

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Chairman

L A Smith, MBE
Hazeldene
Glebe Road
Ashtead
Ashtead 75466

Treasurer

H J Mears
43 The Glade
Fetcham
Bookham 53071

Secretary

Miss J Fuller
NO 6, Siddons House
Howard Close
Ashtead
Ashtead 77876

August 1983

NEWSLETTER NO 2/1983

Would you please note that the Secretary has moved: not very far - simply from one flat to another in the same building. All that is different in the address, therefore, is the number - it is now NO. 6 (not No 2), Siddons House, Howard Close, Ashtead, telephone Ashtead 77876.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING : FRIDAY, 15 APRIL 1983

57 members attended the AGM at the Red House, Leatherhead, when the various reports provided by the Executive Committee and circulated to all members, were presented. They were all accepted by the meeting, including a recommendation that the subscription remain at £4 for 1984.

The following Committee for 1983/84 was elected:

Chairman	L A Smith, MBE
Treasurer	H J Mears
Secretary	Miss J Fuller
Membership Secretary	Mrs G Parry
Museum Curator and Record Secretary	D Bruce
Museum Treasurer	J R Bull
Sales Secretary	G Hayward
Programme Secretary	Vacancy
Library Secretary	J R Gilbert
Archaeology Secretary	E A Crossland
Lecture Secretary	N H West, MBE
Committee Members	R A Lever, ED, BSc, FLS S R C Poulter M A Snellgrove

OFFICERS OF THE COMMITTEE

We welcome as Membership Secretary Mrs G Parry. She takes over from Mrs C Barrett, who has looked after our membership lists for many years. Our thanks to her for all her work for us.

No Programme Secretary was elected at the AGM. There were no volunteers for this office - possibly because it will be very difficult to find anyone who can follow Eric Barnwell! He has decided it is time he "retired" and let someone else take over the task of being a mixture of history enthusiast and travel agent. If anyone would like to offer their services as Programme Secretary we should be most grateful - please get in touch with anyone on the Committee : a list of names and addresses is included with this Newsletter. Meantime, we can only thank Eric for using up so much time and energy on our behalf.

The future programme is at the moment being arranged by various members on the Committee, each one of them taking responsibility for an outing or lecture. We hope this will produce a programme of the usual high standard, but it is an interim measure, and a full-time Programme Secretary is urgently needed.

NEWSLETTER DELIVERIES

Each of the areas of Ashtead, Leatherhead, Bookham & Effingham, and Fetcham, has a person who takes charge of the Newsletters for their area, sorts them and delivers them to the appropriate distributor - and in some cases undertakes to deliver some Newsletters himself. Mrs Morgan-Owen has been looking after the Leatherhead area for some time but now feels that she wishes to give up, although she has kindly said that if need be she will continue until the AGM next year.

If anyone can take on this duty, please ring the Secretary on Ashtead 77876. We shall be as grateful to them as we are to Mrs Morgan-Owen who, as she has no transport, has tramped many miles to ensure that the Newsletters reach their destination as quickly as possible.

LEATHERHEAD MUSUM COMMITTEE

Since the inception, in 1976, of the project of buying and restoring Hampton Cottage as a Museum of Local History, the Museum Committee has been mainly concerned with fund raising and the restoration. These tasks have been large fulfilled : only the toilet needs to be built, for which funds are still needed.

It is felt that a new stage in the Museum's history has been reached, and that the composition of the committee needs to be changed, with greater emphasis on the running and presentation of the museum. It is suggested that the committee should include in its members a representative of the Society (the Chairman or his nominee), the Curator, the Museum Treasurer, the Museum Secretary, a representative of the Museum Trustees, a Maintenance Manager, a Publicity Officer and a Museum Manager.

The Maintenance Manager would be responsible for looking after the fabric of Hampton Cottage and its outbuildings, and should therefore have some experience in building techniques and would have a team of "willing volunteers" to do any work under his direction, or, if necessary, arrange for the work to be done by professionals.

A Publicity Officer is badly needed - the success or failure of any endeavour frequently rests on the effectiveness of any publicity.

The Museum Manager looks after the day to day running of the museum, ie he/she organises the Stewards rotas, the cleaning of the interior, and the tending of the garden. Ralph Hume currently fills this post admirably, assisted by Joe Parry and Roberta McNulty. The garden has yet to be laid out properly - we hope to do this shortly - and gardeners will be needed.

The Curator, David Bruce, is responsible for organising the displays within the museum, and requires assistance in the planning and execution of the displays, which includes display furniture, staging, caption writing, typing etc. Vernon Wildgoose presently assists with his excellent notices and captions, but other and similar skills are required. Display cases are terribly expensive to buy, but fairly simple to construct by a reasonably skilled carpenter/joiner. The artistic and imaginative arrangement of exhibits within the cases greatly enhances the attraction of any display.

The Museum Treasurer is John Bull.

Volunteers are therefore required for the following: a Maintenance Manager and handyman/woman assistants; a Publicity Officer able to write appropriately to the media and other contacts (schools, clubs etc); Curator's assistants able to undertake display work, "window dressing", or carpentry, and to help plan future displays; and gardeners.

Similar appeals for help from members have been made in the past, with mixed results (sometimes with a deadly silence) and it may be that we shall need to look outside the Society for the volunteers needed. So if you are unable to offer your own services, perhaps you know of someone not a member who might be willing to spare a little of his or her time and skills in the jobs outlined above.

Details to the Curator: 7 Fox Lane, Little Bookham, telephone Bookham 58722.

Please give this matter your urgent attention - the success or failure of the museum may depend on the extent to which this appeal is answered.

LEATHERHEAD MUSEUM

To help pay for the reinstatement of the toilet in the garden of Hampton Cottage, the "Friends of Leatherhead Museum" arranged an event at the Old Barn Hall, Great Bookham, in April, entitled "Bygone Bookham". Such is the reputation of the speaker, S E D Fortescue, that the hall could have been filled twice over, and a hopeful "waiting list" of over 100 names was recorded. The most enjoyable evening resulted in £250 being handed over to the Museum Appeal fund.

Mr Fortescue has kindly offered to repeat the event, and the Old Barn Hall has been booked for the evening of Saturday, 3 December 1983. A raffle, with many prizes, raised over £70, and offers of items suitable for this purpose would be gratefully received. Please telephone Mr Frank Rice Oxley on Bookham 53285.

Tickets for the event will not be sold before October, when they can be obtained, £1 each, from Bob Thomas, 4 Solecote, Great Bookham. A stamped addressed envelope, please, with cheques made out to "Leatherhead Museum Fund".

LEATHERHEAD MUSEUM FUND

The appeal for funds for the reinstatement of the toilet at Hampton Cottage is going well, but we are still £800 short of the target figure of £2,000. Any contributions will be most welcome. Please send them to the Museum Treasurer, Mr J R Bull, with cheques made out to "Leatherhead Museum Fund".

RICHARD HUCK, PHOTOGRAPHER, LEATHERHEAD

We are indebted to our early local photographers, more than any other group of people, for our knowledge of how our area looked up to one hundred years ago; therefore it is only right that we should try to learn as much about them as possible. Recently we mentioned photographers Parrett, Youell and Warren. Now a further name can be added - Richard Huck of St John's Road, Leatherhead. We have just been given a photograph of a group of workmen working on a building at St John's School, Leatherhead, and it is estimated that the date is about 1880. References to Richard Huck appear in Kelley's Directories for 1882 and 1890 but not in those for 1874 or 1899.

Information regarding Richard Huck would be welcomed - he gave the photograph we have the reference number 7714, so there could be many more examples of his work about.

ARCHAEOLOGY NEWS

A watch has been kept on the work being done in the construction of the M25 Motorway. One area has produced a number of pieces of Romano-British and Iron Age pottery, some of it being dated to the middle of the first century. In addition there have been finds of Roman roofing and floor tiles together with pieces of burnt clay daub and nails. Over the whole area there have been struck flint flakes, some with secondary working.

Redevelopment of the Bridge Street Pharmacy site at the top of Bridge Street, Leatherhead, has revealed a well similar to the one in the garden of Hampton Cottage. It had been partially filled in before it could be examined and seems to have been used as a soak-away after it went out of use as a water supply. When found the bottom was dry and the depth was 23 feet below the present surface. The bowls of two clay pipes and several pieces of pipe stem were also found on the site. One has the initial "J" on the left hand side of the spur but the other side is too corroded to be decipherable.

CHURCHYARD SURVEY

The Women's Institute of Bookham are carrying out a survey of the St Nicholas Churchyard. They are making a record of all gravestones and noting the flora and fauna in the churchyard. Help is needed with this survey, so if anyone can offer their services, please get in touch with Dr D F Renn on Bookham 54880.

FUTURE PROGRAMME

SATURDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER. Afternoon walk round Bookham under the guidance of Stephen Fortescue, visiting Sheepbell Farm, Bookham Lodge, Millfield and Manor House. We hope to be able to have a cup of tea.

Meet at 2.30pm in front of Bookham Lodge, Cobham Road - about a mile from Fetcham on the left hand side of the road towards Stoke D'Abernon.

FRIDAY, 14 OCTOBER. THE ANNUAL DALLAWAY LECTURE at 8pm at the City of London Free-men's School, Ashted Park, by kind permission of the Headmaster. The speaker will be Mr Paul W Sowan, BSc, FRGS, FGS, FLS, of the Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society. His subject will be A HISTORY OF UNDERGROUND SURREY, and will cover Medieval of earlier subterranean stone quarries, mines, tunnels and even World War 2 air raid shelters.

FRIDAY, 18 NOVEMBER. 8pm at the Red Cross Hall, Leatherhead. A talk by Professor A G Crocker on PAPER MAKING IN SURREY. Professor Crocker has the Chair in Physics at Surrey University, and is a leading authority on mills of all kinds.

FRIDAY, 9 DECEMBER. 8pm at the Red Cross Hall, Leatherhead. CHRISTMAS MISCELLANY. Our annual evening of short presentations by members. If you would like to be one of the speakers, please contact Mr L A Smith on Ashted 75466 - he is organising this event.

And lastly, but most importantly :

MEMBERSHIP

As at the end of July, the membership of the Society was:

Fully Paid up	238
Paying £3	17
Paying £2	10
Junior members	5
Hon. members	13

283

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

Great Bookham

Mr & Mrs A T Bailey
Mrs E Bromley
Murray Glenister (Junior)

Leatherhead

Mr G Burtenshaw
Mrs O Comer
Mr P Humphreys
Mr R B Hughes
Mr D Williams
Linette & Elaine
Crawforth (Juniors)

Ashtead

Mr C Wright
Mr H C Freeman
Mrs V J Bartlett

Other areas

Miss M M Cunningham (Oxshott)
Mr & Mrs F Mitchell (Fetcham)

Joyce Fuller
Secretary
6 Siddons House
Howard Close, Ashtead

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

APPOINTMENT	NAME & ADDRESS OF OFFICER	TELEPHONE
President	J G W Lewarne, 69 Cobham Road, Fetcham	Leatherh'd 373736
Vice President & Editor	F B Benger, FSA, Duntisbourne, Reigate Rd, Leatherhead	Leatherh'd 372711
Vice President	S E D Fortescue, 56 The Mount, Fetcham	Leatherh'd 372847
Vice President	Dr D F Renn, PhD, FSA, 7 Burrows Close, Gt. Bookham	Bookham 54880
Chairman	L A Smith, MBE, Hazeldene, Glebe Road, Ashtead	Ashtead 75466
Secretary	Miss J Fuller, 6 Siddons House, Howard Close, Ashtead	Ashtead 77876
Treasurer	H J Mears, 43 The Glade, Fetcham	Bookham 53071
Museum Treasurer	J R Bull, 98 Woodfield Lane, Ashtead	Ashtead 72800
Programme Sec	Vacancy	
Membership Sec	Mrs G Parry, 13A Melvinshaw, Leatherhead	Leatherh'd 375359
Museum Curator & Records Sec	D Bruce, 7 Fox Lane, Little Bookham	Bookham 58722
Sales Sec	G Hayward, Ypriana, 173B Cobham Road, Fetcham	Leatherh'd 372674
Library Sec	J R Gilbert, 34 Greenacres, Great Bookham	Bookham 54956
Archaeology Sec	E A Crossland, ISO, Old Berrow, 13 Clockhouse Mead, Oxshott	Oxshott 2589
Lecture Sec	N H West, MBE, 2 Beech Close, Effingham	Bookham 54979
Committee Members	(R A Lever, ED, BSc, FLS, 51 Links Road, Ashtead	Ashtead 72895
	(S R C Poulter, Malham, Guildford Road, Great Bookham	Bookham 58844
	(M A Snellgrove, 8 Oakdene Close, Great Bookham	Bookham 52878