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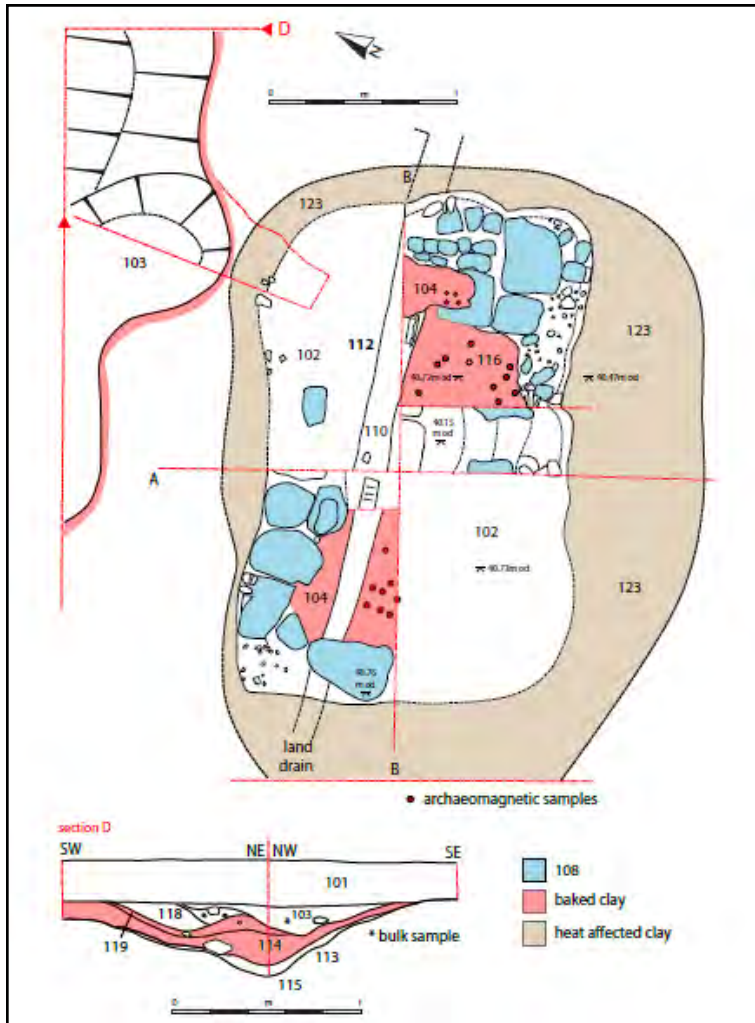
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## Bulletin 460

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# Test Investigating the Wealden Glass industry: an interim report

Rob Poulton

## The Wealden Glass Industry

Most of the glass used in England up to and including the early medieval period was probably made elsewhere and imported, although the glass was sometimes melted and shaped in workshops in England. However in the mid- and late-medieval periods, there is evidence of English glass production, for the first time making glass from the raw materials as well as shaping it into products. Two glass-producing areas are known: the Weald of Surrey and Sussex (Kenyon 1967), and Staffordshire (Pape 1934; Crossley 1967; Welch 1997). The Wealden glass industry was possibly the earlier and was probably the more important due to its proximity to London. The industry is likely to have originated in the 13th century and received a major stimulus in the late 16th century with the arrival of numerous French glassworkers. Some have suggested that the industry had gone into decline during the 16th century but this is disputed. A major study of the glassworking sites in Staffordshire (Linford & Welch 2004; Welch 1997) suggests a thriving industry spanning the 14th to 16th centuries; less is known about the dating of the Wealden sites, although a larger proportion appear to be 16th to early 17th century in date. The industry in both regions then collapsed in the early 17th century due to James I's 1615 prohibition on the use of wood as a fuel for glassmaking.

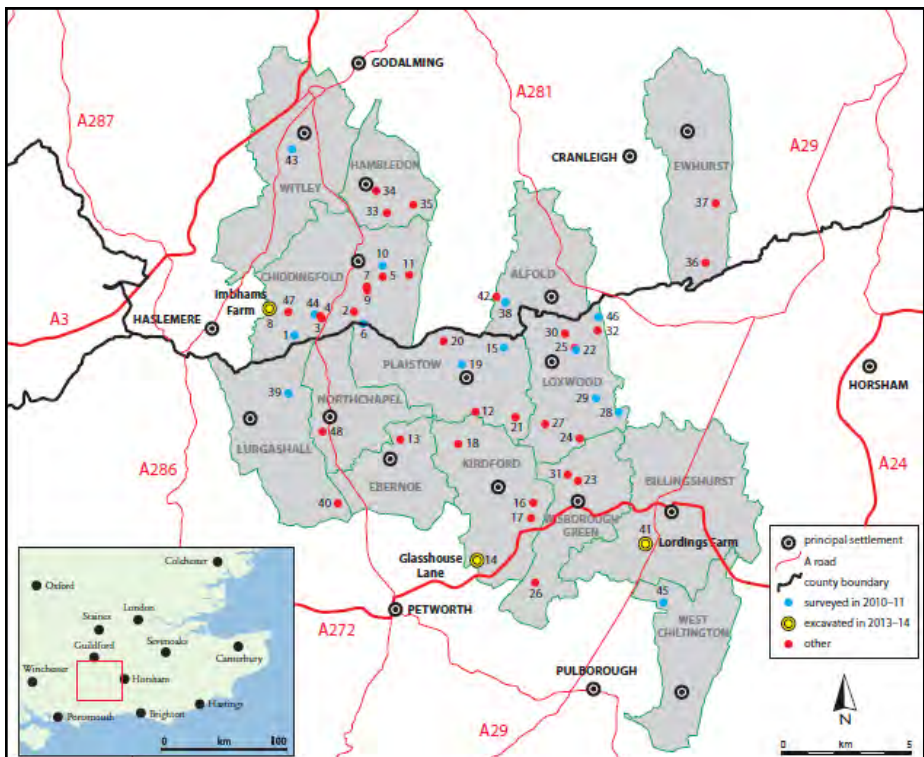


Fig 1 Location of excavated sites 2013-14 and sites geophysically surveyed in 2010-11

Cover image: Fig 4 Outline plan and section of Imbham's Farm excavation

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## The Origins of the Project

A total of 48 Wealden Glass sites have been identified (Winbolt 1933; Kenyon 1967; Crossley 1994, plus one more in Clark 2006) in 12 Wealden parishes straddling the Surrey -Sussex border (fig 1), although some of the sites identified by Winbolt and earlier researchers have not been located by recent researchers. The origins of the project reported on here, supported by Historic England, lay in the recognition that, despite the fact that the industry was of national importance and there was a history of field survey and excavation stretching back almost a hundred years, there remained a number of major gaps in our knowledge. The most serious of these are the probability that many sites are unrecorded, the uncertainty surrounding the current condition and even exact location of many of the known sites, and the lack of knowledge of the technological development of the industry and its products through time. The project aims to address these uncertainties, so that well-informed decisions can be made with respect to managing and protecting the archaeological remains from this industry, which are increasingly affected by changes in land use.

## Survey

The fieldwork for the project began with a programme of survey, primarily geophysical but also including some topographic survey and field walking. There were some considerable successes. The detection of probable furnace remains at two sites, Hog Wood (no 15) and Lordings Farm (no 41) is of particular interest since both defied discovery by earlier researchers who expended a good deal of effort searching for them. The first, Hog Wood situated in difficult, boggy conditions which caused Winbolt and Kenyon to abandon their search, probably dates from the medieval phase of glassmaking. Lordings Farm is likely to have been worked by immigrants in the 'late' period of manufacture and is the glasshouse about which Kenyon said 'of all the remaining lost sites, this is the one I would like to examine most'. Furnace remains were located at a further seven sites. At Imbhams (no 8) the position of the furnace was particularly well identified (fig 2), there being a close correlation between high and clearly defined readings from the gradiometer, and surface finds of glass and crucible fragments. Malham Farm (no 28) and Glasshouse Lane (no 14) both produced several thermoremanent anomalies suggesting the possible presence of multiple furnaces. June Hill (no 44) was originally identified by Cooper in the 19th century as a possible glassmaking site (Ovenhouse Field or Hovel Copse): this was acknowledged by Winbolt but later dismissed by Kenyon. It is therefore pleasing that a large amount of glass finds came to light during the survey and demonstrates the need to keep 'possible' glasshouse sites under review. Geophysical surveys also revealed a number of features other than furnace structures which suggests that evidence of the wider glassworking complex survives in at least a number of instances and this is of some importance for the future management of these sites.

## Excavation

Three small excavations, each of 4m by 4m, were undertaken to try and understand how the survey results related to what lay below ground. At Glasshouse Lane no *in situ* furnace structure was encountered, but a heat reddened 'halo' of Weald clay, baked hard, indicates its former location and this material proved suitable for archaeomagnetic dating, giving a date of 1555-1650 (95% probability). The furnace was, presumably, made of brick and stone, as blocks of these with adhered glass found in a pit and ditch nearby indicate, and its demolition total. It is possible that much of the superstructure was reused elsewhere in the construction of another furnace as furnaces were only used for short periods of 5 or 6 years.

The investigation into the glass furnace at Imbhams Farm (figs 3 and 4), in contrast,

revealed substantial structural remains and a potential three phase use, yielding an archaeomagnetic date of 1515-1565 (at 95% confidence level) for its final firing. The furnace, in at least the first and second phases of its use, appears to have been constructed of local stone, utilising the local clay to line its base. It is unclear to which phase a nearby pit may belong, but it was all but certainly a raking pit.

The area exposed by the trench at Lordings Farm did not reveal the furnace itself, despite the very promising signal obtained through the geophysical survey previously, due to a locational error in plotting. The amount of glassworking debris generally, and especially within a ditch (whose purpose was unclear but likely to relate to the wider glassworking complex) clearly indicate that the furnace lay nearby.

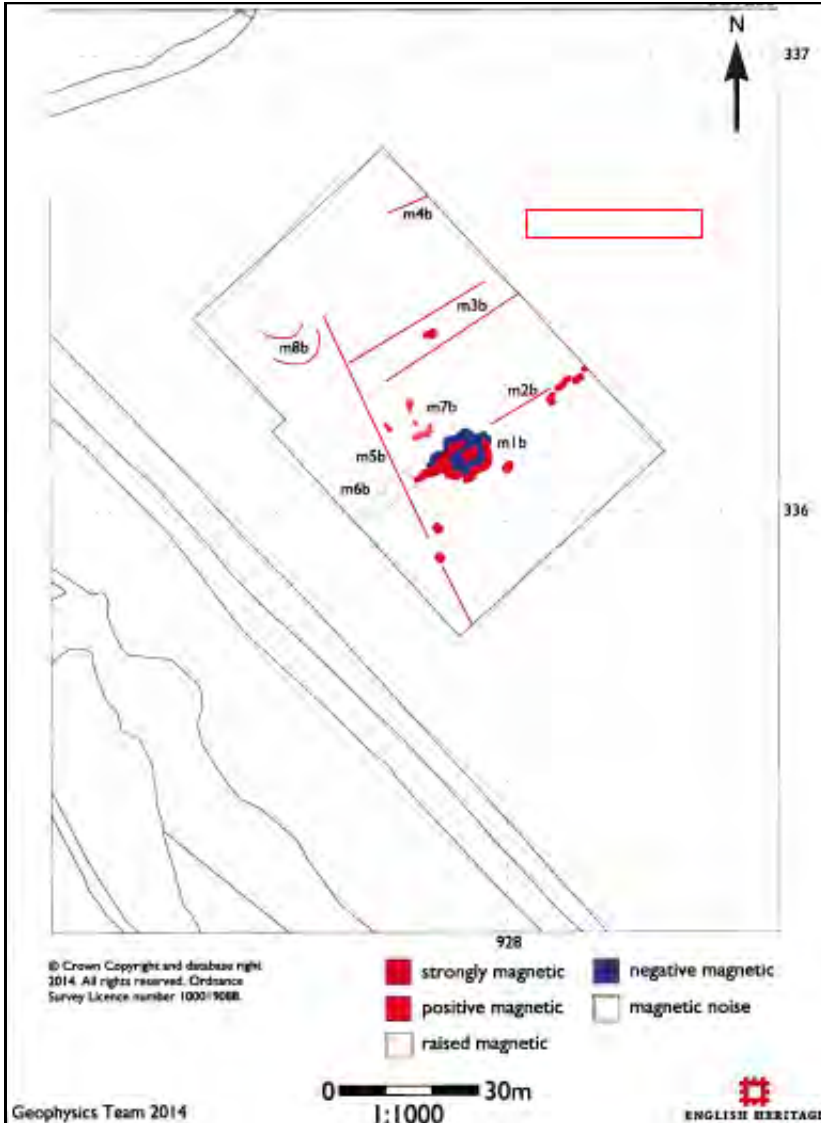


Fig 2  
Graphical  
summary of  
significant  
magnetic  
anomalies  
at Imbhams  
Farm

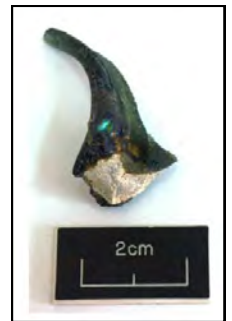
*Fig 3 Imbhams Farm looking north east. The furnace is situated in the centre, with orange, heat affected clay extending beyond it and the unaffected natural beyond that.*



*Fig 5 (left) Window glass from Glasshouse Lane*

*Fig 6 (middle) Glass waste (threads, runs and droplets) from Glasshouse Lane*

*Fig 7 (right) Glass waste ('stone' pulled with tongs from molten glass) from Glasshouse Lane*



## Finds

The finds other than those related to glass production are generally of limited importance, although a small collection of flintwork is of some intrinsic interest, especially the clear Mesolithic element, given the relative paucity of such material from Wealden areas (cf Cotton 2004, 24). The glass and related materials that were found are, however, of exceptional importance.

The EDXRF analysis of samples of glass from these sites suggests that Imbhams Farm is Early (ie forest glass of the type manufactured throughout the medieval period) while Lordings Farm and Glasshouse Lane are Late (ie the glass type brought to England by immigrant glassmakers in the 1560s). The archaeomagnetic dates for the final firing confirm this suggestion that Imbhams Farm is earlier than Glasshouse Lane.

The material identified includes finished glass (fig 5) and diagnostic glassworking waste (figs 6 and 7). The glassworking waste includes several categories that have previously (eg Dungworth 2003) been identified as reliable indicators of the type of glass manufactured (eg threads, droplets, etc). The finished glass is highly fragmented but it can be divided with some confidence into flat glass (ie window glass) and hollow ware (blown

vessels). The small number of rim sherds could derive from a large number of different vessel types, but need to be examined in more detail and compared against contemporary vessel types (Tyson 2000; Willmott 2002). During the assessment a number of pieces of folded glass were noted. These could represent vessels with a folded foot, such as beakers or flasks. The presence of small quantities of glass tubing could indicate the manufacture of alchemical vessels.

Further scientific investigation has considerable potential to provide information on both crucible manufacture (cf Paynter 2012), the nature of glass-crucible reactions (cf Dungworth 2008), furnace manufacture, the fuel used and furnace temperature. The Imbhams Farm assemblage includes material from a stratified sequence which has potential to determine whether elements of glass manufacture changed over time.

## Conclusions

The investigations have provided a substantial body of new information about the Wealden glass industry and further work, especially on the glass and glassworking waste, will undoubtedly produce much more, which will be incorporated into the final publication. The work also has important implications for the management and potential designation of this archaeological resource and there will be further consideration of this as part of the project.

## Acknowledgements

This report has been prepared by Rob Poulton (Surrey County Archaeological Unit – SCAU) incorporating contributions by Tom Munnery (excavation director, SCAU), Archaeology South-East (geophysical survey), David Dungworth (glass and glassworking waste, Historic England – HE), Kayt Marter Brown and Nick Marples (other finds, SCAU), Paul Linford (archaeomagnetic dating, HE), and Zoe Edwards (geophysical survey, HE). The project was grant aided by HE and run by SCAU.

The kind assistance of numerous landowners and farmers is gratefully acknowledged. Field survey, excavation and finds processing were all dependent on the contributions of a number of volunteers, who deserve particular thanks. Especial mention must be made of the assistance given to the project by Colin Clark, whose wise advice and direct involvement in all aspects of the work, freely sharing his immense knowledge of the Wealden glass industry, was fundamental to its success.

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## Wanborough Update

David Graham

A note in the last Bulletin reported on recent work in a field adjacent to the site of the Roman temples at Wanborough and, in passing, mentioned that a radiocarbon date was awaited for a sample of charcoal from a pit near the top of a slope overlooking the temples. The note also speculated that the pit, one of a number in the area picked up by the geophysics, might be Roman in date and might result from religious festivities associated with one or other of the temples.

Rather surprisingly the date has now come back as being between AD 1210 and 1275 at 95% probability. That doesn't preclude there having been Roman activity on the slope - the general scatter of pottery is ample evidence for that, but does mean that the pit we partially excavated is actually medieval in date. At that time the field was part of the manor of Wanborough and belonged to Waverley Abbey—so not evidence for a crowd of celebrating Romans but rather for a party of lay brothers perhaps clearing and burning scrub and trees to create the ancestor of the current field.

## Call for volunteers for Cocks Farm Roman Villa Excavation 2017

The Roman Studies Group will be carrying out a further season of excavation at Abinger this summer. Work will continue on the Roman/Iron Age area of activity in the field adjacent to the scheduled villa site.

Dates are as follows: 19th-21st, 24th-28th June, 3rd-5th, 8th-12th July, 15th-18th July (20 days in total)

If you are interested in taking part in this year's excavation please contact Nikki Cowlard at [nikki.cowlard@btinternet.com](mailto:nikki.cowlard@btinternet.com).

*This note was intended for the Bulletin in spring 2016, but never appeared. It seems best to print it unaltered now even though ideas have changed about a few features as a result of 2016's dig. A note on CFA16 will follow shortly. Emma Corke*

The seventh season of excavation at Abinger was very successful thanks to extremely hard work by all on site. Emma Corke ran the excavation assisted by Nikki Cowlard, with Isabel Ellis as ever coordinating the finds work with a team from AARG. Mairi Sargent and Dave Williams provided metal detecting expertise, greatly welcome in an area that produces few metal finds. The following note owes a great deal to their comments and suggestions on site and later, as well as those of many others on the site team. Almost the whole of last year's trench on the hilltop was reopened with an extension to the east, giving a trench 17 x 35 metres, and smaller extensions to the south (10 x 1.5m) and to the west at the northern end (5 x 10m). The considerable experience that has now been gained has made it possible to come to terms with the recognition of fills which are often virtually indistinguishable from the natural subsoil. The value of tackling a large open area was also constantly demonstrated; for instance it is only now that it has been possible properly to understand features in the original trenches 6 and 11.

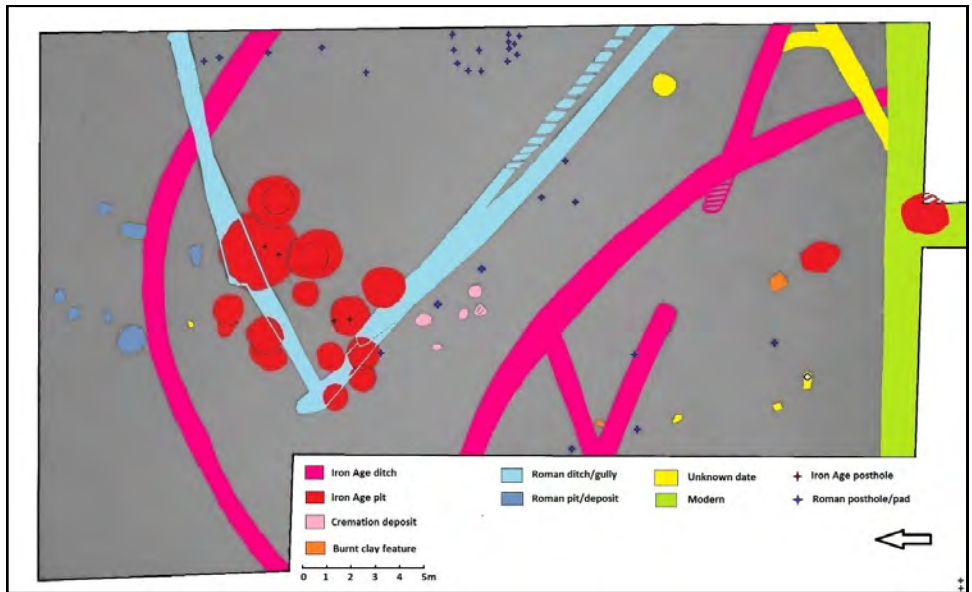


Fig 1 Plan of the 2015 excavation area (note that north is to the left). Illustration: Emma Corke

The trench is set towards the northern end of a roughly circular area of activity seen on the magnetometer surveys, with hints at one or more enclosure ditches. Excavation has identified an area of large deep, flat-bottomed pits near the northern end of the trench south of an encircling boundary ditch. One of the pits was very large, being 3.5m in diameter and 2.3m deep, and had a small pit cut below its floor with some pieces of pottery in the fill; perhaps this was a ritual offering to do with the subsequent use of the pit. Some of the others have produced evidence likely to be related to ritual closure, especially one with a closely-packed deposit of animal bones (including six pieces of jaws) set under a Horsham slab, probably originally wrapped in some way. Nearby was a very curiously shaped chunk of ironstone and it is hard to resist the interpretation that this also was intentionally placed as it was set in isolation. Some of the other pits had quernstones that



must have been ritually placed in the fill, and in general querns are now a strong theme from the site as several have been found.



*Fig 2 Ritual deposit with Horsham slab over animal bones. Photo: Emma Corke*

It seems very likely that the large pits were originally intended to be used for grain storage. Tip lines are visible in the fill of most of these pits and some had occasional pieces of a whitish clay material which is difficult to explain. If it was intended to line the pits it seems curious that it was nowhere found doing so, which suggests that some other explanation is required.

Most of the large pits had smaller pits cut into them usually with a distinctly dark or even black fill. Some smaller pits were grouped together to the west of the larger ones and they appeared to be later. One had an ironstone fill, almost a bowl-shaped lining, similar to another excavated last year. In both cases it may be that the effect of a kiln or oven is illusory and represents only a part of the

*Fig 3 Heavily worn lower quernstone from one of the pits. Photo: Emma Corke*



backfilling process; most of the others had a considerable amount of burnt ironstone in the fill. One had a very large lump of the whitish clay seen occasionally elsewhere, here associated with much of a pottery vessel. One of the 'black' pits produced a corroded potin 'coin' and a second was found in surface trowelling nearby. A third in excellent condition came from metal detecting but probably originated from a deep pit at the southern end of the site. With the one found last year this brings to four the total of potin 'coins' from the site which is apparently an exceptional number for an excavation.

Crossing the area of the 'black' pits were the remains of gully-like features whose fill consistently produced fragments of Roman as well as Iron Age pottery. They met at an acute angle just beyond the pits and may represent a Roman period enclosure. The NE/SW arm may have disturbed or destroyed some earlier cremation burials, as small fragments of calcined bones were found in the fills. This may explain why only four of the possible cremations thought possible last year could be confirmed after careful examination. One consisted of fragments of pottery on a curved slab of ironstone, probably originally a pot placed thus and later smashed by the plough. The three others, not placed on stones but in shallow scoops, fared somewhat better and their remnants were extracted complete for analysis.

South of this area the prominent ironstone feature noted last year was found to overlies a ditch with the ironstone mostly along its southern edge. The ditch had another nearby at a different angle and neither went far, unless there was an entrance gap and one of the ditches in the south-east corner of the trench was a continuation. Four stone fossils were placed at intervals along the ironstone feature and in general these and other smoothed stones did seem purposely placed. There was for instance an echinoid in the centre of a pit fill, and a very fine pebble from a prominent dump of burnt clay lumps. This deposit was close to one of two large pits at the southern, lower end of the trench and many of the burnt lumps had the marks of pieces of wood that had presumably formed the shape of an oven dome and then been plastered with clay. Interestingly the dump also had a lump of more of the white clay noted elsewhere. The two large pits were similar to those at the top of the trench and were close to and south of another encircling ditch, which may represent a later enclosure. Part of a small beautifully polished flint axe may have been a ritual offering in one of the pits. A number of features nearby were thought to be a sub-circular feature although some may be ditches or gullies of different periods.



*Fig 4 Overhead view of the northern curving ditch and some of the large pits, yet to be fully excavated. Photo: Nikki Cowlard*



*Fig 5 Some of the deep pits at the northern end of the trench and the difficulties of photography in bright sunshine!*



*Fig 6 View of part of the lower end of the trench looking west. The location of the villa can just be seen in the left background, showing how close it is to the hilltop site. In the middle ground of the trench the course of the lower curving ditch can be seen heading towards the two figures. The edge of one of the large pits can just be seen to the left (note ladder).*

Most of the features mentioned so far are likely to have been of Iron Age or Late Iron Age/early Roman date to judge by the associated pottery. Phil Jones briefly examined the earlier material and noted one fragment of probably Neolithic pottery and some Bronze Age; some of the worked flint is probably also of these periods. He is of the opinion that only the Middle Iron Age is not represented in some way by the finds on the site from the Mesolithic to the end of the Roman period. Thanks to David Calow a radiocarbon date has already been obtained for charcoal from among the jaws in the ritual deposit under the Horsham slab, whose calibrated result at 95% probability is 355—115 BC.

The site is set at the western end of a small plateau on the edge of slopes down to south and west. There has probably been a loss of later or shallower features caused by later ploughing and downslope erosion on these edges and this probably removed any pre-Iron Age features. A number of possible postholes were noted in the trench, marked out by probable stone packing immediately below plough level. These are likely to have been cut from around current ground level. Several were marked by 'chert' or other out-of-place stone that is likely to have come from the villa. As this material was also found in some of the pits it probably represents Roman-period activity. In general this seems to survive better along the eastern edge of the trench and to the north where the ditch line crossing the area of large pits showed several recuts. Some later Roman pottery was found together with a later Roman coin of Constantine II as Caesar.

Excavation of most of the area of the trench has now been completed except along the eastern edge which has been left for future work. The most recent magnetometer survey suggests that there are several interesting features to the north of this area which are likely to relate to Roman-period activity associated with the field system.

A third season of excavation at a property behind St Nicolas church in Great Bookham was undertaken by members of the Surrey Archaeological Society and involved extending the 2015 trench and opening two smaller trenches.

The garden had once been part of the manor complex of Bookham Courte, which was demolished about 1720. Bookham Courte may have been the original abbey farm set up by Chertsey Abbey and is described in a 1614 document as consisting of a manor house covered in tile, a gatehouse, two great barns, a bakery, stables and other buildings surrounded by a great yard. There is a mention of Bookham Courte in the Chertsey Abbey Cartularies of 1332.

One of the aims of the 2016 evaluation was to try to explain a small area of cobbles that were revealed at the end of the 2015 dig at a depth of 90cm. The aim of trench 8 was to find any evidence of walls near to the tile-on-edge hearth excavated in March 2016. Trench 9 was positioned to help explain a line of high resistivity from an earlier geophysical investigation. The three trenches were excavated over a period of 7 days.

The 2015 trench had uncovered a layer of demolition material at a depth of 20-30cm. This comprised flint, peg tile and brick. An area of scattered chalk, cobbles and a group of chalk blocks found in the eastern corner of the trench were covered over for further investigation in 2016. The natural soil was found to be orange clay and gravel.

The larger 2016 trench (trench 7) was extended to the south of the 2015 trench. The new trench measured 5m by 4m and was positioned so that it overlapped the 2015 trench by 1.5m encompassing the chalk scattering found in the eastern corner.



*Figure 1 Trench 7 with the chalk floor and underlying cobbles beginning to be revealed. The demolition area can be seen under the turf in the section.*

The trench 7 excavation uncovered more of the demolition surface of flint and tile found in 2015. It was probably deposited at one time and is almost certainly demolition material from Bookham Courte. It contains lumps of ferruginously cemented gravel, Lower Greensand, Upper Greensand, flints, a large amount of peg tile and bits of brick. Medieval pottery was found in the north-eastern part of the trench and most of this dated between 1250 and 1500.

A successions of layers were uncovered under the demolition layer which were consistent with the 2015 trench. The first layer of 5-6cm of orangey sandy soil contained few finds and overlaid a very compacted layer of similar soil packed with very small pieces of crushed brick and tile and some charcoal. The underlying layer of sterile orangey clayey soil was about 3-4cm deep and this layer dipped down in places to a layer of chalk.

The chalk was part of a degraded chalk-packed floor in the north east of the trench. The base of an onion bottle was found in this layer. Under this layer, at a depth of 90cm, was a

cobbled surface that was found to cover the whole trench. No finds were found to date the cobbles.

In the south-west corner the line of flat-topped chalk blocks found in the 2015 trench 3 continued into trench 7. These were found to be sitting on a small layer of earth on top of the cobbles and supported on either side by flints. The line of chalk blocks ran across the trench diagonally from the western corner. The width of the chalk



Figure 2 Trench 7 with the chalk floor overlying the cobbled area

blocks was approximately 20cm but the structure had no structural strength and may have been the base of a palisade or a flimsy internal wall. Unfrogged bricks by the chalk blocks suggested a post medieval date. Their dimensions did not suggest a late Medieval date.



Figure 3 Trench 7 showing the line of chalk blocks sitting on the cobbles

The extensive cobbled area is almost certainly the “Great Yarde” referred to in the 1616 description of Bookham Courte. Later temporary structures such as sheds had been built on top of this before all the structures were demolished in about 1720.

Trench 8 was 1.8m x 1.8m, near to the western boundary and 2m from the neighbour’s tile-on-edge hearth found in March 2016. Running along the southwest and southeast sides of the trench, and under

the baulks, were the foundations of two walls, forming a corner parallel to and within the trench edges. They are thus approximately parallel and perpendicular to the edges of the hearth, and presumably supported two walls of a room. The inner corner of these walls was very considerably curved. The foundations consisted of sparse flint in a grey-green granular material which appeared to be degraded lime-poor mortar. The profile of the wall base was U-shaped (see figure 4). The construction was similar to that of trench 9’s mortared area.

Within the curve of the wall foundations was a layer of demolition material up to 60cm deep. This comprised large, tightly-packed chalk blocks, large, knobby flints, up to 25cms long and 10cm wide, peg roof tile, shell and a large quantity of red whiteware pottery of a type dated by Phil Jones to 1450-1550.



Figure 4 Trench 8 with demolition material between partially robbed out walls. In the photo the near slot has removed the wall foundation.

Trench 9 was 2.5m by 0.7m trenches and sited towards the western boundary and near to trench 7. It was positioned over a highly resistant north-south anomaly about 1m wide and 5+m long. The anomaly terminated in a T-junction at the south and appeared to continue under the flowerbed to the north. The eastern end of the trench was about 10cm deeper than the western section. This relationship shows that the contexts are connected and the suggestion is that the higher section was the base of an internal floor and the lower section provided the base for an external wall and external yard.



Figure 5 Trench 9 showing the line of lime mortar and small flints

The area west of this was filled with a creamy grey-green fine granular material, probably lime mortar, with occasional flints up to about 7cm. The context was about 1m wide and 20cm thick and ran north-south on the line of the north-south resistivity anomaly.

West of the creamy material was a layer of larger angular flints 7-10cm long which partly overlaid it. Some of these had been shaped to give flat surface. They formed a surface about 10cm thick but although it was firm and the flints were embedded in the clay with flints they were not packed together as tightly as possible.

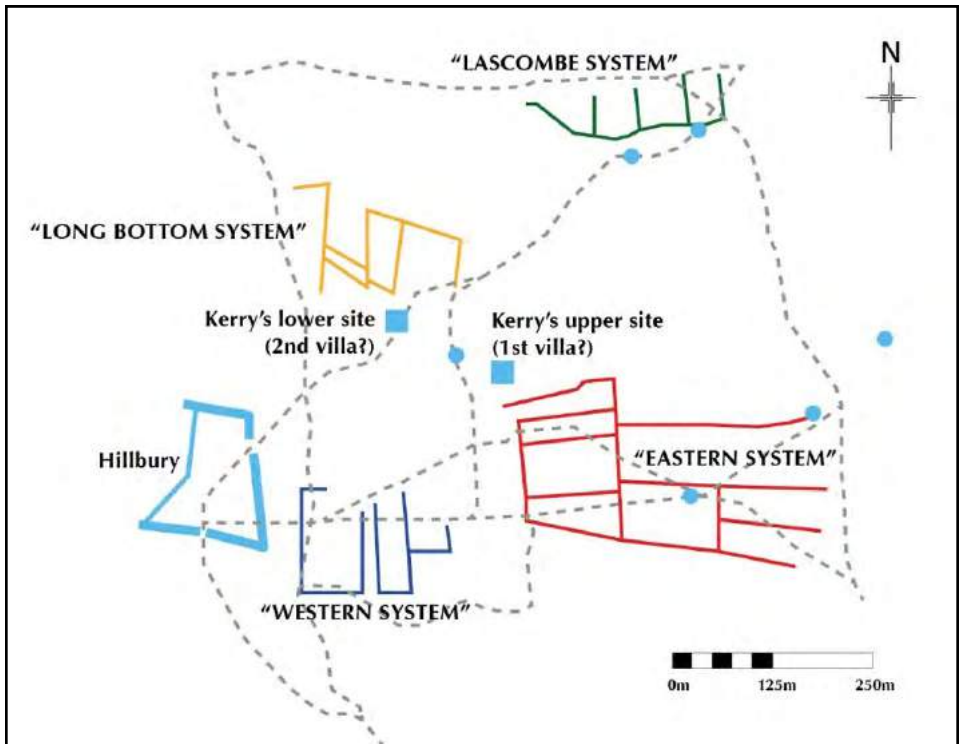
The medieval pottery assemblage consisted of Surrey Whitewares of Kingston, Cheam and Surrey Border types dating from early 13th century to the late 15th century. Trench 8 had a large number of Red White-ware sherds dated by the late Phil Jones to between 1450 and 1550. There were also a few sherds of Grey/Brown Sandy Ware of 12th to 13th century date. Trench 9 had few finds but there were a few pieces of later post medieval ware above the small tightly packed flints in the east of the trench.

Grateful thanks go to Angela Mason, Emma Corke and David Calow as trench supervisors. The hardworking diggers were Pauline Hulse, Nigel Bond, David Brown, Geoffrey Gower-Kerslake, Chris Quinn, Nick Moore, Neil Merryweather, Kathy French, Irene Goring, John Felton and Mike Edwards. Also thanks to the finds team – Fiona Grisdale, Ceila Bailey, Brenda Hawkins, Sylvia Solarski, Liz Felton, Gillian Lachelin and Jan Spencer who also provided all the tea, coffee and cake!

## Field System Earthworks on Puttenham Common Detected by LiDAR

Rob Briggs

The purpose of this note is to report a discovery made through the use of LiDAR imagery freely available online at <https://houseprices.io/lab/lidar/map> (this is discussed at greater length and in greater depth in two blog posts: Briggs 2016a and 2016b). I highly recommend readers take their own look at the available imagery, although it must be said that so far as Surrey is concerned there is not total coverage of either its historic or administrative area. For those parts of the county that are covered (and I estimate them to be in the majority), the resource can at least act as a starting point for research using more specialist software. Here, the evidence for four separate areas of probable field system earthworks on Puttenham Common — which have been visited and corroborated by the author — is outlined before suggestions are offered concerning their origins, changes that occurred to them over time, and the reason why they have survived as above-ground features through to the present day. Lastly, suggestions for desirable future research are made in the hope that this note will spark the interest necessary to take some of them forward.



### The four “systems”

The evidence takes the form of four discreet areas of earthworks in the northern half of what is sometimes called Puttenham Great Common but here is referred to simply as Puttenham Common: three on the Hillbury ridge (so-called because of the supposed hill-fort at its western end), and one in the north-east corner of the Common across the dry valley known as Long Bottom. No equivalent features can be seen on the LiDAR imagery

of the southern half of Puttenham Common, nor on the Little Common to its north-east or Lower Puttenham Common to its south. I refer to each of the four earthwork complexes by a different “system” name for ease of reference, but do so in the knowledge that some (or maybe even all) of them may have once formed part of the same field system.

- The “Eastern System” is the most extensive of the four, and from the LiDAR imagery looks to consist of the most substantial boundary earthworks. This is borne out on the ground. The longest of the north-south elements of the system survives as a low but sizable linear feature spanning most of the Hillbury ridgetop. The southern boundary of the system also survives as a large yet hitherto-unnoticed lynchet-like earthwork, standing the best part of a metre high towards its eastern end. At the extreme north-east of the system, in the soil brought to the surface by burrowing rabbits, I picked up the large but abraded sherd of pottery that represents just over half of the base of a small Roman pottery vessel of a coarse grey-brown sandy fabric.
- The “Western System” is smaller in extent and its constituent elements appear much fainter on the LiDAR imagery. On the ground, it turned out that in places its physical remains, though slight, may extend further north than what is perceptible via LiDAR. One thing that marks out this system is the long, narrow gap in the middle of it, perhaps commensurate with a trackway running north-south between the enclosures (cf. discussion of “field ways” in Hampton & Hawkins 1984, 154, and more recently English 2013, 32). I had hoped projecting its line in the opposite direction would show that it was oriented on the lower of the two Roman building sites discussed below, but this is not the case, albeit the line is not all that far away from the site so a link between them cannot be ruled out.
- The “Long Bottom System” is the faintest, both on the LiDAR imagery and on the ground. The only possible element of this system I have been able to trace on the ground is its north-eastern boundary, which coincides with a lynchet-like feature on southern lip of Long Bottom that grows in stature moving east. There is a strong likelihood that this is a natural slope whose profile and steepness has been exaggerated by one or more period of cultivation.
- The “Lascombe System” is so-called owing to proximity to Lascombe House. In contrast to the other three, it lies to the north of the Long Bottom valley, and its position at the north-easternmost corner of Puttenham Common points to it representing a fragment of a once much larger field system that extended further north. The surviving earthworks consists of a series of north-south aligned boundaries defining four enclosures of roughly equal width in the east-west dimension. Its curving southern limit seems to correspond to the line of old tracks no longer in use, although it is not clear from the LiDAR or on the ground whether these are contemporaneous or later than the adjacent enclosures.



Puttenham Common Eastern System southern boundary

## Dating the field systems

There is an outside chance that the various sets of earthworks could be modern. Puttenham Common was used for military purposes during the Second World War, either as a training area or the site of emplacements for anti-aircraft guns and searchlights — or very possibly both (see Currie 2001a, 38; Currie 2001b, 57; Dugmore 1972, 132). Following this, in 1947, the Hillbury ridge was ploughed to grow potatoes, a development Clark and Nichols (1960, 47) acerbically described as ‘more





Puttenham Common RB pottery

productive of antiquities than potatoes'. It is not impossible, therefore, that the earthworks belong to one or both of these short-lived phases of mid-20th-century activity. The Hillbury ridge and to a lesser extent the higher ground across Long Bottom are pock-marked with fox-hole trenches and mortar craters, but it is unclear what purpose areas of coaxial banked earthworks could have served in the wartime years (as opposed to ditches for stymying the spread of heath fires caused by incendiary bombs: cf. Dugmore 1972, 132). Similarly, the extent of the subsequent period of ploughing is unclear. That it did not encompass the entirety of the Hillbury "plateau" is

indicated by the survival of three Second World War-era square trenches within some of the enclosures of the "Eastern System" (see Currie 2001b, 57). In light of these facts, a mid-20th-century genesis seems doubtful.

A *terminus ante quem* of the late 18th century for at least the "Eastern System" is suggested by the cutting of two of its boundaries by a double holloway that originated as a carriageway associated with Hampton Lodge, which was turned into a mansion in the final third of the 18th century (Dugmore 1972, 68). Suitably-scaled cartographic evidence only goes back to the early 18th century, and there are few known documentary sources pertaining to Puttenham Common that describe the land in any meaningful detail. A valuable exception is an early 13th-century charter that makes clear reference to a boundary ditch separating the Shoelands estate from 'the common land of [the] men of Puttenham', almost certainly coterminous with the present northern boundary of the Common running alongside the North Downs Way (translation published in Currie 2003, 274). The "Lascombe System" hence lay within the common land — if as seems likely this means uncultivated communal pasture, we might infer that the land was untilled in the 1200s and remained so thereafter. The absence of medieval pottery from the northern half of Puttenham Common, in sharp contrast to the fields due east and north of the Common, which have yielded plenty of medieval-period sherds (the earliest probably of 12th-century date, and deriving from manuring to improve soil fertility as part of their cultivation), implies the same may have applied to the other three systems as well. An earlier medieval origin is hard to credit given the marginality of Puttenham parish as a whole in that period (Briggs 2013, 3-4).

The portion of Puttenham Common encompassing the suggested field systems is the provenance of considerable quantities of Romano-British and earlier prehistoric artefacts (Currie 2001a, 17-20; Berton 1990, 98-99; Clark & Nichols 1960, 46-47, 57-60, 62-63; to these the present author can add around half a dozen of pieces of Romano-British pottery and a much larger quantity of prehistoric struck flints). It is also the site of three important monuments. The first is Hillbury, a univallate earthwork enclosure nowadays generally suspected to be an Iron Age promontory fort (Currie 2001a, 18-19, and 2001b, 10-12) or enclosed settlement (Briggs 2013, 2; a possible analogue is the Bee Garden on Chobham Common: Ellis & English 2016). To its east are the sites of two Roman masonry buildings, subject to trenching in the 19th century (and, in the case of the more easterly and elevated of the two, fieldwalking following the 1947 ploughing; Clark & Nichols 1960, 47; cf. Briggs 2013, 2). The Roman sites have yielded no material later than the third century CE; the same is true of a probably contemporaneous settlement in the vicinity of Lascombe House attested by pottery scatters (Currie 2001b, 16; cf. Berton 1990, 102).

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A (?Late) Iron Age or Roman date for the field systems would accord with the above archaeological evidence, yet in other respects there are difficulties with such interpretations. Proximity of the settlement sites to the field systems does not necessarily indicate symbiosis; the networks of field boundaries could have been redundant features in the landscape by the time construction of the first Roman building began. The non-alignment of the suggested trackway in the middle of the same system with the lower of the two Roman building sites has been noted already. Similarly, the “Western System” is set well clear of the eastern rampart of Hillbury and its north-south boundaries run on different alignments to it. Such lack of physical integration or co-orientation between the sites and the field-system earthworks is troubling and invites the consideration of further alternatives.

The wealth of research on later prehistoric field systems published by Judie English (above all English 2013) means that a Bronze Age — and perhaps more specifically Middle Bronze Age — origin for the Puttenham Common field systems might be preferred. This would place the earthworks alongside the extensive and reasonably well-understood field systems on Whitmoor Common, Worplesdon (English 2013, 27-33, and now English 2016) and either side of the Mole Gap (English 2013, 33-36), as well as the recently-published evidence from Dorking (Munnery 2016, 8-9, 67-68); the claim that this is the first identified Bronze Age field system from Surrey’s Lower Greensands faces competition from Hascombe hillfort (Hooker and English 2010, 2). At present there is little recorded Bronze Age material from Puttenham Common (cf. Currie 2001a, 17-18) and Whimster’s claim that the south-east corner of the Hillbury earthworks was ‘conspicuous enough ... to have been a tumulus’ has been undermined by later topographic survey (Whimster 1931, 120; Graham & Graham 2001). Even so, a lack of contemporaneous monuments or artefacts cannot of itself count against a Bronze Age dating, as there is a general dearth of evidence from the period in Puttenham aside from two round barrows in the eastern half of the parish (one extant, one lost, and both ascribed Early Bronze Age dates in English 2013, 156).

## **A suggested chronology**

A theme common to analyses of early field systems is the potential for elements to endure and influence later patterns of enclosures and land use. David Field notes how ‘Celtic’ (i.e. later prehistoric) field systems were time and again put back into use, especially in the Roman period when fields were ‘enlarged and cross-divisions ploughed through’, instancing the Mole Gap systems and the scatters of Early Iron Age and Romano-British pottery found within them (Field 2004, 45-46; cf. English 2013, 33-34 and Bird 2004, 84). In a similar vein, David Bird (2004, 85) argued for ‘a considerable change in the landscape’ in Surrey in the years either side of 200 CE, including a shift in the morphology of fields ‘to one of rectangular fields, about twice as long as broad’. The small number of abraded Romano-British pottery sherds found in association with the Puttenham Common earthworks do seem to stand for a period of manuring and cultivation of the constituent enclosures, and a few of the suggested fields on Puttenham Common, notably the north-eastern enclosure within the “Eastern System”, befit the trend towards larger, rectangular fields. In general, however, with the exception of the clearly-truncated “Lascombe System”, it is the irregularity of the boundary patterns that really stands out.

The topographical situation of the more extensively-investigated of the two Roman buildings on the Hillbury ridge is cited by Bird (2004, 77) as possible evidence of Roman-period soil exhaustion leading to the generation of heathland. The artefactual evidence from the Hillbury ridge seems to support this (cf. Clark and Nichols 1960, 62), by suggesting a major change in the agricultural economy occurring early in the third century CE. But there may have been other factors at play. Several hundred metres east of Puttenham Common, Late Roman pottery (3rd/4th century CE) and other possibly

contemporary material was found in 1992 in a field west of Suffield Lane between Suffield Farm and Murtmead Lane (Briggs 2013, 2). This may well stand for a Late Roman villa, just possibly the successor to the one(s) on the Hillbury ridge. What makes this site doubly interesting is that it lies in the angle of two long linear boundaries running roughly east-west and north-south (both have been almost totally destroyed as above-ground features over the course of the past 250 years). There may be valid parallels to be drawn with excavated boundaries associated with the Late Roman villas at Barnwood (Worplesdon) and Wyphurst Road (Cranleigh), which show signs of continuity with surrounding landscapes of medieval or early modern date (Rippon, Smart and Pears 2015, 164-65).

A comparison between the “Eastern System” and the historic field boundary pattern of the land due east of the northern half of Puttenham Common reveals a strong degree of co-orientation. This may in part be a product of the lie of the land hereabouts, with boundaries being created in order to make maximum use of the available flat land. Nevertheless, there are grounds for thinking the historic field boundaries may have had prehistoric antecedents. English cites Woodcorner Farm north of Whitmoor Common as an area where modern field boundaries are on the same alignment as those of the relict Bronze Age field system, prompting the following general observation: ‘Boundaries, fossilized in the landscape, could be seen as convenient and re-used at any period and many, if not most field systems have probably been reused’ (English 2013, 149). The two perpendicular boundaries framing the possible Late Roman villa site may stand for the ‘threads of continuity’ from earlier periods identified in the major recent book *The Fields of Britannia* as typical of the South East region (Rippon, Smart and Pears 2015, 168).

Proposing what happened next is best attempted with reference to the Total Land Pollen (TLP) analysis carried out for *The Fields of Britannia*. In the South East region, between the Roman period and the 5th century the percentage of tree pollen (i.e. species indicative of woodland cover) increased from 31% to 39% TLP, fell back to 33% in the period *circa* 500-850 CE, before a more dramatic increase to 42% in the subsequent period *circa* 850-1050. Improved and unimproved pasture combined accounts for the majority of TLP throughout (Rippon, Smart and Pears 2015, 125-29). A post-Roman landscape in Puttenham parish largely made up of wood pasture, an admixture of open areas of heather or grassy pasture, individual trees and stands of woodland is probable, and is hinted at by the former field-name Houndley (in the centre of the present Church Croft Plantation), perhaps derived from Old English \**Hune-lēah*, “Horehound open woodland/wood pasture” (the translation of the generic being that advanced by Hooke 2008). It would also accord with the apparent remodeling of Hillbury to form a stock enclosure (Graham & Graham 2001, 8), although this could well be a later, post-Conquest development. While the common land containing the field systems remained uncultivated pasture, those areas to the east were brought into cultivation for High Field, one of Puttenham’s medieval open fields (cf. Currie 2001a, 31-32).

## Final thoughts

A case has been made above (and previously in the two online pieces from which this note is distilled) for a quartet of linear earthwork complexes in the northern portions of Puttenham Common to represent vestiges of fields created in the (?Middle) Bronze Age, cultivated in the earlier Roman period, then permanently turned over to rough pasture when the focus of settlement shifted east, other than for a brief episode of ploughing in the 1940s. The common alignment of the boundaries of the “Eastern System” and the medieval and/or modern fields further east moreover intimates that the historic fieldscape stems from a prehistoric antecedent. The reuse of prehistoric field systems is well attested in Surrey, particularly through pottery sherds, but rarely has there been any sustained discussion of how the evidence fits into the wider context of Roman and medieval

settlement and land-use patterns. The evidence from in and around Puttenham Common is unusually rich in some respects, but sparse or non-existent in others. Forging a much better understanding of the various earthworks can come by various means: proper manipulation and analysis of the LiDAR data, topographical survey on the ground, and excavation and palaeoenvironmental sampling. Recording the memories of older local residents about Puttenham Common and its wartime and early post-War stories may help to ascertain the extents of military and agricultural activities. Possible Bronze Age field systems on the Lower Greensand formations in Surrey have been proposed before — this is the first time above-ground remains have been identified, and on a much greater scale than elsewhere, meaning there is much greater scope for investigations to discover their true origins and development over time.

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## A Tale of Two Sword—and Two Bridges

John Clark

In his recent note 'Effra and out: an update on the Vauxhall Bridge sword' (*Bull* 459), Rob Briggs reported the existence of a second late Saxon/Viking Age sword from Vauxhall, noted my own ongoing research on medieval finds from the Thames, and quoted as my conclusion about the swords' discovery that 'both swords came not from near the Surrey end of the present Vauxhall Bridge, but from the Middlesex end of a temporary bridge that spanned the river a little downstream, in front of the Tate Britain gallery.' This is not quite accurate, but it is understandable, because when we were first in correspondence I was finding the evidence, relating to two swords, both said to have come from 'the Thames at Vauxhall', (and the existence of two Vauxhall Bridges) confusing myself!

In fact, comparing information in the Museum of London's files, references by G F Lawrence in his paper on 'Antiquities from the Middle Thames' (*Arch Journal* 86 (1930) 69 -98), the Royal Ontario Museum's *Bulletin* (January 1929) quoted by Rob in his original article, and a detailed account of the building of the present Vauxhall Bridge written by the Bridges Engineer of the LCC, I think it is possible to disentangle the circumstances of the two discoveries – and I hope to publish my conclusions fully elsewhere.

The rather battered incomplete sword (9th-10th century) in the Museum of London (object number A13591) was found in July 1897, on the foreshore in front of the Tate Gallery close to the first pier of the *temporary* bridge erected to take traffic while Vauxhall Bridge, further upstream, was rebuilt between 1898 and 1906. The fine complete, and later, sword, now in the Royal Ontario Museum, was discovered, I believe, in late 1902, on the site of Vauxhall Bridge itself. It came from a cofferdam erected for the construction of one of the stone piers of the present Vauxhall Bridge – in fact the 'Westminster central' pier, at the Westminster/Pimlico end of the bridge's central span. That would indeed place it on the Middlesex side of the centreline of the Thames (if that was meaningful in the 11th century!) – but rather more interesting than county rivalries is the question of how and why these swords (and other weapons of similar date) found their way into the river, and knowledge of their *exact* findspots is certainly pertinent to that discussion.

Graham Dawson

The Effra apparently did not get its name til the 19th century; 1831 is the first definite example. One suggested derivation is as a corruption of Hethrow, a pseudo manor through which it flowed which was owned in the Middle Ages by St Thomas' Hospital and survived as a farm which became known as Effra Farm (see Jon Newman 'River Effra' (2016) chapter 4).

Incidentally I have realised that the diversion of the Effra must be 13th century since the archbishop of Canterbury is involved and he did not acquire Lambeth until 1197. The Battersea boundary is not particularly near to the Vauxhall Bridge which is a problem because the last section of the diverted Effra, from the Albert Embankment to the Thames, was the responsibility of a Battersea manor which ought to mean it bounded the manor.

## Dating Lowther's excavation of the Ashtead Common Roman villa

David Bird

The ongoing work of writing up the results of the Ashtead Common excavations of 2006-13 (and the fieldwork by John Hampton in the 1960s) is allied to a reassessment of the first excavation by A W G Lowther and A R Cotton in 1924-9. The site is unusual and its importance is becoming increasingly clear, so any extra light that can be thrown on the earlier work is potentially significant. It is quite common for Lowther's published reports to give no context for the finds, and there are few other records. The progress of the excavation is, however, reasonably well known so it is possible to give the year in which a find was made at least an approximate location, such as the area of the separate bath-house, or the east end of the villa. Unfortunately, it has become apparent that the dates written on the back of some of the contemporary photographs or on some of the finds cannot be trusted. The same is true of some of Lowther's later references to the site.

The published reports by Lowther himself (1927; 1929; 1930) state quite clearly that there were trial excavations in 1924 followed by the main excavation of the separate bath-house in 1925 and the villa 'house' in 1926, 1927, 1928 with a final short season in 1929 (see especially Lowther 1927, 146, fig. 1: 'Plan of villa (excavations 1926-7) and plan of bath house (excavations 1924-5)', and 149: 'The excavations of 1925 were confined to the bath house ...', together with 1930, 132: 'Work at the beginning of 1929 ...'). The dating is independently confirmed by references in this Society's annual reports and in contemporary press reports.

Yet as early as 1934 Lowther was to write 'The Roman site on Ashtead Common, excavated 1926-8 (SAC XXXVIII, 6), yielded the fragments of some three or four ... "chimney-pots"' (1934, 61). The reference he gives is to one of these 'chimney pots' (also sometimes called 'lamp chimneys'), which is specifically said to have been found beside the circular laconicum of the separate bath-house. We should therefore expect this to have been found in the excavations of 1925. A report in *The Times* for 29 September 1925 indeed mentions the discovery of 'several pieces of small chimney-pots', quite certainly from the bath-house.

Thus within six years of the end of his excavation Lowther was wrongly dating it as taking place in 1926-8. It is worth adding that this happened around three years before the deposition of many of the finds in Guildford Museum, raising the possibility of some uncertainties there too. I have already written about the strange tale of the Saxon finds supposed to come from the topsoil over the separate bath-house but not mentioned until 1959 (Bird 2013) and other problems are still coming to light.

Lowther was apparently so determined to stand by the re-dating that there are a few surviving finds labels where 1925 has subsequently been altered to 1926. The determination persisted such that in his later reassessment (Lowther 1959), the subtitle specifies 1926-28, the first paragraph reinforces those dates ('in the now far off summers of 1926, 1927 and 1928' and the fourth paragraph makes it quite explicit: 'The first of the two buildings to be discovered, during preliminary trial trenching, was the separate bath-building which was the subject of work during 1926; the main dwelling, sited at some distance from it, was found at the end of the season.' Yet this work all took place in 1925, as contemporary evidence makes clear (and, as we have seen, Lowther's own site reports). Arthur Cotton's notes for a talk in 1927 include this statement, following a description of the bath-house excavation: 'and so in the winter of 1925 when the ground was too wet to permit work on the buildings, we dug trial holes to the north, on the higher ground, for in all probability the house would be at a higher level than the baths. Fortune favoured us, and after several failures we found traces of walls about 128ft to the north of

the baths. During the summer [i.e. of 1926] we excavated this building which we found to be 65ft long and 50ft deep.' (He goes on to note that the full extent of the villa was identified in 1927).

It seems very odd that Lowther could get the dates of his first major excavation wrong. 1925 must have been so exciting: his first proper dig, a fascinating Roman building, visits from the national press, his own photograph in the papers and so on. The dates of the excavation were a matter of record. I have been unable to find any reason why he wanted to change them and would welcome any information that might throw light on the matter.

I would also be pleased to hear from anyone who can throw light on the clearance of Lowther's house after his death. I saw for myself that the rooms were full of archaeological finds, many placed on anything that might act as a tray. A great deal undoubtedly came from the Ashtead villa site but it was mixed with other material. Lowther left it all to the Society of Antiquaries which placed some in the British Museum and elsewhere but gave the rest to Surrey Archaeological Society (Lowther [Thompson] 1976, 35).

The archaeological material was cleared as well as possible and ended up in boxes in Guildford Museum stores. In due course some was placed in Leatherhead Museum. Lowther had deposited some finds in Guildford Museum in the early part of 1937, with the accession number 1049. Recent analysis by Joanna Bird of the samian thought to be from Ashtead examined this material and that held at Leatherhead. As a side effect it revealed that Lowther had taken back some of the Guildford Museum holdings, perhaps as part of the process of reassessing the site in 1959. Some of the pots that thus ended up in Leatherhead Museum were marked with old Guildford Museum accession numbers. Quite a lot of other material from the site seems never to have reached any Museum.

Lowther published two lists of samian stamps in the reports (1927, 158-61; 1929, 13). Brenda Dickinson recorded those she could locate in Guildford Museum and at Lowther's house before his death, including one not previously published. This one (Paternus), and some of the others listed by Lowther in the reports, cannot now be located. It is possible that some of the finds were thrown away when Lowther's house was cleared, or maybe they have vanished somehow into stores. Any information that might help to understand their plight, and by extension that of other material from the site, would be of considerable interest.

I am grateful to Joanna Bird, Isabel Ellis (and members of AARG), David Hartley and Derek Renn for information and discussion relevant to this note.

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## SyAS Autumn Conference 2016: Research Revisited (26 November)

*Martin Rose*

There was a good attendance at the Annual Research Conference ably chaired by Emma Corke who explained the theme for the day was revisiting past research and excavations to review and re-evaluate the conclusions.

The day started with Michael Russell reviewing the largely unpublished and variable quality material from excavations at Weston Wood near Albury in the 1960s. Unpublished excavations are a common problem in archaeology and the evaluation of these archives provides an important, if somewhat thankless service to archaeological research. Michael explained this site had a long history of use including the Neolithic, evidenced by Peterborough-ware pottery shreds, but the most important archaeology was a rare late Bronze Age occupation layer. Very few of these have been found in Surrey away from the Thames gravels. There were two sites excavated and Michael determined site 1 was later than site 2 from analyzing some 17,000 shreds of pottery, although unfortunately the exact relationship between the two sites could not be determined. He also demonstrated there was evidence of onsite pottery production and weaving as well as evidence of the consumption of barley and wheat. He ended with a familiar call for more research on the collection using scientific techniques such as lipid analysis.

Moving to the Iron Age Judy English talked about the changing understanding of the role of hillforts with reference to the Surrey greensand forts of Holmbury, Hascombe, Anstiebury and Felday. Originally all hillforts were considered primarily defensive, but nowadays most archaeologists regard them as having a variety of roles. The Surrey hillforts are relatively late, all dating to the middle Iron Age or later. Concentrating on Holmbury Judy explained that this hillfort was built on the east facing slope, was not easily defensible, and included a large ridge through the middle of it removing about 25% of the useable area. On the south and east side, it was not ditched but vertically cut and terraced which would have resulted in an impressive gold face looking out over the Low Weald. She ended with another call for more research, this time explaining that we need to understand the archaeology of the Low Weald better before we understand the purpose of the hillforts.

The last talk before lunch was from David Bird re-evaluating the Lowther excavations at Ashtead villa and tile works. Echoing the problems Michael Russell had, he explained that excavation information was variable in quality and sometimes confusing. Lowther's reassessment of his early excavations in 1959 was sometimes inconsistent with his contemporary notes. David was still trying to finalise the relationship between the recent excavations and Lowther's plans and finds. However, David's research was confirming the unusual nature of many of the finds, reinforcing the view this was an upmarket and unique site with military connections.

The afternoon started with Harvey Shelton reviewing how our understanding of Roman Southwark has been changed through successive periods of excavation. He outlined four different phases of investigation, pre WWII, immediate post war excavations of war damaged sites, 1950/70s post war development, and the 1970s onwards commercially funded investigations particularly as the waterfront warehouses were no longer needed. The result is an understanding that North Southwark was situated on two islands with gravels to the south and other islands east and west. The northern edge was eroded away in the 13th century. Evidence suggests there were more stone buildings and evidence of Roman military activity than previously thought.



Martin Higgins moved us into the Medieval with a lecture on Surrey Wealden Hall Houses. Singleton Open Air Museum is the place to go to see what they originally looked like. Their key feature is a flying wall plate between two jetties. If you were not at the meeting you will have to research what this means. Impressively Martin believes we know where all 4000 examples are, although many were disguised in the 18th century when house fashions changed. They are mainly found in the South East and because they fall down if not lived in have been continuously occupied since as early as 1440. In Surrey, there are less in the Mole Valley area and towards London and Martin suggested this might be because these areas were more prosperous and the Medieval houses had been knocked down and replaced.

The meeting closed with a fascinating talk from Catherine Ferguson on a hidden and until recently neglected chapel attached to St Nicholas Parish church at the bottom of Guildford High Street. The Loseley Chapel is so called because it is where the owners of Loseley House were buried or have dedicated memorials, including the ornate, spectacular tomb of Sir William More (d1600) who built the House. The chapel is recorded as 15th century but Catherine explained that only the footprint is this old, as her research shows the rest was rebuilt in the Victorian period. Until recently it was damp and decaying, but restoration of this chapel is now underway. It was explained that apart from the tombs and memorials this chapel was important because of its links to Tudor Theatre, the poet John Donne, Samuel Pepys and the stone masons of Richard II, the later through the fine Medieval tomb of Arnold Brocas which was moved to the chapel when the parish church was rebuilt.

Emma closed the meeting, thanking all the speakers, as well as the organisers of this interesting day.

## **Annual Symposium (25th February 2017)** **Peace Memorial Hall, Woodfield Lane, Ashted, KT21 2BE**

The programme will report on recent work in the county.

### **9.30 REGISTRATION**

10.00 Chair: Catherine Ferguson

10.10 *Peopling the Heath: barrowscapes around the Rother valley at the apex of the Weald*: Stuart Needham

### **10.55 COFFEE/TEA**

11.20 *Prehistoric activity on the Surrey chalk grassland: Excavations at Cherkley Court, Leatherhead*: Ian Hogg: ASE

11.50 *The Waitrose site, a multi-period glimpse of Dorking*: Tom Munnery: SCAU/ASE

12.20 *Quarrying and selective deposition in Ewell, Surrey*: Alexis Haslam: PCA

### **12.50 LUNCH**

14.00 Margary Award

14.10 *Clandon Park: From the Ashes*: Tom Dommett: NT

14.45 *Recent Finds from Surrey*: David Williams: FLO

### **15.20 COFFEE/TEA**

15.45 *Excavations on the Romano-British site at Flexford*: David Calow: SyAS

16.15 *The Real Story of Iron Pear Tree Water*: Gerry Moss: SyAS

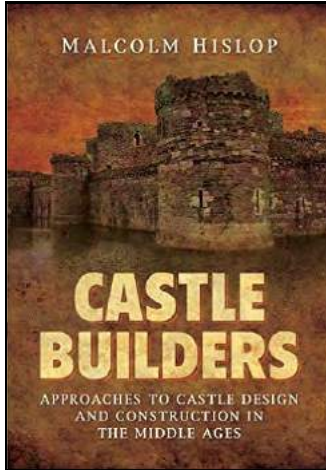
16.45 Chair: Catherine Ferguson

### **17.00 CLOSE**

Volunteers to help with refreshments, the ticket desk and reporting are needed. Exhibits for the Margary Award will be on display, however more offers of displays can be accommodated. There will be books for sale by donation and Archaeology South East also intend to have Spoilheap Publications available for purchase on the day.

## Castle Builders: Approaches to Castle Design and Construction in the Middle Ages

by *Malcolm Hislop*



(ISBN 978 1 78159 335 6; Pen & Sword Archaeology, 2016: £25)

Surrey is not a well-castled county; only Abinger, Farnham and Guildford are mentioned briefly in this book, which starts by considering the dialogue between patron and master builder, whose initial training might have been as a mason, carpenter, engineer or earth-mover, rather than as a designer. Methods of building in earth, wood and stone are then considered in turn, followed by studies of great tower construction, engineering developments (military and domestic) and aesthetic requirements. John Harvey (in his *English Medieval Architects*) established links between many craftsmen and buildings, but none could be named as the master builder of a Surrey castle.

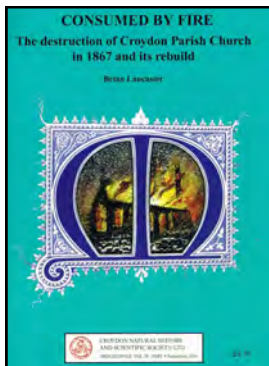
## Leatherhead, India and the Far East

by *John Morris*



This book, which took three years to write, became available on Google around Christmas. It records the lives of more than 400 Leatherhead individuals who had connections with India and the Far East, together with information about their families and colleagues.

Google "leatherhead, india and the far east", which will produce the site of the Leatherhead & District Local History Society. Click on it and book will appear. Phone John on 01372 362524 if you would like to know more.



## Consumed by Fire: the Destruction of Croydon Parish Church in 1867 and its Rebuild

by *Brian Lancaster*

The fire in January 1867 destroyed St John the Baptist, Croydon's parish church, necessitating its rebuild, the architect appointed being George Gilbert Scott. The principal accounts of the fire were written by John Corbet Anderson and in the reports of local newspapers. This book pays attention to the wider context: where the responsibility for this lay, specifically referring to how the Board of Health's water supply and the fire brigades contributed to the destruction. The volume also describes how the vicar and churchwardens paid for the new church, met the wishes of the residents and how contemporary ecclesiastical and social issues affected the outcome.

## Medieval Studies Forum

The next meeting of the Medieval Studies Forum will be a Members' Meeting on **Saturday February 11th** at the Dixon Hall at Leatherhead Institute. This will provide an opportunity for members to share their current research and ongoing studies. Contributions may be anything between 5 minutes and 30 depending on your progress! We will also have short presentations from Stephen Humphries (Surrey Records Society), Alex Egginton (Heritage conservation team), Hannah Jeffery (Surrey Archaeological Society Library) and Steve Nelson, who will speak about recent projects involving medieval pottery finds.

If you would like to contribute to the day, either with a talk, presentation or static display please contact Brian Creese at [bjc@briancreese.co.uk](mailto:bjc@briancreese.co.uk).

Our Study Day visit this year will be to the ancient town of Kingston upon Thames, and will take place on **Saturday June 3rd**. The day will include a visit to the Lovekyn Chapel, All Saints Church and a town walk. Further details soon.

Our final meeting for 2017 will be on **Saturday October 14th** at the Octagon in Godalming and will look at Medieval Industries.

## Local History Committee

### Annual Symposium – 'Feeding the County – Agriculture in Surrey' Saturday 25th March 2017

The Local History Committee will be holding their Annual Symposium on Saturday 25th March at The Surrey History Centre, 130 Goldsworth Road, Woking, Surrey GU21 6ND.

The symposium will cover various aspects of agricultural history from the Early Modern period to the Second World War 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.

Please see enclosed flyer for the full programme and how to register.

## Early Modern Studies Group

### 'Bringing Tudor and Stuart Surrey to life: a study day on sources for Surrey history, 1500-1700' Saturday 11th March 2017

This study day is aimed at those who might be interested in investigating their community, house history or family history or are just simply interested in Surrey history in the Tudor and Stuart period. The presenters are all historians experienced in researching Surrey history and they will be talking about the primary sources of information from the 16th and 17th centuries and explaining how to locate these sources, and then use them to best effect, avoiding potential problems.

Please see enclosed flyer for the full programme and how to register.

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## **The Prehistoric Society Conference** **Uplands and Lowlands** **Saturday 4th March 2017**

This one-day conference is about topographic diversity and similarity of the uplands and the lowlands in prehistory: are differences in the archaeological record, and in our approaches to exploring these varied landscapes, more than just those defined by topography? Presentations will demonstrate the major impact of both traditional survey methods and recent applications such as LiDAR; examine methods and frameworks for synthesising numerous diverse datasets over large areas; and consider the relationship between topography and cosmology and soils and ideology, with the underlying aim of gaining insight into the social, economic and political landscapes that overlie the physical.

Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London  
Tickets £40 (£20 students). Visit [www.prehistoricsociety.org](http://www.prehistoricsociety.org) for more info.

## **Sussex Archaeology Symposium 2017** **Saturday 25th March 2017**

The Sussex School of Archaeology will be holding the 2017 Sussex Archaeology Symposium on Saturday 25th March at Kings Church, Lewes, Brooks Road, BN7 2BY. The symposium will cover various aspects of recent archaeological research in Sussex including: a new Neolithic Causewayed Enclosure near Eastbourne, Gobblestubs Copse, Centuriation at Ripe, a Port and Settlement of the *Classis Britannica* at Ashburnham, Plumpton Villa, Heritage Crime, and 'Witches, Warlocks and Wellies'. Speakers include: Anthony Brook, Roger Cordiner, Lynn and Kevin Cornwell, Dicon Hart, Gordon Haydon, Daryl Holter, Janet Pennington, John Peterson, David Rudling, Jo Seaman, and Iride Tomazic. Tickets: £40 including lunch. For info email [info@sussexarchaeology.co.uk](mailto:info@sussexarchaeology.co.uk) or see [www.sussexarchaeology.org](http://www.sussexarchaeology.org).

## **Sussex Archaeological Society Annual Conference** **The Changing Parish Church: from Saxon to Victorian, c. 600-1900** **Saturday 29th April 2017**

The impact of changes in how our forebears worshipped, in the architectural styles used for churches, in preferences for different layouts and interior features have left their mark on our parish churches. So have political decisions such as the English Reformation, begun by King Henry VIII. Every church is unique and many are repositories of the work of outstanding craftsmen, often unknown. The history of the churches as buildings is not explored very often and we hope that this conference and the programme of related events we hope to organise will encourage further interest in and appreciation of these buildings.

Kings Church, Lewes  
Tickets: £45 (students £25)  
You can book online at <https://sussexpast.co.uk/event/churches> or download the full programme and booking form.



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## Lecture Meetings

### 1st February

'The Temperate house at Kew' by Sue Rhodes to Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society in St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

'Life and Labour in a Country Village' by Jane Lewis to the West Surrey Family History Society in Friends (Quakers) Meeting House, 3 Ward Street, Guildford at 20:00.

### 2nd February

'A Short History of Bridges' by Douglas Irvine to the Surrey Industrial History Group in the Education Centre, the Cathedral, Guildford at 19:30. Visitors welcome £5

### 4th February

'Egypt, Land of the Pharaohs' by Phil Groves to Carshalton and District History and Archaeology Society in Milton Hall, Cooper Crescent, Carshalton at 15:00. Visitors welcome: £2

### 6th February

'A very large collection of very small things: The microscope slides of J T Quekett' by Hannah Cornish, Royal College of Surgeons to Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society in the East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £2

'History of Woking Crematorium' by Julie Stearn to Woking History Society in The Gallery, Christ Church, Jubilee Square, Woking at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

### 7th February

'At Your Leisure: a brief history of leisure time in Runnymede' by Emma Warren to Addlestone Historical Society in Addlestone Community Centre, Garfield Road at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

### 9th February

'Recent excavations on the Romano-British settlement at Flexford' by David Calow to Farnham & District Museum Society at United Reformed Church, South Street, Farnham at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £3

'10,000 Years of Brentford' by John Cotton to Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society in Main Hall at Surbiton Library Halls, Ewell Road, Surbiton at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

'WWI Stretcher Bearers' by Emily Mayhew to the West Surrey Family History Society in Woking Methodist Church Hall, Woking at 19:50

### 11th February

'Thames Road bridges' by Richard Fitch to Merton Historical Society in Christ Church Hall, Colliers Wood at 14:30. Visitors welcome: £2

### 13th February

'Pubs and breweries in Richmond' by Richard Holmes to Richmond Local History Society in Duke Street Church, Duke Street, Richmond at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

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### **14th February**

'Matthew Boulton FRS - Industrialist Extraordinary' by Trevor Williams, Farnham U3A to the Surrey Industrial History Group in the Education Centre, the Cathedral, Guildford at 19:30. Visitors welcome: £5

### **17th February**

'The Birth, Life and Death of the River Mole' by Richard Selley to Leatherhead & District Local History Society in the main hall of the Leatherhead Institute (top end of High Street) at 19:30 for 20:00. Visitors welcome: £2

### **18th February**

'London's Sailortown in the early 19C' by Derek Morris to the West Surrey Family History Society in Camberley Adult Education Centre, France Hill Drive, Camberley at 14:00.

### **20th February**

'Wildlife in a Surrey garden' by Jeremy Early to Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society in the East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £2

### **23rd February**

'Bridging the gap' by Walter Noronha to Farnham & District Museum Society at United Reformed Church, South Street, Farnham at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £3

### **27th February**

'Growing up in radical Croydon: Grace Oakeshott, her associates and their aspirations in the late nineteenth century' by Jocelyn Robson to Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society in the East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £2

### **28th February**

'Elstree: Britain's Hollywood' by Bob Redman, Elstree Screen Heritage, to the Surrey Industrial History Group in the Education Centre, the Cathedral, Guildford at 19:30. Visitors welcome: £5

'Writing your family history' by Gill Blanchard to the West Surrey Family History Society in St Andrew's United Reform Church, Walton at 19:45.

### **1st March**

'In the land of Gods and Monsters: Shrines and sacrifice in Celtic Gaul and Britain' by Jon Cotton to Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society in St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

'The Wool Trade in Guildford and West Surrey' by Mary Alexander to the West Surrey Family History Society in Friends (Quakers) Meeting House, 3 Ward Street, Guildford at 20:00.

### **6th March**

'Medieval Dorking' by Susannah Horne to Dorking Local History Group in the Crossways Community Baptist Church, Dorking at 19:30. Visitors welcome: £2

'"Carriages without horses shall go": The early days of motoring' by Anthony Saunders to Woking History Society in The Gallery, Christ Church, Jubilee Square, Woking at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

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### **7th March**

'Girl Power - Women at War from the Amazons to the 21st Century' by Rupert Matthews to Addlestone Historical Society in Addlestone Community Centre, Garfield Road at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

### **8th March**

'Glories in Gold and Glass – St Paul's Cathedral Mosaics' by Dr Heike Zech to Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society in the East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £2

### **9th March**

'Return of the Red Kite' by Keith Betton to Farnham & District Museum Society at United Reformed Church, South Street, Farnham at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £3

'Woodland Crafts and Industries' by Tim Winter to the West Surrey Family History Society in Woking Methodist Church Hall, Woking at 19:50

### **11th March**

'Artists, Antiquaries and Collectors: Illustrations of Surrey collected by Robert Barclay of Bury Hill Dorking c.1800' by Julian Pooley to Merton Historical Society in Christ Church Hall, Colliers Wood at 14:30. Visitors welcome: £2

### **13th March**

'Richmond and the Right: the National Citizens Union, British Fascists and other fringe groups in the interwar period' by Steven Woodbridge to Richmond Local History Society in Duke Street Church, Duke Street, Richmond at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

### **14th March**

'Eric Lomax - The Railwayman of War and Peace' by Dr Michael Bailey, Stephenson Locomotive Society, to the Surrey Industrial History Group in the Education Centre, the Cathedral, Guildford at 19:30. Visitors welcome £5

'Historical Directories & Gazeteers' by Gill Blanchard to the West Surrey Family History Society in United Reformed Church, South Street, Farnham at 14:00.

'Fergusson's Gang' by Sally Beck to Shere Museum and Local History Society in Shere Village Hall, Gomshall Lane, Shere at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

### **15th March**

'Tracing your Irish Ancestors' by Jane Lewis to the West Surrey Family History Society in Camberley Adult Education Centre, France Hill Drive, Camberley at 19:45.

### **20th March**

'On Your Knees' by Paul Sowan to Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society in the East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £2

### **21st March**

'The Restoration of the Temperate house at Kew' by Sue Rhodes to Sunbury and Shepperton Local History Society in Halliford School, Shepperton at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £2

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### 23rd March

'History Builds a Town - Old Farnham Architecture' by Michael Blower to Farnham & District Museum Society at United Reformed Church, South Street, Farnham at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £3

### 27th March

'The Defensive Installations of Tandridge District' by Bob Evans to Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society in the East Croydon United Reformed Church, Addiscombe Grove, Croydon at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £2

### 28th March

'Researching the history of houses' by Philip Gorton to the West Surrey Family History Society in St Andrew's United Reform Church, Walton at 19:45.

[Please note that lecture details may have changed from when first advertised]

## DATES FOR *BULLETIN* CONTRIBUTIONS

There will be five more issues of the *Bulletin* in 2017. To assist contributors relevant dates are as follows:

	<b>Copy date:</b>	<b>Approx. delivery:</b>
461	24th February	28th March
462	28th April	30th May
463	30th June	1st August
464	15th September	17th October
465	10th November	12th December

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**Next issue:** Copy required by 24th February for the April issue

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