

LEATHERHEAD AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

President - Capt. A.W.G. Lowther, F.S.A., A.R.I.B.A.

Letter 1/69

January 1969

Dear Member,

The following meetings have been arranged -

FRIDAY 31st JANUARY 1969. Lecture - Dr. S.C. Sowerbutts on "Bookham Common". Illustrated with slides.

WEDNESDAY 26th FEBRUARY 1969. Lecture - W. Millar, Esq., on "Windmills".

The above will take place at 8 p.m. for 8.15 p.m. in the Reeves Room, Leatherhead Parish Church Hall. The entrance is opposite the North door of the Parish Church.

Members are reminded that subscriptions for 1969 (ten shillings) are due on January 1st. Early payment to the Honorary Treasurer, W.F. Thuell, Esq., Lloyds Bank, Leatherhead, will be appreciated. Members who may wish to remit by Bankers Order should contact their bank.

Volume 3, Number 2 of the Proceedings should be available early in 1969 and will be distributed as soon as it is available to all members who have paid their 1969 subscriptions.

Back numbers of the Proceedings are for sale at the following prices -

Vol. 1 Nos. 2,4,5,7,8 & 9	3/- each
Vol. 2 Nos. 1 to 4	5/- each
Vol. 2 Nos. 5,6,7,9 & 10	7/6 each
Vol. 3 No. 1	10/- each

Application should be made to the undersigned.

Discoveries made during road-making or building work have to be investigated quickly. So that an emergency excavation may be organized at short notice, will those members who might be able to help in any way please send a post card to the undersigned, giving

Name, address & telephone number
Whether likely to be available on weekdays
Any useful experience on other digs, in
surveying or photography
What tools and transport are available

One of our members, Mr. J.S. Brunning (late of Ashtead) is now associated with the Combe House Hotel, Gittisham, near Honiton, Devon. This hotel near the A.30 and within a short distance of Honiton is steeped in History. This Elizabethan mansion with its stone-mullioned windows and secluded situation provides not only gracious tradition but with its magnificent views and proximity to the Devon coast (7 miles away), an ideal centre for a holiday.

Miss Joan Harding is measuring up and recording a late mediaeval half-timbered building, Slough Farm, Headley, which will be a casualty of the new 'motor-way'. She invites any member to assist in the work or to visit the site. The house is empty, and it is suggested that those going should bring lunch and some hot soup. Particulars are -

Map Reference T Q 200545

Dates - Sunday January 19th & Saturday February 15th from 10 a.m. to dusk. Bus 416/422 runs relatively near the site. There is no service on Sundays, so this is appropriate only for February 15th. Please check time-table.

HISTORICAL NOTES - Leatherhead 77 years ago.

Extract from "The Leatherhead Observer" dated 20th June, 1891.

"I suppose I must congratulate Mr. Leavey that his loss is no greater. A stranger came to the town wanting work as a journeyman tailor. Mr. Leavey took the stranger in. The stranger in another way did the same to Mr. Leavey. After working about a fortnight he decamped with some garments belonging to his master. The articles were not missed until two days had passed. To Sutton he was traced where it was found the goods had been pawned. Mr. Leavey recovered the goods after paying the sum advanced by the pawnbroker. Of the man no more has been heard.

The Swan Corner Man. "

(Mr. Leavey carried on the business now conducted by Mr. Turton in Bridge Street).

In the same newspaper dated 1st August 1891 is recorded "Frank Barney, whose father is cooper at the Swan Brewery fell through a trap in a loft at that brewery into the stable necessitating the attention of Dr. Potts and Dr. Hearnden to injured rib and collar bone. He now progresses fairly."

On 23rd May 1891 Mr. Schoolbred offered for sale

"Barnsley Crush Roller Towel	2½ yards long	9½d each
Linen Huckaback Towels		7½d each
Dusters		2/11d a dozen
Glass Cloths		2/ 9d a dozen
Calicos and Long Cloths		2½d a yard
Bleached Calico Sheets	3/6, 4/11, 5/11, 6/6 and 7/11d per pair	"

The week before he offered

"Full Dress Lengths from	9/11d
Corsets - large stock every size	2/11d to 10/11d
Tailoring - Trousers to measure	9/11d
Suits to measure	35/-
Youths Eton Suits from	30/-

Advance notice is given on 4th July 1891 of the Foresters Fete. "Dinner Wednesday 15th July. Court of Eleanor Rummyn.

Provided by Mr. Stone, late of the Leg of Mutton Inn, Ashtead, who will supply all kinds of refreshments, including tea in a spacious tent erected in a meadow near Thorncroft Farm, kindly lent by Mr. Loxley for the occasion.

Dinner on the table 1.30 o'clock. Price 3/- including admission to the meadow. Bro. S.T. Maybank, Chairman, supported by Rt. Hon. George Cubitt M.P. and Canon Utterton and other gentlemen. Procession will leave the Court House at 11 o'clock headed by the Royal Esher Band. Dancing enclosure, Steam Roundabouts, and a variety of other amusements by J. Manley of Battersea.

No hawking or Scent fountains allowed.

Regalia of all kinds will be supplied by Bro. W.E. Sherlock, Church Walk."

Whitsuntide excursions were offered by the London Brighton and South Coast Railway in 1891

To Portsmouth 4/- Ryde 5/6 leaving Leatherhead at 8.40 a.m.
Portsmouth 5/- Ryde 6/6 leaving Leatherhead at 9.25 a.m.
