

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Chairman

L A Smith, MBE
Hazeldene
Glebe Road
Ashtead
Ashtead 75466

Treasurer

H J Mears
Beverley
43 The Glade
Fetcham
Bookham 53071

Secretary

Miss J Fuller
6 Siddons House
Howard Close
Ashtead
Ashtead 77876

NEWLETTER 1/85

February 1985

THE LATE MR FRANK BENGER - From The Chairman

It is with great regret that we have to record the death on 21 January 1985 of Mr Frank Benger, a founder member of this Society and Editor of its Annual Proceedings for the past 18 years.

It is always sad to lose a member but when the loss is of a member who was an integral part of the Society from its inception, the sadness is that much greater.

Frank Benger came to live in Leatherhead with his parents in 1924, at the age of 20, at which time he was working for a Bond Street firm of antiquarian booksellers, of which firm he became a Partner in 1929.

His love of the countryside was such that, with other like-minded people, he founded the Leatherhead & District Countryside Protection Society, also in 1929, from which, in 1946, sprang the Leatherhead & District Local History Society. Mr Benger was always a prime mover in both Societies.

He was a very modest man who always decried his own research efforts, but others clearly recognised the value of his scholarship and the very considerable output of articles which resulted from it. His election as a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries was a just reward and one which he valued highly.

Frank Benger's work in connection with the protection of the countryside was also widely acclaimed and achieved recognition of his co-option to the Records, Historic Buildings and Antiquities Committee of the Surrey County Council, on which he served from 1961 to 1974.

He was twice married, his first wife dying tragically after only one year of marriage; he is survived by his second wife, two sons, a daughter and eight grandchildren, to whom we extend our sincere condolences.

THE BENGER MEMORIAL FUND - From the Chairman

Our President has suggested that the Society should set up a Memorial Fund to Mr Benger for the purpose of helping to finance the publication of material which might not otherwise be published. The Executive Committee has accepted the suggestion and accordingly invites donations from anyone who would wish to be associated with the fund. Donations should be sent to the Treasurer, Mr H J Mears, 43 The Glade, Fetcham, Leatherhead, for the credit of "THE FRANK BENGER MEMORIAL FUND".

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING

A Special General Meeting of the Society will be held in the Conference Room, Wesley House, Bull Hill, Leatherhead, at 8pm on Wednesday, 27 March 1985 to consider the introduction of a joint Husband/Wife subscription.

The Committee's suggestion on the amount of the subscription is £4 for the full member and £2 for the partner.

If the principle of the joint subscription is approved, a change in the Rules of the Society will be necessary. The wording for this is set out on the Agenda for the meeting, which is enclosed.

38TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

This meeting will follow directly after the Special General meeting. A set of papers for the meeting is enclosed.

The Executive Committee members retire at the AGM. All are willing to stand for re-election.

Nominations for the Committee should reach the Secretary not later than Wednesday, 20 March 1985 stating:

1. The name of the nominee
2. The names of the proposer and seconder
3. The office for which he/she is nominated
4. The nominee's expression of willingness to serve if elected.

We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible on 27 March: last year we had the biggest attendance ever.

For those of you who may not know, the venue for the two meetings is in fact the usual one: the Council Chamber of the old Council offices, which have been named Wesley House. Unfortunately there are no longer any facilities for making coffee, so we cannot offer you refreshment on your arrival. However, we have the use of the small ante-room which will give plenty of room for members to meet each other.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

May we remind you again that your subscription of £4 (Juniors £1) was due on 1 January 1985. A remittance form was enclosed with your last Newsletter. Subscriptions are coming in very well, but we would like to have them as soon as possible please.

PROGRAMME

The following programme has been arranged for the coming months. Those lectures being given at the Red Cross Hall, Leatherhead, will be at 7.45pm for 8.15pm, and coffee (not tea) will be served before the lectures start.

FRIDAY, 15 MARCH - "Fanny Burney" - Red Cross Hall

The lecture will be given by Mr R V Shepperd and will be of particular interest following the Society's visit to Juniper Hall, with which house Fanny Burney had very close connections.

Mr Shepperd is author of a recently published history of Westhumble and Mickleham, is a member of the Westhumble Society and a recognised authority on the local history of the area.

WEDNESDAY, 27 MARCH - Special General Meeting, 7.30pm for 8pm in the Conference Room of Wesley House, Bull Hill, Leatherhead - followed by

The 38th Annual General Meeting of the Society.

Papers for the meetings are enclosed.

FRIDAY, 12 APRIL - "History in the Making" - Red Cross Hall

Mr David Ellis has been compiling a history of Queen Elizabeth's Foundation for the Disabled, which began in 1934 with the opening of what was then called The Cripples' Training College at Leatherhead Court. Mr Ellis is Deputy Director of the Foundation, which operates the College and Dorincourt, and he will talk about various aspects of local history which have come to light during his researches.

SATURDAY, 18 MAY - Whole day visit to Singleton Museum and Chichester

A whole day visit by coach to the Weald and Downland Open Air Museum, Singleton, and to Chichester, led by Dr D F Renn, and organised by Mr J R Gilbert. Departure time about 9.30am - picking up points and exact times to be notified individually. Due back about 6.30pm. Cost £7 per person, including coach, gratuities, admission to Weald & Downland Open Air Museum, and afternoon tea. Lunch at Singleton, where light refreshments are sold (under cover) in the Museum grounds; there are also picnic places and two pubs very near. A booking slip for return to Mr Gilbert is enclosed with this Newsletter.

"WALKS" - New arrangements

It has been decided that a charge of 50p per person will be charged for participation in the various "Walks" arranged by the Society. There are certain costs involved in

arranging these walks, and the small charge will help to cover these. We cannot guarantee to refund your money if in the end you cannot join in. Booking slips are enclosed.

SATURDAY, 8 JUNE - Walk round Fetcham

This will be led by Mr J Lewarne and Mr G Hayward. Meet at 2.30pm at Budgens, Cobham Road, Fetcham. The walk will take in the village part of Cobham Road, The Street and the Church area.

SATURDAY, 13 JULY - A walk round the Chalk Lane area of Epsom, organised by Alan Gillies and led by Ian West. Meet outside "The Ladas" pub in Chalk Lane at 2.30pm. The walk will start with a visit to Mr West's house in Chalk Lane - followed by a walk round the area. Maximum number 30. Booking slip enclosed.

In this instance, your 50p contributions will be donated to the Ewell Church Restoration Fund.

SATURDAY, 27 JULY - Visit to Stoke D'Abernon Manor House

Meet at 2.30pm at the Manor House (signposted as Parkside School). The walk will be led by Mr L A Smith. Maximum number 30. Booking slip enclosed.

If possible, a visit will also be paid to the Church.

Further details of later events will be given in the next Newsletter, but we can tell you that the Dallaway Lecture this year will be given by Mervyn Blatch, and his subject will be "European Cathedrals". The date is Friday, 18 October at the City of London Freeman's School.

WALK FOR JUNIORS

Mr Crossland has said that he is willing to lead another "walk" for the Juniors ONLY (once again, no senior members will be allowed to take part). No date has yet been fixed: we want to find a warmer day than last year. But if you have any ideas, Juniors, of where you would like to go and what you would like to do, Mr Crossland is waiting to hear from you. His address is: Oldberrow, 13 Clockhouse Mead, Oxshott, and the telephone number is Oxshott 2589. No charge for your walk.

This seems a good place to give a special welcome to a new 11-year old member - Ekpen Akenzua - whom we look forward to meeting at our events.

LEATHERHEAD INSTITUTE LIBRARY

Members may know that the Lending Library at the Institute is due to close on 31 March 1985 owing to the high cost of running it.

An arrangement has been made with the Institute Trustees by which the History Society will be allowed space for housing its Leatherhead archives and its own collection of books, in return for the Society endeavouring to keep the Library open for two or three afternoons a week using volunteer helpers.

A member, Mr Sumption, has agreed to assume overall responsibility for the project after he ceases work on 31 March 1985, but in the meantime the Chairman would be glad to hear from any members who would be willing to help.

PUBLICATIONS

The new Proceedings - Volume IV, No 7 - is now available to those members whose 1985 subscriptions have been paid. The publication is being distributed as rapidly as possible.

"Ashtead - A Village Transformed" - As you know, this book is out of print, but we do occasionally receive requests for it. If you have a spare copy of either edition which you can let us have in order to satisfy these requests, we should be very grateful. Please contact the Sales Secretary, Mr G Hayward - Leatherhead 372674.

HAMPTON COTTAGE - From David Bruce

Maintenance of Hampton Cottage is a continuous task, and several members have, during the year, helped by painting a door or window frame, and this work will continue in 1985. Why not "Adopt a Door" or "Paint a Window" in 1985? Offers of help to the Curator (materials supplied!). (Why not agree to be responsible for the maintenance of a specific door or window frame?)

MUSEUM GARDEN - From David Bruce

Geoff Hayward and his team will have completed the building of the dwarf brick walls, and the York Stone paving by the time the Museum opens again on 13 April 1985. The flower beds will need filling with simple, old-fashioned plants. Healthy well-grown plants of the smaller varieties (pansies, aubrietia, etc) which are not rampant spreaders and preferably just about to flower, would be most welcome. Also there should be at least one clump of hollyhocks! Please bring along to the Museum anything you think would be suitable, on Saturday morning, 13 April.

ITEMS FROM THE RECORDS SECRETARY

Henry Gray - Artist

According to the 1871 census, Henry Gray lived at The Laurels, High Road, Leatherhead, his occupation being given as Artist. Can anyone clothe these bare bones with a little flesh? This is all we seem to know about this gentleman.

Georgian Press

In an extract from "The First World War 1914-1918" by Lt Col C à Court Repington, Military correspondent of The Morning Post (Constable & Co, 1920), which mentions several visits to Polesden Lacey and the guests there of Mrs Ronald Greville, the following intriguing comment is made:

"Lunched with E, who sees much of the Georgian Press Confraternity, who all live near each other in the Leatherhead district. She has defended me, she says, very warmly in this quarter. I expect that I need it."

What was the Georgian Press? Who were the Confraternity? Where did they live? Who was "E"? About what was she defending the author?

Leatherhead & District Sports Association

The Society have been given the Committee Minutes and other documents concerning the now defunct Leatherhead & District Sports Association, which flourished from 1951 - 1981. These documents may be seen by anyone interested in the subject.

Local News 1906 - More items from The Epsom Observer and Mid-Surrey County Chronicle
30 November 1906

"Epsom Board of Guardians

Members of the Board included Mr A Taylor (Ashtead), Mr H J Adkins (Great Bookham), Mr W G Loxley (Little Bookham), Miss G Rickards and T J Leavey (Leatherhead). Other areas represented were Banstead, Carshalton, Cheam, Chessington, Cuddington, Epsom, Ewell, Headley, Stoke D'Abernon and Sutton. The only item concerning our area related to the purchase of potatoes for the workhouse. Tenders were received from Mr Denny, Covent Garden, 90s per ton; Mr Murray, Bookham, 80s per ton, and Miles Bros, Epsom, 92s 6d per ton. Mr Murray's tender was accepted.

The Master reported 403 in the house as against 453 last year and 142 vagrants as against 253 the previous year on the corresponding date."

"Epsom & Leatherhead District Commons and Footpaths Preservation Society.

The Executive Committee included Messrs A W Willis, M W Marshall, O S Partridge, Lionel Littlewood, E Step and W J Parkinson Smith, representing Ashtead, Messrs J H Carpenter, W Conway, F Kingsnorth, B H Ludford, E J Stevenson and H Hewgill Lansdowne (Hon Secretary and Treasurer) representing Leatherhead.

The President, (Sir Thomas Bucknill) had telegraphed that he was unavoidably detained.

Matters discussed included names of 29 witnesses who had known and used Downs Lane footpath for periods ranging from 20 to 75 years; Epsom Rural District Council had, as desired by the Leatherhead Council, erected a guide post at Mill Way, indicating

the public bridle road by Tyrrell's Wood; and the erection of two inconvenient stiles (where none formerly existed) across Rowhurst footpath, and suggested the substitution of convenient wicket gates."

"Presentation to Rev F G L Lucas

A packed St George's Parish Room saw the presentation to the Rev F G L Lucas on his leaving the parish to take up the living of Compsea Ashe, Suffolk. He had been Rector of Ashted for 19 years. The presentations included a gold watch inscribed '1887-1906 Presented to the Reverend Francis Granville Lewis Lucas, MA on his resigning the Rectory of Ashted by his parishioners, as a mark of their esteem and regard'; a cheque for £40 and a morocco bound book containing the list of subscribers (250)."

The report, with a photograph, takes up one and a half columns of print.

LIST OF VOLUNTEERS FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK IN SURREY

In the last Newsletter, we published an appeal for volunteers to assist with excavations or other archaeological work in the county, particularly during normal working hours. We have had replies from six volunteers - four female and two male - none of whom have any experience but are willing to have a go at whatever needs doing. One of them is an architect who has offered to draw finds and plans. However, more helpers are needed, and for our own work we badly need a surveyor. Would any of you who are interested and can help in this work, please complete the form and return it to Mr E A Crossland, our Archaeological Secretary, whose address is given on the slip.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL NEWS - From Mr E A Crossland

Early in November, Tim Pygott and myself helped the Secretary of the Surrey Archaeological Society, John Gower, to investigate the nature of the soil at a site off Church Street, Dorking, with a view to mounting a full scale excavation next Easter. The area is a garden of about a quarter of an acre which has been levelled by about a yard of soil brought from elsewhere. Although only 1½ cubic yards of soil came out of the trial trench to reach the sub-soil of sandy clay, three pieces of one Roman coarse grey ware vessel was found, pieces from two others, and the handle of a later period jug.

Following a report that a sub-basement had been found below the cellar of The Mansion, a day was spent measuring the southern part of the basement and assessing the possibilities for emptying the accumulation of boiler-ash with which the sub-basement had been filled. The basement itself is constructed of brick laid in English bond and is barrel vaulted. But the brickwork has obviously been built within an earlier structure which is chalk clunch with a few squared flints. The sub-basement seems to be similarly barrel vaulted and within earlier walls. Until the ash has been removed, it is not possible to get into this lower area. Ernest Armstrong is in touch with the County Council department responsible for the building, and arrangements have been made with Surrey Archaeological Society to obtain the necessary insurance cover should permission be given for further investigation.

Watch is being kept on the Milner House site in Ermyrn Way where re-development is taking place, but so far nothing of note has been seen.

No 1, North Street, Leatherhead, lately occupied by the Anglia Building Society and at one time the butcher's shop of A Hartshorn, is being gutted. It was originally a timber-framed rectangular building with the long sides parallel with the street. What little remains of the framing is in the gable ends to the north and south. Measurements have been taken. Miss Joan Harding, of the Domestic Buildings Research Group, has looked at the place and reported that it is not worth spending time making full-scale drawings. Unfortunately it is not possible to examine the roof timbers as the loft is boarded. Where one board was loose, a small section of roof could be seen and this appeared to be of imported wood. The trench along the north side of the site revealed a well 4ft in diameter and, like the well at Hampton Cottage, filled with broken beer bottles from the Swan Brewery. The present top of the brick lining of the well is 4ft below the modern ground level and is 33 feet from the North Street frontage. This lining is laid entirely in headers very roughly mortared to a depth of 5 feet. Below this the sides seem to be a mixture of clay and chalk, but as the builders had exposed only a few inches below the brickwork and were about to fill the well with concrete, it was not possible to investigate further. The draw-pipe for a pump continued down below the level to which the filling had been removed.

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Special General Meeting to be held in the Conference Room,
Wesley House, Bull Hill, Leatherhead, at 8pm on Wednesday,
27 March 1985

The meeting will consider the introduction of a combined Husband & Wife subscription. The Committee's suggested subscription is £4 + £2, and will carry the right to one set of papers and one copy of the Proceedings only. If the introduction of this new subscription is approved, an alteration to Rule 3 of the Society's Rules becomes necessary. The meeting will be asked to approve the following amendment:

Rule 3(a) - There shall be four classes of Members, viz, Honorary Members, Ordinary Members, Junior Members and Joint Husband & Wife membership.

New Rule 3(h) - Joint Husband & Wife subscriptions carry the right to one set of papers and one copy of the Proceedings only.

New Rule 3(i) - Joint Husband & Wife subscriptions shall be such sum as shall be determined at a General Meeting upon notice of the intention to vary the subscription.

Present Rules 3(h) and 3(i) to be renumbered 3(j) and 3(k).

NOTICE OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 38th Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held in the Conference Room, Wesley House, Bull Hill, Leatherhead, following the Special General Meeting at 8pm.

A G E N D A

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the 37th Annual General Meeting (Copy attached)
3. Matters arising from the Minutes
4. Presentation of the Executive Committee Report (Copy attached)
5. Presentation of the Society's Accounts for the year ended 31 December 1984 (Copy attached)
6. Report of the Museum Accounts for the year ended 30 September 1984 (Copy attached)
7. Review of subscription for 1986
8. Election of Officers and Committee for 1985
9. Appointment of Honorary Auditor
10. Any other business

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Item 2

MINUTES of the 37th Annual General Meeting held at 8pm on Friday, 30 March 1984, at the Council Offices, Leatherhead

PRESENT: Mr J G W Lewarne (President)
Mr L A Smith (Chairman)
72 Members of the Society

Mr Lewarne welcomed members to the meeting.

Before beginning the business of the meeting, Mr Lewarne said he felt he must make some reference to the death of Mr Francis Dalton, who was well known to many. The last time members met him was on a visit by the Society to Dorchester Museum.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - Received from Mr F W Benger, Mr S E D Fortescue, Mrs J R Gilbert, Miss J Madgwick, Mr C B Pringle, Mrs J E Spencer, Mr L Sumption.

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Two amendments were requested by Miss Burrough:

Item 8, Line 7 - The spelling of her name was incorrect. Item 12(g) - Substitute:

"Miss Burrough enquired whether anything had been done to get the name North Leatherhead changed to Leatherhead Common. It was felt that no action by the Society was possible or likely to have any effect."

With these amendments, the adoption of the Minutes was proposed, seconded and agreed by the meeting.

3. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

4. PRESENTATION OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S REPORT

Mr Smith presented this report which he felt showed a fairly satisfactory year.

Proceedings - Despite ill-health, Mr Benger continued to produce a first-class publication.

Leatherhead History - Two sections of this have been written in draft.

Georgian period - Little further research on this period had been done owing to the death of two of the team and much illness amongst the remaining researchers.

Mr Smith thanked Mrs Vardey for the work done and the responsibilities she had taken on.

Society's Records - Mr David Bruce wished to resign as Records Secretary as soon as satisfactory alternative arrangements could be made. The records were being divided into self-contained parts coinciding with the individual parishes and were being located in the parishes concerned.

An Archivist for the Leatherhead records was needed.

Mr Smith said that Mr Bruce had been appointed Chairman of the Surrey Museum Council.

Programme Secretary - No volunteer had come forward to take over this post. A replacement for Mr Barnwell was still urgently needed.

Public Relations - Thanks were expressed to Mr Vernon Wildgoose who for many years had produced all the art work for the posters used by the Society, and much other art work as well. Unfortunately Mr Wildgoose had now resigned and a successor to him was needed.

In Mrs Charlish we were fortunate in having a Public Relations Officer for both the Society and the Museum. Our thanks to her for having taken over this work.

Library - Mr John Gilbert continued to do extremely good work as Librarian. Several donations had been made to the Library over the year, including a number of books from Miss Sheila Hind for sale for the Society's funds. Mr Gilbert would put them on sale at the next monthly meeting.

Archaeology - Mr Crossland, the Archaeology Secretary, was keeping a watch on the M.25 works, and on other sites of likely archaeological interest.

General - Mr Smith said that the Council were now consulting the Society much more than previously on matters such as preservation areas.

The Council has been asked to retain, on historical grounds, the Council Chamber and its ante-room. It is understood that this request is likely to be granted for one year in the first instance, with the intention of allowing the rooms to be used for meetings of local organisations.

35 High Street, Leatherhead - "Cradlers" - This site is now to be developed although the Council have in the past assured the Society that the building would be restored. The Council has given an assurance, however, that they are still committed to preservation.

"Pestle & Mortar" - Mr Smith and Mr Bruce had been invited to attend at 5 Bridge Street, Leatherhead, on 4 April 1984 to receive the pestle and mortar which had hung over the old pharmacist's shop on that site.

(Mr Lewarne reminded the meeting that this is a replica, the original having been destroyed by a lorry some years back.)

Thanks

Mr Smith thanked all those who contributed in whatever way to the running of the Society. Apart from those already mentioned, he would particularly like to thank:

- The Executive Committee for carrying out their duties so well
- All those connected with the distribution of the Newsletter (which, as Mr Bruce remarked, was saving the Society a considerable amount of money on postage).
- Mr John Bull for producing all the Society's "domestic" printing.
- Mr & Mrs Gilbert for providing the refreshments at all our meetings.
- Miss McNulty was cleaning the Museum.
- Mr Morris Snellgrove for many years' service on and off the Committee. Mr Snellgrove was now retiring from the Committee but we hoped still to see him at meetings.
- Mrs Crawforth for acting as Press Officer for some time
- Mr Gilbert for organising the visit to Rye and Bodiam
- Mr Gillies for organising the visit to Christchurch.

The adoption of the Executive Committee's Report was proposed, seconded and agreed by the meeting.

Mr Read said that a section of the Surrey Trust for Nature Conservation were hoping to move to accommodation in the caretaker's house adjacent to the Library. The space is more than they require and Mr Read suggested that the Society could take over part of it for its records.

5. PRESENTATION OF SOCIETY'S ACCOUNTS FOR 1983

Mr Mears presented the Society's accounts for 1983. These showed a deficit of £435-72 over the year, brought about by the fact that the 1983 issue of the Proceedings was produced earlier than usual and consequently two issues from the Printers had to be paid for in the same year. The position would right itself in 1984.

Membership - and therefore income from subscriptions - was holding steady.

Surrey Local History Association

It was suggested that the Society should become a member, thus giving us access to their records. The annual subscription was not known.

Mr Lewarne said he was against subscribing to too many organisations and asked the Committee to consider this carefully.

Accounting of Proceedings

Mr Read congratulated Mr Mears on the accounts but suggested that the second Proceedings produced this year should appear as a Sundry Creditor. After discussion it was agreed not to enter the amount under this heading.

The adoption of the accounts was proposed, seconded and agreed by the meeting.

Mr Mears thanked the Hon. Auditor for his help with the accounts.

6. REPORT OF MUSEUM ACCOUNTS

Mr Bull introduced these accounts. He said that the funds of the Museum were satisfactory. Annual reserves for repaying the principal loan in 1996 are going well ahead of the original estimate of amount required.

Most of the work on the new block has been paid for. There is still some outstanding, but there are enough funds in hand to cover it.

7. REVIEW OF SUBSCRIPTION FOR 1985

After careful consideration of the Society's financial position, the Committee recommended that the subscription should remain at £4 for 1985.

This recommendation was proposed, seconded and agreed by the meeting.

8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

No prospective Programme Secretary had come forward and no nomination had been received for one vacancy on the Committee.

The present Officers and Committee members were willing to continue and it was proposed, seconded and agreed that they be re-elected en bloc.

9. APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY AUDITOR

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that Mr B A Kirkby should be reappointed.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) Visit to Rye and Bodiam - More bookings were needed; 33 places had been taken.
- (b) Museum - Mr Bruce reported that the new building was now complete. The key to it was kept in the meter cupboard in the front room.

The bill for this work was £2,648-80. £2,000 had been paid, thus leaving £648 outstanding. We have received an offer from a member for an interest free loan.

"The Friends" are holding a meeting at the Red Cross Hall on 27 April 1984 to elect a Committee to run their affairs.

The Museum was opening on the first week-end in April on Fridays and Saturdays, although they are hoping to open on Thursdays as well. Stewards are needed to be on duty for one day a month. Members should contact Mr Ralph Hume if they can help.

The Reigate & Dorking Branch of the Embroiderers Guild are having an exhibition in the Museum in the first two weeks of May.

- (c) Proceedings - Mr Hayward said that the new Proceedings were on hand for fully paid up members.
- (d) Mr Francis Dalton - Mr Snellgrove said he wanted to express his personal grief at the death of Mr Francis Dalton. This Society had in fact sprung from an advertisement he put in the local paper in 1946.
Mr Snellgrove also said that he had attended every AGM of the Society since its inception, and the present meeting had the biggest attendance ever - a very satisfactory state of affairs.
- (e) Index for Volume III of the Proceedings - In reply to a question from Mr Gollin, Mr Smith said that John Blair had now finished his work on the Index and would be delivering a draft shortly.

(f) Binders for Proceedings - It was noted that these were still available at 30p each.

There being no further business, Mr Lewarne thanked members for attending, and closed the meeting.

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Item 4

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1984

Executive Committee for 1984

Chairman	L A Smith, MBE
Treasurer	H J Mears
Museum Treasurer	J R Bull
Secretary	Miss J Fuller
Archaeology Secretary	E A Crossland, ISO
Editor	F W Bengier, FSA
Lecture Secretary	N H West, MBE
Librarian	J R Gilbert
Membership Secretary	Mrs G Parry/Miss J Fuller
Programme Secretary	Vacancy
Museum Curator & Records Secretary	D Bruce
Sales Secretary	G Hayward
Committee Members	R A Lever, ED, BSc, FLS S R C Poulter

MEMBERSHIP

The number of members as at 31 December 1984 was 286 including 13 Honorary Members and 4 Juniors.

PUBLICATIONS

Sales of the Society's own publications and those from other sources were steady throughout the year.

Proceedings - Volume 4 No 7 was distributed during the year.

Leatherhead History - Work progressed steadily and it is now hoped to publish in November 1985. It has been decided that sponsors should be sought to help with the cost of the publication.

LEATHERHEAD MUSEUM

The Museum was again open on Friday mornings and Saturday mornings and afternoons during the months April to December, and was staffed by volunteer Stewards, the rotas being organised by Messrs Hume and Parry. Our grateful thanks go to all those involved, as well as to Miss Roberta McNulty and Mrs Freda Crawforth who kept Hampton Cottage clean.

Displays on various aspects of local history were staged, and the local branch of the Embroiderers' Guild put on a most attractive exhibition of work for three weeks, whilst the Surrey Museum Council lent us their "Bricks and Tiles in Surrey" display for a month, which was visited by several school parties. We welcomed Mrs May Cree who agreed to coordinate and help stage future exhibitions, and she would appreciate offers of help or suggestions of suitable subjects.

The Museum Trustees were able to pay for the new Toilet and Store Block, and also for the materials for the dwarf brick walls etc in the garden, thanks to donations from many sources, as reported last year. The Trustees would have found themselves "in the red" but for the generous loan of £500 from an Ashtead member. This loan must, of course, be repaid, so donations, however small, will be welcome. Several members gave practical help by decorating the inside of the Toilet block or by painting a door or a window in the cottage.

Geoff Hayward and his small team of "brickies" are saving the Museum a considerable sum by constructing the garden walls and laying the York stone paving in their spare time, although they have been hampered by the exceptionally wet autumn. It is hoped that the garden will be fully set out and planted by the time the Museum reopens in April and that it will be the setting for one or two events being planned.

THE SOCIETY'S RECORDS

The year's growth of the Records was mainly on the photographic side, largely owing to the willingness of Ralph Hume to copy, at minimal cost to the Society, the many old photographs that have been shown to us during 1984. He also produced slides of the more interesting photos.

The existence of the Leatherhead Museum continued to encourage more people to give to the Society objects with local associations, such as a series of commemorative mugs dating from 1887 onwards, said to have been given to Leatherhead schoolchildren; the pestle and mortar shop sign from Bridge Street; several pieces of Ashtead pottery; A bronze coat of arms of the Leatherhead UDC, and, largest of all, the manual telephone switchboard from the Leatherhead Hospital.

Messrs Gardner (Ashtead 72219) and Hayward (Leatherhead 372674) continued to hold respectively the Records for Ashtead and Fetcham, whilst the Leatherhead and Bookham material remained with David Bruce (Bookham 58722).

LIBRARY

An up to date list of the books in the Library was prepared and circulated to members. The process of improving the contents, as well as enlarging it, continued. Gifts of books either for sale or for the Library itself were much appreciated.

PROGRAMME

No volunteer to take over the post of Programme Secretary came forward during the year, and a small Sub-committee of members of the Executive Committee continued to arrange the programme of events.

Two all-day visits were made - to Christchurch, and to Rye and Bodiam. Two "walks" were also taken - round Cobham (following a talk on the town) and Guildford. Monthly meetings were held throughout the winter, the Dallaway lecture in October being given by Mr F H Thompson whose subject was "Surrey Hill Forts". All lectures were well attended and a sales table was manned at each one of them.

For the first time there was a "walk" for Junior Members only. Mr Crossland escorted them on a tour of Leatherhead, finishing up at the Museum for a "behind the scenes" visit. It was bitterly cold on the day concerned, but nevertheless the participants said they enjoyed it!

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Lecture Secretary continued to provide speakers for local organisations. The Society's collection of slides for the use of speakers increased considerably.

The Society contributed to various exhibitions set up by other organisations, including the Surrey Symposium at which our new display stands were used.

ARCHAEOLOGY

The report from Guildford Museum on the material taken from the M.25 is still awaited.

The Archaeological Secretary contributed to the investigation of many local finds and problems during the year.

The Executive Committee wishes to record its thanks to the members of the Society for their interest and support during 1984.

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

From the Hon. Treasurer:

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 DECEMBER 1984

<u>RECEIPTS</u>	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>
Subscriptions	£1,182-00	£1,143-00
Donations to Society	681-81	346-32
Donations to Museum	35-50	8-00
Sales of Books etc (Omitting Occ.Paper 3)	141-60	248-22
Profit on Refreshments	14-17	11-50
Profit on Outings	85-29	102-70
Interest on National Savings Investment A/C	252-34	305-42
	<u>£2,392-71</u>	<u>£2,165-16</u>
<u>PAYMENTS</u>		
Printing	£2,150-21	5-50
Administration	146-96	618-00
Museum Donations etc	58-85	8-00
Loan Repayment	300-00	-
Sundry Purchases	92-36	57-50
Lecture Costs	35-00	45-00
Subscriptions to other Societies	19-00	31-00
Sundry Expenses	26-05	30-00
	<u>£2,828-43</u>	<u>£795-00</u>
	PROFIT	-
	DEFICIT	£1,370-16
	£435-72	-

SHEILA HIND PUBLICATION FUND

<u>RECEIPTS</u>		
Interest on National Savings Investment A/C	£131-13	£142-07
Sales of Occasional Paper No 3	46-70	42-00
	<u>£177-83</u>	<u>£184-07</u>
<u>PAYMENTS</u>		
NIL	-	-
	PROFIT	£177-83
		<u>£184-07</u>

Continued over/

BALANCE SHEET

<u>SOCIETY</u>	<u>1983</u>		<u>1984</u>	
Total Funds B/f	£2,620-89		£2,199-17	
Plus Profit	-		1,370-16	
Less Deficit	<u>435-72</u>		<u>-</u>	
	£2,185-17		£3,569-33	
Add Subs. paid in advance for next year	£127			£180
Less Current Subs dealt with in previous account	<u>113 14-00</u>		<u>53-00</u>	
	£2,199-17		£3,622-33	

SHEILA HIND FUND

Total funds B/f	£1,185-47		£1,363-30	
Plus Profit	<u>177-83</u>		<u>184-07</u>	
	<u>1,363-30</u>		<u>1,547-37</u>	
	£3,562-47		£5,169-70	

Represented by:

Lloyds Bank Current A/c	191-44		451-18	
National Savings Bank Investment A/c	<u>3,371-03</u>		<u>4,718-52</u>	
	<u>£3,562-47</u>		<u>£5,169-70</u>	

I certify that the above statement is in accordance with the books and records produced to me and is, in my opinion, correct

Dated 6th February..... 1985

Hon. Auditor B A Kirkby

Hon. Treasurer H J Mears

Membership & Subscriptions for 1984

31 Paid full rate	£4 in 1983	£124	
1 Paid only	£2 in 1983	2	
1 Paid Junior rate	£1 in 1983	<u>1</u>	£127
244 Paid full rate	£4 in 1984	£976	
1 Paid only	£3 in 1984	3	
4 Paid only	£2 in 1984	8	
4 Paid Junior rate	£1 in 1984	4	
<u>286</u> Balance of 1	£2 in 1984	2	
Back payments		<u>23</u>	

£1,016

In addition there are 13 Honorary Members

£1,143

Members who have paid in advance for 1985

45 Paid full rate	£4 in 1984	£180
1 Paid full rate	in 1983	
3 Joined after 30.9.84	(Included in above 244)	



LEATHERHEAD MUSEUM
AND HERITAGE CENTRE TRUST
Reg. Charity No. 273978.

HAMPTON COTTAGE,
64, CHURCH STREET,
LEATHERHEAD,
SURREY.


Please reply to :-

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS
AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 1984


	<u>1983</u>	<u>1984</u>
	£	£
<u>INCOME</u>		
1. General Donations	70. 60	230. 77
2. Museum Improvement Fund - Donations	906. 83	270. 00
3. Profit on Sale of Books and Leaflets	39. 70	105. 00
4. Donation from "Friends of Museum"	(not specified)	516. 70
5. Interest from Investments to meet Loan Repayment	360. 12	441. 45
6. Interest from Bank Deposit Account	66. 72	92. 85
7. Net Proceeds "Bygone Bookham" Lecture	250. 00	(now part of 4.)
8. Loan	Nil	500. 00
	<u>1,693. 97</u>	<u>2,156. 77</u>
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Administration	73. 06	124. 02
Services charges	170. 02	153. 09
Investments	450. 00	400. 00
Rebuilding Toilet in Garden	Nil	2,669. 80
Renovation of Garden in Hampton Cottage	Nil	236. 66
	<u>693. 08</u>	<u>3,583. 57</u>
<u>SUMMARY</u>		
Bank Balance at the beginning of the year	914. 48	1,915. 37
Excess of Income over Expenditure	1,000. 89	Nil
Excess of Expenditure over Income	Nil	-1,426. 80
Bank Balance at end of year	1,915. 37	488. 57
Donations held by History Society but not yet transferred	25. 50	Nil
	<u>1,940. 87</u>	<u>488. 57</u>

AUDITORS' REPORT

I certify that I have made an examination of the books and records of the Trust and that the foregoing Statement is in accordance therewith and is, in my opinion, correct.


Accountant and Auditor
Great Bookham, Surrey

I declare that the foregoing
Statement of Accounts is correct


J. R. Bull
Treasurer of the Trust

Date: 30 November 1984