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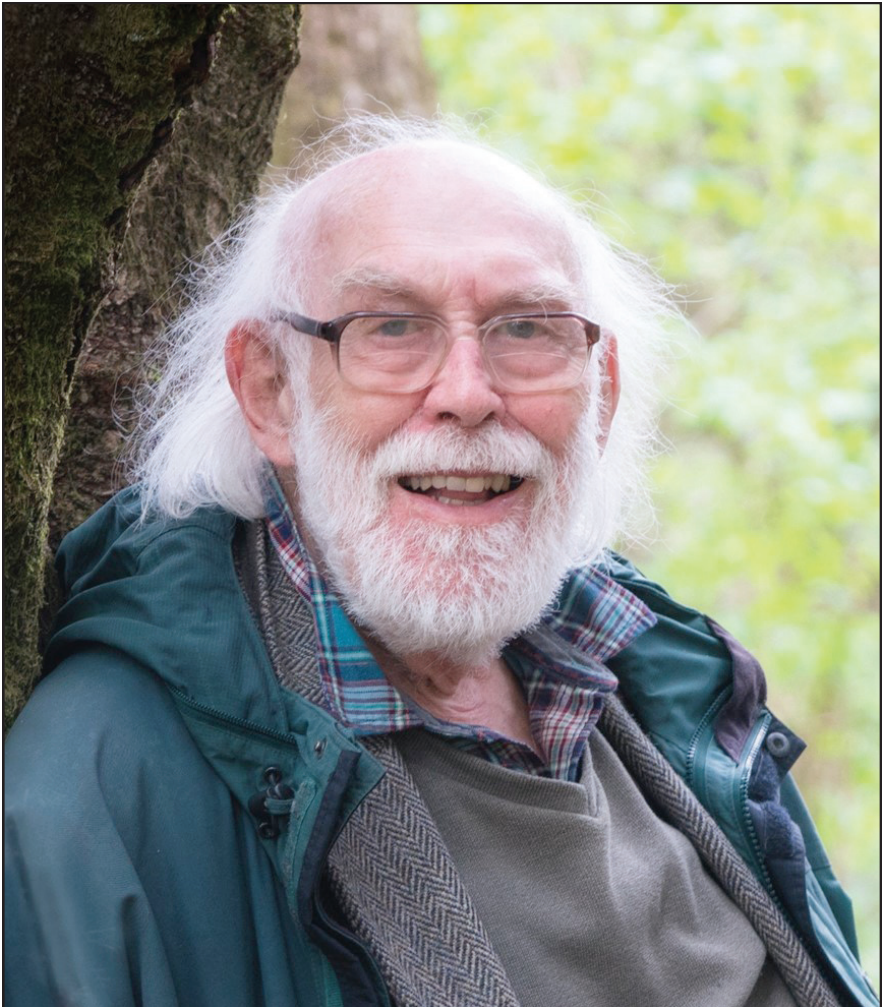
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Bulletin 469

August 2018



ALAN GODFREY CROCKER 1935-2018 (see p27)

A Late Saxon and Early Medieval Cemetery in Godalming – Part 2 Burial rites and features

Rob Poulton



Priory Orchard, Godalming – view, looking east, of the development and the cemetery site in relation to the local area

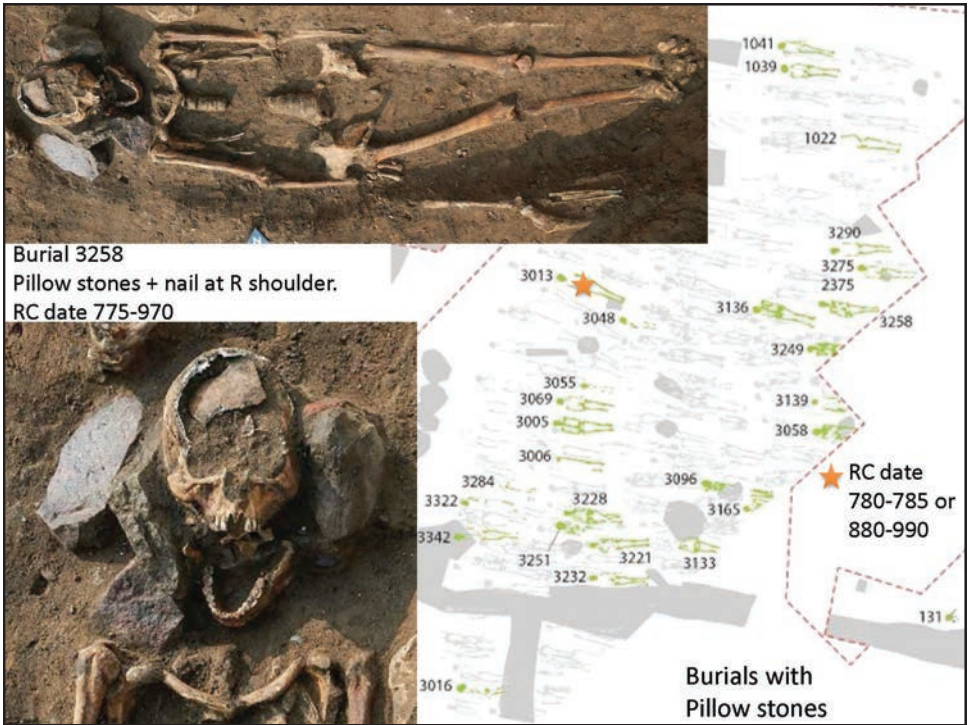
Part 1 (*Bulletin* 468) described the principal features of the Priory Orchard cemetery, showing that it occupied a large area near St Peter and Paul's church from about 800 to 1250, with at least 1500 people buried in it and perhaps as many as 5000. The inhumations were, taken as a whole, very consistent in appearance. All were aligned east to west, with the head in the west. All were supine with the legs extended and the arms either by their side or with one or both crossed low over the pelvis. There was almost no evidence for the original presence of clothing or of coffins, and burial naked or, more probably, in a plain shroud, must have been the norm. Possible exceptions are indicated by a buckle and a part buckle from two graves, although even in these cases a belt may have only been used to secure the shroud. There can be no doubt that this was a wholly Christian burial ground, originally linked to the nearby church.

In a wider view the cemetery is important because of its relatively confined date range, for which there are few parallels in non-monastic cemeteries, especially in the south-east, and perhaps particularly because of the number and range of burials with distinctive burial rituals. Full consideration of the ritual and apotropaic implications of the forms of burial will need more detailed work but some of the more interesting elements may be briefly described.

Thirty-one burials had evidence for the use of pillow stones, that is pieces of stone, all local ironstone or sandstone, used to prop up the head, a feature that is widely paralleled elsewhere in Late Saxon and Saxo-Norman burials. Several of these examples have been radiocarbon dated to the pre-conquest period and the use of pillow stones may be rarer

at a later date. However, a functionally similar feature in more elaborate stone coffins is often evident in what are presumed to be high status burials in High medieval cemeteries (e.g. locally, Poulton 1988, 40-48), and it may have always been an attribute of status.

Distinctive, and generally single, nails were found with twelve burials, several of which also have pillow stones. A single nail cannot relate to the provision of a coffin, and it seems likely that they have a ritual significance. It is possible that this relates to a desire to ensure that the dead rest in peace (John Blair pers comm). This feature has been very rarely found elsewhere, while another feature, ash halos around the skull, is even more unusual. Examples of this were found with eight or more burials. The significance is uncertain but perhaps the ash may originally have formed a mound that propped the skull at a higher level, with the same objective as the pillow stones. Radiocarbon dates relating to both nails and ash halos are Late Saxon in date and it seems, as with pillow stones, that these forms of burial are early and that in later centuries there was a stricter adherence to the Christian norms.



Burial 3258
Pillow stones + nail at R shoulder.
RC date 775-970

Burial 3258 with pillow stones and nail at right shoulder and plan showing location of all pillow stone burials

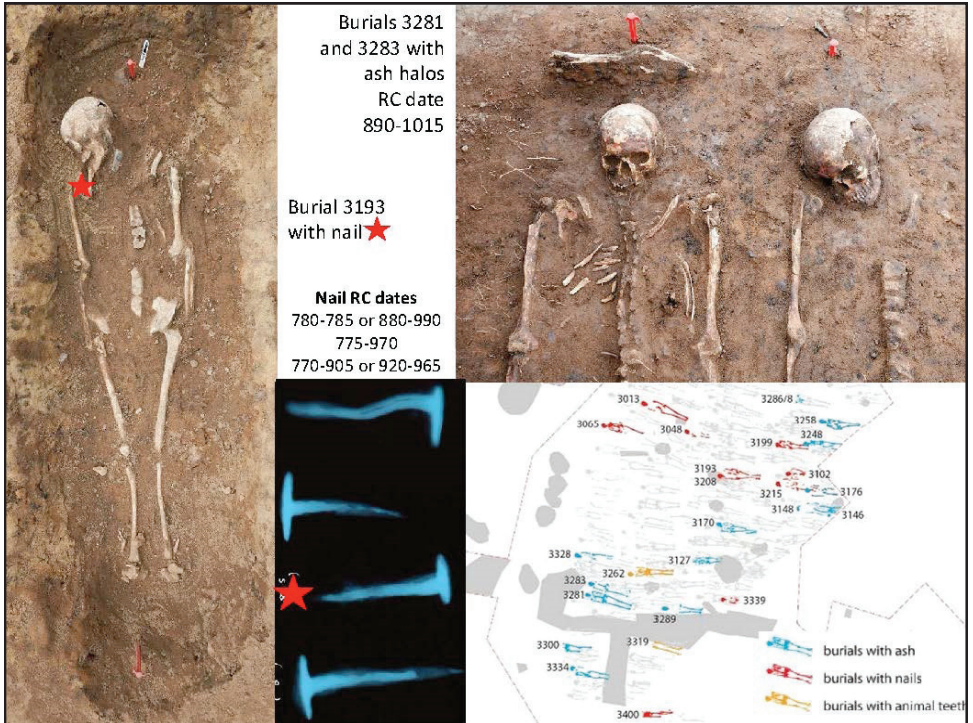
Grave goods are extremely rare and it is interesting that three of the most definite, a glass linen smoother (*Bulletin* 454 describes it in detail) and two spindlewhorls, have an association with cloth, a notable element in Godalming's later prosperity. Both types of object have Late Saxon burial associations elsewhere.

Finally, the treatment of charnel is of some interest as its commonly careful disposition within graves that had disturbed earlier ones indicates continuing respect for the dead.

A subsequent *Bulletin* will set the cemetery in a wider context (Part 3).

Reference

Poulton, R, 1988 *Archaeological investigations on the site of Chertsey Abbey, SyAS Res Vol, 11*



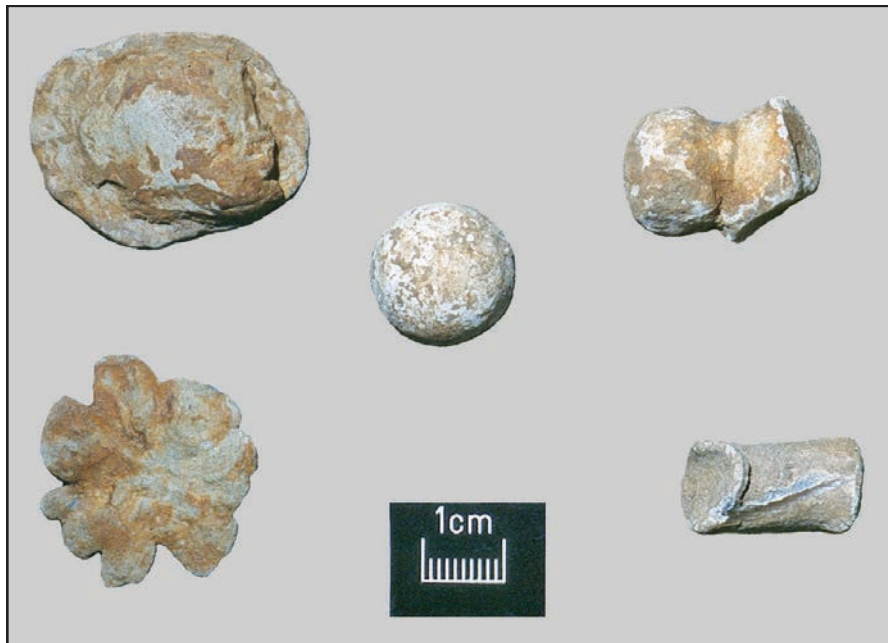
More Civil War finds from Farnham Park

David Graham

Readers with exceptional memories might recall that, in 2003, survey work in Farnham Park found for evidence of the fighting that took place in the Park on and after 18 November 1643 when 8,000 Royalist troops attacked the Parliamentary army base at Farnham Castle. This led to several days of perhaps, not so much a battle, as a series of extended skirmishes, albeit with thousands of men involved on either side. After a few days during which the opposing sides had tested each other amongst the hedges and small valleys of the New and Old Parks, the action culminated in a larger encounter, when the Parliamentary commander, Sir William Waller, unleashed his City of London Brigade which drove off the Royalists with cannon and musket fire and pike charges. There were a number of casualties on both sides and descriptions of the events survive in accounts by both Commanders and in the diary of Lt Elias Archer who actually took part in the fighting (for a full history see *Farnham in the Civil War and Commonwealth* by Laurence Spring and Derek Hall).

The 2003 survey, carried out by volunteer metal detectorists, showed that while musket balls were recovered from most parts of the Park, there was a definite concentration in the

middle where two parallel lines of shot were found approximately 55m apart – this presumably representing the positions of opposing lines of troops firing at each other. The finds not only included musket and pistol balls but also numbers of lead cannister shot (known to sailors as grapeshot). These, at least so far from the Park, come in two forms, the first being a sort of dumbbell shape and the second a section of lead cylinder weighing around 31g. Such shot was fired from a cannon spraying out as an anti-personnel weapon. As most of the cannister was found along the northern line the implication is that the cannon was fired from the southern line i.e. from the Parliamentary side (the Royalists came down from the Hale ridge to the north).



Pistol and musket balls (left and centre) and two types of cannister shot (right)

The reason for this note is that recent survey work has just taken place in the same central area of the Park, this time in advance of new ditching work. Amongst other finds this has produced an additional piece of cannister shot again from the northern line. While some of the lead shot from the Park may well be of any date and result from hunting, there is now little doubt that at least sections of the Park still retain evidence from the dramatic days on and after 18 November 1643. While only a few hundred items of shot have been recovered to date, there must be many thousands still to be found as most of the Park remains unsurveyed. What is significant however is not so much the quantity of shot in the ground, but the fact that, by and large, this still appears to lie in the position where it fell in 1643, and that there is therefore a good chance of linking the documentary evidence with the physical remains in the ground and ultimately reconstructing the events of those few days.

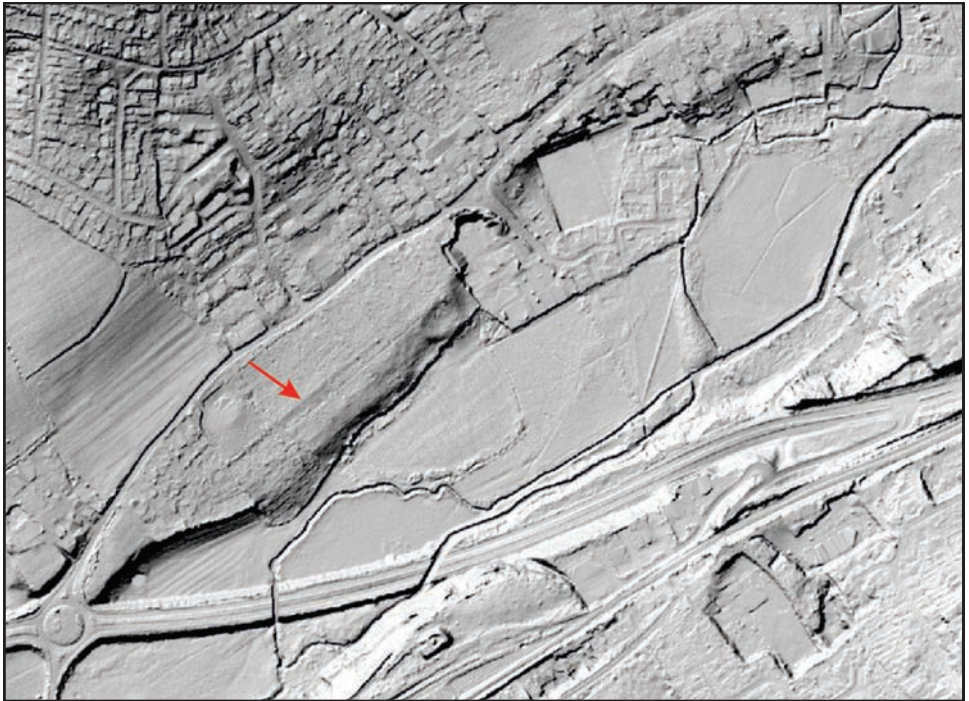
From a rather different period comes a very worn bronze coin which has lost all the detail on both sides. However, it has a very 'Roman' look and having a diameter of 21mm and weighing 4.1grams is likely to be what is known numismatically as an AE 2 or 3, dating from the late 3rd or 4th centuries. This needs to be confirmed but, if so, would be the first Roman coin known to have come from the Park. This is likely to be a casual loss as there are a number of Roman sites close by – the most obvious being the buildings at Roman Way.

Looking for a Roman road from London to Winchester

David Graham

Readers looking at a road map of Roman Britain will note that there is an apparent gap between the two cities. To date the evidence we have is firstly that a road is recorded as leaving Winchester and heading east towards Alton, close to the Hants/Surrey border. Next a substantial 8m-wide east-west gravelled road has been found crossing the N-S Chichester-Silchester road at the centre of the Roman small town at Neatham, just to the east of Alton and, more recently, David Calow found a similarly aligned ca. 10m wide road near the centre of his Roman site at Flexford. If, and that's a big if, all these sections join up to make one route then it should enter Surrey somewhere around Farnham, reach Flexford and then head off in the direction of London. That route would, very satisfactorily, fill a gap in the road map of Roman Britain – the only problem is that, despite much searching by various people, no-one has yet found any definite evidence of a road between Neatham and Flexford and beyond.

However, recently David Staveley pointed out a long section of east-west linear bank running through the West Street cemetery in Farnham and showing clearly on a LiDAR image (see illustration). With kind permission from Farnham Town Council, which manages the cemetery, a team from the Society have just managed to fit a 10m long slot trench across the bank in one of the last narrow strips that are still clear of burials. An earlier resistivity survey across the same point, clearly showed the presence of a ca. 9m-wide band of high resistance (metalling) on top of the bank and what appeared to be a ditch to the north. The bank is visible as it passes through and apparently beyond the cemetery.



Red arrow shows line of bank, through the cemetery. West Street forms the northern boundary and, to the left leads towards the town centre. To the right it joins the west end of the by-pass at the Coxbridge roundabout (Source: <http://environment.data.gov.uk/ds/survey/#/survey>). Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

The slightly less good news is that, on opening the trench, the upper layer of gravel metalling contained fragments of brick, nails and pot sherds indicating a date somewhere in the mid/late 19th century. This is odd since neither the 1843 tithe map nor the later OS maps show any sign of a road in this position. However, this gravel layer was relatively thin (ca. 10cm) and appeared to overlie a lower layer of metalling consisting of larger flints set in a different coloured soil fill, the surface of which produced a clay pipe stem with an eccentric stem hole – perhaps dating to the 17th century. This does not necessarily date the lower metalling as it could merely have been dropped on a surface that was exposed at the time.

At this point in proceedings the Town Clerk arrived to see how we were getting on and mentioned that the Council intended to lay a new pipe across the line of the bank in the area of the garden workshops where there were no graves and went on to say that we were welcome to excavate there later in the year. Since it was very hot and the ground was bone dry and very hard, we decided to call it a day and hope that conditions would be better later in the year.

It is unsurprising that we found no conclusive evidence for the date of the lower metalling but, in these cases and outside settlements, it takes luck to find anything datable. A 1m-wide trench across a potentially 90km long road is, after all, a very small sample to look at. On the other hand, the alignment of the bank is just about perfect for an east-west Roman road. Extended eastwards it would virtually follow the line of the Borough, through the centre of Farnham.

This section of the line avoids any need for river crossings as it passes to the north of the north branch of the river Wey and then, with a slight change of alignment, would join up with the road section at Flexford. To the west the line would run under the modern A31, which might explain why this section has been so difficult to find.

There is therefore a chance that the autumn will see the road finally pinned down after years of frustrated searching.



The team cleaning the surface of the upper layer

Guildown reconsidered 6: the latest Saxon burials and the later history of the site

David Bird

This is the last in a series of notes (*Bulletins* 464-9) that reconsider the excavation of the Guildown cemeteries and their interpretation. Readers may need to refer to the previous notes for explanation of some details and for the plans. Since I wrote the first version of this note David Calow has drawn to my attention the article in the latest *Current Archaeology* about a recently discovered execution cemetery at Weyhill Road, Andover (Clutterbuck 2018). It has very clear parallels to the Guildown site and the conclusions drawn from this modern excavation provide welcome support for the arguments in the previous notes in this series. Also, very recently Dr Ceri Falys has received the results of isotope analysis on some of the Guildown skeletons found in 2006 and has shared the intriguing results in the previous *Bulletin* (Falys 2018). Where appropriate a few amendments have therefore been made to the following note.

Until recently the only well-dated execution burials at Guildown were 173-5, associated with a coin of Edward the Confessor dated 1042-5 (Lowther 1931, 31). These three were at the northern end of a marked line of six triple burials, all aligned in the same way and surely likely to be of a similar, if not the same, date. They make up a good proportion of the unusually high number of multiple burials recorded in the execution cemetery: ‘a remarkable feature of the Guildown burials is the high frequency of multiple, particularly triple, burials ...’ (Reynolds 2009, 141; it may be noted that this statement is not changed by the evidence from the Weyhill Road site).

These 18 burials are in marked contrast to all the others at Guildown and the regular layout must surely be significant. It suggests both an unusual degree of control compared to the rest of the burials and that they must be closely related in time – but of course too late for the so-called ‘Massacre’ because of the associated coin of Edward the Confessor. On the other hand, it seems likely that the coin should date the burials to a time that would not have continued very long after the beginning of the Norman period.

Perhaps not surprisingly, it is rare to find coins associated with execution burials. The writer had previously noted two other examples where coins of Edward the Confessor were found, Meon Hill and Stockbridge Down in Hampshire. Reynolds (2009, 153 and 178) makes clear that these are the *only* coins known from Saxon execution cemeteries, a fact which must surely be significant. The failure on the part of the executioners to find silver coins possibly implies that those involved were unaware of local customs for concealing such things in clothing. In view of the dating, could we be looking at something relevant to the activities of William the Conqueror, soon after his invasion? (This suggestion may be challenged by the discovery of a late 10th century coin (of Æthelred II) in the Weyhill Road cemetery (Clutterbuck 2018, 26-7) but presumably such a coin might still have been in use at the later date).

We can be reasonably sure that in 1066 a strong division of William’s forces passed along the line of the A25, in a fashion that meant the damage caused was still having an effect 20 years later (see e.g. Darby 1962, 569-575). He had been extremely lucky to win at the battle of Hastings and had then been rebuffed from London. He must have been very worried about his long-term future and determined to show who was boss. The ‘judicial’ murder of some prominent Saxons is to be expected and it must be possible that these are the people represented by the famous triples at Guildown. It is, however, more difficult to argue such a case for the other sites mentioned, although their being in the general area around Winchester may be significant.

As explained in the previous note in this series, it is extremely unlikely that there was a

'Guildown Massacre' as such but there was perhaps a 'Guildford incident'. If there is any truth in the stories that link Guildford to the fate of Alfred the Ætheling then this might be an extra reason for William choosing the execution cemetery at Guildown for some exemplary nastiness. 'There is no sign that the king ever forgave him [Godwin] for his share in the death of Alfred the Ætheling. The villainous part which he always plays in Norman tradition proves that the Normans at court regarded him as the betrayer of a prince who by the half blood was one of their race' (Stenton 1943, 553-4).

Lowther seems to have considered that these were the latest execution victims buried on the site but there is some reason to think that this was not the case. In the first place there may also have been other, Norman-period, executions following those represented by the line of triples, such as burials 15, 16 and 43, as suggested in the previous note (see also now Clutterbuck 2018, 28). There may also have been others much later:

'The hill, or the going up to it from Guildford rather, is call'd St Katharine's Hill, and at the top of the ascent from the town stands the gallows, which is so placed, respecting the town, that the townspeople from the High-Street may sit at their shop doors, and see the criminals executed'. Daniel Defoe, *A tour through the whole island of Great Britain* (Cole and D C Browning, 1962, vol 1, 146. The context makes clear that Guildown is meant).

This is a well-known quotation and it was apparently much copied (Hooper 1944-5, quoting 'Antiquarius' in *The Gentleman's Magazine* for 1774) but there seems to be no reason to doubt its essential truth. The location of the gallows may be indicated by the field names Upper Gallows Field, Lower Gallows Field and Gallows Piece (I am grateful to Mary Alexander for confirming the location of these fields for me: information from the St Nicholas Tithes Award map of 1841). The first two lay to the north of the old track, between it and the modern road west from the town centre. The lower (eastern) field seems mostly to have vanished under modern housing, with no reported finds (and failure to report the discovery of human remains is of course against the law). Gallows Piece lay to the south of the track and a large part of it is now the recent cemetery. Perhaps this is the explanation for Whimster's curious reference to skeletons 'unearthed, including those up in the old Guildford Cemetery' (see *Bulletin* 466, although, as noted, there seems to be no record of any such finds).

It is interesting therefore that there is some 17th century 'background noise' from the excavation site. In his report Lowther mentions pottery of that date and a farthing of Charles I (1931, 4). The recent work by TVAS also recovered a small amount of post-medieval material including 17th/18th century pottery (information in draft report kindly shared by Dr Steve Ford and Dr Ceri Falys). Items held in Guildford Museum include AS 7491, a '16th century double loop buckle found unstratified in garden of "Chalk Hill"' [i.e. the Guildown cemetery site]. Although accessioned in 1973, and presumably therefore coming from Lowther's house as with other objects discussed in a previous note (*Bulletin* 466, 7), this is the only object specified as from 'Chalk Hill' and not described like the others as 'found with label pieces of pottery', which ought to indicate that it was labelled separately and can therefore be accepted as from the site.

Recent research has demonstrated that here are certainly examples of items found by Lowther at the Ashted Common villa and not included in the relevant site report, perhaps because they required further research. From Guildown one such item was apparently a 17th century jetton. The letter from Whimster quoted in the previous note includes the following: 'I received the Edward the Confessor halfpenny and also the Nuremberg counter. Do you know that the latter is a most interesting find?' He goes on to describe the find in detail, indicating a date between 1618 and 1660. As everything else on the page is

about Guildown it is difficult to understand this as anything other than a find from the site and it is surely not the coin described in the site report as a Charles I farthing (Lowther 1931, 4). As Whimster's letter is dated October 1931, the information would have reached Lowther too late for inclusion in his report and this may explain why it was never published.

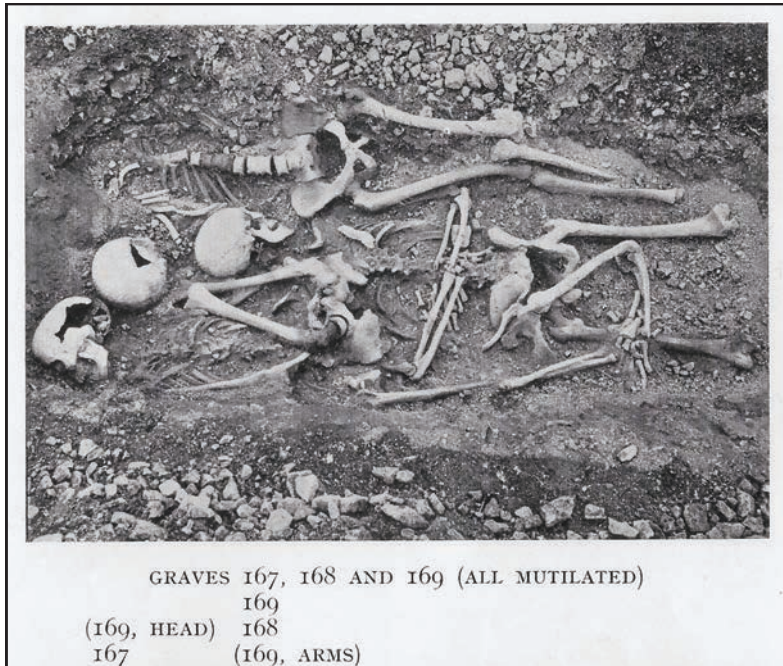


Fig 1: photograph of burials 167-9 from Lowther 1931, pl 23

The most famous burials from Guildown are numbers 167-9 and they are markedly different from all the others in the way they were treated. Could it be possible that these, and perhaps some of the other more unpleasantly treated bodies, are to be dated close to Defoe's day rather than the late Saxon period? They would only be 200 or 300 feet away from Gallows Piece. On the other hand there does not seem to be any contemporary record of what presumably would have been a noteworthy triple execution with grisly aftermath.

It might be worth pursuing this idea further but it should be acknowledged that the most recent finds do provide one burial somewhat reminiscent of 167-9, namely the burial SK65. In this case articulated body parts were also placed separately in the grave, although in an even stranger way (Falys 2017, 3-4). SK65 is not dated but the adjacent SK64 is, within the period AD 888-1015. Although photographs suggest that a case could be made for the two burials having been in separate graves, they do appear to have been placed in a way that suggests a common awareness of proximity and alignment, which must suggest a similar date. It is perhaps just possible that an original grave was cleared out and reused for SK65 in a much later period, but this must seem very unlikely.

Matters are now further complicated by the evidence suggesting a Cornish origin for SK64 and by implication SK65 (Falys 2018; cf Clutterbuck 2018, 28 for 'incomers'). This may however offer a different explanation for the strange burial and leave 167-9 to stand as markedly different from most others in the execution cemetery. Nevertheless, it is clear that further research is needed into the use of the site after the Saxo-Norman period.

The examination of the evidence in this series of *Bulletin* notes shows that it is possible to build securely on the Guildown reports but that this must be done with appropriate caution. There is a strong case for careful reassessment of all available information allied to modern expert study of the finds including appropriate scientific analyses, together with new research into the history of the site. The results from the TVAS excavations make the potential very clear. Further fieldwork should be aimed at greater understanding of the immediate area, for example geophysical survey especially on the other side of track. More work concentrated on the later Roman and early Saxon period in the wider area in the light of the recent discoveries at Flexford and Artington would also be very worthwhile. It is hoped to build a Society project along these lines with the aid of Professor John Hines and other specialists.

Lowther's achievement in producing a report on Guildown, especially when coupled with the completion of the publication of his work at Ashtead, is remarkable. These two sites can still be recognised as of national importance and whatever their faults the reports are essential records. It may not be too fanciful to imagine a sense of relief in the Society's annual report for the year ending 31 December 1931 when it notes the completion of these two projects (SAC 40, xx).

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(Page references are not given for the burial list (Lowther 1931, 34-46) as it is easy to look up the individual numbers cited).

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Pottery Recording in Surrey: A County Type Series?

Kayt Hawkins

A Finds Officer at a commercial archaeology unit based outside Surrey recently asked if there was a pottery fabric series for the County. After pointing them towards various publications by the late Phil Jones, I started reflecting on the implications of this question. We do have a collection of reports (Jones 1998, Jones 2010, Jones 2012) which purport to outline a pottery fabric series, although their success in achieving this is questionable. The reports do not seem to be widely promoted as the basis for a type series and focus on fabrics with little reference to form typology. They do, however, represent the accumulation of many years of experience and knowledge, resulting from the combination of a county unit, their pottery specialist and an active and engaged local society.

The value of an up-to-date, consistent and easily accessible pottery type series has long been recognised as a valuable archaeological asset, as evidenced in the findings of numerous recent reports and surveys. Blinkhorn and Cumberpatch have previously stated (2012, 3) that fabric series are the bedrock for pottery analysis, however their survey

found that the use of county type-series in pottery reports showed a marked decline from 80% to 40% of reports (2006-2011), which they equated to falling standards. The concern over standards has led to a number of recent initiatives, for example the Historic England-led strategic review of archaeological resources and ceramic type series (the findings of which are imminent). As an extension to this project HE have made available funding to Worcestershire to enable their online ceramic type series database to form the basis of a standard for such work, applicable for use across all periods across the country. Similarly HE are funding the development of an online pottery type series spanning the Anglo-Saxon, Medieval and later periods in Suffolk and Norfolk.

Why is a standard necessary? Although ceramic type series may be seen as the foundation of pottery reporting, their ad hoc development has led to considerable variation between counties: Worcestershire is often held up as an exemplar with county wide coverage easily accessible online, whereas other counties have a very specific localised version centred on a city or specific region which is expected to accommodate the rest of the county. Then there are the national period specialist interest groups which until recently each had their own guidelines in an effort to standardise. Recognition of the problems facing ceramic studies has led to a collaboration between these specialist groups resulting in the publication of 'A Standard for Pottery Recording', which incidentally also provides a definition of a specialist (Barclay et al 2016). Published in 2016 this is an invaluable document, co-authored by members of the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group (PCRG), The Study Group for Roman Pottery (SGRP) and the Medieval Pottery Research Group (MPRG) and is available to download free from the SGRP website. Funded by Historic England, this document now sets the benchmark for pottery reporting. Why is this important? Because without consistency in approach from initial quantification through the entire process to archive, the wider significance of an assemblage can easily become lost if the data cannot be used in conjunction with that recorded for other collections. The recent Roman Rural Landscape project at University of Reading decided not to use any Roman pottery data for precisely this reason; although it looked at national data, even within the county this can be problematic when a combination of different recording systems are used.

The Standard for Pottery Recording contains the following definitions:

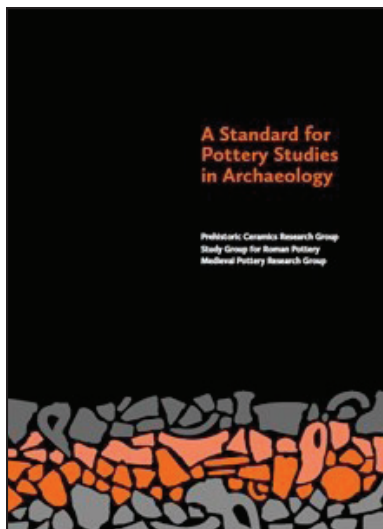
Definition of a Ceramic Type Series (CTS): *a defined typology of ceramic types (usually fabrics) that have been identified as being most common in a local or national setting*'.

Under section 2.4.2.e the guide states that a pottery specialist should

'ensure access to relevant national, regional and site-based fabric and form series, using published literature and/or arranging visits to Pottery Type Series; travel and any access charges should be paid by the project, as agreed in the assessment';

And under section 2.5.4

The pottery specialist should identify and reference *'Accepted typologies and type series used to characterise the pottery'*.



Why is this relevant to Surrey? We have what could be the basis of a comprehensive system provided through the research undertaken (primarily) by Phil Jones. This could be the foundation of a valuable resource, however the series proposed are not without

issues; each period utilizes a different coding system, they are specific to a region or town (for example NW Surrey for the prehistoric, Staines for the Roman) and published in various formats (standalone monographs, Surrey Archaeological Collections), where it is not always clear that Phil's intention was to initiate a County series. The medieval fabric type series has been most widely published and a physical sherd collection exists; the recent publication, by members of the Surrey Archaeology Medieval Pottery Studies Group (now in 2nd edition) is a great example of how this work could be promoted and made widely accessible. It is the afore mentioned inconsistencies in approach that have seemingly hampered the more widespread adoption by those undertaking commercial and research work in Surrey. The provision of a more consistent approach across all periods would go a long way in helping colleagues in the Heritage Conservation Team insist that all work in the county where pottery is recovered either use or at least provide a concordance with a standard set of fabric codes.

So what is the answer? A set of standard terms for recording pottery, with easily accessible physical sherd reference collections would go a long way in facilitating research into Surrey material. The Saxon and Medieval booklet provides an excellent entry into these fabrics and its links with the London codes illustrates how this approach could be applied to other periods. There are recognised national fabric codes for the Roman period (Tomber & Dore 1998) that are already being used in the county and provide easy comparison not just between county sites but across the wider region. In addition to traditional printed formats there are online options that could be explored. Once the Worcestershire project publishes its findings it would be fantastic to see those working and researching in Surrey combine expertise and knowledge and all the current disparate yet equally worthy initiatives into what could be an immensely valuable resource for the whole county.

With this in mind, it is proposed to hold a day conference on 3rd October 2018 with a view to establishing a way forward; to prioritise tasks, consider funding avenues and explore different formats for developing and publishing a comprehensive pottery type series for Surrey. Speakers so far confirmed will provide a range of national and local perspectives during the morning, with the afternoon given over to practical sessions and constructive discussion. If you are interested in more details or would like to propose a paper then please contact Kayt Hawkins at kayt.hawkins@surreycc.gov.uk.

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A complete Valencian blue and white tile was discovered recently under a floor in a 16th century cottage. The cottage, in West Horsley, was undergoing renovation of a downstairs room and the 19th century brick floor was removed by the builder. Underneath the brick floor was a layer of earth and under this the natural clay soil. The tile was resting on the clay and no other building material was present.

The tile has been identified as having a segmented rose design with Fleur-de-Lys in each corner of the square. Valencian tiles are rare in the UK and most examples have been found in Surrey. This pattern is identical to tiles found at Woking Palace, Newark Priory and Guildford Castle. The tile has been photographed and recorded by the Surrey County Archaeological Unit and returned to the owner.



Valencian tile from West Horsley

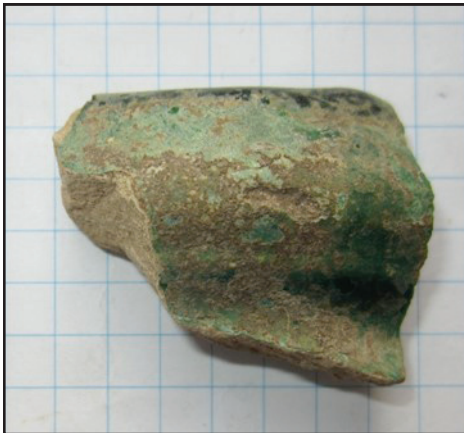
As part of its work in cataloguing post Roman pottery from past excavations in Surrey the MPSG of SyAS reviewed the large quantity of material from Guildford Museum's excavation in 1982 at Westbury House, Bury Street, Guildford by Julia Arthur (WBH82). The site recorded a limekiln of probable 12th century date (SyAC **75** 1984, 264). Most of the pottery recovered was unstratified in general layers over the site. The material includes most common medieval ware types but also 13 small sherds of possibly Saxon type, significant for this area of Guildford. Also, however, a particularly surprising find, from context 121, is one small sherd from the rim of a medieval green glazed albarello/jar in Maghrebi type ware (MAGR).

Maghrebi ware, is a generic name for these green glazed jars supposedly from North Africa. A distinguishing feature is the slightly iridescent 'glassy' nature due possibly to an alkaline additive in the glaze. The type is particularly rare in England with only a few examples published, particularly from London, where it is dated to the late 13th-early 14th century (Blackmore 1999). A good parallel for this small piece from Westbury House and which shows the general shape, is the lower half of a jar missing only its rim, from Kingston (Eden Walk excavation KP77) and which remains unpublished. These vessels are amongst the earliest 'exotic' imports into this country in medieval times. They are relatively plain vessels and are assumed to have been imported as containers rather than display vessels. However, as they are so rare there is no evidence of regular trade (Vince 1985, 54). Although only a very small, single sherd it is of importance for Guildford and for Surrey in general where there are very few imported ceramics recognised.

We are grateful to Catriona Wilson and Andrew Longworth of Guildford Museum for permission to review the material and publish this particular sherd.

Blackmore, L 1999. Aspects of trade and exchange evidenced by recent work on Saxon and medieval pottery from London, *Trans London and Middlesex Archaeol Soc*, **50**, 38-54

Vince, A 1985. The Saxon and Medieval Pottery of London: A Review, *Med Archaeol*, **29**, 25-93

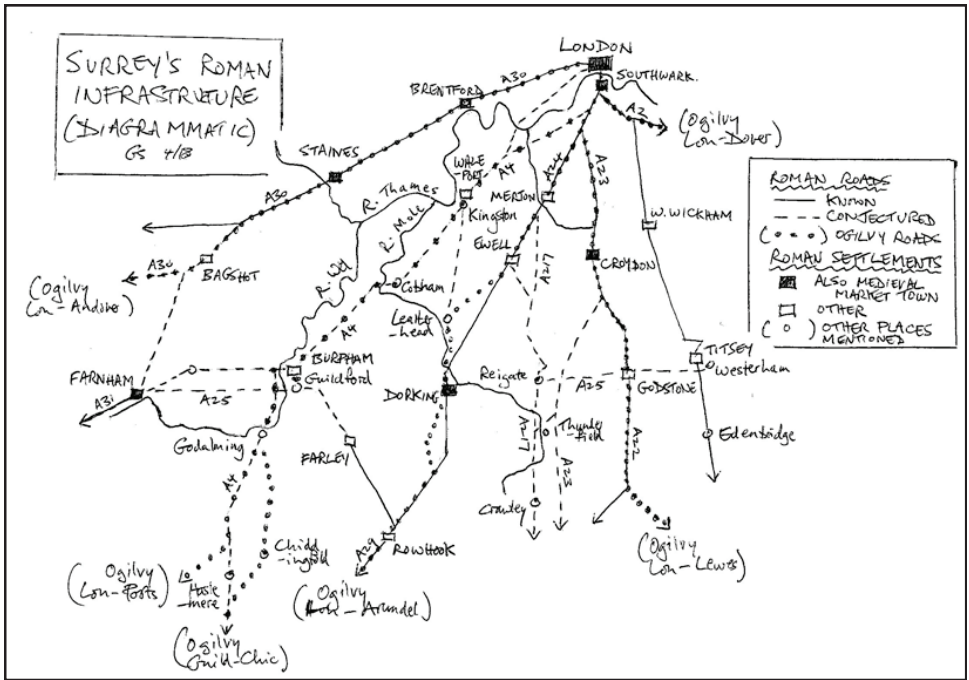


Rim from Westbury House



Jar from Kingston

The traditional narrative regarding England's Roman physical infrastructure is that it was abandoned during the 5th century. Thus Ivan Margary's map of Roman roads in Surrey¹ usually is experienced as a map of defunct infrastructure. Yet, as with the use of pottery and coinage,² the opposite could be argued. In *Bull.* 463³ I suggested that the socio-economic history of the Wealden Mole and Wey valleys might lead one to suspect hitherto unrecognised north-south Roman roads at both Reigate and Guildford. As a geographer and transport planner (retired) I am inclined to argue that the macro-infrastructure – the roads and towns – of Roman Surrey might in the main have survived. Thus the A22 Southwark-Streatham-Croydon-Godstone route (an alignment Roman in origin while still approximately in use) might not be an exception, but instead archetypical. Just possibly it was only the micro-infrastructure of Roman Britain – its buildings, bridges, farms – that was lost (and that probably early, through relocation or lack of maintenance).



Roman sites compared with Surrey's medieval market towns

Further, Martin O'Connell's⁴ implied conclusion – that no Surrey medieval market town is older than mid-Saxon in origin – likewise could be viewed another way. True, monasteries and castles are implicated in marketplace (re)location, thereby controlling and tapping local hundredal wealth; most medieval hundreds can be observed to contain one medieval market town. But what of the former Roman 'roadside settlements', 'stations' and 'small towns', whose number may have been comparable? Often we have little information regarding their function or even their site,⁵ but probably at least seven Surrey towns or major villages have Roman antecedents: Southwark, Staines, Croydon, Dorking, Farnham, Ewell and Bagshot.⁶ Nor is that all. In *Bull.* 463 it was postulated that Reigate (castle, marketplace and town) was a conscious relocation of Cherchefelle Hundred's pre-Roman focus of Cherchefelle/Thunderfield, on the part of the Norman Earls of Surrey. The concept of

localised 'relocation' – a known phenomenon even within the Roman era as in north Essex – merits close examination in each instance. Not inconceivably, Reigate's situation was replicated at Kingston upon Thames, Guildford and Blechingley, with respect to *their* nearby Romano-British sites: that is, *Waleport* ('Britons' *port*; lost to gravel-digging or river erosion),⁷ Burpham (if *hamm*, thus '*burh* enclosure'; lost to gravel-digging),⁸ and Godstone.⁹ 'Pull factors', rendering these earlier sites redundant, perhaps were, respectively: the late Saxon transfer of *Burghal Hideage* fortress status from Eashing to Guildford¹⁰ (Burpham may have been an interim location, given the possible parallel of the *Burghal Hidage* fortress at another place called Burpham near Arundel); the 7th-century founding of a royal Mercian monastery at *Freoricburna* on an island at the mouth of the Hogs Mill river;¹¹ and the building by the de Clares of a castle and marketplace at Blechingley (becoming, like Reigate, a medieval 'new town').¹²

The possible pre-English names of Croydon, Chertsey and Leatherhead are noted.¹³ But some Surrey towns are known to have been *renamed*. Kingston is said by William Camden¹⁴ formerly to have been called *Moreford*; so perhaps 'the king's manor' at *Freoricburna...Moreford* on the Hogs Mill replaced and was specifically contrasted with a former 'Britons' town' at *Waleport*. Staines had been Roman *Pontibus*, 'at the bridges'¹⁵ (the bridges presumably over the Colne and/or Thames), but became *Stana*, 969 AD, i.e. dative 'at the stone' (probably from the London Stone here formerly marking the upstream control of the Port of London).¹⁶ Taking all together, several of Surrey's Roman roadside central-places conceivably survive – some marginally relocated and/or renamed (Said renaming might reflect relocation; or else simply a change of *lingua franca* or of ownership).

Major destinations

After all, Surrey sits within a region characterised into medieval times by ex-Roman cities (themselves founded largely beside Iron Age tribal *oppida*) still carrying their Romano-British functions and also in part their names: London, Rochester, Canterbury, Chichester, Winchester. I will not pursue here the issue of the continuity (or otherwise) of occupation of said cities; their relevance rather is that these cities provided geographically fixed (albeit culturally changeable) route destinations.

Roman road survival

Romans engineered main arteries to interconnect their principal forts and cities. Assume for the moment that the cities, but also a significant proportion of the lesser intermediary 'central-places', survived; then the survival of the roads themselves becomes understandable. In the case of the A2 London to Canterbury, and to a lesser extent Stane Street (intermittently the A24/29) London to Chichester, this purpose is still served. As perhaps too in a third case: the 'lost' or putative Roman London to Winchester road.

I have proffered the editor a rather poor photo of the former A3 (now A307) crossing Giggs Hill Green in Ditton, revealed to stand upon an approximately 2-foot embankment which may or may not be successor to a Roman *agger* – here potentially the (Old English) *dic* of Ditton (*Dictun*, 1005),¹⁷ a term which elsewhere can name Roman roads as at Ackling Dyke whose substantial *agger* crosses Cranborne Chase. In *Bull.* 407, 407, 410 and 413 was discussed whether the A3 might be the '*antiqua fossa, id est Fullingadic*' cited in the 7th century Chertsey charter:¹⁸ where *antiqua* perhaps reveals a consciousness of Roman times, while the usage *fossa* perhaps mirrors the Roman Fosse Way. The elevation of said A3 just further south as it crosses a zone of damp woodland at Weston Green/Littleworth Common is more impressive still. A Roman A3/31 alignment linking central-places perhaps at Kingston, Cobham, Burpham and Farnham across Surrey remains contested; yet for Hampshire a Roman road from Winchester has been traced north-

eastwards as far as the county boundary near Farnham, paralleling the former A31.¹⁹ 'Lost' Flexford may offer an additional intermediary Roman activity focus, equidistant between Burpham and Farnham, since the nearby manor of Wyke (*Wucha*, Domesday Book) in Ash parish derives possibly from Latin *vicus*, 'trading place', perhaps equivalent to the name-type Wickham proposed to mark such places.²⁰

To the A2, A22, A24 and A3/31 might be added the quite likely pre-Roman trackways following the northern and southern flanks of the North Downs, the southern being the intermittent A25 ridgeway. Then there is the truncated Roman London to Silchester road via Staines, the A30. These seven routes still today comprise the county's basic road network. They interlink too many putative Roman roadside central-places.



Giiggs Hill, Ditton embankment

The evidence of early maps

The more empty zones of Margary's map invite speculation. In Sussex, a long suspected Roman Chichester-Arundel road was discovered in 2017 by use of LiDAR as a branch off Stane Street.²¹ But where excavation records or LiDAR investigations are as yet unavailable, a bank of preliminary approaches to researching Roman roads is possible. The most obvious is early maps, showing the existence, alignment and status of roads prior to the turnpike era. As it happens, the whole A3/31 London to Winchester route appears as a red line on the 14th (revised in the 15th) century Gough map held in the Bodleian Library, naming the intermediate places Kingston, Cobham, Guildford, Alton and Arlesford.²² The Gough's red lines are not definitely roads, though from the sequence of intermediary place-names they appear to be so (albeit giving an extremely incomplete network). The map's sole other Surrey places marked are Croydon, Reigate, Dorking and Bagshot – a highly selective list, if anything tending to support the historic road network postulated here.

Most useful are the road maps of John Ogilby,²³ His Majesty's Cosmographer and Geographic Printer, surveyed and published c.1675 to illustrate the country's main road network. A reading of Ogilby reveals that major Roman roads – the A2, A5, A12, A10, etc. – still provided at his date the core of the national network. Within Surrey he maps the A2 ('London to Dover'), A22 ('London to Lewes', via Croydon and Godstone), A24/29 ('London to Arundel and Chichester', via Ewell and Dorking – i.e. mostly Stane Street), and A30 ('London to Andover', via Staines and Bagshot); all of known Roman origin. In addition he gives the A3 ('London to Portsmouth') via Southwark, Kingston, Guildford, Godalming and Hindhead); which by extension might equally be Roman. Stane Street's realignments via Leatherhead, and (at his date) via 'Coldharbour Hill' to Ockley, are already in being in Ogilby. This implicit evidence for Roman road continuity seems to me overlooked. (His only other Surrey route is 'Guildford to Chichester' via Godalming, Chiddingfold and Midhurst – perhaps a variant of the A3/286 cited below).

Occasionally one can find more detail, as in the straight 'rode way from Kingston to London' marked on Nicholas Lane's survey (1634) prior to the laying out of king's new great Richmond Park.²⁴ Straight stretches of road might be Roman – if they are not turnpikes (though some became turnpikes), enclosures era, estate roads or World War II creations. Straight tracks, footpaths, hedge lines and parish boundaries also can be suggestive, implicating perhaps legal continuity. The orientation of medieval 'high streets' seems to take some routes back many centuries: thus Esher, Ripley and Farnham on the A3/31; Oxted, Blechingley, Reigate and Dorking on the A25; and arguably Crawley and Reigate Bell St. on the A217/23.

Place-name evidence

Place-names are suggestive. *stræt* names²⁵ correlate very strongly with the Roman roads already cited: with Stane Street itself (*Stanstrete*, 1279 in Ockley), Streatham on the A23/22, and the A22 beyond Godstone at Stratton and Stansted (*Stanstrete*, 1263). On the A3 are Street Cobham (*Stret Coveham*, 1298), and Stratford (*Stratford*, 13th century) in Ockham. Is this distribution suggestive of a genuine linguistic survival (Roman Latin *strata*); an evaluation perhaps not entirely gainsaid by ostensibly more 'modern' looking usages elsewhere as at *Purleestret* (1548) at Purley again on the A23/22, Pebble Lane (*Pybylstret*, 1358) the half-abandoned stretch of Stane Street beyond Ewell, Woodstreet and Broadstreet by Flexford, Ryestreet, Highstreet and *Jaystrete* (1453) all in Chiddingfold, Wheelerstreet in Witley, Gatestreet in Bramley, Mid Street (*Middelstrate*, 1196) by the A25 in Nutfield, and Worsted (*Woodstreete*, 1522) in Merstham? Is such survival especially evident in the Vale of Holmesdale and around Chiddingfold, relating possibly to the network of ancient tributary roads in those areas? *Stonestret* (1182)²⁶ in Kingswood hints that a putative Reigate-Crawley road extended (as it does today) northwards on the A217 alignment to the A24 somewhere between Merton and Ewell. The sorts of long-distance trade that might use such routes is suggested by names like *Cogmanstrete* (1419, 'dealer in cloth') and *Standolfstrete* (1385; 'leading to a quarry'),²⁷ whereas much droving of stock might have been confined to the parallel sets of south-north tracks familiar in many Wealden parishes.

Other equally undatable memes might be indicative. These include *wic* (if *vicus*, as at West Wickham), and *ford* (as at *Moreford*, Flexford, Guildford and possibly Salfords recorded *Salfordebrugg*' in 1316 on the A23) if perhaps originally 'causeway'. Conceivably, Pyrford, Tilford, Shackleford, etc. mark lesser ancient trackways. Note that Rackham argues that most country lanes might be Bronze Age.²⁸

A hypothecated network pattern

Using this bank of insights, the attached diagram attempts a new map of Surrey's Roman road system, rashly updating Margary, and differing significantly from David Bird's proposals of 1987.²⁹ It uses two principles laid out by Chevallier: that Roman roads tend to fan out in 'crow's feet' pattern from a city gate (but by extension, in a dendritic branching pattern across the wider hinterland); and tend to occur on either side of a major river.³⁰ The result perhaps presents a logical, regularly spaced, branching network pattern consistent with observable Roman practice.

The network appears structured around three principal probably military Roman routes: those linking the emergent metropolis of *Londinium* with, respectively, the Roman entry port at Richborough by Canterbury (the A2), Rome's ally Cogidubnus' headquarters at Fishbourne palace and Chichester (the A24/29), and the main Belgic *oppidum* at Silchester (the A30). Branching off the A2 is Margary's West Wickham-Titsey road. Off the Chichester road are envisaged several branches: the A3/31 to Winchester; the A23/22; and possibly the A217 via Reigate towards Crawley. Off the Silchester road are again envisaged several branches: from Staines leading south via Chertsey-(Dunford)-Woking to the A3 and Burpham (the A320); one from near Bagshot southeast towards Basingstoke (the A30); and possibly another southwards to Farnham (the A325).

Off the A23/22 might branch the A23, past Thunderfield via Salfords. Off the A3, branches might be: from near Kingston to Dorking (the A24); from near Burpham to Stane Street via Farley temple; and one southwards to Chichester via Godalming-(Milford)-(Hinhead)-(Fernhurst)-Midhurst-(East Lavant) (the A3/286). An alternative north bank approach into London for the A3 is shown via Fulham, King's Rd Chelsea and the Strand, attempting to explain *Fullingadic* as 'the road maintained by the (religious?) community at Fulham'.

Finally, British Downland fringe routes are shown paralleling approximately the A232/24/246 and the A25, following a different, east-west pattern.

Doubtless some of these hypothecated links will prove incorrect. The resulting network is relatively dense, but could not unreasonably be made more so, given Surrey's continuing role as hinterland to the metropolis. Compare Margary's own dense network around *Verulamium*, or more recent attempts at local updates as in east Essex.³¹ One might anticipate that all Roman villas, temples and large tile kilns (as at Walton on the Hill, Compton, Chiddingfold, Abinger, Betchworth, Reigate) lay within a kilometre or so of a decent road. Then a layer of native British, less straight trackways has to be added – including, say, the ridgeway between the A23 and A217 via Chipstead ('market *stede*'). Finally, the pattern conceivably justifies the subsequent medieval significance of Southwark, Kingston, Croydon, Reigate, Guildford and Farnham (albeit such a statement is open to the charge of circularity).

Network alterations

Clearly, some parts of our main Roman road network did *not* survive. Here envisage three aspects: deviation; diversion; full abandonment. Where a roadbase has remained continually in use, or has been perennially reconstructed – as perhaps the old A3 – archaeology may have a problem; in these circumstances a Roman road may remain invisible while in full sight. Far easier to excavate or LiDARise are *deviations off-line*; this frequently arises, often at badly maintained bridges, cuttings (observable on the Fosse Way in the Cotswolds), terraceways or steep climbs. Even on a flat, straight alignment pseudo-parallel off-line renewal can occur (as found along the A2 at Old Kent Road); and as Rackham³² notes, blackthorn and bramble will soon render the original line unusable if not cut back every single year for the last two millennia. In addition, while Roman design requirements may have included a desire to impress the natives and the need to take a defensive alignment regarding local elevation and a distrust of blind corners – such criteria did not apply to subsequent turnpikes. Thus the A22 (turnpiked in 1718) deviates from its Roman predecessor south of Croydon in taking a curvaceous valley-bottom alignment distinct from the Romans' apparent climbs via Downs Court Rd, Riddlesdown ridge and the Quarry Rd holloway into Godstone – a 'lost' alignment which nonetheless in sections survives as public rights of way.³³

Diversion occurs if destinations (ultimate or intermediate) shift. Thus the putative A3/31 diversion of the Winchester route away from Flexford was perhaps concomitant with the late Anglo-Saxon rise of royal Guildford and consequent disappearance of Burpham. The diversion of Stane Street from Pebble Lane perhaps dates from the overtaking of Ewell by Leatherhead. In such circumstances a new alignment might be expected to utilise a pre-existing alternative route: the Hogs Back ridgeway being a probable instance, but also perhaps an pre-extant Kingston-Chessington-Leatherhead-Dorking route.

Full or *de facto* route *abandonment or truncation* seems the exception, anchored arguably not in the 'end of Romano-Britain', but in politico-historical events equivalent those generating road diversions. One might hypothesise the following. The truncation of the Silchester road, when post-Roman Silchester ceased to operate as a regional capital, and was effectively abandoned and its centrality transferred to Reading and Basing(stoke). The Rowhook-Farley temple branch lapsed perhaps once the temple expired, leaving an alternative lowland route via the growing settlements of Cranleigh and Wonersh more relevant to travellers. The abandonment of Margary's West Wickham-Titsey road perhaps was collateral damage during the emergence of Kent as an independent state – possibly explaining why its line became the county boundary, with Westerham taking over the mantle of local centrality from Roman Titsey/Limpsfield (a British name). Whether post-Roman political and economic severance between Surrey and Sussex occurred is unclear from

the road pattern; though partial route survival might help explain the early appearance of remote but viable manors like Midhurst (*Middeherst*, 1186), British-named Liss (*Lis*, 'llys, 'court'; Domesday Book) and Horsham (*Horsham*, 947 AD),³⁴ and the founding of distant Haslemere as a medieval 'new town'. David Bird has postulated a continuity of glass-making at Chiddingfold.

Conclusion

This article is exploratory only. It does not pretend to offer a definitive map. It has not for example examined Rocque's 1762 detailed map of Surrey to ascertain exactly what alignments existed at his date. Nonetheless, I would argue that the A2, A3, A22, A24, A25, A30, A31, A217, etc., with their various major and minor deviations and diversions, probably at bottom are Roman routes continuing to provide Surrey's basic road network: one interconnecting towns whose roots in many instances may be Roman. Just perhaps, Surrey occupies today not so much an 'Anglo-Saxon' physical infrastructure and socio-economic landscape; but instead an Iron Age, Romano-British, Norman and Industrial Revolution one.

Notes

- 1 Margary, I, 1973, *Roman Roads in Britain*, 3rd edn., John Baker
- 2 As broached at the SAS May 5th 2018 Roman Studies Group conference on how 'Roman Britain' became 'Saxon England'
- 3 Smith, G, 2017, *Cherchefelle* and a new model of the Weald, *SAS Bulletin* 463, pp. 8-12
- 4 O'Connell, M, 1977, *Historic Towns in Surrey; Research. vol. no. 5*, Surrey Archaeological Society
- 5 Bird, D.G., 2016, The nature of Roman roadside settlements in Surrey and Sussex, in *Roadside Settlements in Roman Britain and Beyond*, Sussex Arch Society, p. 11
- 6 Bird, D.G., 1987, The Romano-British period in Surrey, in Bird, J. & D.G., *The Archaeology of Surrey to 1540*, SAS, pp. 165-196; Bird, D.G., 2004, Surrey in the Roman period: a survey of recent discoveries, in Cotton, J, Crocker, G. & Graham, A, *Aspects of Archaeology & History in Surrey*, pp. 65-76
- 7 Wakeford, J, 1984, 'Two *walh* names in the fields of Kingston, *Surrey Archaeological Collections*, pp. 251-6; Bird, D, 2004, Surrey in the Roman period, in Cotton, J, *et al.*, *Aspects of Archaeology and History in Surrey*, SAS, pp. 65-76
- 8 Malden, H. E. (ed.), 1911, *A History of the County of Surrey: Volume 3*, London, under Worplesdon. *British History Online*, <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/vch/surrey/vol3/> (accessed 22 May 2018)
- 9 Williams, D, 2007, A Roman site near Godstone, *SAS Bull.* 398, p. 2-3
- 10 Blair, J, 1991, *Early Medieval Surrey*, Surrey Archaeological Society
- 11 Blair (1991)
- 12 Beresford, M, 1967, *New Towns of the Middles Ages*, Lutterworth (Republished by Sutton Press, 1988)
- 13 Gover, J.E.B., *et al.*, 1934, *The Place-Names of Surrey*, English Place-Name Society; though each has subsequently been contested
- 14 Camden, W, *Britannia*; translated by Holland, 1610; www.philological.bham.ac.uk/cambrit/ (accessed 20/5/18)
- 15 Rivet, A.L.F. & Smith, C, 1979, *The Place-names of Roman Britain*, Batsford
- 16 The London Stone, <http://www.imagesofengland.org.uk/Details/Default.aspx?id=363203&mode=adv>, *Historic England* (accessed 22/5/18); pace Watts, V, 2011, *The Cambridge Dictionary of Place-Names*, CUP
- 17 Gover, *et al.* (1934)
- 18 S 1165 in Sawyer, P.H., 1968, *Anglo-Saxon Charters*, London, cited in Blair (1991)
- 19 Information from NEHHAS Field Archaeology Branch, <http://www.nehhas.org.uk/> (accessed 5/18/18)

- 20 See Calow, D. (Flexford, Surrey – a rural periodic market?, in *Sussex Archaeological Society*, 2016, p. 12) and Gelling, M. (1978, *Signposts to the Past*, Dent)
- 21 <https://www.geomatics-world.co.uk/content/article/lidar-reveals-lost-roman-road-from-chichester-to-arundel> (accessed 20/18/18)
- 22 <http://www.goughmap.org/map/> (accessed 20/5/18)
- 23 *Ogilby's Road Maps*, <http://www.oldmaps.co.uk> (accessed 20/18/18)
- 24 As shown in Thurley, S, 2004, *The impact of royal landholdings in the county of Surrey 1509-1649*, in Cotton, *et al.*, pp. 155-168, Fig. 12.2
- 25 Gover, *et al.* (1934) deals only erratically with *stræt* in its entries, appendices and index
- 26 Gover, *et al.* (1934), p. 365
- 27 As note 25
- 28 Rackham, O, 1986, *The History of the Countryside*, Dent
- 29 Bird, D.G., 1987, *The Romano-British period in Surrey*, in Bird, J & D.G., *The Archaeology of Surrey to 1540*, SAS, Figure 7.1
- 30 Chevallier, R, 1976, *Roman Roads*, Batsford
- 31 Christy, M, 1923-5, *On Roman roads in Essex*, *Trans. Essex. Arch. Soc.*, XVII; cited in 2018 in the mapping project *Roman road maps (all roads)*, at <http://www.keithbriggs.info/maps.html>
- 32 Rackham (1986)
- 33 See for example the discussion at <https://pengepast.wordpress.com/category/john-rocque/> (accessed 25/18/18)
- 34 Ekwall, E, 1960, *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place-names*, OUP

New members

Hannah Jeffery

I would like to welcome the following new members who have joined the Society. I have included principal interests, where they have been given on the application form. If you have any questions, queries or comments, please do not hesitate to get in contact with me on 01483 532454 or info@surreyarchaeology.org.uk.

| Name | Town | Principal Archaeological and Local History Interests |
|-------------------|-----------|---|
| Rachael Bosanquet | Shere | Local History; Archaeological Finds; Roman |
| R.W.L. Davies | Guildford | Iron Age to Post-Roman; basis and impact of Norman Conquest and associated demographics |
| Connor Dixon | Godalming | Neolithic; Prehistoric; Viking; Anglo Saxon |
| John Farndon | Ripley | Roman to Saxon; Post Medieval |
| Ronald Gadd | Usk | Medieval to Victorian Churches and Manors |
| Maria Jackson | Woking | Prehistoric; Roman; Excavations |
| Charlotte Nash | Epsom | Ancient World; Ancient Egypt; Ancient Near East |
| Victoria Pettitt | Battersea | Prehistoric; Roman; World War 2 |
| Emma Sutcliffe | Aldershot | Roman; Archaeology and history of Farnham |
| Tom Sutcliffe | Aldershot | Roman and Byzantine Archaeology |
| Eileen Wilson | Surbiton | Roman and Medieval |

A barrow (or two) in Nutfield?

Rob Briggs

The Surrey Historic Environment Record (HER) is always keen to hear from people who have found evidence of possible monuments inside the administrative county boundary that are not on our database, or further information about sites for which we already have records (summaries of which can be viewed via the Exploring Surrey's Past website). This note forms the first of what we hope will be an occasional series highlighting interesting sites in Surrey about which we think there is more that could be added to the relevant HER entries. The best way to contact us with information (or questions) is by email to her@surreycc.gov.uk, or via post to Surrey Historic Environment Record, Heritage Conservation Team, Room 340, County Hall, Penrhyn Road, Kingston-upon-Thames KT1 2DN.

Among the not-inconsiderable number of topographies of Surrey written before the start of the 20th century, one of the least well known is G. A. Cooke's *A Topographical and Statistical Description of the County of Surrey*, first published in or around the year 1810, with a new edition appearing in 1830. Its relative obscurity is not altogether unjustified as it is a largely derivative work, drawing heavily upon Richard Rawlinson's published version of John Aubrey's *The Natural History and Antiquities of Surrey*, and contains many errors and inexplicable inclusions. However, very occasionally, Cooke drew from sources not known to or used by other topographers. An especially valuable instance is to be found in his overview of Nutfield (Cooke 1830, 92):

'In ploughing through a sandy hillock, in a field in this parish, in 1755, was found, an earthen vessel, containing nearly 900 coins of the lower empire.'

Tortuous though the wording may be, this does seem to be a record of a genuine discovery of archaeological significance made in the mid-18th century. Moreover, the implication is that this discovery was made at a multi-period site: a massive Late Roman coin hoard deposited in what might have been a prehistoric barrow mound. But was this really the case?

The coin hoard is in the Surrey HER as Monument 1220, at present with the following description: 'Between 800 and 900 Roman coins mostly of the Lower Empire, and contained in an urn, ploughed up in a field in the parish and manor of Nutfield, circa 1756'. The supporting notes add that the discovery was announced to the Society of Antiquaries of London in 1756 – hence the discrepancy with the date supplied by Cooke? It is thanks to this source that we know the find was reportedly made 'almost opposite the windmill', namely Nutfield or Botery's Windmill, pulled down in 1929.¹ A windmill is recorded in 1553 in a field named Woolpits, still the name of a house to the south of Castle Street (the A25). Further references of 1664 and 1680 confirm its situation in Nutfield rather than Bletchingley parish (see Farries and Mason 1966, 159). Thus it is clear that the 'sandy hillock' in which the coin hoard was found and the mill-stead were not one and the same, but did lie close to one another. If the information that the coin hoard was found in Nutfield parish is accurate then, to judge from the situation of the windmill relative to the parish boundary with Bletchingley, the 'hillock' probably lay to the west or south of the mill site.

The physical character of the site of the windmill is itself of interest. A photograph of the mill taken in the 19th or very early 20th century (reproduced in Farries and Mason 1966, Plate 75) shows a small but steep grassy slope in front of the mill. This could be the result of the hollowing of the route of Castle Street over time, but it might instead represent one side of a mound; it is hard to discern if the face of the slope in the photograph is straight or curving. Therefore, in the face of a paucity of good-quality evidence, it seems conceivable that the 'hillock' destroyed in 1755 and whatever Nutfield Windmill stood upon both origi-

nated as round barrows.

The deposition of Roman coin hoards in barrows and other prehistoric monuments was relatively common phenomenon and has been the subject of some interesting scholarship (e.g. Aitchison 1988, 276). So too the reuse of prehistoric barrows as the elevated sites for windmills. Three instances are known from Surrey (Grinsell 1987, 11; Bieron 1990, 93), one of which happens to be just down the road from Nutfield, at Hilly Field in Godstone Green. Here, a Bronze Age barrow was adopted as a mill-mound, alongside a second mound that did not see such reuse but survived nonetheless (Grinsell 1987, 34). All the same, it is necessary to note that Cooke described the Hilly Field mounds as ‘two small barrows’ (1830, 92). Was this a deliberate distinction being drawn with the Nutfield ‘hillock’, or simply the product of the (apparent) loss of one barrow in or around 1755 versus the survival of two others at the time Cooke was writing?

A natural sandy mound, or maybe a pair of mounds, of course would not be out of the question on the Lower Greensand ridge at Nutfield. That there was *something* of local prominence hereabouts from an early date is hinted at by the historic line of the boundary between Nutfield and Bletchingley parishes. The construction of the M23 led to the revision of civil parish boundary so that it now runs along the central reservation between the two carriageways. Previously, it deflected from a direct line on a roughly north-west/south-east orientation (emulating the stretch along the east side of The Park) between Woolpits and the eastern edge of Coomes Copse, to take in the mill site. It is conceivable that this was in order to utilise (and claim?) a pre-existing landscape feature or features. Similar use of barrows as the basis for an irregular parish boundary can be seen on the division between Peper Harow-Thursley (earlier Witley) on Ockley/Thursley Commons (Graham 2001 Fig 1).

The ‘sandy hillock’ site is a very intriguing one, as is the nearby windmill, particularly if it too was originally established atop a much earlier barrow mound. A very optimistic reading of the evidence might see the vicinity as the former location of a barrow cemetery, but even preferring non-anthropogenic origins for the hillock and mill-steading does not diminish its interest greatly; clearly this was a place of episodic significance across at least two millennia. There is much that remains to be understood about the site, and maybe you can help. Nutfield parish is also absent from Grinsell’s two benchmark gazetteers of Surrey barrows published in 1934 and 1987. The Surrey HER has a smattering of entries pertaining to Bronze Age archaeology from Nutfield and surrounds (particularly in the vicinity of Mercer’s Farm in the north of Nutfield parish: Monuments 21137 and 21193) but no round barrows or ring ditches. Perhaps readers know of local and/or unpublished research that mentions the site – even testimony about the windmill might yield information over and above what is available from the HER and online. At the very least, it would be great to be able to add a little more meat to the skeletal text of the current HER entry.

1 There has been some question as to whether this coin hoard was the same as the one that is the subject of a separate HER record, Monument 1235. It is mapped within the park of Nutfield Priory (earlier South Park). Moreover, the recorded circumstances of its discovery – *circa* 1759, ‘in an earthen vessel broken by the wheel of a carriage in the highway leading from Nutfield to Ham’ – seem to indicate that it was a similar but separate discovery made a couple of years later in a different part of the parish.

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New County Finds Liaison Officer

Simon Maslin

My name is Dr Simon Maslin and I am the new County Finds Liaison Officer for Surrey, working for the county council on behalf of the Portable Antiquities Scheme. As a professional archaeologist I have considerable experience of identifying a wide range of types of artefacts and archaeological materials gained from fieldwork, access to museum collections, academic research and a life-long interest and love of archaeology.

Since my first dig experiences with the Surrey Archaeological Society nearly twenty five years ago, I have worked on a wide range of amateur, academic and developer-led archaeological projects in the UK and abroad, spanning periods from the Mesolithic to the medieval. For most of the last eight years I have worked for the University of Reading’s department of archaeology, most significantly on the major Anglo-Saxon royal site of Lyminge in Kent, which has resulted in several publications.

Alongside this professional work I have been involved with local amateur organisations, running finds sessions and educational outreach activities across the south of England. I believe this sort of grassroots work is essential to promote the interest in and enthusiasm for archaeology which encourages members of the public to report their finds to the Portable Antiquities Scheme.



Being a life-long resident of the Surrey area, I am well acquainted with the archaeology of the county and have undertaken excavation and survey work at many significant local sites. As the new FLO I am regularly available to finders by appointment at the Surrey History Centre in Woking and will also attend museum finds days, heritage events and detectorist club meetings, where I can provide guidance and advice on finds identification, recording, reporting and the Treasure process. Please note that my public day for meeting people at SHC is Wednesday and that my landline number is 01483 404999. As I am part-time I am only reachable on this three days a week (usually Mon, Wed and Fri). I will also be in attendance at the Heritage Open Day event at Abinger on Sunday 16th September, where I look forward to meeting members (and visitors) and discussing their finds.

Churches Crawl, Saturday 9 June 2018

Brian Creese

A group of 16 dedicated church followers gathered at St Mary's in Guildford to start a day of immersion in medieval ecclesiasticism. St Mary's is, of course, the oldest church in Guildford and quite a puzzling one. Mary Alexander took the assembled group through the various idiosyncrasies, contentious claims and difficult to decipher features. There is so much evidence of the changes wrought over the centuries, yet so little conclusive evidence; a wonderful place to speculate on how things happened and might have been.

The group then 'car shared' their way to Compton, and the extraordinary St Nicholas' church. Rob Briggs gave us a comprehensive account of this unique church, focusing on its extraordinary double chancel and the possible anchorite's/anchorites' viewing window. There are so many features here that we could have spent far longer, but the medievalists convoy set off again for Albury and Old St Peters and St Pauls. This church, up an estate track sitting along the banks of the Tillingbourne, was left standing isolated after the rest of the villagers had been forced to move down to present day Albury by an oppressive Lord of the Manor. The remaining church is mostly early Norman, simple and sparse – due to being replaced by the present church in Albury, to which many of the original furnishings went – though there still remains notable medieval paintings, including a consecration cross and the 15th century wall painting of St Christopher, as well as boasting a full-on Victorian Gothic chapel designed by Augustus Pugin no less! This extraordinary dream church was given added mystery by the rehearsing players for *Midsummer Nights Dream* whom we interrupted.



feature of interest was the screen or the carved main entrance doorway.

An extraordinary set of churches, and a wonderfully organised day that left everyone full of excitement about the importance of the churches on our own doorstep.

The next stop was the far from isolated St James at Shere, famous for its anchorite's cell, though it also boasts a fine late 12th century font south portal, as well as a large amount of late medieval graffiti, which the group spent a happy half hour trying to identify with their flashlights.

The final stop was St John the Evangelist at Wotton, another church with no apparent accompanying village to serve. Rob again gave an account of the church, highlighting how an excavation in 1975 proved it once extended further west than the surviving tower. The church is perhaps most famous for the Evelyn chapel, final resting place of diarist John Evelyn and his wife, but for us the main



Alan Godfrey Crocker (6 Oct 1935—22 Jun 2018)*Bob Bryson*

It is with much sadness that I have to inform members that Prof. Alan Crocker died at home on 22 June and that a service was held in his memory at Guildford Crematorium on 9 July 2018.

Alan was a dedicated researcher all his life, whether researching into physics or history. After graduating from Imperial College with a degree in Mathematics he studied for his Doctorate in Crystallography at Sheffield University. Alan then went on to lecture at Battersea Polytechnic Institute before moving to Surrey with the college, which became Surrey University in 1966.

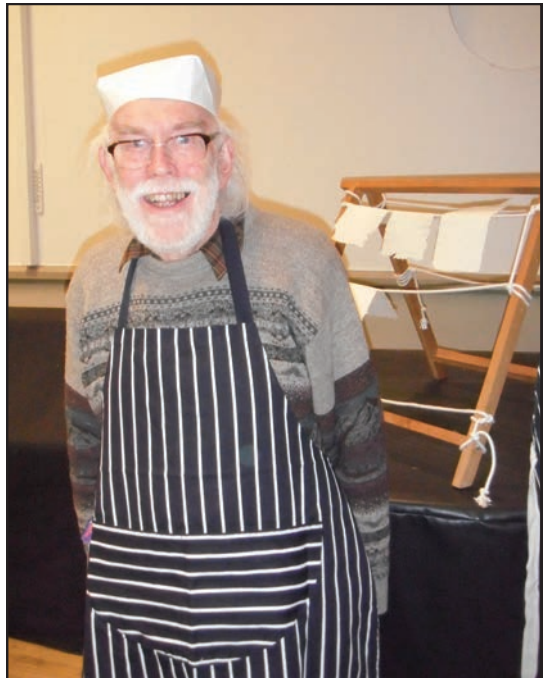
I first met Alan about 20 years ago when I attended a series of lectures run by the Surrey Industrial History Group. Alan was at the time not only president of the group but also President of the Surrey Archaeology Society. Alan also held numerous other pivotal positions such as Chairman of the Surrey Local History Committee and Chairman of the Godalming Water Turbine Trust, not to mention his active involvement with various mills, gunpowder and paper-making research groups.

Although a former president of the Archaeological Society Alan was more likely to be found in a library than in a muddy field, however having said that, there are plenty of photographs on record of Alan standing next to some large artefact in a muddy field, be it a mill stone, turbine or a water wheel.

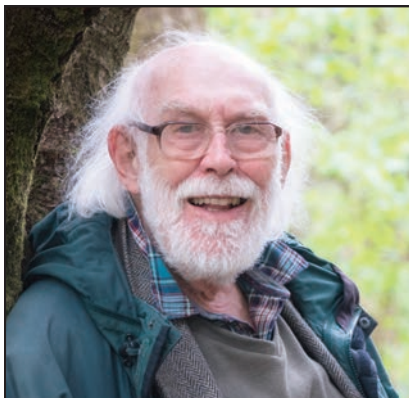
In 1983 the Surrey Industrial History Group decided to award an annual conservation award and it was Alan who after some reflection suggested in 2007 it would be nice to publish a booklet featuring the first 25 years of these awards. As the President of SIHG, Alan is shown in the booklet presenting many of these cast aluminium plaques.

Another of Alan's projects was the Tillingbourne Valley, where remains of paper mills and a gunpowder factory are to be found. Alan often led walks along the valley and one of the tales he liked to relate was a quote from William Cobbett on the second of his rural rides in the autumn of 1822:

This valley, which seems to have been created by a bountiful providence, as one of the choicest retreats of man, which seems formed for a scene of innocence and happiness, has been, by ungrateful man, so perverted as to make it instrumental in effecting two of the most damnable of purposes; in carrying into execution two of the most damnable inventions that ever sprang from the minds of man under the influence of devil! Namely, the making of gunpowder and of banknotes!



Alan and Gleny's book published in 2000 and aptly titled 'Damnable Inventions' brought together two of Alan's many interests, gunpowder and papermaking. While I have never witnessed Alan making gunpowder he gave award-winning demonstrations of paper-making. Alan would wear his famous paper hat and, playing the roll of the vatman, dip his mould into the warm pulp before switching to the role of the coucher who inverted the mould in order to turn out the paper onto a felt sheet. Alan would explain the process and inform his audience that the pulp, which could be made from rags, was called 'stuff' and no doubt if the pulp was of the correct consistency it was the right stuff.



I would therefore like to leave you with the thought that Alan, like his handmade paper, was undoubtedly made of the right stuff and will be sadly missed by us all.

JAC Cowie memorial bookcase

Susan Janaway

Former members of the Guildford Group who donated to the JAC Cowie Memorial Fund in 1993 may be pleased to know that the oak bookcase bought with that fund and its commemorative plaque has now been returned to Castle Arch for use in the Society office.

J A C Cowie, or Jac as she was always known, became a prominent member of the Guildford Group of the Surrey Archaeological Society from its formation in the early 1970s. Together with many of the founder members of the Group, she had attended local W.E.A evening classes in archaeology, where her enthusiasm for the subject became apparent. Jac always gave 110% to all of her many interests. She taught herself to draw flints and pottery and her skills were called upon when the Group undertook emergency digs in and around Guildford. She enthusiastically joined the many coach trips which were organised by the Group and became famous for her fudge, which was passed round the coach to sustain hungry stomachs. Jac continued to support the Guildford Group until the health of her life-long friend and companion, Helen, failed, when she gave all her time to nurse her. Jac's own health also failed and she died in a nursing home in Puttenham on 10th January 1993.

Upon her death, the Society wanted to remember her contribution to archaeology and local history in Guildford and commissioned a bookcase to be added to the Society's library at Castle Arch, a place close to her heart. This was built by a local Guildford carpenter, Graham Handcock, and for many years housed a run of the Society's Collections.



An obituary in 'The Independent' outlined her many other achievements during her life, as well as appearing in the SAS Bulletin 273 (now available online). Jac was also a talented craftswoman and in the 1970s designed crochet patterns of two famous T.V. glove puppets, Lamb Chop and Hush Puppy. The patterns were sold through Oxfam country-wide to help support their projects.

New palaeography course and Surrey Stuart Wills project

Tim Wilcock

A major ambition for our new Early Modern group, led by Dr Catherine Ferguson is to organise a palaeography course to increase the number of members and friends who are confident in reading and transcribing early modern documents in the pursuit of their research interests. For some time I have been formulating a project to transcribe and publish the wills and inventories of the Consistory Court of the Bishop of Winchester for the Stuart period up to 1650, and so there is an opportunity to organise a palaeography course using these documents as raw material, and progress the transcription project as a by-product.

Initially the course will run for three monthly sessions on 23rd October, 13th November and 4th December 2018, all Tuesdays, from 10:00 am to 4:00pm. The venue will be the Society's Research Centre in Abinger. Tea and coffee will be provided but you will need to bring a packed lunch or visit the excellent café at the village store.

The course is aimed at beginners or improvers, and will be led by Dr Catherine Ferguson, an expert in palaeography of many periods. Handwriting in this period 1603-1650 was in a state of transition from the Elizabethan secretary hands to the start of more modern italic writing, so there is a wide spectrum of readability but much for beginners to start on, even at a first session. The transcriptions will be checked and then added to a database on the Society's website and therefore participants will hopefully see quickly the benefits of their labours. All required materials will be provided other than the usual pens/papers for notes.

As well as palaeography, you will also learn about the probate records for Surrey at all periods and where they fit into the material culture of the county and England as a whole.

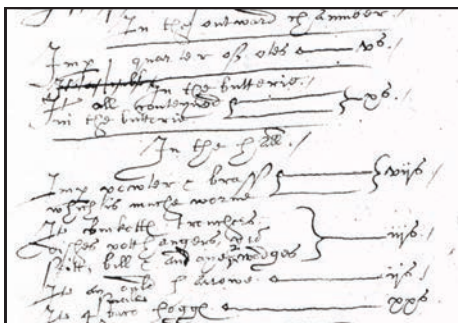
The material used will be the wills and attached inventories proved in the Consistory Court of the Bishop of Winchester 1603-1650, the records of which are in the Hampshire Record Office (HRO) in Winchester. All the material we shall be working with has been copied from the originals on microfiche at HRO.

The church court hierarchy is complicated for Surrey, but the Consistory Court was the court of the Bishop of Winchester. Hierarchically this court was below the national Prerogative Court of the Archbishop of Canterbury (PCC), but above the Archdeacon's Court for Surrey, so the testators were typically those with medium-sized estates or whose property was across more than one Archdeaconry, but there is a wide cross section of Surrey represented here. The testators come from across the county but are biased towards the westernmost parishes; the majority are male but there is a good representation of female testators. There are approximately 270 wills from this period, most with attached inventories, and they are without exception fascinating insights into life during this tumultuous period of English history. During the Commonwealth period church courts (like bishops) were abolished and were replaced with the PCC serving as a secular, national court. After the Restoration in 1660 the bishop appointed a Commissary for the Archdeaconry of Surrey, so Surrey wills ceased to be proved in the Consistory Court. The records of that Commissary Court are now in the London Metropolitan Archive.

The aim is to create a letter-by-letter accurate transcription of both will and inventory documents, which is the best way for a beginner to learn accuracy and is essential if we are to provide a useful and reliable source for other researchers. The output will be very useful for social and economic historians looking at a range of subjects from literacy to material culture; for local historians looking at the development of houses; and for family history researchers. The contents of these documents have never before been made available in transcript or published, so this will open up new information across a wide spectrum.

I would like to thank Cliff Webb who (rather a long time ago) highlighted this source to me and provided listings of the available material. Cliff has done a huge amount to make Surrey probate (and other) material available to researchers of the county and more widely.

Initially numbers will be limited to 10, although if there is demand we intend to have further sessions in 2019 both for new members and existing students whom we hope will continue to transcribe for the project and hone their new skills. If you wish to join us please email tim.wilcock@googlemail.com with your details and some indications of your current abilities and why you are interested in joining the project. There is no charge for the course and it is open to both Society members and other interested students.



Medieval Studies Forum November 3rd at St Catherine's Village Hall

By November it will be time to pull on your woollies for our special all-day seminar on Sheep and Wool. An exciting line up of speakers is led by Professor Chris Dyer with his talk 'Not just the Cistercians - peasant sheep and the trade in wool in medieval England' and John Hare talking on 'From wool to cloth: the medieval textile industry in southern England, 1300-1600'. These illustrious external speakers will be supported by our own Mary Alexander, David Graham and Peter Balmer. If you would also like to contribute to the day, please let Brian Creese know (bjc@briancreese.co.uk).

Lecture meetings

6th August

'Gunpowder mills in Surrey' by Stuart Smith to Dorking Local History Group in the Crossways Community Baptist Church, Dorking at 19:30. Visitors welcome: £2

3rd September

'Ethel Smyth' by Chris Wiley to Woking History Society in The Gallery, Christ Church, Jubilee Square, Woking at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

'Gertrude Jekyll and sources of Garden History' by Julian Pooley to Dorking Local History Group in the Crossways Community Baptist Church, Dorking at 19:30. Visitors welcome: £2

4th September

'Aspects of Addlestone - New Light on Old Topics' by David Barker to Addlestone Historical Society at Addlestone Community Centre at 20:00.

5th September

'Why on earth is Ewell where it is? The answer lies in geology, naturally' by Prof Richard Selley to Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society in St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

11th September

'Life in the nursery and schoolroom' by Heather Woodward to the West Surrey Family History Society in United Reform Church, South Street, Farnham at 14:00.

13th September

'Merchants, military men and migrants' by Judie English to Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society at Surbiton Library Halls at 20:00.

17th September

'Richmond in the 1970s: discos, flares and planning blight' by Simon Fowler to the Richmond Local History Society, Duke Street Church, Richmond at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

18th September

'Industrial Woking doors' by Iain Wakeford to Send and Ripley History Society at Ripley Village Hall, High Street, Ripley at 19:30.

'Reverend Hugh McNeile – the flamboyant Rector of Albury and chairman of the Albury Conferences' by Bill Folkes to Albury History Society at Albury Village Hall, Albury at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

21st September

'Rowhurst – Leatherhead's 'Blessed Plot' by Lucy Quinnell 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

25th September

'Wills pre-1858' by Les Mitchinson to the West Surrey Family History Society in St Andrews United Reform Church, Hersham Road, Walton at 19:45.

27th September

'William H Crossland' by Sheila Binns to Egham by Runnymede Historical Society in United Church, Egham at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £2

'From Romans to Normans the Birth of the English Parish Church' by Frances Hurd to Farnham & District Museum Society at United Reformed Church, South Street, Farnham at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £3

1st October

'Working in the 50s and 60s' by David Rose to Woking History Society in The Gallery, Christ Church, Jubilee Square, Woking at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £3

'Sport in Dorking' by Mike Gooch to Dorking Local History Group in the Crossways Community Baptist Church, Dorking at 19:30. Visitors welcome: £2

'Brunel, Scott Russell and the Great Eastern' by Prof Andrew Lambert, Dept of War Studies King's College London, to the Surrey Industrial History Group at Church House Guildford, 20 Alan Turing Road, Guildford, Surrey, GU2 7YF at 19:30. Details from Bob Bryson meetings@sihg.org.uk. Visitors welcome: £5

2nd October

'Chertsey Combined Charity - Origins and Objectives' by Malcolm Loveday to Addlestone Historical Society at Addlestone Community Centre at 20:00.

3rd October

'The lavender industries of Mitcham' by Alison Cousins to Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society in St Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

4th October

'The Merchant Navy at War Pt III, including The Falklands' by Richard Mellor, Maritime Shipping Rtd, to the Surrey Industrial History Group at The Institute, 67 High Street, Leatherhead at 10:00. Visitors welcome: £5, but please contact Bob Bryson at meetings@sihg.org.uk in advance.

8th October

'The 300th anniversary of the arrival of the royal Hanoverians at Richmond and Kew' by Susanne Groom to the Richmond Local History Society, Duke Street Church, Richmond at 20:00. Visitors welcome: £4

9th October

'London Underground's Edwardian Tile Patterns' by Douglas Rose, London historian and information designer, to the Surrey Industrial History Group at Church House Guildford at 19:30. Details from Bob Bryson meetings@sihg.org.uk. Visitors welcome: £5

11th October

'Godalming late Saxon and early medieval cemetery at Priory Orchard' by Rob Poulton to Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society at Surbiton Library Halls at 20:00.

'Peregrine falcons' by Keith Betton to Farnham & District Museum Society at United Reformed Church, South Street, Farnham at 19:45. Visitors welcome: £3

DATES FOR *BULLETIN* CONTRIBUTIONS

There will be two more issues of the *Bulletin* in 2018. To assist contributors relevant dates are as follows:

| | Copy date: | Approx. delivery: |
|------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 470 | 15th September | 17th October |
| 471 | 10th November | 12th December |

Articles and notes on all aspects of fieldwork and research on the history and archaeology of Surrey are very welcome. Contributors are encouraged to discuss their ideas with the editor beforehand, including on the proper format of submitted material (please do supply digital copy when possible) and possible deadline extensions.

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The Council of the Surrey Archaeological Society desires it to be known that it is not responsible for the statements or opinions expressed in the *Bulletin*.

Next issue: Copy required by 15th September for the October issue

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