

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Tel. Leatherhead 3127

53 Nutcroft Grove,
Fetcham,
Surrey.

3rd November, 1950

Circular 4/50

Dear Fellow-Member,

Fourth Annual General Meeting, 15th November, 1950

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. The discussion at the close of formal business will prove of the greatest help to the Society and its Committee if all members will freely express any comment, criticism or suggestion which occurs to them. While the Committee trust to hear comments on their proposal for 'elementary' talks, criticisms of, or suggestions for, any other matters are hoped for.

FIXTURES

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9th, 1950, at The New Bull Hotel, Leatherhead.

Captain A.W.G. Lowther, F.S.A., A.R.I.B.A., will give a lantern lecture on the excavations at 'The Mounts', Leatherhead, covering the whole of the now completed work. The slides illustrating the work and the more important finds should be of great interest and attraction to all.

Proceedings will commence with tea at the Hotel at 4.0 p.m. sharp. The lecture will follow at approximately 4.40 p.m.

N.B. Owing to limited accommodation, admission will be by ticket only, 2s.6d. including tea, or 1s.0d at 4.40 p.m. Tickets will be issued in strict rotation of application. It may be possible to provide only standing room for some of those who are not booked for tea also. Further, 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.

Weds. January 24th, 1951, at the Wesleyan Hall, Church Road, at 8.15 p.m.

A lantern lecture by Mr. J.E.S. Dallas on "A Botanist's Exile in North Wales".

Weds. February 21st, 1951, at the same place and time as above - a lantern lecture by Mr. Edw. Yates, F.S.A. on "Manorial Dovecotes".

Weds. March 21st, 1951, time and place as above - A lantern lecture by Mr. C.W. Phillips on "New Light on the Roman road system of Surrey and Sussex".

Further fixtures are being arranged.

Vacancies among Officers

As stated in the Executive Committee's Report (enclosed) a new Hon. Editor and a Photographic Group Leader are required. Only occasional spells of activity are necessary. Volunteers are asked not to be shy if they can possibly find time to carry out either of these essential but not too exacting tasks.

Yours sincerely,

A. T. Ruby (Hon. Secretary)

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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that the

FOURTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

will be held at

THE COUNCIL OFFICES, BULL HILL, LEATHERHEAD on

WEDNESDAY, 15th November, 1950,

at 8.15 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of the last General Meeting.
2. Presentation of the 4th Annual Report by the Executive Committee
(copy Report enclosed).
3. Presentation of the Accounts to 30th September 1950
(copy Accounts enclosed).
4. Election of Executive Committee and Officers for the year 1950-51.
5. Any other business.
6. At the close of formal business there will again be a general discussion, thrown open to all members of the Society, for the purpose of exploring any suggestion which any member may care to make with regard to either the fixtures or the Society's more technical activities: to meet any criticisms which occur: to consider, in general, any comments conducive to the improvement of the Society and its work. Any idea put forward will be welcome. In view of the success of a similar general discussion at the last Annual General Meeting it is hoped every member will take part in this one.

A. T. RUBY (Hon. Secretary)

3rd November, 1950.

LEATHERHEAD AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Report of the Executive Committee

for the year 1949 - 1950

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Committee have the pleasant task of presenting the Fourth Annual Report for 1949-50.

1. The progress of recognition of, and interest in, the Society and its work has been even more marked, both inside and outside the locality. Indeed your Hon. Secretary and other members have had a quite strenuous time dealing with requests for lecturers, guides, articles for local publications and historical information by residents and others regarding their buildings and other matters. It is gratifying that, to date, all requests have been satisfactorily met.

Sub-committees are dealing with special activities for the 1951 Festival of Britain and with the implementation of a proposal that a local Guide to the extant buildings of historic interest should be published.

It is proposed to initiate - if facilities can be obtained, and subject to adequate support by attendance - a series of talks on the elements of the subjects with which this Society concerns itself. These will, it is hoped, encourage members who profess ignorance of subjects, which nevertheless interest them, to take a more active part in the Society's work and render some assistance which is sorely needed if the Society's expansion maintains - as it should - its present pace.

These talks will be in addition to the monthly general fixtures. Suggestions for subjects which appeal, and any other comments will be welcomed greatly, and it is hoped the suggestion will be of sufficient interest to be fully discussed at the Annual General Meeting (see Agenda therefor enclosed).

2. New members during the year resulted in a net increase of 17 after deducting resignations. The total of all members is 169.
3. The following fixtures were arranged during the year:

1949 December 10th	A talk by Mr. A.T. Ruby on "The Life and Times of Sir Eustace de Hacche".
1950 January 17th	A lantern lecture by Mr. E.E. Oldershaw on "The Roman Wall".
" February 15th	A talk by Mr. G.H. Smith on "The Shiers of Slyfield and the Slyfield Chest".
" March 15th	A lantern lecture by Mr. W.C. Cocksedge on "A Talk about Windmills".
" April 19th	A lantern lecture by Mr. C.W. Phillips on "Air Photography".
" May 27th	A conducted tour, by invitation from the local Country-side Protection Society, of the restored buildings known as Sweech Farm (Messrs. Benger, Elliott and Harvey) and an Exhibition of old photographs and other illustrations of the district.
" June 17th	A visit to Penshurst by coach.
" July 15th	A conducted tour of old Ashtead (Mr. F.B. Benger)

Continued

Report of Executive Committee Continued

- 1950 August 19th A conducted tour of Gt. Bookham Church,
(Mr. John H. Harvey, F.S.A.)
- " September 30th A nature history ramble and fungus foray,
(Mrs. M.P. Topping, Ph.D.)

The expressions of appreciation given by those members who attended have been a measure of the interest and value of these fixtures and a great encouragement to your Committee, and your Hon. Programme Secretary in particular, to continue the, not always easy, task of finding "fresh woods and pastures new".

4. The Groups have continued their activities which will be recorded in the next "Proceedings". Steady progress continues without any specially spectacular item to record, except, perhaps, the successful excavation at the Mounts of the trackway from the old road to the moat.

The Photographic Groups remains without a leader, although members of the Group have done some most useful work during the year. A NEW LEADER WILL BE WELCOMED.

5. The third number of the "Proceedings" has not failed, it is believed, to live well up to the standard of preceding numbers. If and when funds permit the publication will be increased in size.

Copies of the first three numbers are available for purchase by members and non-members, price 3/- each.

It is with much regret that your Committee has to record the resignation, as Hon. Editor, of Mr. S.G. Blaxland Stubbs, O.B.E., F.R.S.A. due to ill-health and pressure of other work. On behalf of all members, the Society's thanks are expressed to Mr. Stubbs for having so successfully launched the Society's publications.

Your Committee have held six Committee meetings during the year. Attendances were:

Capt. Lowther (Chairman)	_____	6
Mr. S.N. Grimes	_____	3
" F.B. Benger	_____	5
" S.E.D. Fortescue (Hon. Treasurer)	_____	5
" C.T. Fisher (Hon. Programme Secretary)	_____	5
" A.T. Ruby (Hon. Secretary)	_____	6

7. 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, 13th 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.

8. The Accounts (copy attached) disclose, the Committee are glad to record, the maintenance of an excess of receipts over expenditure. Nevertheless subscriptions and sales do not cover administration costs - however rigidly controlled - and printing the "Proceedings". Donations and grants (for which the Society is most grateful) are an essential feature to maintain this balance and build up a small reserve for future contingencies. The financial position is still such as to form a harassing restriction on the Society's activities and your Committee's desire for its development and expansion.

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

9. Members are reminded that the annual subscription of 7/6 falls due on 1st November. The Hon. Treasurer will be prepared to receive subscriptions at the Annual Meeting.
10. In conclusion, your Committee desires 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. Editor, Auditor, Librarian and Group Leaders for their services during the past year.

On behalf of the Executive Committee
A.W.G. LOWTHER - Chairman

18th October 1950.

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