

Leatherhead and District Local History Society

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

Newsletter 2/72

Dear Member,

NOTICE OF A SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING ON 9th NOVEMBER 1972

7.55 p.m. at the RED CROSS HALL, OAKS CLOSE,

nr. LEATHERHEAD STATION

AGENDA

To amend Rule 5 to include "Vice-Presidents". Rule 5 will then read as follows: Amendments underlined.

PRESIDENT 5. The appointment of a President and Vice-Presidents
AND
VICE-PRESIDENTS shall rest with the Executive Committee.

The 25th Annual General Meeting of the Society took place on 25th March 1972 at the Council Offices, Bull Hill, Leatherhead. The following members were elected to the executive Committee:-

Chairman	D.F. Renn
Hon. Secretary	A.M.Edwards (Belatedly ? - See below)
Hon. Records Secretary	D. Bruce
Hon. Editor	F.B. Benger
Hon. Treasurer	F.A. Stokes
Hon. Programme Secretary	G. Hayward
Hon. Records Secretary	Mrs. M. Fuller
Hon. Publicity Secretary	Miss S. Hind
Committee Members	J.R.Bull, S.E.D.Fortescue, W.Millar
Hon. Auditor	A.H. Kirkby

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THE NEW HON. SECRETARY STEPS IN

I was unable to be present at the A.G.M. and was unaware of the vacancy for an Hon. Sec: my wife very generously volunteered and thereby managed to get her name published twice in the 'Leatherhead Advertiser' as having relieved the Society. However, all along she intended that I should take on the work. So much for the injustice of this world!

Having been previously a mere ordinary member, I had not appreciated the prodigious amount of work your Committee members have to do. I would like therefore to thank them on your behalf for all that they have done for us in the past and now in particular for the friendly welcome and guidance they have given me. I sincerely hope that I can live up to the high standards set by your past Hon. Secretaries.

ANTIQUITIES OF SURREY - HISTORICAL BUILDINGS

Changes in the organization of local government will make it vital to have an up-to-date list of buildings of artistic, architectural or historical interest in our area. Suggestions for additions to the lists published in recent Newsletters would be most welcome.

P.T.O.

NOTES FOR BUDDING ARCHAEOLOGISTS

EXCAVATIONS AT ANSTIEBURY CAMP

Anstiebury lies 3 miles south of Dorking on the road to Leith Hill. It will be excavated by the Surrey Archaeological Society from 10th July to 5th August. Those wishing to help should write to Mr. F.H. Thompson, Society of Antiquaries of London, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London, W.1.

PREPARATION FOR DIGS ON OUR PART OF THE M.25 ROUTE

About 55 names have now been listed of those who wish to help in some way with the operations involved, such as field walking, surveying, noting monuments, checking references, digging and making tea. Any more volunteers should write to me. Please note that we still urgently need a volunteer to co-ordinate the work. It is hoped that not all the 55 volunteers are prospective tea-makers!

A CHANCE FOR GAINING EXPERIENCE ON ANOTHER PART OF THE M.25

A site at Muckhatch Farm, Thorpe (near Chertsey) is being excavated in the evenings and at weekends. Volunteers should telephone Mr. Shenton (Walton on Thames 24396). The site is adjacent to the M.25 route but work is urgent as gravel is being removed now. A "ring ditch" has been located with pottery but it is not yet certain whether it is Iron Age or Bronze Age.

SKELETONS GALORE

Being in Canterbury recently I visited the Chairman (Frank Jenkins) of the Local Archaeological Society at this site near St. Augustine's Abbey and was made most welcome. I looked for him first in the wrong ditch, belonging to the Dept. of Environment, and saw a beautiful pair of legs. Skeleton legs unfortunately. Skeletons are everywhere and are holding up the real work of finding a Roman approach road.

DETAILS OF THE REMAINING PROGRAMME FROM JULY 1972

MONDAY 3rd JULY to SUNDAY 9th JULY

Surrey Naturalists' Trust's Ranmore Nature Trail. Continuous Performance, but if you prefer to go with a Society group, this will meet at 2.45 p.m. on Saturday, 8th July, in the car park at the west end of Ranmore Common. The Common includes the Harrow Way once tramped by Druids and victorious Roman soldiers. In 1780 the Common was a military camp for troops held in reserve during the Gordon "No Popery" Riots.

SATURDAY 22nd JULY

Coach trip to Weald and Downland Open Air Museum, leaving Leatherhead at 2 p.m. Museum is at Singleton approximately 6 miles north of Chichester. Reconstructed ancient wooden buildings.

SATURDAY 19th AUGUST

A walk in the historical part of Fetcham. Rendezvous with Mr. J.G.W. Lewarne in the Fetcham Parish Church drive at 2.45 p.m.

SATURDAY 16th SEPTEMBER

Coach trip to historical Portsmouth leaving Leatherhead at 9.00 a.m. The Portsmouth Historical Association has kindly offered to provide guides.

FRIDAY 29th SEPTEMBER

Our Wine and Cheese Party at the Red House Assembly Rooms will we hope provide an opportunity for more members than can come to meetings, to meet members of the Committee and discuss matters of general interest to the Society.

SATURDAY 30th SEPTEMBER

Visit to Norbury Park, House and Gardens, starting at 2.30 p.m. with a walk up from the bridge at Mickleham. Provided the weather is fine the owner, Mr. Philip Spencer has kindly agreed to allow us to enter the house and to see the Picture Room and presumably also the portrait of William Lock. Mr. Lock was referred to by Dr. Samuel Johnson as one "whose knowledge and taste in the fine arts is universally celebrated." He purchased the estate in 1774, knocked down the old house and had the present house built on higher ground. Perhaps we will see the building housing the horse-operated engine which raised water from the well 361 feet up to the House. In the 1957 Proceedings, the then owner, Dr. Marie Stopes, referred to the engine house and well as still their "sole source of water".

THURSDAY 19th OCTOBER (Public Meeting)

This will be held in the Leatherhead St. Mary's Church Parish Hall. Coloured slides of historic churches of Surrey will be shown by Mr. Lawrence E. Jones, Hon. Lecturer of the Historic Churches Preservation Society. A silver collection will be made to cover the extra cost of the hall.

THURSDAY 9th NOVEMBER

Special General Meeting, 7.55 p.m., RED CROSS HALL. (see first item of the Newsletter) Followed at 8.15 p.m. by a Talk with Coloured Slides on "Wild Orchids of Britain" by Mr. H.W. Woolgar assisted by Mr. H. Vousden, both of The Holmesdale Natural History Club.

FRIDAY 1st DECEMBER

The Leatherhead Miscellany at THE LETHERHEAD INSTITUTE, 8.00 p.m. Members' night for short talks, slides, exhibits and discussions of local interest. Nothing is too small or too short to be accepted. Please book your item as early as possible with the Hon. Programme Secretary.

URGENT - WANTED AN ASSISTANT PROGRAMME SECRETARY

It is becoming all too obvious that Geoff Hayward, conscientious as he is, and in spite of the help from his local agents, has far too much work to do. Running the existing programme is enough in itself, without having to prepare the 1973 programme. WILL SOME VOLUNTEER PLEASE COME FORWARD. Without a programme for next year the Society will fold up. Judging by the number of people who attend our outings (70 - 80 lately) we are a very active Society. Unfortunately the active Committee members are nearly all commuters with little time available in the evenings. What we desperately need is an Assistant Programme Secretary *****

2 Hazel Way,
Fetcham,
Leatherhead.

Antony M. Edwards
Honorary Secretary