

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Newsletter 1/75

March 1975

Dear Member,

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday, 21st March 1975, at the Council Offices, Bull Hill, Leatherhead, by courtesy of the Mole Valley District Council. Coffee and biscuits will be served to members from 7.45 to 8.15 p.m.

NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Twenty-eighth Annual General Meeting of the Society will take place in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Leatherhead, at 8.15 p.m. on Friday, 21st March 1975, with the following agenda:-

1. Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting.
2. Matters arising therefrom.
3. Presentation of the Executive Committee's Report
4. Presentation of the Accounts to 31st December 1974 (copy attached)
5. Election of Officers and Committee for 1975.
6. Any other business

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REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE for the year ending 31st December 1974

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Committee has pleasure in presenting its twenty-eighth Report.

1. The Committee for 1974 was:-

Chairman	S.E.D. Fortescue
Hon. Secretary	G. Hayward
Hon. Treasurer	J.R. Bull
Hon. Editor	F.B. Bengier
Hon. Programme Secretary	E.S. Barnwell
Hon. Records Secretary	D. Bruce
Hon. Membership secretary	Mrs. M. Fuller
Hon. Publicity Secretary	Miss S. Hind
Hon. Librarian	J.R. Gilbert
Committee Members	W. Millar, S.R.C. Poulter, M.A. Snellgrove (Co-opted - R.A. Lever)
Hon. Auditor	A.N. Kirkby

The Officers and Committee Members retire at the Annual General Meeting but are eligible for re-election. Nominations for the Committee should reach the Hon. Secretary not later than 19th March 1975, and should state:- (a) the name of the nominee; (b) the names of the proposer and Seconder, and (c) that the Nominee has expressed his or her willingness to serve if elected. Mr. E.S. Barnwell, our Programme Secretary, will not be standing for re-election and with your help we hope to fill this vacancy thus ensuring continuity.

2. At the 31st December 1974 the membership of the Society was 236, made up of 11 honorary members and 225 ordinary members.
3. A Statement of Income and Expenditure for 1974 is attached. We are most grateful for the continued financial support of the Surrey County Council and Mole Valley District Council as well as for their interest in our projects and recommendations.
4. To those members who have added donations to their subscriptions we offer our special thanks, and we are pleased indeed to acknowledge that without the

regular renewal of subscriptions by all our members and the influx of new "students" our finances could be a problem.

4. Proceedings - Volume 3 No. 7(1973) was issued to members and subscribers rather late last year but it is hoped that No. 8 (1974) will be available very soon. Items of research dealing with local matters suitable for publication should be submitted to the Hon. Editor.

The Proceedings have maintained their high standard. Mr. John Blair is translating from the Norman-French and Latin the 14th century Manorial Rent Rolls relating to Pachenesham Parva which are at the Surrey Record Office. These are a very valuable source material and by doubling the size of the Proceedings the publication of the Rolls will take place over the next three years. Inevitably this project will place an extra burden on the Society's funds.

5. Mr. Derek Renn and Mr. David Bruce not standing for re-election as Chairman and Secretary last year inevitably left a void in the leadership and direction of the Society. However, the Committee ensured that the change was made smooth and easy for the new Chairman and Secretary.
6. During the course of the year a successful series of visits were arranged and were well attended. Members and their friends were present in such numbers at the lectures that we begin to feel that we are going in the right direction and are fulfilling some of our objects, and special praise must be given to our Programme Secretary, Mr. Eric Barnwell. He has worked hard during the course of the year. Visits and other meetings have taken place without troubles and it is with great regret that the Committee has accepted his resignation. He has assured the Committee that he will continue to help the Society with its programme or in any other way.
7. Your Committee has been very much concerned with the Leatherhead Centre Re-development Scheme of the Mole Valley District Council, and arrangements have been made with the Surrey Archaeological Society and the Surrey County Archaeological Officer for Excavations to take place in Leatherhead commencing at a site in or near Upper Fairfield Road.
8. It was agreed that the Society would be supplying a valuable service and gain good publicity by publishing leaflets for each Parish giving brief historical notes in conjunction with a short tour for the casual visitor and new residents. The first leaflet relating to Leatherhead will be on sale very soon at a very modest price. If this "guinea-pig" proves successful, leaflets for the other Parishes will be available quickly.
9. European Architectural heritage Year has presented a challenge, and a sub-committee has been appointed to set up a mobile exhibition for display in the various Parishes and at local functions. This is for the purpose of bringing to the notice of the public and local authorities the treasures in our midst and to encourage their proper preservation.

Consideration was given to the "Memorandum for Urban Renewal in Leatherhead" published by the Leatherhead & District Countryside Protection Society. The desire to restore and preserve a potentially interesting building, Nos.33/35 High Street, Leatherhead, caused us to send letters to the Mole Valley District Council in support of its restoration, and it is understood that the matter is being considered sympathetically.

10. Mr. Lever, an Ashtead member, is chairing a sub-committee for the preparation of a History of Ashtead based on material collected by our late President, Capt. A.W.G. Lowther, A.R.I.B.A., F.S.A. Considerable progress has been made and it is hoped that the history will be available for publication in about two years' time. To ensure that Mr. Lever had every assistance he required, he was co-opted to the Executive Committee during the course of the year.
11. Active steps are being taken to try to purchase a projector for the Society but nothing suitable has been found. However, a member has very kindly allowed the Society the use of a projector on "long" loan.
12. The Committee has been concerned that the knowledge of several experienced persons living in the district may not be used to full advantage, and steps are being taken to enlist their support in an advisory capacity.

Leatherhead Town Leaflet. Our own publication describing the buildings of antiquity to be seen in Leatherhead and arranged in the form of a tour on foot, should be on sale about the time you receive this Newsletter. The price will be only a few pence and the leaflets will be available at meetings. We hope to publish leaflets for the three other parishes very soon.

Keeping-in-Touch. Some of the items of interest discussed in committee since the last Newsletter were:-

A Leatherhead town centre archaeological excavation; Photography of the town centre buildings; purchase of an adequate screen for lectures involving projection of slides or films; formation of a team to exhibit to the public selections from our records; a new publication, "A history of Bookham", by our Chairman, Mr. S.E.D. Fortescue - see leaflet enclosed with this Newsletter; preservation of the Bridge Street petrol pump.

Archaeology in Leatherhead. Small-scale trial excavations have just been started in Leatherhead. The aim is to get badly-needed information about possible archaeological sites that may lie in the area affected by the Town Centre plan. We have been doubly fortunate, firstly in getting permission to work on a site in an area occupied in the 18th century and probably earlier. Secondly, the work is being led by Mrs. Angela Calder, an experienced archaeologist who is anxious to give every help to beginners and near-beginners in excavation. As she is assisting Surrey Archaeological Society on several sites, her work in Leatherhead at present is confined to Saturdays. However, we hope that some Sunday working will shortly become possible.

In addition, if there are members who, for any reason, would like to work during the week, either excavating or processing finds, Mrs. Calder would be very willing to make arrangements for a mid-week visit. Processing work would require some sort of accommodation, such as an out-house or shed. Any offers and suggestions, please, to S.R.C. Poulter (L'head 74773). In addition we should be pleased to hear from those interested in helping to extend our knowledge of the documentary history of central Leatherhead; they can join other members who can give guidance, if needed, on how and where to search for information.

The Society's Records.

Leatherhead at War. The January meeting featured films of the Civil Defence organisation's work in Leatherhead during 1939-45. Thousands of faces flashed across the screen, but only one or two were recognised. The records of the Society are very deficient in details of this comparatively recent period, and the Hon. Records Secretary would be pleased to receive details of who served in what, and would particularly like to be given accounts of incidents, amusing or otherwise, that occurred during Leatherhead's war. Would anyone like to present to the Society specimens of the uniform shoulder flashes of the local Home Guard or any other interesting relic?

European Architectural Heritage Year 1975. A sub-committee is actively planning an exhibition of photographs of buildings of note, well known and not so well known, in our area which will be staged in each parish in turn throughout the summer months. It is hoped that school parties will be organised to visit the exhibitions. It is also planned to offer the exhibition to any fete or garden party organiser who may like to give it space. For details please contact D. Bruce, 7 Fox Lane, Lt. Bookham.

Effingham Women's Institute are holding an exhibition on European Architectural heritage year 1975 on 19th April in the King George V hall, 10.30 am to 12.30 pm and 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm. This is the day of the Ockham walk but a visit could still be made in the morning.

Annual Subscription 1975. As we wish every member to receive their copy of the 1974 Proceedings, please make certain that your 1975 subscription, which was due on the 1st January, has been paid. Sometimes "members" say they have not had their Proceedings and, while we are not infallible, it may well have been that the member had forgotten that another year had come round and the subscription was again due. This, which is £1.25, can be paid in cash or by cheque (payable to the Leatherhead District Local History Society) at Lloyds bank Ltd., North Street, Leatherhead, accompanied by your full name and address.

Membership Forms. Many members have handed in these short forms attached to the last Newsletter. A few seconds only will dispose of this useful task. If you have not already done so, please send yours to Mrs. M.Fuller, 4 Alexander Godley Close, Ashtead.

The 1975 Programme

- Friday 11th April At Red Cross Hall. Talk with slides on "History of Tramways" by Mr.F.K.Farrell, B.A. C.Eng. MIEE.
- Saturday, afternoon 19th April Walk round Ockham under the guidance of the Ockham Local History Society. Meet at Ockham Church 2.30 pm. Anyone needing a lift should contact the Programme Secretary or Mrs.M.Fuller, Mrs. J.Parry and Mr.M.A.Snellgrove.(see Form)
- Saturday 17th May All day coach trip leaving Leatherhead 8 am to Dover Castle and district, calling at Sandwich &/or Richborough if time permits. Leader Mr.D.F.Renn, FSA. Coach fare £1.65.
- Sunday 15th June Full day visit led by Mr. M.Snellgrove to the Arun Valley villages of Amberley, North Stoke & Moughton bridge, the area where James Dallaway, a former vicar of Leatherhead, spent part of his life. Then to Arundel for tea. We leave Leatherhead 9.00 am., coach fare £1.60. Bring lunch.
- Saturday 19th July Visit by coach leaving Leatherhead 9.00 am to the Berkshire village of Steventon lead by Mrs.G.Parry. Steventon contains some fine half-timbered houses, a causeway and an architecturally interesting Church on which Mr.E.Godfrey, a local architect will give a talk. It is hoped to visit nearby Milton Manor house which, according to John Betjeman, has a Chapel and Library in "Strawberry Hill Gothick." There will be an entrance charge of 30p to the manor House where morning coffee will be available, and also toilets. For this trip we have been asked to restrict the number to 29 so early booking is advisable. Coach fare £1.50.
- Saturday 20th Sept. All day visit to Glastonbury and Wells, leaving Leatherhead 8 a.m. Coach fare £2.00.
- Friday 10th October Our Dallaway Lecture this year will be given by Mr. D.F. Renn, FSA, and the subject will be "Great Castles of Southern England." The date is provisional and the venue will be announced in the next newsletter.
- Friday 14th Nov. At Red Cross Hall. Talk with slides by Miss Joan Harding, FSA, on "The Development of Farmhouse & Cottage in Surrey." Miss Harding is an authority on half-timbered domestic buildings.
- Friday 5th December The Leatherhead Miscellany.

All lectures begin at 8.00 pm and are in the Red Cross Hall, Leatherhead, unless otherwise stated.

As is unfortunately well known, transport costs are ever increasing and this is reflected in the coach fares this year. It will however be agreed that those given above are extremely good value for money.

Ipriana, Cobham Road,
Leatherhead.
Surrey, KT22 9JE

G. HAYWARD.
Hon. Secretary.

LEATHERHEAD AND DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

	Previous Year	Year under report
	1973	1974
	£	£
<u>INCOME:</u>		
Subscriptions	340.50	319.75 (a)
Donations from Members	19.75	10.50
Grant from Surrey County Council	25.00	25.00
Grant from Leatherhead U.D.C. (Mole Valley)	50.00	50.00
Lecture Fees donated by Members	12.14	13.05
Sale of "Proceedings" Index and Surplus Books	48.03	40.69
Profit on Visits and Functions	6.01	45.61 (b)
Interest from Trustee Savings Bank	6.40	1.72
Interest from Lloyds Bank Deposit Account	-	42.47
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	£507.83	£548.79
<u>EXPENDITURE:</u>		
Printing of "Proceedings"	204.10	278.00
Expenses of Administration of Society	72.62	40.46 (c)
General Disbursements; e.g. Purchase of Copy of 1871 Census of Ashted and Leatherhead, etc.	-	43.51
Subscriptions to:-		
Surrey Record Society	2.00	2.00
British Council for Archaeology	-	4.50
Surrey Archaeological Society	3.00	2.00
Council for Social Service for Surrey	1.05	-
Hire of Hall for Lectures	-	11.75 (b)
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	£282.77	£382.22
Excess of Income over Expenditure	225.06	166.57
Bank balance at beginning of year	410.00	635.06
Bank Balance at end of year ---	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
	£635.06	£801.63
Made up as follows:-		
Lloyds Bank - Current A/c.	511.18	233.56
Lloyds Bank - Deposit A/c.	-	568.07
Trustee Savings Bank	123.88	-
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	£635.06	£801.63

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

Date *17th Feb* 1975

Honorary Auditor *A. H. Kenworthy*.....

Honorary Treasurer

J.R. Bull
J.R. Bull.

MEMBERSHIP

There are now 11 Honorary Members of the Society.

Recorded paid-up Members for 1974 ----- 225

So the Subscription income from these Members was £1.25 x 225 £281.25

(a) Subscription Reconciliation

Deduct

4 Members who paid their 1974 subscription
in 1973. 5.00

£276.25

Add Sundry Members who paid part or the whole of
their 1973 subscriptions in 1974 33.50

2 Members who paid their subscription in 1974
but were unnamed. 2.50

6 members who paid their 1975 subscription
in 1974. 7.50

£319.75

(b) In the Accounts for 1973 the cost of hiring the Hall for Lectures was deducted from the net Profit on Visits and Functions. This year the two items are shown separately.

(c) Expenditure Reconciliation

Three cheques issued in December, 1974 were not presented for payment by 31st December 1974, :-

1) £4.16

2) £3.00

2) £5.00

£12.16

Consequently they will appear in the Accounts for 1975.

COACH OUTINGS

Please return these tear-off booking slips as early as possible to the Programme Secretary or any of the following Booking Agents:

Ashtead: Mrs. M. Fuller, 4 Alexander Godley Close.
Leatherhead: Mrs. J. Parry, 58 Kingscroft Road.
Bookham: Mr. M.A. Snellgrove, 8 Oakdene Crescent, Great Bookham.

GLASTONBURY & WELLS, SATURDAY 20th SEPTEMBER

Please book.....Seats at £2.00 per person

I enclose £...../+ I undertake to send the appropriate amount
one month before date of the event (+ delete as necessary)

NAME.....

ADDRESS..... Tel. No.....

STEVENTON, SATURDAY 19th JULY

Please book.....Seats at £1.50 per person.

I enclose £.....

Please state if required
Morning Coffee.....
Afternoon Tea.....

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

..... Tel. No.....

ARUN VALLEY & ARUNDEL, SUNDAY 19th June

Please book.....Seats at £1.60 per person

I enclose £...../* I undertake to send the appropriate amount
one month before the date of the event. (+delete as necessary)

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

..... Tel. No.....

DOVER CASTLE AND DISTRICT, SATURDAY 17th MAY

Please book.....Seats at £1.65 per person

I enclose £...../+ I undertake to send the appropriate amount
one month before the date of the event. (+ delete as necessary)

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

..... Tel. No.....