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NEWSLETTER 3/88

August 1988

LIBRARIAN

Since the Annual General Meeting, the Committee have been pleased to welcome to their ranks Mr Frank Kirby, who has taken over the duties of the Society's Librarian. His address is: 12 Highlands Avenue, Leatherhead KT22 8NN, telephone Leatherhead 376859.

NEW MEMBERS

The following new members have joined over the last few weeks:

| | | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| <u>Ashtead</u> | <u>Leatherhead</u> | <u>Westhumble</u> | <u>Calgary, Canada</u> |
| Trottope, Mr & Mrs W | Gilbert, Mrs D | Humphreys, Dr R | Williams, Mrs A |
| Webb, Mr D J | Scott, Mr & Mrs S | | |
| | Spiers, Miss R | | |

We welcome them all, particularly our new overseas member.

MUSEUM STEWARDS

For a very long time, our President, Mr J G W Lewarne, has been a regular steward at the Museum, but he has now decided he has earned a rest from his duties. A sincere "thank you" to him for all the hours he has given to the Museum.

DAY VISIT TO SHOREHAM: SATURDAY, 1 OCTOBER 1988

Details of this visit and a booking form were included in the last Newsletter. Places are still available, so make your booking NOW for what promises to be a very interesting day.

MOLE VALLEY FESTIVAL OF ARTS 1988

The Society and the Museum are jointly making two contributions to the Mole Valley Festival of Arts 1988. These are:

"Bygone Leatherhead - A Historical Tour"

Friday, 23 September at 8pm in the Abraham Dixon Hall, Leatherhead Institute, with Mr S E D Fortescue, who will talk about Leatherhead's past and the effect of its past on the town as it is today. Illustrated by slides and a supporting exhibition of pictorial and archival material from the Society's collection, plus exhibits from the Museum. Coffee and biscuits will be served during the interval.

Tickets £2 each, including refreshments may be obtained from Cradlers House (Jewellers) Ltd, 41 High Street, Leatherhead; Leatherhead Museum, 64 Church Street; or by post from Miss J Fuller, 6 Siddons House, Howard Close, Ashtead KT21 1DY. (S A E please, cheques payable to Leatherhead & District Local History Society.)

"Ashtead Pottery"

Friday, 21 October at 8pm in the Ashtead Peace Memorial Hall, Woodfield Lane, Ashtead. A talk by Mrs Joy Hallam on the history and production of the pottery, illustrated by slides and examples of Ashtead ware. There will also be an exhibition covering Bygone Ashtead with material from the Society's archives and the Museum, including further examples of Ashtead pottery. Coffee and biscuits will be served during the interval.

Tickets £2 each including refreshments, may be obtained from Ashtead Travel, The Street, Ashtead; Leatherhead Museum, 64 Church Street, Leatherhead; or by post from Miss J Fuller, 6 Siddons House, Howard Close, Ashtead KT21 1DY. (S.A.E. please, cheques payable to Leatherhead & District Local History Society.)

LEATHERHEAD PARISH CHURCH

As you know, this lovely historic church is badly in need of funds to pay for essential repairs. The Society has decided that the regular monthly meeting on Friday, 20 January 1989 will be an open meeting at which a collection will be taken. All money received will be handed over to the Church for its repair fund. We hope you will come and bring your friends.

The speaker will be Dr D F Renn, FSA, one of our Vice-Presidents and our Editor, and his subject will be "Leatherhead and Medieval Surrey".

AUTUMN MEETINGS

All our monthly meetings will be held in the Dixon Hall of the Leatherhead Institute, at 7.30pm for 8pm. Coffee will be served before the lecture. Except for the Dallaway Lecture, an admission charge will be made of 20p for members and 50p for non-members, to include coffee.

Friday, 14 October - The Annual Dallaway Lecture (Open to the public)

The speaker this year is Mr K W E Gravett, MSc(Eng), FSA, Hon Vice-President of the Surrey Archaeological Society, and a member of this Society. His subject will be "An Introduction to Surrey Houses".

A collection will be made at the end of the evening.

Friday, 18 November - "Methods and Problems of Tracing your Ancestry"

This talk will be given by Mr Lewis Roworth, who describes himself as "an enthusiastic amateur". This is a subject that interests and intrigues us all so there will be a longer-than-usual question time after the talk. Please come armed with some questions!

Friday, 16 December - Christmas Miscellany

We are hoping to make the 'Miscellany' a more light-hearted affair this year: something that goes easily with mince pies and coffee, and thoughts of Christmas To Come. Derek Renn is in charge, so if you have a fairly short and not too serious contribution you can make, please contact him as soon as possible on Bookham 54880.

If you have never "spoken" before, now is your chance to try. We need as many new faces as we can find, as well as the more familiar ones.

LEATHERHEAD AREA LOCAL PLAN

The Chief Planning Officer has sent the Society a copy of the Plan, which has been placed in the Society's Library at the Leatherhead Institute. Further copies (price £7-50) are available from MVDC at Pippbrook. Members will be particularly interested in the following extracts:

*Archaeology

3.110

The Leatherhead area is rich in archaeological remains. A number of ancient sites have been identified and it is anticipated that there are others still to be found. The Council recognise the importance of preserving these remains, some of which have statutory protection as scheduled ancient monuments. In pursuance of this and in accordance with Structure Plan Policy 74, the Council will co-operate with appropriate agencies so that identified sites can be investigated and preserved wherever possible.

Conservation Areas

3.115

Policies 75 and 76 of the Structure Plan established a broad policy framework for the control of development and other positive measures for the protection of Conservation Areas in Surrey. Detailed control of development in the Plan Area remains, however, principally a District Council function to which the Council attach considerable weight.

3.116

The six Conservation Areas in the Plan Area, of which three are in Leatherhead town centre and one each in Fetcham, Great Bookham, and Little Bookham, contain a wide variety of buildings with differing characteristics. They are nevertheless linked by their common value in townscape, historical and amenity terms, which the Council intend to safeguard with care. Individual buildings of merit will therefore be retained wherever possible.

POLICY EV.4:

WITHIN THE CONSERVATION AREAS AS DEFINED ON THE PROPOSALS MAP PARTICULAR CARE WILL BE TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT ANY NEW DEVELOPMENT MAKES A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO THE CHARACTER AND AMENITY OF THE AREA THROUGH THE USE OF APPROPRIATE DESIGNS AND MATERIALS. THERE WILL BE A PRESUMPTION AGAINST PROPOSALS WHICH INVOLVE THE DEMOLITION OF BUILDINGS WHICH THE DISTRICT COUNCIL CONSIDER TO CONTRIBUTE SUBSTANTIALLY TO THE CHARACTER OF THE CONSERVATION AREA. ANY NEW DEVELOPMENT WILL BE REQUIRED TO RESPECT THE INFORMAL LAYOUT OF EXISTING BUILDINGS IN THE AREA.

3.117

For the purposes of Policy EV.4, buildings which the District Council consider to contribute substantially to the character of the Conservation Areas, apart from Listed Buildings, are shown on the Conservation Area Designation Maps as "related buildings contributing to local character". The Council will not normally grant Listed Building Consent for the demolition of unlisted buildings in the Conservation Areas until a suitable detailed scheme of redevelopment including design details, has been agreed.

3.118

The District Council will keep under review the need for additional Conservation Area designations, and for positive Conservation Area enhancement measures according to the availability of finance. Policy M.5 deals with enhancement works in Leatherhead town centre.

Historic Buildings

3.119

The Plan Area's 124 statutory listed buildings, together with those recorded on the County list contribute much to the character of the area. Through the use of development control powers, the council will implement Policy 75 of the Structure Plan so that this stock of historic buildings is protected from unsatisfactory and unsympathetic new development. In addition, they will endeavour to maintain the provision of grants for repairs to historic buildings in appropriate cases, under the Local Authorities (Historic Buildings) Act 1962.

Areas of Special Character

3.120

The Report of Survey (para.5.11) identified two areas of special townscape quality within the Plan Area. These are situated at Rectory Lane, Ashtead, and at the southern end of The Street, Fetcham. The Council designated the south end of The Street as a Conservation Area in 1984, but the area of Rectory Lane has not been regarded as sufficiently outstanding or extensive to warrant similar status, although it provides a quality of environment worthy of retention. Nevertheless, it will be appropriate to consider development proposals in this area with special regard to their wider effects on the street scene. Proposals involving demolition will need to be examined with particular care in this context. The Council will also keep under review the question of need for Conservation Area status in Rectory Lane. "

Finally, we have been asked to point out that three conservation areas have recently been designated in Ashtead at Farm Lane, Rectory Lane and Woodfield Lane.

YOUNG STREET - From David Bruce

According to Volume II No 8 (1964), page 234 of our Proceedings, Young Street and bridge was built in 1941 by the Canadian Royal Engineers, under the command of a Captain Young, hence its name.

A Bookham resident recently enquired about Captain Young, asking for further details, since a relative living in Canada is involved in organising a reunion of old members of the 2nd Battalion, C R E, and who wished to contact Captain Young or his relatives. However, he has so far been unable to trace a gentleman of that name or rank ever having any connection with the Canadian Royal Engineers, and would welcome any information we could provide. One suggestion has been made that Young Street is, in fact, a Canadian joke, naming the road after YONGE STREET in Toronto, which is one of the longest straight roads in the world, rather in the way the soldiers in World War One called lengths of trenches "Piccadilly".

Any information and details regarding Captain Young to David Bruce, please, on Bookham 58722.