford Borough Council on 24th November and is available on their website <http://www2.guildford.gov.uk/councilmeetings/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=132&MId=169&Ver=4>

A public consultation will apparently take place in 2016.

Powers to deal with the immediate problems created by Guildford Borough Council have been delegated to the Management Committee. The longer term is a matter for all Society members who are urged to complete the questionnaire sent with this Bulletin. This seeks views on the Society's future to help the discussion after the Symposium on Saturday 27th February. It is not so long since we celebrated our 150th anniversary. We should treat this as an opportunity to refashion our Society for the next 150 years and the Society's Council would very much like to hear from as many of you as possible.

Excavations of an early medieval cemetery by a team from the Surrey County Archaeological Unit SCAU during 2014 and 2015 revealed in excess of 300 inhumation burials. Post-excavation analysis has only just commenced, however initial research has shown that a quarter of these burials contained items in close association with individuals, such as animal teeth, iron nails and in two instances, ceramic spindle whorls, all of a possible apotropaic, or charm-like nature. Numerous burials also exhibited a range of treatments such as ash 'halos' or 'pillow stones', whilst some displayed multiple items and treatments.

One grave was of particular interest in that, positioned over the right midriff of the deceased, was a glass linen smoother. Measuring 35mm high and roughly circular, with a diameter of 70mm, the smoother is domed on one surface, with a central circular depression in the opposite flattened face. The remains of a glass 'stalk' is evident within this depression, resulting from the separation of the glass from the maker's rod (see photograph). The object was relatively abraded and had a large flake absent, the indication being that the smoother had been damaged in antiquity. Although the outer surfaces have an iridescent appearance, broken surfaces reveal a very dark green to black colour. No analysis has been carried out but in all likelihood its composition is a potash glass.

Glass linen smoothers can be broadly separated into two types on typological grounds; the early examples being generally smaller, and lacking the integral glass handle which occurs from the 16th century onwards. Earlier examples, being designed for hand-held use, often display use-wear on both surfaces, as in this instance and as evident on a number of examples from Winchester (Biddle 1990, 240). Often referred to as 'sleek stones', 'slickers' and 'calenders', their description implies use in the calendering, or smoothing, of textiles, however this does not preclude their use in a range of activities, such as crushing of spices (Galuska et al 2012).

In Scandinavia these objects are relatively common finds from Viking period female graves (Williams 1979) and often interpreted high status objects. A preliminary search for early examples from England shows that they more likely to occur in domestic contexts.

Significant groups, with a date range spanning the 10th-13th centuries, have been recovered from Winchester (Biddle 1990), London (Pritchard 1991), York (Walton-Rogers 1997) and Lincoln (Bayley 2008). Fragments have also been noted at Northampton (Williams 1979), Thetford (Rogerson & Dallas 1984) and Norwich (Margeson 1993). Closer to Surrey, excavations by Archaeology South-East in Lewes have recovered a further six fragments from contexts spanning the Saxo-Norman period to the mid/late 14th century (E. Raemen, pers.comm). Fitzhugh & Ward (2002) suggest that they were imported from the continent rather than made locally, however analysis of 41 smoothers from Coppergate, York by Mortimer (1995) suggested that some may have been produced at York.

One notable example of a linen smoother in a funerary context in England occurred in the recently discovered group of richly furnished, 10th century Viking burials at Cumwhitton in Cumbria (Harwood-Davis et al 2014). Within this group, a single female inhumation burial, positioned slightly apart from the rest of the burials, contained

amongst other things, an iron-bound wooden box positioned by the feet. Within the remains of this box were a range of objects associated with textiles comprising a comb, shears, a lead spindle whorl, needles and a glass linen smoother. At the opposite end of the spectrum, and possibly providing one of the closest known parallels at present, is an inhumation burial within the suggested late Anglo-Saxon graveyard at Old Erringham, Sussex, which contained a single linen glass smoother (Holden 1980).

The assessment of the 2015 excavation is currently underway so the date and sex of this individual is as yet uncertain. Radiocarbon dates obtained from an earlier phase of evaluation encompassed the 9th – 13th centuries and on stratigraphic grounds this particular grave appears to belong to one of the earlier phases of burial.

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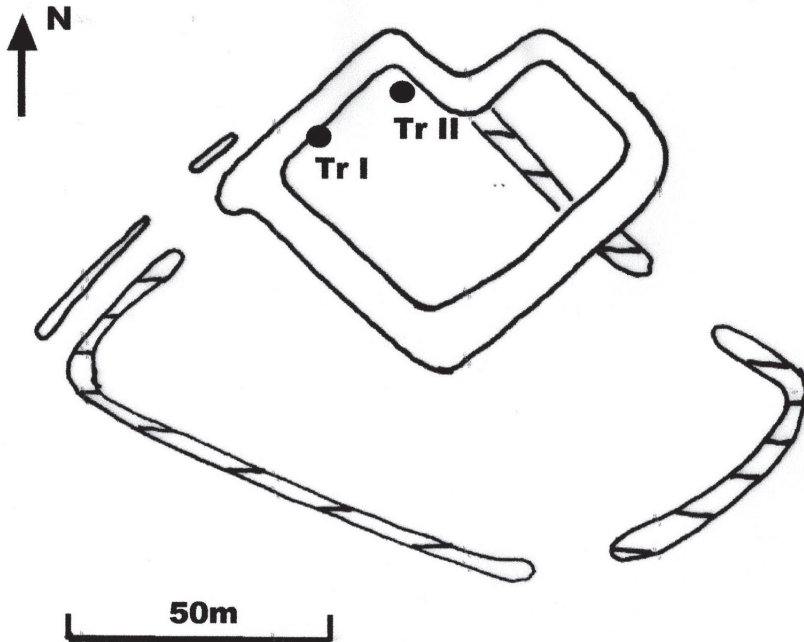
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## THE MEDIEVAL MOATED SITE IN SEND **Richard & Pamela Savage**

When reporting the discovery of a medieval seal matrix close to this site (Bull 448, December 2014) David Williams wrote that "little appears to be known about this well-preserved moated site, which is Scheduled". However, we had occasion some ten years ago, when setting up the Society's Medieval Studies Forum, to review what was then known about the site with a view to studying it in more detail, perhaps even as a target for evaluation geophysics and excavation by the Society (if Scheduled Monument consent could be gained for such activities). References to grid locations, Scheduled numbers, etc. are given at the end of this article.

The site consists today of well-preserved rectilinear ditches (in the form of a rectangle of approximately 65m by 60m, with an inset in one corner), overlying fainter traces

of a less regular four sided enclosure of low banks and ditches surrounding an area of c110m by 90m – see sketch plan (a more detailed plan can be found on the SCC Interactive Map website at [www.surreycc.gov.uk](http://www.surreycc.gov.uk) by enlarging the image centred on the moated site to the south of Boughton Hall and Aldertons).



*Simplified sketch plan of the moated site at Send overlying an earlier banked and ditched enclosure (the latter shown as hatched). Based on maps copyrighted by The Crown and Surrey County Council.*

The site lies on a gently-sloping north-facing hillside above Send Marsh in fields traditionally part of Aldertons Farm, the core of that farmhouse being dated to the mid 15th century. Boughton Hall (of which more later) lies immediately west of Aldertons farmhouse and the moated site has also been referred to as the 'Boughton Hall moated site' (e.g. in the accession records of Guildford Museum and in the EH listing which refers to the site using Boughton Hall as the reference rather than Aldertons). To confuse matters further, some large-scale OS maps of the 20th century show Boughton incorrectly as Broughton, perhaps a deliberate 'map-maker's error' in order to detect copyright infringement. Furthermore, Boughton Hall is today known as The Old Hall, a residential home for the elderly. Most web-based references to the history of Boughton Hall and Aldertons state that the former was the more important residence with Aldertons being its home farm; but while this was certainly true in the 19th century there is insufficient evidence to infer the relative importance of the sites in the 15th and 16th centuries.

The moated site itself lies on the London Clay Formation, just below a point where it is capped by a superficial deposit of the Lynch Hill sands and gravels. Rainfall seeping through the sands and gravels gives rise to a few small streams that flow

northwards and are likely to have been the source of the supply of water to the moat. However, water in summer months was always likely to have been in short supply high on the hillside at this site.

The moated site was first scheduled in 1954 when it appears that only the rectilinear moats and the area within were recognised. The fainter, and presumed earlier, ditched and banked area was not recognised until later, apparently being shown on a 25" OS map preceding 1975, and then observed from a helicopter in the parched conditions that summer. The scheduled area was then extended, probably in 1979 with a further amendment in 1991, to include the much larger area of the ditched and banked enclosure.

In 2005 when we asked Mary Alexander, then at Guildford Museum, about the Old Hall site she recalled that the Museum held records of and artefacts from limited archaeological work carried out in 1971 on the site led by local school-teacher Peter J Moreton, assisted by secondary school children from his class at St Bede's. We have seen correspondence from the early 1970s which confirmed that Mr Moreton had permission to do so from the landowner, but that it had to be presumed that neither had sought consent from the Ministry of Public Buildings and Works. Having completed two small and shallow 'evaluation trenches' in June 1971 Mr Moreton took the artefacts, plans, section drawings, three photographs (TG667(1) to (3)) and his excavation report to Guildford Museum, whose Curator undertook in a letter dated 6th October 1971 to notify the Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments of the circumstances of this unauthorised intervention. However, while the files at Guildford Museum do not currently contain confirmation that this was done, the files at Historic England seem to indicate that by 1979 they were aware of the intervention. The artefacts and site records at Guildford Museum are held under identification code RB2375 – albeit that the artefacts are held at the Woking Road store, while the site plan is in the collection of prints and illustrations at the Museum, and the rest of the site archive in document and photographic collections also held at the Museum.

The Listing document refers to the interior of the later moated site as having been raised 50cm or so above the 'natural' ground level while plans and photographs also indicate banks along the interior and exterior of this moat. The earlier enclosure is said to consist of low banks with very shallow ditches along only the exterior of the banks, although this is difficult to reconcile with the plans currently available online which apparently show ditches on the inner and outer sides of these low banks.

The first of the two 1971 evaluation trenches (Trench I) was located towards the western end of the north-western arm of the rectilinear moat, at a point at which it can now be seen that this followed the line of the earlier banked and ditched enclosure). The trench measured 10ft. by 20ft, projecting out for approximately 8ft over the moat. It was very shallow, one foot deep over the inner embankment and up to 2 feet deep into the moat silts, which were reported as being very wet, sticky and smelly. The area within the moats had been used for the concrete buildings of a piggery in the first half of the 20th century and this shallow exploration of the moat showed it contained evidence of 20th century land or slurry drains at this point. The second trench (Trench II) was located further east, entirely on the inner embankment where the 'bite' had been 'nibbled' out of the otherwise regular rectilinear plan. It appears that this too lies on a length of moat following the earlier banked and ditched enclosure. The L-shaped trench was approximately 22ft by 14ft at its largest extent and revealed a 'rounded'

foundation or wall platform of large packed flints; this was 11ft in diameter and by digging down the outside of it was found to be 2ft in depth, founded on sand (although whether this was redeposited from elsewhere or was the natural surface was not established by the excavation). Mr Moreton noted the presence of many fragments of handmade roof tile in these shallow trenches.



*Curved flint feature in Trench II of 1971 evaluation looking from northwest to southeast. Copyright P J Moreton: photograph held at Guildford Museum.*

We are grateful to Steve Nelson for examining the eleven sherds of pottery from the two trenches. His analysis of fabric type and thus dating from the West Surrey type series is as follows:

**Trench 1**

FQ2	4 sherds (33g)	1150-1300
Q2	2 sherds (15g)	1150-1300
WW1B	1 sherd (12g)	1240-1400

**Trench 2**

SN Shelly/SC	2 sherds (15g)	1000-1150	conjoined rim sherds
FQ2	1 sherd (14g)	1150-1300	a base sherd
WW1B	1 sherd (27g)	1240-1400	

It would be unwise to use this very small sample of sherds lying close to today's surface to suggest an accurate dating of the site but abandonment before the 15th century seems probable.

The seal matrix for 'William Crassus' found close to the moated site in 2014 has been provisionally dated to the 14th century and in his note David Williams referred to a number of families bearing that name in the 13th century. Les Bowerman has

recently drawn our attention to a William Cras of Southwark and his wife Christina in the Surrey Fines entries for 34-36 Edward III (i.e. in the 1370s).

Mr Moreton and early commentators assumed that because the site was moated it was automatically 'manorial' in origin but no known manor can yet be ascribed to it. The whole of the multi-period site lies in fields some hundreds of metres from Aldertons and Boughton Hall and is separated from them by a distinct break of slope running in a curved line from east to west – possibly a boundary that predates the laying out of the present fields. The Listing papers state that the multi-period site “retains considerable potential for the recovery of evidence of the nature and duration of use of the site both from the moat island and from the moat itself. The presence on the same site of an earlier enclosure adds to the importance of the moated site as well as providing the opportunity to study the history of land uses in the area from evidence contained in the infilled ditches and beneath the low banks, a situation rare in the South East”. Exploration of the surrounding fields may well also throw light on the placement of the moated site and its ancillary structures within the agricultural landscape of the times; a line of enquiry noted in recent Research Framework reviews as being insufficiently followed up during the past half century when investigations have generally concentrated on the area within moats.

Discovering the history of the moated site at Send and the adjacent properties now known as Aldertons and Boughton Hall was an early target of the newly-formed Send and Ripley History Society early in 1975. Les and Anne Bowerman have kindly pointed us in the direction of articles about these adjacent sites in editions 4, 5, 30, 31 and 62 of the Newsletter of that Society (available for consultation in the Surrey History Centre) and the following information comes from those newsletters – the detailed references as to sources are included in the newsletters but not repeated in this article. One of the articles states that the Palpeworth (Papworth) Court Roll of 1518/19 includes a Robert Boughton holding a tenement called 'Griggis' (Griggs, identified as being of 6 acres in 1540) while the Send and Ripley Court Roll for 1544 includes a tenant by the name of Richard Alderton although none of his lands can be specifically identified with the area in question. Men bearing the names of Alderton and Boughton appear in the Muster Rolls of 1572/3 with a John Alderton described as a “bill-man of the second sort” and a Robert Boughton being one of seven “bowmen of the best sort”.

The Boughton family seem to have risen substantially in status from the 16th century onwards, building Boughton Hall (said to be on the site of Griggs) during the second half of the 17th century and by the middle of the 18th century they held much freehold and copyhold property in Papworth, Send and Ripley. It should be noted that Boughton Hall 'turns its back' on Send Marsh Road; its principal frontage is to the south and the house was approached by a long drive from Burnt Common on the Portsmouth Road (the old A3), the drive passing the moated site before descending the slope down to the mansion. By the 1770s a later Robert Boughton had become churchwarden of Send Church and a Court Roll of 1780 shows him as Foreman of the Homage (or Jury) at the Court Baron. However Aldertons Farm, although tenanted out, continued in the ownership of Lord Onslow while the Boughtons had come to own much of the Boughton Hall estate. At least some of the Aldertons land remained under that name although by the first edition of the Ordnance Survey map of 1871 Aldertons Farm itself was designated as Boughton Hall Farm.



It remains an open question as to whether the house and ancillary buildings at the medieval moated site (in the lands which continued for many years as part of Aldertons Farm) were abandoned around the middle of the 14th century for a new site down the hill at Aldertons or whether the new habitation site was on the adjacent land of Griggs (later to become Boughton Hall). Most commentators to date have favoured the new habitation to lie under Boughton Hall (with Aldertons as its 'home farm') but we suggest it as equally likely that the occupants of the moated site moved to Aldertons, which was later eclipsed by the rise of the Boughton family from their tenement at the neighbouring property called Griggs.

We are very conscious that this is in no sense a scholarly article; rather we have sought to bring together in one place numerous strands of a story which has yet to be fully understood. There is much further detail in references to property names (particularly Keech or Keep House, which has excited scholarly interest since the 1930s) not considered in this article.

Our thanks in preparing this paper are due to Catriona Wilson and Mary Alexander (at various times both of Guildford Museum), Les and Anne Bowerman (of the Send and Ripley History Society), Rebecca Lambert (of Historic England) and Steve Nelson (of the Surrey Archaeological Society). Any errors or misinterpretations are however entirely ours.

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Geological Survey: <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> (consulted 10 Nov 2015)

Manning and Bray, Vol III, page 113

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## **COUNCIL NEWS**

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### **MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

As noted elsewhere, the Society's Management Committee has been devoting considerable attention to the problems facing the Society as a result of recent actions by Guildford Borough Council. The Committee usually devotes itself mostly to administrative matters, reporting to Council and seeking agreement for any proposed actions. Before the current situation arose, proposals were under consideration to reduce in number those serving as Trustees (currently the members of Council) to accord with the requirements of the Charity Commission. These proposals would have seen the Management Committee replaced by an elected Trustee Board.

We expect the proposals to be revived and presented to the Society, possibly in the near future, but for the present the Management Committee will continue, with some change of personnel. The current members are myself, Bob Bryson, David Calow, Emma Corke, Michael Edwards, David Graham, Rosemary Hughesdon and Richard Savage. Richard has now asked to stand down and we offer him grateful thanks for his efforts not least in certain important aspects of pursuing future options for us.

I am pleased to say that Nikki Cowlard and Tim Wilcock have agreed to join the

Committee. They will bring us a great deal of useful experience and expertise that should stand us in good stead as we start to develop the exciting new opportunities that are beginning to open up for the Society. *David Bird*

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## RESEARCH COMMITTEE

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### SYMPOSIUM 2016

Arrangements for this event are well in hand. However, we are looking for volunteers to help on the day. The catering has been handled by the same team for many years and this cannot be sustained, so we particularly need people willing to help at tea/coffee times.

The symposium will be held in the Ashtead Peace Memorial Hall on 27th February 2016. A programme has been arranged including talks on the Woking Palace and Abinger excavations. This symposium will end at 3.30pm and will be followed by a session free to all members of the Society to discuss the future plans for the Society. The full programme is available to view on the website.

Displays are of importance to this event since they highlight the amount of work which is done by members throughout the year. If you wish to arrange for display space please contact Rose Hooker at Castle Arch or via [rosemary.hooker@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:rosemary.hooker@blueyonder.co.uk)

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## MEDIEVAL STUDIES FORUM

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### REPORT OF RECENT MEETING ON VILLAGE LIFE

*Brian Creese*

The Medieval Studies Forum gathered in Horsley at the start of October for a day concerning village life. The aim of the day was to try and focus on the non-elites, and we all tried (with some success) to avoid mention of kings, lords, bishops and abbots.

We started the day with *Professor Chris Woolgar* talking about **Peasants and their food**. This was a riveting presentation which ran through what the peasantry ate, who did the cooking, what equipment they used what they drank and how they ate – where and when and with whom, and how eating was all part and parcel of the daily rituals of a moral and religious life.

This was followed by *Dr Rupert Goulding* who gave us an account of the National Trust's hidden gem, **Horton Court**. Much of the account was about the extraordinary Dr William Knight, who rose from relatively humble beginnings to become Bishop of Bath & Wells but more interestingly was a diplomat for Henry VIII. He rebuilt the Court making it one of the first renaissance buildings in the country.

After lunch *Brian Creese* looked at **the development of education and literacy between the Conquest and the Reformation**, concluding that many of the rural poor had the ability to read and write 'pragmatically', such things as agricultural records, legal documents and items which helped them in their day to day life.

*Rob Briggs* led us in an entertaining investigation designed to find out **who was the first named commoner in Surrey** and finally *Derek Renn* gave some new thoughts on the development of **Great Bookham Manor**. The day finished the Annual General Meeting.

## **CASTLES AND CHURCH TOWERS**

*The Institute, Leatherhead*

**March 12th 2016**

This day conference will include guest speakers Dr Michael Shapland and Terry Carlyle and a discussion on a paper by Dennis Turner of the tower on St Marys Church, Guildford. The day will also include a presentation by Jo Richards following the launch of the Esher Village Study. The cost of the day will be £9.

## **STUDY DAY IN GODALMING**

**11th June 2016**

A day of talks and walks illustrating the long history of Godalming. Further details of the day will be released to members in the New Year and we expect booking will be essential for this full and fascinating day.

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## **SURREY LOCAL HISTORY COMMITTEE**

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### **CHANGE AND CONTINUITY IN CHURCHES AND CHAPELS IN SURREY SLHC ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM**

**Saturday 2nd April 2016**

**Ashted Peace Memorial Hall, Ashted, Surrey, KT21 2BE**

The symposium will cover various aspects of church history and also look at useful sources for historians. We have a very full and varied programme with some excellent speakers which we are sure will be of great interest to local historians across the county.

9.15am Registration

9.55 Chairman's Opening Remark **David Calow**, Surrey Archaeological Society

10 **The Long Reformation in Surrey 1530-1670** *Dr Catherine Ferguson*,  
Surrey Archaeological Society Local History Committee

10.40 **The Parish, the People and the Powers That Be** *Liz Bradford Gibson*,  
PhD Research Student, Bristol University

11.10 Coffee

11.40 **Christianity in Victorian Surrey and the 1851 Religious Census** *David Robinson*, Surrey Record Society

12.20 **Tin Tabernacles** *Dr. Gerry Moss*, Surrey Archaeological Society Local History Committee

- 1 Lunch
- 2 Introduction to afternoon session *Dr Gerry Moss*, Chairman, Surrey Archaeological Society Local History Committee
- 2.05 **‘Coarse in point of finish, but reliable for fidelity and local resemblance’:  
Antiquaries, draughtsmen and the representation of churches in Georgian Surrey.** *Julian Pooley* Surrey History Centre
- 2.40 **The work of NADFAS Church Recorders** *Barbara Naylor*, Church Recording Area Representative, NADFAS (National Association of Decorative and Fine Art Societies)
- 3.20 Tea
- 3.50 Presentation of the Gravett Award *Dr Gerry Moss*, Surrey Archaeological Society
- 3.55 Ringing the Changes in Surrey’s bell towers *Martin Higgins*, Historic Buildings Officer, Surrey County Council
- 4.25 **The People’s Cathedral Oral History Project** *Helen Ellis*, Project Manager ‘The People’s Cathedral’, Guildford Cathedral
- 4.55 Chairman’s closing remarks *Dr Gerry Moss*, Chairman Surrey Archaeological Society Local History Committee
- 5pm Close

Tickets: £12 if registered in advance with Gerry Moss by email - g.p.moss@qmul.ac.uk applications will be acknowledged by email.

Postal applications will also be accepted – Dr G Moss, 10 Hurstleigh Drive, Redhill, Surrey RH1 AA, but only acknowledged if SAE included.

Tickets will not be sent out – please pay on the day.

Non-registered tickets will also be available on the day at £14

The hall has a Pay & Display car park. Ashted is also served by bus and rail.

Morning and afternoon refreshments are included. Please make your own arrangements for lunch Ashted has a good selection of cafes and pubs, or bring a packed lunch.

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## MISCELLANY

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### A JEWISH SURVIVOR

*Graham Dawson*

In 1290 Edward I expelled all Jews from England unless they converted to Christianity and it is generally assumed that this expulsion was complete, and that Jews were not present in again until Cromwell permitted them to settle in the mid 17th century, though there have been suggestions that some did come to England earlier in that century.

However, I have come across a case that shows that one Jew, at least, did survive in England. In Hillary and Michaelmas 1306 Isaac of Kingston was sued for debt (TNA

CP40/158 f270 & /161 f106). Isaac seems to be an exclusively Jewish name in 13th century England, and if he had converted to Christianity, which would have allowed him to stay in England, he would have been given a new baptismal name. There cannot be any doubt, therefore, that he survived as a Jew.

It does seem that Kingston may have been an important place for Jewish settlement, since in a list of debts which Jews had 'given' to Henry III (TNA E101/249/10) Kingston has more entries than anywhere else in Surrey (Southwark had one, another Isaac, and Guildford had none).

As far as I am aware this is the only known example of such survival.

I would like to thank Joe Hillaby for discussing this case with me.

## **THE RIVER EFFRA**

*Graham Dawson*

With reference to Rob Briggs' note in the last Bulletin about a Viking sword found at Vauxhall (of which I was not aware), it should be pointed out that the River Effra did not flow into the Thames at Vauxhall in the Saxon period, but flowed north-eastwards along the boundary of Newington to enter the Thames at Earl's Sluice on the Deptford/Rotherhithe border. It was diverted to Vauxhall in the 12th or 13th century by the Priory of Bermondsey to prevent it flooding Bermondsey (see my article 'More on Bermondsey Floods-or rather stopping them' in SLAS News no 133 (April 2013) p15-17).

Thus it has no relevance to the Viking sword and Vauxhall was not at a confluence of two rivers, though there probably was a short (certainly extending no further than the Oval if as far as that) (tidal?) creek there that was used in this diversion. The name Effra, therefore, pertains to the river, not to some feature at its mouth or any construction for the ritual deposition of a sword.

## **CHANGES AT THE SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL HERITAGE CONSERVATION TEAM**

*Tony Howe (Heritage Conservation Team Manager)*

Following a review of its planning services, Surrey County Council has taken the decision that the Heritage Conservation Team (HCT) should become part of the Planning and Development division within the Environment and Infrastructure directorate. This marks a distinct change from the recent arrangements, and has necessitated a physical relocation of the team away from the Surrey History Centre and back to its old base at County Hall. The Team's new address is **Room 340, County Hall, Penrhyn Road, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey, KT1 2DN**. Other contact details for the team – email addresses and telephone numbers – will remain unchanged. All general enquiries to the team should continue to be sent via the general email address [heritageconsultations@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:heritageconsultations@surreycc.gov.uk)

Users of the Surrey Historic Environment Record (HER) should be aware that the HER has also relocated to County Hall as part of this review. However with the vast majority of the HER enquiries being made via email or online, and with an office being retained at the History Centre for the use of HCT staff, volunteers and researchers, there should be no noticeable changes in service provision for enquirers. The HER

contact address [HER@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:HER@surreycc.gov.uk) remains unchanged. The move is viewed as a positive one by the team, as it will allow for improved and increased liaison between the planning teams and the heritage advisory services – something which has often proven difficult during the period at Woking – as well as providing a dual base for the HER and it's users. The team's work with the Surrey Historic Environment Group will continue as previously, as will the work of the Finds Liaison Officer David Williams, who will remain at the History Centre.

In other news, longstanding member of the HCT, Archaeological Officer Gary Jackson, left Surrey after over 20 years of employment at the County Council in early September for a new life in New Zealand. Gary had worked for Surrey firstly as an HER Officer and then as a Development Control Officer since 1995, and the Team would like to take this opportunity to place on record its thanks for his considerable contribution to the development and operation of archaeological development control work in the County. There is a large amount of information about Surrey's archaeology now held within the County HER that might otherwise have been lost but for his persistence and diligence, and it is a testament to the value of his contribution that the County Council has had no hesitation in allowing for the recruitment of an officer to replace him. To that end, Nigel Randall of the Surrey County Archaeological Unit, has joined the team to take over the Archaeological Officer's responsibilities. Many SyAS members will be familiar with Nigel from his work at the Woking Palace excavations (amongst many other projects), and he brings a wealth of knowledge about the archaeology and heritage of the County to the team which will be invaluable as the team looks to build and develop new working relationships and practices with the other teams in the new offices.

## **MERTON PRIORY ORAL HISTORY PROJECT**

As part of the changes for making Merton Priory more accessible to the public in the next year, Groundwork are forming an oral history archive including making a short film. We are also keen to interview anyone who has had any connection with the Priory in the past, particularly on the excavations in the 80s, who would be interested in talking about their memories and experiences. As most of the people we have interviewed so far have been men, in order to make the archive/film more inclusive, we would especially like to interview women. If you would like to take part, please contact, Barbara Ross, at [barbaralross@live.co.uk](mailto:barbaralross@live.co.uk) or 020 8646 4185, (with a voicemail for messages).

## **BRIAN BLOICE**

It is greatly regretted to have to report that Brian Bloice died on October 29th, just weeks after collapsing and being diagnosed with a terminal illness. He had been elected President of the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society last December, after he had announced that he would retire from its regular administrative work. Brian was a founder member of the S&LAS in 1965 and had been tireless in his devotion to it until his death. It was very fortunate that earlier this year he could be present at the 50th anniversary dinner and was able to be one of those who received, on behalf of the society, Southwark Council's special honour for its first fifty years of work. After a half-century of effort and achievement, it was wholly appropriate that Brian presided at these signal events. This society and its contemporaries will miss him enormously.

## **PUBLICATIONS**

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**“The Diaries of James Simmons, Paper Maker of Haslemere, 1831-68 introduced and annotated by Alan Crocker and Martin Kane”**

***Published by Surrey Industrial History Group, 2015; ISBN 978-0-9538122-6-4; price £10.00***

As a member of the SIHG committee I have been intrigued by the progress of the publication of this engaging and informative book. Originally published by the Tabard Private Press in an especially bound form, at a correspondingly luxury price, it included in each volume a sheet of paper made by hand in 1989 on a James Simmons mould dated 1812. These, unsurprisingly, sold mostly to collectors of fine books; few copies were available to the local reader, and it was in response to this need, and to add some of the information that had come to light since, that a new, more affordable, edition was launched.

The book is based on the extensive diaries of James Simmons, written in volumes made from his own paper; these were discovered by Martin Kane while he researched more general topics relating to the Haslemere area. Our own Alan Crocker became interested as he and his wife Glenys are members of the British Association of Paper Historians; he and Martin undertook the labour of extracting all references to the family business of paper making, to combine them into a journal that illustrates vividly the life and travails of a country paper maker at a time when mechanisation was coming into play. James was a third generation member of a paper making family, and as there are four Jameses in that family, the book contains a useful family tree, and also has a very useful map to show the positions of the various mills that he owned or worked in the Haslemere area.

(The large scale Ordnance Survey Maps also contain valuable information on the development of the mills, available to view at the Surrey History Centre).

What makes the book such interesting reading is the detail of his life, the problems he faced and the solutions that he invariably found. He was obviously a practical man, sorting out problems of water flow, building sluices as needed, coping with the frequent breaking of vital parts such as the all-important water wheel. He oversaw a fascinating development, the installation of an engine to be used as an auxiliary power source and some mechanisation of the paper making process. That this did not go smoothly will be familiar to many, but he faced these tribulations with more equanimity than I would show. His son, the fourth James, certainly worked for his apprenticeship, travelling on an amazingly widespread round of businesses, to obtain the necessary raw material, clean rags, to maintain production. With the advent of mechanisation, the rural-made paper industry was struggling financially, but James managed to maintain a large family and a certain social standing in Haslemere.

I found the book full of interest in many unexpected ways, and would have liked to know more of this very busy man's life; perhaps it is too much to ask for more excerpts from the much fuller diaries (see below). I would thoroughly recommend this book to Surrey Archaeological Society members and others from the local area.

This edition was brought to publication by the hard work of Jan Spencer and is available via the web site, [www.sihg.org.uk](http://www.sihg.org.uk), or from the Haslemere Museum Shop or the Haslemere Bookshop.

Greta Turner has written two volumes, largely based on James Simmons's diaries, about life in Shottermill:

Turner, G., 2004 *Shottermill – its Farms, Families and Mills: Part 1 Early Times to the 1700s*, John Owen Smith, Headley

Turner, G., 2005 *Shottermill – its Farms, Families and Mills: Part 2 1730 to the Early Twentieth Century*, John Owen Smith, Headley

**Pam Taylor**

## **“The POWs of Holmbury Hill: A walk through First World War forgotten history”**

**by Peter Brown, now available to download from the Amazon Kindle Store for £1.99, with proceeds to the Holmbury Bonfire Boys.**

Society members might be interested in a new publication about the WW1 German prisoner of war camp on Holmbury Hill.

Following the Society's recent archaeology survey (and with the help of Keith Winer), the story of the Holmbury's PoW camp is now told through a popular walking guide (initially available in Kindle format) downloadable to your Kindle, tablet, smartphone or PC. Directions and a walking map enable locals and visitors to explore this intriguing piece of our local history.

## **Capel: the chapel by the spring, a Surrey parish in the Weald to the year 2000**

**By Mary Day & Vivien Ettlinger, Ammonite Books, Godalming, 2015, price £8 +p&p. Softback, 82pp, ISBN 978-1-869866-23-5 (available from Dorking Museum or [book@capel.org.uk](mailto:book@capel.org.uk)).**

This book derives from research undertaken by the authors over many years and brought together as a study allied to the Society's project, initiated by the late Denis Turner, aimed at gaining an understanding of the origins and development of Surrey's rural settlements.

Capel was never a village; located in the Low Weald for much of its history the parish was occupied by a number of small hamlets, in this case formed around greens – Bere (now Beare Green), Forty Green, Misbrooks Green, Clarks Green and Coldharbour. Although the population grew in the High Medieval period the famines and disease epidemics of the 14th century left the market tolls for Dorking reduced in 1407/8 'for scarcity of people in the district'. Forestry, rather than grain production, was important in the post-medieval centuries with timber from Capel being carried to Thames Ditton and thence by barge to London in the late 15th century and being purchased for the construction of Henry VIII's palace of Nonsuch in 1538. It was not until the mid 17th century that applying lime, made by burning chalk, or marl to the fields was recognised as having the potential to release the fertility of the Weald Clay, and arable farming increased.

In common with other Wealden parishes, the Reformation was accompanied by increasing numbers joining non-Conformist religious sects including the Society of Friends (Quakers). This movement was distrusted by the Establishment and in 1662 Richard Bax of Capel was indicted on a charge of illegal assembly 'under cover of the



exercise of religion .... to the great terror of the people and disturbance of the peace'. Development of a turnpike road between Epsom and Horsham improved access to Capel and led to an increase in both population and land value. However, poverty in the mid 19th century led to emigration to Canada and Australia – a poverty which was reversed when the railway came allowing wealthy businessmen to travel out of town and acquire country estates. The late 19th and early 20th centuries also saw the telegraph reaching Capel, more shops and schools being opened, the road being surfaced and the introduction of piped water and sewage disposal. By the late 20th century considerable expansion had taken place, particularly at Beare Green, and the main street was replaced by a by-pass.

This is a thoroughly researched and well-illustrated book and should be a 'must have' not only for those who live in the area, but all those who have an interest in settlement development in the Low Weald of Surrey and Sussex.

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## **OTHER SYMPOSIA AND CONFERENCES**

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### **SUSSEX ARCHAEOLOGY SYMPOSIUM 2016**

***Saturday 19th March 2016, 10am-5pm.***

***The Huxley Building, University of Brighton.***

Various speakers and topics.

Tickets (including light lunch): £35.

Contact: The Sussex School of Archaeology: [www.sussexarchaeology.org](http://www.sussexarchaeology.org) or

Tel: 01323 811785.

### **RECENT WORK ON THE MESOLITHIC OF THE COAST AND WETLAND EDGE OF SOUTHERN BRITAIN**

***THE HOLLEYMAN ARCHAEOLOGY LECTURE 2016***

***Thursday 21 April, 7-8.30pm.***

***Fulton Building Lecture Theatre A, University of Sussex.***

Professor Martin Bell.

Tickets: £10. Contact: [www.sussexarchaeology.org](http://www.sussexarchaeology.org) or Tel: 01323 811785.

### **ROADSIDE SETTLEMENTS IN ROMAN BRITAIN AND BEYOND**

***Sussex Archaeological Society Spring Conference***

***Saturday 9th April 2016, 10am-5pm***

***King's Church, Lewes, East Sussex.***

Various speakers, including David Bird and David Calow.

Tickets (including lunch): £40 or £25 for students.

Contact: <http://sussexpast.co.uk/event/roman> or Tel: 01273 405737

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## LECTURE MEETINGS

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### 6th January

“Ravenna” by Richard Watson to Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society at St Mary’s Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 7.45 for 8 pm. Visitors welcome: £4.

### 7th January

“Finds from Surrey” by David Williams to Spelthorne Archaeology and Local History Group at Staines Methodist Church, Thames Street at 8 pm. Visitors welcome: £2.

### 7th January

“George and Robert Stephenson” by Geoff Roles, SIHG. Room G6. The Institute, 67 High Street, Leatherhead KT22 8AH. 10am-12 noon. Start of the Surrey Industrial History Group Leatherhead lecture series. Single lectures £5, payable on the day, but please contact Bob Bryson, 01483 577809, meetings@sihg.org.uk as seating is strictly limited.

### 7th January

“Mary Russell Mitford” by Margaret Simons to Farnham & District Museum Society in the United Reformed Church Hall, South Street, Farnham at 7.45 pm. Visitors welcome: £3.

### 8th January

New Year Social event and talk TBA to Richmond Archaeological Society at the Vestry Rooms, Paradise Road, Richmond at 8 pm. Visitors welcome by donation.

### 9th January

“The Thames bridges from Staines to Kingston” by Nick Pollard to Walton & Weybridge Local History Society at the St James’ Parish Centre, Weybridge at 3 pm.

### 9th January

“Painshill (Cobham) and its contemporaries” by Michael Symes to Carshalton & District History & Archaeology Society in Milton Hall, Coopers Crescent, off Nightingale Road, Carshalton at 3 pm.

### 11th January

“Virginia Woolf and Richmond” by Frances Spalding to Richmond Local History Society at the Duke Street Church, Duke Street, Richmond at 8 pm. Visitors welcome: £4.

### 12th January

“War Horse” by Andy Robertshaw to Westcott Local History Group in the Westcott Reading Room, Institute Road at 7.45 for 8 pm. Visitors welcome: £1.

### 12th January

“The Surrey Docks Farm History Project” by Germander Speedwell to Southwark & Lambeth Archaeological Society at 106 The Cut, Co-operative housing almost opposite the Old Vic at 7 pm. Visitors welcome: £1.

### 14th January

“Fast Ladies” by Tim Morris, Brooklands Trust Member. Room G6. The Institute, 67 High Street, Leatherhead KT22 8AH. 10am-12 noon. Part of the Surrey Industrial History Group Leatherhead lecture series. Single lectures £5, payable on the day, but please contact Bob Bryson, Tel: 01483 577809, meetings@sihg.org.uk as seating is limited.

### **14th January**

“Jewellery through the ages” by Julie Wileman to Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society in Surbiton Library Hall, Ewell Road, Surbiton at 7.30 for 8 pm. Visitors welcome: £3.

### **16th January**

“Recent researches” talks by members to Merton Historical Society at Christ Church Hall, Colliers Wood at 2.30 pm. Visitors welcome: £2.

### **18th January**

“Transforming Victoria Underground Station” by Kathryn Waghorn to Croydon Natural History & Scientific Society in the Small Hall of the East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, almost opposite East Croydon Station at 7.45 pm.

### **19th January**

Water power in Roman gold mining talk by Dr David Bird, President Surrey Archaeological Society. The Education Centre, The Cathedral, Stag Hill Guildford GU2 7UP. 7.30-9.30pm. Part of the 40th Series of Industrial Archaeology Lectures in Guildford. Single lectures £5, payable on the night. Enquiries to Bob Bryson, Tel: 01483 577809, meetings@sihg.org.uk.

### **19th January**

“The Mitchison Family in Sunbury” by John Charlton to Sunbury and Shepperton Local History Society in the Theatre at Halliford School, Russell Street, Shepperton at 8 pm. Visitors welcome: £2.

### **1th January**

“History of Ockham” by Gillian Lachelin to Send & Ripley History Society in Ripley Village Hall at 7.30 for 8 pm.

### **20th January**

“Rain Forests” by Andrew Proudfoot to Holmesdale Natural History Club at The Museum, 14 Croydon Road, Reigate at 8 pm. Visitors welcome by donation.

### **21st January**

“Landscape and building materials in the SE” by Geoffrey Mead, Sussex University. Room G6. The Institute, 67 High Street, Leatherhead KT22 8AH. 10am-12 noon. Part of the Surrey Industrial History Group Leatherhead lecture series. Single lectures £5, payable on the day, but please contact Bob Bryson, Tel: 01483 577809, meetings@sihg.org.uk as seating is strictly limited.

### **21st January**

“History of medicine” by John Nichols to Farnham & District Museum Society in the United Reformed Church Hall, South Street, Farnham at 7.45 pm. Visitors welcome: £3.

### **23rd January**

“Guildford in World War II” by David Rose to Bramley History Society at Holy Trinity Church Room at 2.30 pm.

### **25th January**

“William Stanley, the man and his halls” by John Hickman to Croydon Natural History & Scientific Society in the Small Hall of the East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, almost opposite East Croydon Station at 7.45 pm.

### **28th January**

“The History of Photographic images” by Terry Pullen, WEA Lecturer. Room G6. The Institute, 67 High Street, Leatherhead KT22 8AH. 10am-12 noon. Part of the Surrey

Industrial History Group Leatherhead lecture series. Single lectures £5, payable on the day, but please contact Bob Bryson, Tel: 01483 577809, meetings@sihg.org.uk as seating is strictly limited.

### **29th January**

6th Nick Fuentes Memorial Lecture to Wandsworth Historical Society at the Friends' Meeting House, Wandsworth High Street at 8 pm. Visitors welcome free for initial meeting.

### **1st February**

"Broadoaks" by Helen Gristwood to Woking History Society in the Double Tree by Hilton (formerly the Holiday Inn), Victoria Way, Woking at 7.45 for 8 pm. Visitors welcome £3.

### **2nd February**

The Crystal Palace talk by Ian Bevan, City of London Guide. The Education Centre, The Cathedral, Stag Hill Guildford GU2 7UP. 7.30-9.30pm. Part of the 40th Series of Industrial Archaeology Lectures in Guildford. Single lectures £5, payable on the night. Enquiries to Bob Bryson, Tel: 01483 577809, meetings@sihg.org.uk.

### **3rd February**

"Architecture of the London Underground" by Jon Glover to Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society at St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 7.45 for 8 pm. Visitors welcome: £4.

### **4th February**

"Highwaymen of Hounslow Heath" by Andrea Cameron to Spelthorne Archaeology and Local History Group at Fordbridge Centre, Ashford at 8 pm. Visitors welcome: £2.

### **4th February**

"Hindhead past, present and future" by Matthew Cusack to Farnham & District Museum Society in the United Reformed Church Hall, South Street, Farnham at 7.45 pm. Visitors welcome: £3.

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## **DATES FOR *BULLETIN* CONTRIBUTIONS 2016**

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There will be six issues of the Bulletin in 2016. To assist contributors relevant dates are as follows:

	<b>Copy date:</b>	<b>Approx. delivery:</b>
455	1st January	1st February
456	26th February	28th March
457	29th April	30th May
458	1st July	1st August
459	16th September	17th October
460	11th November	12th December

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**Next issue:** Copy required by 1st January for the February 2016 issue.  
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