LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Telephone: -LEATHERHEAD 2696

"Beechcroft", Hawks Hill, FETCHAM, Surrey.

Circular 4/52

20th October, 1952.

Dear Fellow-Member,

Sixth Annual General Meeting, 7th November, 1952

Enclosed is the Agenda for the Meeting together with the Executive Committee's Report and the Accounts.

It is earnestly hoped that every member who can possibly do so will turn up to the Meeting and thus exhibit the real support which the Society deserves. All members will find an interest in the Chairman's talk at the end.

FIXTURES

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 29th, 1952, at The New Bull Hotel, Leatherhead, Mr. C.W. Phillips, M.A., F.S.A., will give a talk, illustrated by slides, on "Lost Village Sites", which should be of great interest and value. After the talk there will be an Exhibition, introduced by Mr. A.T. Ruby, of the finds from this year's excavations at the Tudor site in Bell Lane, Fetcham.

Members should assemble at the Hotel at 3.45 p.m. Tea will be served at 4.0 p.m. sharp and the talk will follow at 4.30 p.m. Punctuality is necessary as the Society must vacate the room by 6.30 p.m.

N.B. Owing to limited accommodation, admission will be by ticket only, 3s.6d. including tea, or ls.0d. at 4.30 p.m. Tickets will be issued in strict rotation of application. It may, in fairness, be necessary to limit tickets to members only; but, if possible, friends will be welcomed. Applications for tickets should be made to me.

N.B.2. All tips are covered by the charge made.

The winter programme of monthly meetings is now being prepared. It is hoped to arrange for more comfortable and warmer accommodation than has been available in the past. This, it is trusted, will maintain our usual constant attendance and induce other members and friends to come along to these interesting evenings.

Christmas Cards

It has been arranged for Christmas Cards to be prepared, similar to the cards produced last year and which were eagerly taken up. This year however, there will be a choice of four cards; the cards will contain a line of greeting and the price - 10d each, six for 5/- - will include envelopes and also postage on orders despatched. The subjects are: A view of Leatherhead from the bridge, 1858; Leatherhead, Church, 1858; North Street, Leatherhead, c.1800; The 'Running Horse' with the bridge, c.1830 (a quite different view from last year's). Specimens will be on view at the Meetings on 7th November and 29th November when orders can be taken. Orders can also be given to me by post. Members are asked to pay, or remit, the amount due when putting in their order.

Yours sincerely, P.G. Shelley

(Hon. Asst. Secretary)

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Telephone:-LEATHERHEAD 3127 53, Nutcroft Grove, FETCHAM, Surrey.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that the

SIXTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

will be held at

THE COUNCIL OFFICES, BULL HILL, LEATHERHEAD on

Friday, 7th November, 1952

at 8.15 p.m.

AGENDA

- 1. Minutes of the last General Meeting
- 2. Presentation of the 6th Annual Report by the Executive Committee (copy Report enclosed)
- 3. Presentation of the Accounts to 30th September 1952 (copy Accounts enclosed)
- 4. Election of Executive Committee and Officers for the year 1952-53.
- 5. Any other business.
- 6. At the close of formal business Captain A.W.G. Lowther, F.S.A., A.R.I.B.A., will give a talk, illustrated by slides, on "A Survey of Roman and pre-Roman Sites in the Society's Area". This will have special reference to the Ashtead Villa site.

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Report of the Executive Committee

for the year 1951-52

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Committee take pleasure in presenting the Sixth Annual Report for 1951-52.

- 1. Interest in the Society and its work shows no sign of abatement either inside or outside the locality. Requests for lecturers, articles for local publication and historical information and other enquiries continue to reach us in a steady flow.
- 2. The acquisition of new members resulted, after allowing for losses, in a small increase of membership which now stands at 178.
- 3. The following fixtures were arranged during the year:
 - 1951 December 15th A talk by Mr. F.B. Benger on "A Leatherhead Worthy Edmund Tylney, Master of the Revels to Queen Elizabeth".
 - 1952 January 23rd A lantern lecture by Mr. W.H.E. Rivett on "The Geological Period of the Dinosaurs".
 - " February 13th A lantern lecture by Professor F. Jane on "British Trees and their Timber".
 - " March 12th A lantern lecture by Mr. J.E.S. Dallas on "Anglo-Saxon Remains in our Churches".
 - " April 19th A conducted visit to Slyfield House, Stoke d'Abernon (Messrs. F.B. Benger and R. Foster Elliott).
 - " May 17th A nature ramble conducted by Dr. M.P. Topping.
 - " June 7th A visit by coach to Leith Hill Place.
 - " July 5th A visit by coach to Parham Park, Sussex.
 - " August 16th A conducted visit to 'Thorncroft' (Mr. F.B. Benger).
 - " September 20th A fungus foray to Box Hill (conducted by Dr. M.P. Topping).

It is very much regretted that by an oversight the August visit was not fully arranged for. Our apologies are extended to Mr. Benger and all members who attended. Steps have been taken to avoid a repetition of this accident. For the first time the coach visits have not been fully booked up, resulting in a loss on the financial arrangements which it is hoped will not be repeated in 1953.

It is believed that all who attended have thoroughly enjoyed these fixtures. Suggestions in connexion with them are always welcomed.

- 4. The work of the Groups will be recorded in the next "Proceedings". The Excavation Group in particular have been very active throughout the year and there will be much to report from all the Groups.
- 5. The fifth number of the "Proceedings" has not, it is thought, shown any sign of falling below the standard of its predecessors. The Committee tender their very grateful thanks to Mr. S.G. Blaxland Stubbs, O.B.E., who in the unavoidable absence of your Hon. Editor undertook, at what is known to have been considerable inconvenience to himself, to see the issue through the press.

Copies of all five numbers are available for purchase by members and non-members, price 3/6 each.

6. Your Committee, consisting of the following, have held four Committee meetings during the year.

Capt. A.W.G. Lowther (Chairman)
Mr. S.N. Grimes (Committee Member)
Mr. F.B. Benger (Committee Member)
Mr. S.E.D. Fortescue (Hon. Treasurer)

required for early publication.

7.

Mr. C.T. Fisher (Hon. Programme Secretary)
Mr. A.T. Ruby (Hon. Secretary)
Mr. P.G. Shelley (Hon. Asst. Secretary)
Mr. C.J. Songhurst (Hon. Editor)

(Co-opted)

The appointment of an Asst. Hon. Secretary has been a complete success. To him has been assigned the task of membership records and inquiries; circulars; tickets etc. for fixtures, and similar duties. Your Hon. Secretary deals with inquiries for information, lectures, articles etc.; the accessions, and as archivist; general organisation and other matters concerning the Society and its work. Mr. Shelley has, it will be agreed by all members, carried out the duties of his office most capably; your Hon. Secretary has thus been enabled to deal with the many general matters which remain and, at the same time, supervise a heavy excavation programme as well as carrying out some historical research

8. All members of the Committee retire at the close of the Annual Meeting but are eligible for re-election. Nominations for election of members (other than retiring members) of the Committee should reach the Hon. Secretary not later than Monday, 3rd November, stating (i) the name of the nominee, (ii) the names of the proposer and seconder, (iii) that the nominee has expressed his or her willingness to serve if elected.

Accounts (copy enclosed) show that, at the date on which the last Accounts were circulated, there was a balance in hand (excluding £2.1.0 for subscriptions paid in advance) of £74.5.0. To this should be added £15 being a grant from the Surrey County Council for 1950-51 but not then received, and from the resultant sum of £89.5.0 must be deducted the amount of £49.6.1. then owing for No.4 of the "Proceedings". The Society thus started the current year 1951-2 with a net sum in hand of £39.18.11. Receipts from all sources for the year, including the 1952 grant by the Council, but excluding £3.7.6. for fees paid in advance for 1952-3, totalled £92.1.5. and payments (including £52.15.5. for No.5 of the "Proceedings") amounted to £84.7.7. There was thus an excess of receipts over expenditure for the actual year 1951-2 of £7.13.10. Satisfactory as this may be, the result has only been achieved by much cheese-paring and cannot be regarded by your Committee as in any way alleviating their anxiety over the Society's financial position and the difficulties of any expansion of its activities.

Your Committee, after very careful deliberation are reluctant to raise the amount of the annual subscription which, they feel, might, in present day circumstances, result in some members being compelled to resign. Subject to the members' views at the general meeting, they have decided not to recommend any increase at present but to appeal, to all members who find it possible to do so, to add a donation to their subscription. At the same time the drive for new members should be intensified. Everyone is asked to help in this effort, and to be as generous as possible.

Donations of any size to either the Library or General Funds will always be most gratefully received.

10. Members are reminded that the annual subscription of 7/6 falls due on 1st November. The Hon. Treasurer will be prepared to receive subscriptions and donations at the Annual Meeting.

Subscriptions can be paid by banker's order and any member who wishes to employ this method should get into touch with the Hon, Treasurer who will gladly forward the necessary form.

11. In conclusion, your Committee desire once more to express their appreciation of the support and encouragement so abundantly afforded them by all members, and their grateful thanks to the Hon. Auditor and Group Leaders for their services during the past year.

On behalf of the Executive Committee

A.W.G. IOWTHER - Chairman

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S.E.D. Fortescue - Hon. Treasurer.

N.F. The accounts do not include items for unsold "Proceedings", library equipment and archives.

IOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY ED 30th September, 1952

Audited and found correct.

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W.H. Taylor. Hon. Auditor.