

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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

Newsletter 1/70

January 1970

Dear Member,

The following meetings have been arranged -

Thursday January 15th - Lecture on 'Contents of the Guildford Muniment Room' by Dr. Enid Dance.

Thursday February 12th - Lecture on 'Hadrian's Wall' by K.A.Pryor, Esq. Illustrated with slides.

The above will be held at the Leatherhead Institute, High Street, Leatherhead, 8 p.m. for 8.15 p.m. Kindly note your diaries.

The next news-letter, which will announce details of the Annual General Meeting and future engagements, will be circulated late in February.

It is suggested that a coach outing either to Winchester and area, or to East Sussex, be held early next summer. If members have alternative suggestions will they please communicate with the undersigned, and these will be considered.

Members are reminded that subscriptions for 1970 (ten shillings) are due on January 1st. Early payment to the Honorary Treasurer, F.A. Stokes, Esq., Lloyds Bank Ltd., Leatherhead, will be appreciated.

A donation to the Society has been received 'In Memorium of Mrs. F.M. Chapman.' Our deep sympathy is extended to our member, Mr. F.M. Chapman, in his most tragic bereavement.

Help is needed in the excavation of a palaeolithic site at Lower Kingswood (Map reference 243537). Work is taking place at weekends throughout the winter; details may be obtained from Mr. S. Nelson, 20 Rose Bushes, Epsom. (Tel: Burgh Heath 50744).

Any member who might walk on Esher, Fairmile, Claygate or Arbrog Commons is asked to keep a look-out for archaeological finds on the route of the 24 inch gas pipe (now being laid), or the projected by-pass. Maps shewing the exact lines are held by our Chairman, Mr. D.F. Renn (Tel: Bookham 4880) or by Mr. H.J. Webber, 5 Kelvin Grove, Hook. (Tel: 397-4885).

A suggestion has been made that the Historical Notes section of the news-letter be extended to include Notes and Queries. Members are asked to submit any items for future inclusion under this heading to the Honorary Secretary.

Notes and Queries

1/70/1 If any member possesses or knows where a time-table incorporating East Surrey Traction Omnibuses operating in the Leatherhead area may be consulted, will he please notify the undersigned.

1/70/2 Any information, however slight, regarding Admiral Augustus Sinclair Booth, stated by the Victoria County History to have had his seat at Gravel Hill, Leatherhead, will be appreciated. He is believed to have died in 1906. Also connected with him details of either Helen Mason and Caroline Van Gompel are required.

- 1/70/3 "Swimming Pool.  
Under the management of a Committee consisting of the Vicar (Canon Utterton), Rev. A.F. Ruddy, Mr. A.T. Miller, Mr. E. Still, Mr. A. Tritton, Mr. Courage and Mr. Hue Williams, the work of constructing a swimming bath for Letherhead is being successfully carried out. The bath will (D.V.) be opened on June 1st and is situated near the river in one of the barns belonging to Mr. Miller, which he has generously leased to the company at a nominal rent. The water will be supplied by the Letherhead Water works Company." Parish Magazine May 1888
- "The bath is finished and will be opened by the time our readers see this notice. It is 31 feet square and smoothly coated with white cement. Tickets will cost sixpence each and threepence on Wednesdays." Parish Magazine June 1888
- 1/70/4 "Fred Palmer, Watch-maker and Jeweller, Surrey Watch Stores, Leatherhead.  
Noted house for all kinds of Watches, Clocks and Jewellery.  
Gents Geneva Watches from 9/- to £3.  
Gents English Levers from £4 to £10.10.0.  
Ladies Watches in great variety from 12/6 to £5.5.0.  
The noted Waltham Levers £3.3.0.  
Wedding Rings from 7/6 to £3. F.P. gives with each ring half a dozen Silver Teaspoons.  
All kinds of repairs executed on the most reasonable terms, consistent with good workmanship, are done on the premises.  
Clocks wound by yearly contract."  
Parish Magazine January 1889
- N.B. A clock bearing the name of Fred Palmer is in the possession of the Society.
- 1/70/5 "To Let.  
Two stalled stable and coach house with loft over.  
Apply Mr. A. Ockenden, Devonshire Cottage, Letherhead."  
Parish Magazine February 1889
- 1/70/6 "Church of England Temperance Society Meeting.  
In the Chair the Vicar who said 'that though none of the doctors in Letherhead were teetotallers, one had said apropos of the death of a parishoner that intemperance was the curse of Letherhead.'  
Parish Magazine February 1889
- 1/70/7 "It is the sense of this Vestry that the Common now ditching, as is apprehended to enclose that part thereof, to acquaint Benjn. Bond Hopkins Esq., Lord of the Manor, that it is disagreeable to the parishoners of this parish for doing thereof."  
Leatherhead Vestry Book June 4th 1775
- 1/70/8 "At a Vestry held at the Sign of the Duke of Cumberland agreed that the parish do take the house of John Coulton for their use, and put in any person they shall think convenient with the Small Pox, or any other Distemper, paying the said John Coulton £5.10.0. a year for three years."  
Leatherhead Vestry Book March 16th 1747