

# LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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

Newsletter 1/71

March 1971

Dear Member,

The Twenty-fourth Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on 24th March 1971 at the Council Offices, Bull Hill, Leatherhead, by courtesy of the Leatherhead Urban District Council. Coffee and biscuits will be served to members before the meeting from 8 p.m. in the Council Members' Room. It is hoped that the Chairman of the Council, Councillor S.J. Taylor, will be able to attend.

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Twenty-fourth ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Society will take place in the Council Chamber of the Leatherhead Urban District Council at 8.30 p.m. on Wednesday, 24th March 1971, with the following Agenda:-

1. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting.
2. Matters arising therefrom.
3. Presentation of the Executive Committee's Twenty-fourth Report (copy enclosed).
4. Presentation of the Accounts to 31st December 1970 (copy enclosed).
5. Annual Subscription (Rule 3(d)) - Consideration of an Executive Committee recommendation that the annual subscription for an ordinary member shall be 75p as from 1st January 1972.
6. Election of Officers and Committee for 1971.
7. Any other business.

It is hoped that as many members as possible will attend the Meeting in order that it may fully reflect the views of the membership. Item 5 should give rise to a general discussion on the future activities of the Society, and Item 7 gives any member an opportunity to air his or her views on almost any subject connected with local history.

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## Programme for 1971

The gaps in our programme have now been filled, as follows:-

- OCTOBER 19th "The Sutton Hoo excavations 1939-1971". Talk with slides by  
(Tuesday) C.W.Phillips, Esq., O.B.E., F.S.A. (venue to be announced).
- NOVEMBER 19th "Butterflies and Moths". Talk with slides by R.F.Haynes, Esq.,  
(Friday) of the Dorking Natural History Society, 8 p.m. Letherhead Institute.

The Programme Secretary announces that Mr. Frank F. Pemberton of the Nonsuch and Ewell Antiquarian Society has offered to lead a party of our members round the Bourne Hall Museum, Ewell, followed by the excavations at Ewell (mainly Roman). The event will take place on Saturday afternoon, 24th April, and members should meet at the entrance to Bourne Hall, Ewell at 2.30 p.m. This is a great opportunity to see what has been done by a neighbouring Society and for those interested in "digs" a chance to gain experience. Please make a note in your diary.

The bookings for the various outings have been coming in well and now stand as follows:- Selborne, etc. - 79; Bookham Common Walk - 60; Leatherhead Walk - 57; Loseley House - 49; St. Albans - 48. The Programme Secretary will be distributing the coach tickets in a few weeks and those who do not feel certain that they have booked should check up soon for each trip. Members will appreciate that the coaches must run with every seat occupied in order to keep the cost down to the figure quoted. The Programme Secretary must therefore close the lists some weeks before the event in order to ensure the availability of a coach, and

also to ensure that the seating is fully occupied. It is quite rare for those who have booked to drop out, so please do not leave it to the last minute.

With regard to the Selborne trip, we intend to make a slightly earlier start (around 9.30 a.m.) and also keep the coffee halt down to 20 minutes as we would like to arrive at Selborne well before the lunch break. Departure from Selborne for The Vyne should be at 2.00 p.m. Members are asked to note that The Vyne is not normally open on a Saturday but is opening up specially for our party. Major General E.N.K. Estcourt, D.S.O., O.B.E., has written to say that he can talk to us for about 10 minutes on the house and its history, leaving us then to wander at will through the house. The Guide Book is 10p. He has offered to lay on tea at 30p per head but wishes to know how many. The Programme Secretary has visited this property and the catering was very good. He will enquire of members how many require tea when distributing coach tickets.

With regard to the museums, members visiting these may find there is an admission charge at Selborne but the museum at Silchester is free and the Society will make a donation there on your behalf.

Due to an error in the layout of the booking form, some members have indicated that they desire tea at Loseley House. Tea is not provided there, but the Programme Secretary will explore the possibility of tea in or near Compton, where the Watts Art Gallery is situated, failing which he will lay on tea at Grimm's Kitchen, Abinger Hammer, from 5 p.m. onwards for those who have asked for it.

#### A LEATHERHEAD MUSEUM

As forecast in the July 1970 Newsletter, a sub-committee of the Executive Committee met members of the Leatherhead Council to discuss the possibility of establishing a local museum. The sub-committee had previously reviewed the whole position, and had reached the conclusion that it would be best if the Society began in a small way, limited to one glass fronted wall cabinet in a suitable public place, such as the Leatherhead Library. The Councillors gave their full support to any approach we might make to the Surrey County Library Service. The District Librarian was interviewed and a letter was written to the County Librarian at Esher, setting out our proposals, and we were very pleased to receive their agreement in principle to the placing of a wall cabinet in the Reference Room of the Library at the Mansion, Leatherhead.

The intention is that the Society shall stage a number of displays on specific subjects - geology, natural history, transport, local government, etc., - connected with our area, the displays to be changed every three or four months. Groups of members could be formed for each subject, and each group would produce a display with the help of the Society's records and possessions. The Secretary would be pleased to hear from members wishing to take part in such group activities, with an indication of the subjects which interest them. A cabinet will need to be constructed, and any member who is a carpenter or who could assist in any way in this connection, should contact the Secretary, also Members skilled in lettering, model making, map, diagram and sketch drawing, photographic copying etc., etc., will be required. Here is an opportunity for every member to contribute towards furthering the aims of our Society.

#### BOOKS ON LOCAL HISTORY

Members interested in reading books on local history will gain much information from the following, most of which were mentioned by Miss M. Gollancz during her recent talk on Surrey records.

- "Archives and Local History" by F.G. Emmison (Methuen & Co., 1966).
- "Village Records" by John West (MacMillan 1962).
- "How to write a Parish History" by R.B. Pugh (George Allen & Unwin 1954).
- "Local History" by H.P.R. Finberg & V.H.T. Skipp (David & Charles, Newton Abbot, 1967).
- "The Parish Chest" by W.E. Tate (3rd Edition) (Cambridge University Press 1969.)
- "Local History in England" by W.G. Hoskins (Longmans 1960).

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

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

for the Year ending 31st December 1970

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Your Committee has pleasure in presenting its Twenty-fourth Report.

1. Membership

At 31st December 1970 the membership of the Society was 279, a net increase of 20. The Committee was particularly pleased to elect Mr. J.G.W. Lewarne as an Honorary Member of the Society in recognition of his valuable services.

During the year several members have co-operated in a study of the finds from the Society's excavation at Bell Lane, Fetcham. If support is forthcoming, working groups will be formed for varied projects to further the objects of the Society in different ways. The attention of members is particularly directed to the questionnaire which accompanies this Report.

2. Lectures and Visits

The following were arranged:-

January 15th	Lecture: "Contents of the Guildford Muniment Room" by Dr. Enid Dance.
February 12th	Lecture: "Hadrian's Wall" by K.A. Pryor.
March 20th	Annual General Meeting and Discussion.
April 21st	Lecture: "City Churches" by B. Neyland.
May 23rd	Visit to Winchester. Leader - D.F. Renn.
June 13th	Natural History Ramble - Wotton Hatch to Abinger Hammer. Leader - G.A. Clifton.
July 25th	Car Ramble in Surrey. Leader - G. Hayward.
August 15th	Bookham Walk. Leader - S.E.D. Fortescue.
September 12th	Visit to Bodiam Castle, Battle and Bateman's. Leader - D. Bruce.
October 23rd	A Reading of A.J. Ginger's "Leatherhead in Victorian Times" by G. Hayward.
November 19th	Lecture: "Roman Villa at Ewhurst" by Viscountess Hamworth.
December 17th	Leatherhead Historical Miscellany. Contributions by Members.

All the meetings and visits were well attended and the Committee thanks the Lecturers and Leaders for their services. Suggestions for future lectures and visits would be welcomed by the Honorary Programme Secretary.

3. Proceedings

Volume 3 Number 3 was distributed to members during 1970, and it would appear that members are satisfied that the high standard has been maintained. Volume 3 Number 4 is in course of distribution, and articles comprising of original research material will be welcomed by the Honorary Editor for inclusion in forthcoming numbers of the Proceedings. The Index for Volume 2 will be printed shortly, and the Committee would like to thank members who helped to prepare the Index or who typed the material. Back issues of the "Proceedings" are available, Volume 1 parts costing 25p each, Volume 2 parts, 37½p each and Volume 3 parts 50p each. The following parts are, however, out of print - Volume 1 Numbers 1,2,3,4,6 and 10; Volume 2 Numbers 1,2 and 8, and the Committee would like to obtain copies, either by gift or purchase to satisfy the needs of members and others.

4. Committee

The Committee for 1970 were:-

Chairman	D.F. Renn, F.S.A.
Hon. Secretary	D. Bruce
Hon. Treasurer	F.A. Stokes
Hon. Editor	F.B. Benger
Hon. Programme Secretary	G. Hayward
Hon. Records Secretary	D. Bruce
Committee Members	W. Millar, S.E.D. Fortescue, J.R. Bull
" " (co-opted)	J. Parry, J.G.W. Lewarne

The Officers and Members of the Committee retire at the Annual General Meeting, and are eligible for re-election. Nominations, giving the name of the Nominee, the names of the Proposer and Secunder and a statement that the Nominee is willing to serve if elected, should reach the Honorary Secretary not later than two days before the Annual General Meeting.

5. Accounts

A statement of Receipts and Payments for 1970 is enclosed. The Committee acknowledges with gratitude the grants received from the Surrey County Council and the Leatherhead Urban District Council and also the many donations given by Members, and wishes to thank Mr. A.H. Kirkby for his services as Honorary Auditor.

6. Subscriptions

Members' subscriptions of 50p fell due on 1st January 1971, and early payment to the Hon. Treasurer, F.A. Stokes, Lloyds Bank, Leatherhead, will be appreciated.

7. Members of the Committee have given illustrated talks on local history to a number of local organisations, and the Society took part in a local history exhibition at Rosebery School, Epsom.
8. Additions are continually being made to the Society's collection of local records, and the Committee is grateful to several people who have given collections of old newspaper cuttings, postcards and other documents. It has also been possible to copy a number of early photographs, and two additional specimens of Ashted Potters ware have been given to the Society.

7 Fox Lane,  
Little Bookham, Surrey.

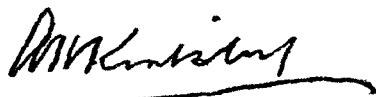
D. Bruce,  
Honorary Secretary.

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

	Previous Year 1969 £	Year under report 1970 £
<u>INCOME:</u>		
Subscriptions	125 7 6	140 17 6
Donations from Members	35 10 6	36 9 6
Grants:		
Surrey County Council	25 0 0	25 0 0
Leatherhead U.D.C.	15 0 0	25 0 0
Lecture Fees	3 12 0	10 12 0
Sale of Proceedings: Maps & Binder Cases	27 11 6	27 13 11
Profits on visits	7 8 11	21 11 0
Trustee Bank interest	3 11 6	3 14 0
	<u>£243 1 11</u>	<u>£290 17 11</u>
<u>EXPENDITURE:</u>		
Printing of Proceedings	177 6 0	137 10 0
Secretary's, Treasurer's, Post, Stationery & general expenses	( 46 18 11	56 3 3
Hire of Hall & A.G.M. expenses	-	6 7 6
Subscriptions:		
Surrey Record Society	-	2 0 0
Council for British Archaeology	1 10 0	3 0 0
Field Studies Council	1 0 0	1 0 0
Leatherhead & District Countryside Protection Society	10 0	-
	<u>£227 4 11</u>	<u>£206 0 9</u>
<u>EXCESS of INCOME over EXPENDITURE</u>	15 17 0	84 17 2
Add: Bank Balances at beginning of Year	260 5 9	276 2 9
Bank Balances at end of Year	<u>£276 2 9</u>	<u>£360 19 11</u>
Comprised as follows:-		
Current account	172 0 8	253 3 10
Trustee Savings Bank	104 2 1	107 16 1
	<u>£276 2 9</u>	<u>£360 19 11</u>

I certify that the above Statement is in accordance with the Books and Records produced to me and is, in my opinion, correct.



24th February, 1971. Honorary Auditor

  
Honorary Treasurer



LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

It would greatly help your Committee in planning future programmes to know your preferences. Will you please help by ticking the appropriate spaces, leaving blank those in which you are not interested.

1. I should attend a talk on - Flowers... Trees... Birds... Animals...  
Fungi... Insects... Butterflies... Fishes... Geology...
2. I am interested in the history of - Individuals... Families...  
Buildings... Geographical areas... particularly in Leatherhead...  
Fetcham... Ashtead... Bookhams... Elsewhere, namely.....
3. The period of history I should like to know more about is -  
Palaeolithic... Mesolithic... Neolithic... Bronze Age... Iron  
Age... Roman... Saxon... Medieval... Tudor... 17th century...  
18th century... 19th century... 20th century...
4. I think the present meetings could be improved by a change of -  
Agenda... Time... Day... Accommodation. or.....  
because.....  
.....  
.....
5. I would take part in - Natural history rambles... Historical walks...  
Visits. Training lectures... and would prefer them to take place on  
weekdays - during the day... - in the evening... on Saturday...  
on Sunday...
6. I prefer local... or distant... visits to beauty spots... houses...  
churches... museums... castles... earthworks... or to.....,  
and would rather have an organised meal... purchase my own meal...  
bring a picnic...
7. I suggest that the Committee organise a meeting on the subject of  
....., a visit to.....
8. I should be prepared to assist in constructing museum exhibits.....  
excavating... studying excavated material... ecological work...  
indexing the Society's records... (Please write your name here if  
you tick question 8; this does not commit you, but you will be kept  
informed of what work is going on 'behind the scenes'.....)

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE HONORARY SECRETARY;

D. BRUCE,  
7 Fox Lane, Little Bookham,  
Leatherhead, Surrey.

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