

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Telephone:
Leatherhead 3127

53, Nutcroft Grove,
Fetcham,
Surrey.

2nd April, 1951

Circular 1/51

Dear Fellow-Member,

F I X T U R E S

April 16th - 21st A public Exhibition of photographs, illustrations and maps portraying the past history of the district will be held, by courtesy of the Gas Company, at the Gas Company's Offices, Bull Hill, Leatherhead. The Exhibition will be formally opened at 2.15 p.m. on Monday, 16th April and will be open to the public from that time to 5.0 p.m. on that day and on the following days, until Saturday, 21st April inclusive, between the hours of 10.30 a.m. and 1.0 p.m. and 2.0 p.m. to 5.0 p.m. No admission fee will be charged.

The Exhibition will contain many additions to the items shown at Sweech House last year and every member should find a visit of interest and well worth while. Please encourage your friends and neighbours also to spare time to look in.

Volunteers are needed to attend each session just to keep an eye on things and deal with simple matters of superintendence. They will not be alone in the Offices. Will ladies and gentlemen willing to help if only for one half day session please let me have their names as soon as possible in order to arrange a Rota. Please help the Society in this simple but necessary way if you possibly can.

May 2nd - 5th The clergy of the five parishes have expressed their keen interest in a proposal by the Society that the ceremony of Beating the Bounds should be carried out.

The time has passed, alas, since the perambulation was a straightforward one along lanes and field boundaries. So also has passed the inclination (or ability) of many to tramp the distance - varying from nearly fifteen miles for Leatherhead to nine or ten for Ashted and Little Bookham. It is, therefore, intended to beat part of the bounds on the appropriate Rogation Days, May 2nd, 3rd and 4th and the remainder on Saturday, May 5th. The highlight of the event will be the final steps on the Saturday when the Leatherhead beaters approaching from the South will meet the Fetcham beaters from the North at Stump Island on the south side of Leatherhead bridge at approximately 5.30 p.m. A few minutes service in the respective parish churches followed by light refreshments for those taking part will form a fitting conclusion to a ceremony which will, it is hoped, be more often revived in the future.

At the time when it is necessary to send this notice for circulation the details for the parishes of Ashted and the two Bookhams are not available. They should, however, be obtainable beforehand from Parish notices and announcements and from the Church Porch notices if, as is hoped and believed, these parishes will be able to take part. An interest in local history demands as a first requirement a knowledge of one's parish and local authority boundaries. Every member is urged to participate in one parish or another.

The actual arrangements at present fixed are as follows:- (Map references are Natl. Grid, O.S. 51/15).

FETCHAM Rogation Wednesday (May 2nd). Perambulation of the S.E. boundaries, starting from the Lych Gate at 2.30 p.m. (If wet, Thursday, same time and place.)

Friday (May 4th). The S.W. boundaries, starting from Lych Gate at 10 a.m. (if fine).

Saturday (May 5th). The N. boundary started from the Mark Oak, Stoke Road (Eastern edge of Bookham Common) at 3.30 p.m. Map ref. 13505685. Latecomers can join at Cannon Court Farm, Fetcham, at 4.30 p.m. (approx.)

LEATHERHEAD Thursday (May 3rd). N. and E. boundaries. Meeting place and time to be announced in Church Notices and in Porch.

Saturday (May 5th). S. and W. boundaries. Start at 3.15 p.m. at point on Headley Road 50 yards north of entrance to Headley Court (800 yards south of Pebble Lane). Map ref. 19555565. Latecomers can join at 4.0 p.m. (approx.) at the bridge over the R. Mole 200 yards north of the Priory (Norbury Park Farm), map ref. 16875432.

Saturday, June 9th A coach trip to Farnham to go over the Castle, the Retreat House and the Bishops' Palace. Start from The New Bull, Leatherhead at 2.15 p.m.

The charges per person will be:-

Coach	4/6
Tea	2/-
Tips etc.	1/-
		<u>7/6</u>

All applications should be sent to me, stating the number of persons and whether for transport or tea - or both.

General Note: For the benefit of new members the following is repeated.

Owing to the great difficulty in obtaining transport, and to avoid the, sometimes awkward, necessity of having to collect expenses during the course of an outing, members are asked to forward with their application for a place the amount of any charges indicated in the Fixture List. For all applications accepted a receipt will be given which will serve as a Reserved Ticket and will give the time and place for boarding transport where provided. The receipt will similarly reserve tea where desired.

If the transport booked becomes filled up every endeavour will be made to obtain supplementary vehicles: But **EARLY APPLICATION IS ESSENTIAL.**

It will be much appreciated if any Member who intends to use his own car will notify me if he is able and willing to take any passengers. Such members should, in any event, send in the charge for any teas provided in which they wish to share.

Saturday, July 14th A visit to, and tea at, the Old Barn, Burford Bridge, followed by a talk on interesting features in the neighbourhood. Meet outside the Burford Bridge Hotel at 3.45 p.m. Charge for tea will be 2/6. Please apply to me for tickets at least 5 days beforehand.

Details of fixtures for August and September will be circulated later.

Fourth Annual General Meeting

For the benefit of those who were unable to attend the meeting it is reported that the Report and Accounts for 1949/50 were adopted as submitted. The Officers were re-elected en bloc.

At the previous General Meeting a resolution had been passed that a strong protest should be made against the projected demolition of the old Tollgate Cottage, Effingham. The protest had been made and endorsed by the Leatherhead & District Countryside Protection Society, the Historical Association (mid-Surrey Branch) and the Surrey Archaeological Society. The Meeting in 1950 again discussed the matter very fully and arranged for an expert examination of the building to be made by Mr. Foster Elliott, A.R.I.B.A. This has been carried out and further negotiations for its preservation have been entered into. At the time of writing a decision is still awaited.

Following the precedent set at the last General Meeting a lively debate on any topics submitted followed formal business. The main items were (i) the programme of "beginners' talks" proposed by the Committee, (ii) the preservation of local prints and illustrations, (iii) local trees worthy of preservation, (iv) future excavations. A schedule of the "beginners' talks" has been prepared and approved and it is hoped to put it into operation next autumn.

Group Leaders and Hon. Editor

The Society has suffered a sad loss in the sudden death last January of Mr. G.H. Smith, Leader of Group "A". Nevertheless it has been most fortunate in obtaining the assent of Dr. A. Kiralfy, LL.M., Ph.D., to act in Mr. Smith's place; in that Mr. A. Day has accepted the vacant leadership of Group "C"; in that Mr. C.J. Songhurst has agreed to take over the post of Hon. Editor. Such strong additions to the Society's team should enable it to go from strength to strength.

LIBRARY The following additions to the Library List (a copy of which can be obtained by any member who has not had one) should be noted.

General:

Harmsworth "Universal History of the World", 8 vols.
(Donated by Mr. S.G. Blaxland Stubbs, O.B.E.)
"A New Description of England and Wales (Moll, 1724)
(Donated by Mr. Pyke)
"The Chronicle of Jocelin of Brakelond" (Trans. L.C. Jane, 1922)
(Donated by Mrs. Butler)
Surrey Record Society, No. XLVII - Lambeth Churchwardens'
Accounts 1504 - 1645, Part IV.
Surrey County Journal. Further issues to date.

Local History:

"An Experiment in Local History", by J.H. Harvey, F.S.A.
(Reprint from S.A.C. LI).
S.A.C. L. and LI.

Archaeology:

"The Roman Villa, Walton-on-the-Hill, Excavations of 1939-40"
by A.W.G. Lowther, F.S.A. (Reprint from S.A.C. LI)
"Bulletin de la Societ e Royale des Lettres de Lund, Sweden,
1949/50, III.
"Archaeological Newsletter". Further issues to March 1951.

Architecture & Buildings:

"Anglo-Saxon Work in our Churches", by J.E.S. Dallas.
(Reprint from "London Naturalist")

Natural History:

"Plant Life in the Alps", by J.E.S. Dallas (Reprint as above)
"Notes on the Woodlark", by J.E.S. Dallas (Reprint as above)
"The Scenery of England", by Lord Avebury, 1902. (Donated by
Miss Joce)

Local Guides:

Leatherhead Local Guide, 1950.

Local Miscellanea:

Collection of A.R.P. general publications 1939-45.

Yours sincerely,

A. T. Ruby, (Hon. Secretary)