

# LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

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## Secretary

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Ashtead 77876

Newsletter 2/82

31 July 1982

Dear Member,

## INTRODUCTION OF JUNIOR MEMBERS' GRADE

At a Special General Meeting held on 16 April 1982, an alteration to Rule 3 of the Society's Rules was authorised, which allowed the introduction of a Junior grade of membership. This is for members up to and including the age of 18, with no minimum age limit. The subscription has been fixed at £1, which entitles a Junior Member to attend all the meetings, visits etc of the Society, but not to receive the Proceedings.

The Society is most anxious to have a flourishing Junior section, so if you know anyone who would like to join, please get in touch with the Membership Secretary - Mrs C Barrett, The Glen, Epsom Road, Great Bookham, telephone Bookham 52937 - or any member of the Committee. New members can also join by applying at the Museum on Fridays between 10am and 1pm, and on Saturdays between 10am and 4pm.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR NEW MEMBERS

The Special General Meeting on 16 April 1982 also authorised the extension of the time covered by the first subscription paid by new members. Anyone joining the Society after 30 September in any year will not have to pay a further subscription until the second January after joining.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 16 APRIL 1982

This meeting was held at the Council Offices, Bull Hill, Leatherhead, and we were pleased to welcome our President, Mr J G W Lewarne, who took the Chair.

The 1981 Committee were all willing to stand for re-election and there being no other nominations, the Committee was re-elected en bloc. No Public Relations & Publicity Secretary was, however, appointed, as other arrangements could be made for dealing with the Society's affairs. A slip is enclosed with the names, addresses and telephone numbers of the Officers and Committee.

Since the AGM, the Executive Committee has been delighted to re-appoint Mr J G W Lewarne as President, and Mr F B Benger, Mr S E D Fortescue and Dr D F Renn as Vice-Presidents.

## Subscription for 1983

The Committee, having reviewed the likely financial position in 1983, put forward a recommendation that the subscription should remain at £3 for 1983. After a full discussion with the meeting concerning costs and finances generally, a motion was put forward to raise the subscription to £4 in 1983. This was carried by one vote, with ten abstentions.

The largest single item of expense for the Society is the production of the Proceedings. The Committee are seeking to ensure that, without altering the standard of the Proceedings in any way, costs are firmly controlled.

The increase in subscriptions is regretted, but by the time the increase takes effect, the subscription will have been held at £3 for three years.

## MEMBERSHIP

The total number of members of the Society is now 305, made up as follows:

Fully paid up	261
Hon. Members	13
Paying £1-25	13
Paying £2	18

305

We are pleased to welcome the following members who have joined since the last Newsletter was issued:

<u>Ashtead</u> Mr I I Williamson	<u>Bookham</u> Mr G S Barkway Mr E W Culley Mr Mrs D Harris-Deans Mr P H Lepine-Smith Mr B L Worth	<u>Fetcham</u> Mr & Mrs G Austin Mrs M Overend	<u>Leatherhead</u> Miss I H Southey Miss J Martin  <u>Oxshott</u> Mr R W Bastin
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PROGRAMME NOTES

REMINDER - We can still accept a few more bookings for this all-day visit to EWELME and WALLINGFORD, leaving Leatherhead about 8.45am. Details were given in the last Newsletter. Coach Fare £4-60 per person, including gratuity to the driver.

FRIDAY, 15 OCTOBER

The Annual DALLAWAY Lecture at 8pm at the City of London Freeman's School, Ashtead Park, by kind permission of the Headmaster. The speaker will be Miss Joan Harding, FSA, Chairman of the Domestic Buildings Research Group (Surrey), and her subject, which will be illustrated by slides, will be "The Restless House - A Study of Farmhouses and Cottages in Surrey and their Development".

This is an open event and visitors will be welcome.

FRIDAY, 19 NOVEMBER

At the Red Cross Hall, Leatherhead at 8pm, an illustrated lecture by Dr R G Gilbert entitled "The History of Leatherhead Hospital". Dr Gilbert, who is one of our members, is of course well-known in the district.

FRIDAY, 10 DECEMBER

The Leatherhead Miscellany at the Red Cross Hall at 8pm. In due course we should like to hear from members who can present short items on anything connected with local history.

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We are working on the programme for 1983 and have in mind one or two all-day outside events, as well as a full programme of speakers. We also hope to become better acquainted with the history of other nearby areas, with the assistance of their respective historical societies. As usual, however, full details will appear in our next Newsletter.

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DELIVERY OF NEWS LETTERS

Set out below are the names and addresses of those organising the delivery of News Letters in each area:

- Leatherhead - Mrs M E Morgan Owen, 70 Windfield, Epsom Road, Leatherhead. Leatherhead 374660
- Ashtead - Miss J Holman, 20 Forest Way, Ashtead. Ashtead 74593
- Fetcham - Mr G Hayward, Ypriana, 175 Cobham Road, Fetcham. Leatherhead 372674
- Bookham & Effingham - Mr J Gilbert, 34 Greenacres, Great Bookham. Bookham 54956

We thought members might find it useful to have this information in case they have any queries regarding the receipt of their News Letters. If you do not live in any of these areas, please contact the Secretary as your copy no doubt goes by post.

SALES OF PUBLICATIONS

A reminder that we have older Proceedings for sale at 50p each for the following years:

1951/3/4/5/9                      1966/7/8/9                      1970 to 1979

The 1980 Proceedings is available at £2, and the 1981 (current issue) at £3.

Also available are the following publications:

Occasional Paper No.2 - About the Manor of Lower Ashtead	50p
Occasional Paper No.3 - Early Leatherhead	£1-00
Ashtead - a Village Transformed	£4 (£3 to members)
People and Places - Great & Little Bookham	£3-00
Life Begins at Eighty - The Spinney School, Bookham	50p
Leaflets for Ashtead, Bookham, Fetcham & Leatherhead	10p each or four for 30p

There are also other papers at the Museum, such as the Interim History of Hampton Cottage, Etching of the Running Horse, Leatherhead, and the popular "Shire" booklets.

Some of the above items are low in numbers and are unlikely to be reprinted. Call in at the Museum on Friday morning or Saturday, or if you do not see your choice there, ring G HAYWARD - Leatherhead 372674.

#### SURREY SYMPOSIUM

The 1982 Surrey Symposium on Local History will be held on Saturday, 13 November, not at Dorking Halls, but at Sondes Place School, Dorking, where there will be free parking. The theme this year is "Surrey People". One local name that springs to mind is the Rev. James Dallaway, Vicar of Leatherhead 1804-34, and his life could form a large part of any display staged by the Society. Suggestions of other local personalities worthy of inclusion, together with offers to organise the Society's display or to help in this connection, should be sent to the Secretary.

#### POLESDEN LACEY

We have been given a copy of "Country Life" for 12 February 1981, which contains the first part of an illustrated article on Polesden Lacey by Clive Aslet. At the end it states "To be continued", but whether in the next issue or not is not made clear. The part we have gives the history of the estate up to 1906 when it was acquired by Captain and Mrs Ronald Greville; the second part is said to deal with "Mrs Greville's contribution" and we should like it for our records. If any member has a spare copy of "Country Life" containing the second article, or would let us borrow their copy for a short while, would they please contact the Records Secretary - Mr David Bruce - on Bookham 58722.

#### LEATHERHEAD MUSEUM

The current exhibitions consist of a Natural History of Ashtead, by Audrey Elmer and Joan Coombes; a collection of local bottles, jars etc by Clive Wicks, and a series of maps of Ashtead, covering the period 1638-1945 by Messrs Gollin and Lever.

Ashtead members have been most active in supplying exhibitions, and it is hoped that members from the other parishes will not allow their area to be neglected. Everyone has his or her favourite subject ranging from churches to pubs, personalities or public services, and each can form the basis of a small but interesting display. Why not phone David Bruce on Bookham 58722 to discuss the possibilities of staging a small exhibition on a subject of your choice, using the Society's extensive collection of material, with help in layout, captions, etc - or, as usual - will it be left to the others?

Offers of pieces of York stone for Hampton Cottage garden are still required.

#### STEWARDS

Stewards are still required on Friday mornings and Saturdays - the tour of duty is three hours once a month: not a very onerous task. However, if you cannot commit yourself even to this small contribution to the Society's work, maybe you would agree to your name going on to an "emergency only" list - even this will be a great help. Please telephone Joe Parry (Leatherhead 375359) re Fridays, or Ralph Hume (Leatherhead 374520) re Saturdays.

#### "FRIENDS OF THE LEATHERHEAD MUSEUM"

Members who joined the "Friends" last year or earlier, are reminded that their 1982 subscription of £1 is now due and should be sent either to 7 Fox Lane, Little Bookham, or left at the Museum.

"Friends" living in Bookham are considering the possibility of running, some time in March 1983, a "Dinner/Lecture" in the Old Barn Hall, Great Bookham, on the lines of the very successful Ashtead Pottery event. Helpers in all departments will be required, and volunteers are urged to contact Mr S E D Fortescue in this connection. The money raised from this function will be earmarked for the reinstatement of the

toilet at Hampton Cottage - unless someone would like to make a substantial donation in the meantime!

#### ARCHAEOLOGICAL NEWS

In the last News Letter we reported work that Mr Crossland was doing at Givons Grove. He now gives us this further report:

"The site at Givons Grove has now been excavated down to the chalk sub-soil. About 50 pieces of Iron Age pottery have been found. Unfortunately none is larger than 4cm x 3cm and there are no rims or bases. All the pieces are flat, suggesting that they are from the sides of "saucepan" type pots. Some differences in fabric indicate that they are from more than one pot. One large and two small post holes have appeared in the chalk base. The larger has been partly emptied out. Amongst the dark soil were several fire-crackled flints. The area available (only 10' x 5') is too small for a really meaningful excavation but it does show Iron Age occupation which might be associated with the three barrows near the East Lodge of Cherkeley Court and could be contemporary with the settlement excavated by Shepherd Frere on White Hill (Juniper Valley), Mickleham."

Other snippets of news from Mr Crossland are:

A survey with metal detectors manned by Ken Peters of Biggin Hill, and his friends, in the area of Rowhurst Farm, Oxshott Road, Leatherhead, has yielded no information and no finds except a broken bodkin which may be a relic of the ownership of the Farm by Robert Ragge. He was a member of a family in business at Bridge Street as Horse Collar Makers and Saddlers from the mid 17th century until 1905, and as retail leather merchants for another 30 years.

A watch on the oil pipeline through Leatherhead has been kept by Leslie LeMottee and he has found in the spoil heaps thrown up by the contractor, a quantity of tiles, bricks, pottery & clay pipes in the area to the east of the A24 between Epsom Road and Highlands Road. This has been seen by Mrs Ettlinger (formerly Chairman of the Surrey Archaeological Society's Excavation Committee); she has informed Dr Bird (County Archaeological Officer) and passed the clay pipes to Mr Higgins, who is an expert on such things. The NGR is 1965 5655.

#### "HISTORY ON YOUR DOORSTEP"

Nonsuch Antiquarian Society will be holding an Exhibition at Bourne Hall Museum, Ewell, from 9 - 25 September, when a selection of the Society's recent work will be on show under the title "History on Your Doorstep" (A Study of Local History). Archaeological finds, maps, photographs and documentary studies will illustrate many aspects of local history and the Society's 'work in progress'.

Bourne Hall Museum is open from Tuesday to Saturday from 10am to 5pm, extended on Tuesday and Friday to 8pm.

Further information can be obtained from Hazel Wynn Jones, 23 St James Avenue, Ewell, telephone 01-393-2977.

#### ADULT EDUCATION COURSE ON LOCAL HISTORY

The local branch of the Workers' Educational Association, in conjunction with the University of Surrey, has arranged a course on the local history of Leatherhead and District, including location of source material and its use. The course will start on Wednesday, 22 September 1982 at 7.45pm at the Leatherhead Institute. It will run for 20 weeks and it is hoped to include some trips around the area.

Course fees will be £22 reduced to £14 for OAPs. Enrolment will take place at any of the first three meetings, and it is hoped that as many members as possible will give this venture their support.

Members needing further information can obtain it from our own Chairman or from the WEA Branch Secretary, Mr W J H Smith, 34 Yarm Court Road, Leatherhead, telephone 376034.

WANTED - To purchase by L F I Wolters (Leatherhead 376980) Surrey History Vol. 1 No 2; Local Historian Vol. 14 No. 5; and copies of the Leatherhead Proceedings prior to Vol. 2 No.10. Adequate prices paid.

Joyce Fuller  
Secretary