

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No T 802409

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Miss J Fuller
6 Siddons House
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Ashted 277876

NEWSLETTER 2/90

May 1990

MR T E CONWAY WALKER

It was with great sadness that we learned of the death in February of Mr T E Conway Walker. He was one of the Society's earliest members, and in recognition of his eminence as a historian, was made an Honorary Member in 1973.

He was held in affection and respect by all who knew him. His interests were wide-ranging, & new ventures gained his support. He became a Life Member of the Friends of the Leatherhead Museum as soon as that membership was introduced last year.

He will be greatly missed.

LESLIE LEMOTTEE

For several years Leslie LeMottee was an unfailing "Friday Steward" at the Museum; he also pedalled miles on his bike to deliver Newsletters for the Society. Unfortunately for us he has recently moved from the district: we thank him for all his help in the past and wish him and his family much happiness in their new home.

43RD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: 16 MARCH 1990

Eighty-one members attended the AGM this year - the largest number for many a year and a very pleasing sight!

Apart from transacting the business of the meeting, the Committee have a chance to thank all the many members who work so hard to make the Society a success: their help is essential and greatly appreciated.

All the previous members of the Committee were willing to stand for re-election with the exception of Dr D F Renn. His many commitments leave him insufficient time to remain our Editor, so regretfully the Committee accepted his resignation. Mr J C Stuttard was appointed in his place. An extra Committee member, Mr H G Knowles was also appointed, and he and Mr Stuttard were warmly welcomed.

A list of the new Committee is enclosed for your retention.

The AGM was followed by a progress report on the Surrey Archaeological Society's Historic Landscape project, given by Steven Dyer, the Secretary of the committee organising the project.

1990 SUBSCRIPTIONS

Our thanks to those members who paid their subscriptions as soon as they were due, as we do need subscription revenue to help run the Society. Thanks especially to those members who added a donation to their cheques.

There are, however, 59 outstanding subscriptions. The Rules of the Society requirement payment by 31 March, otherwise membership automatically ceases,

though in practice a little extra time is given. We hope all members who have not paid their subscriptions are intending to continue, and a letter to each of them is enclosed with their Newsletters.

NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome the following new members to the Society:

Ashtead	Bookham	Fetcham
Gale, Mr & Mrs M	Ashman, Mr & Mrs D F	Sykes, Mrs A
Hoad, Mrs G	Lack, M C	
Preedy, Mr & Mrs G A		Leatherhead
		Kay, Emily (Junior)
		St John's School Library

"THE SWAN"

The paragraph in the February Newsletter under this heading, gave Sheila Warner's telephone number incorrectly. The right number is Leatherhead 374567 (not 373) and she is still hoping to hear from anyone who can loan artefacts for a special exhibition on the Swan Hotel and the Swan Brewery.

NEW LIGHT ON ASHTEAD - BOOKHAM - FETCHAM - LEATHERHEAD: From David Ellis

The idea of an exhibition met with a good response at the AGM, and it will be held at our meeting on Friday, 16 November. I should like to emphasise that it is not intended as a competition! The idea is to encourage us all to use our eyes and take photographs, however ordinary, of anything unusual of historic interest that we notice as we go about the district.

Details were given in the February Newsletter, and the Rules in full are as follows:

1. Photographs must have been taken during 1990
2. Photographs must have been taken by a member of the Society (a chance to enlist your photographer friends as members?)
3. Only prints (not transparencies) may be entered; they may be in colour or black and white; they must be of a size suitable for exhibition, but not exceeding 7" x 10".
4. Not more than five photographs may be entered by one person.
5. Depending on numbers entered, it may be necessary to restrict the number of exhibits.
6. The photographs you enter should each be mounted separately on white card, with a margin of about half an inch all round the photograph. Please number your photographs from 1 to 5 (or fewer if you enter fewer), and write your name on the back of each mount. With your photographs please include a numbered list of the subjects on a separate white card, together with your name. Please write clearly, as this will be exhibited.

So that we can have some idea of the number of entries, please complete the form which is enclosed with this Newsletter and let me have it as soon as possible. There is, of course, no charge for entering.

Please let me have your entries by the end of October. You may send them, or deliver them to me at 23 Kingscroft Road, Leatherhead KT22 7BU. Do not hesitate to ring me on Leatherhead 372509 on anything to do with the exhibition.

SURREY SYMPOSIUM

The Surrey Local History Council's 1990 Surrey Symposium will be held on Saturday, 10 November 1990 at Guildford University. The subject will be "The Artist in Surrey".

MOLE VALLEY FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

Here are details of the two events being contributed to the Festival by the Society, and one event by the Leatherhead Community Association.

FRIDAY, 21 SEPTEMBER - "Leatherhead Revisited" - Leatherhead Parish Church at 8pm.

This event will consist of a panel of people concerned in writing "A History of Leatherhead", who will each speak briefly on some aspect of their particular period, and then the panel will attempt to answer questions from the audience. (If they can't provide immediate answers, they will try to find them out later.)

Admission £2 payable at the door on the night - no previous booking.

The proceeds will go to the Museum.

SATURDAY, 22 SEPTEMBER - "Tales of Old Surrey". A film show by Circle Eight at the Leatherhead Institute at 8pm. The event is organised by Leatherhead Community Association.

Tickets £1-50 obtainable in advance from the Leatherhead Leisure Centre or the Leatherhead Community Association.

Our thanks to the LCA who very kindly altered the date of this film from Friday, 21 September to Saturday, 22 September to avoid clashing with our event, thus enabling our members to see this very interesting film as well. The film portrays historical episodes in Surrey, including one from Leatherhead.

FRIDAY, 26 OCTOBER - "Bygone Ashtead" - Ashtead Peace Memorial Hall at 8pm.

The second event organised by the Society will be a talk on "Bygone Ashtead" by Michael Gale. The talk will be illustrated with slides, many of which have been specially prepared for this evening by Lawrie Smith.

Admission £2 at the door on the night: no previous booking.

The proceeds will go to the Frank Benger Book Repair Fund.

Please note that admission is by payment on the night only for both the Society events. As the meetings are open to the public, you are urged to come in good time to be sure of a seat.

THE REST OF THE PROGRAMME

SATURDAY, 16 JUNE - Visit to Chatley Heath Semaphore Tower & Hatchford Park. Details and a booking form for this visit were given in the February Newsletter. There are still places available, so applications to David Ellis can still be made.

THURSDAY, 12 JULY - Day visit to Dorchester

Following Steve Poulter's interesting and beautifully illustrated talk in November 1989, he has now arranged a day visit for us. 1990 is the 150th

anniversary of Thomas Hardy's birth and special exhibitions are on view. Steve will meet us at Puddlestown (just outside Dorchester) about 11am and lead us for the day.

The cost is £8-50 to cover travel, donations and Town Trail leaflet only. A very full programme has been drawn up with a certain amount of flexibility and therefore local entry charges to Museums etc. will be individually paid on the day. None of them will be very large: for instance, the Museum costs £1-20 per person, 60p OAPs (no party rate).

There will be ample time for lunch in your own choice of one of the many pubs/restaurants, or for your own picnic lunch; and for tea before the coach leaves at 5.15pm to reach our home area about 7.45pm.

Pick-up points will be:

Bookham	The Parish Church	8.10am
Fetcham	Lower Road - end of The Street	8.15
Leatherhead	Leret Way - bus stop opposite entrance to Swan Centre and Car Park	8.20
Ashtead	The Street - by Sweet Things	8.30

The coach will have a toilet on board, so only one short "leg-stretch" stop will be made on both outward and homeward journeys. (Could we suggest your bring your morning coffee with you?)

A booking form is enclosed

SATURDAY, 8 SEPTEMBER - All Day Visit to Historic Dockyard Museum, Chatham

This is a joint visit with the Leatherhead Community Association, arranged for us once more by Mrs Joan Kirby.

The Naval Dockyard closed in 1984 and the historic area was vested in an independent trust with the challenge of preserving its heritage. It is very much a working museum where many traditional skills are still being used - you can see ropes, sails and flags being made. Steam has played an important part in the development of the Dockyard and many of the steam-powered machines are being restored. There is also the Dockyard heavy horse stables, and carriage rides around the Historic Dockyard are available. The Assistant Queen's Harbour-master's House on the Banks of the Medway, is open for refreshments.

The cost is £11-50, OAPs £11, including a guided tour. There will be a toilet on the coach.

Pick-up points are:

Bookham	The Parish Church	8.45am
Fetcham	Lower Road, end of The Street	8.50
Leatherhead	Linden Court bus stop, Epsom Road	9.00
Ashtead	The Street, by Sweet Things	9.10

It is expected to be back in Leatherhead by 6pm.

A booking form is enclosed, for return to Mrs Kirby. Cheques payable to Leatherhead Community Association.

SALES OF PUBLICATIONS - From Geoff Hayward

As you know, the Society has undertaken to produce an updated history of Ashtead, and work is also in hand on a first-time history of Fetcham.

Printing and publishing costs are the main deterrents and thus the Society must maintain a large fund which can, through interest additions and sales of existing printed stocks, try to keep abreast of rising expenses.

Recently we assessed the value of our unsold material at over £2,000 and we would like to draw members' attention to samples of what we have for sale in the Museum, and at Society meetings. For instance, how far back do your Proceedings go? The Sales Secretary can supply all years back to 1966 and a selection of some of the earlier years. Have you thought of showing a friend an interesting article in one of your older Proceedings - copies of which can be purchased at 50p for 1986 and earlier. We have 121 unsold Proceedings for 1983. This issue contains seven articles, one of which is about Givons Grove House, and another about Nelson's last English journey.

There are 106 unsold 1981 Proceedings, in which issue appears an incredibly detailed article about the Old Rising Sun Inn, Fetcham.

For 1978 there are only 50 left: this issue contains a description of the vanished Manor House of Ashtead, with pictures of 1799 and 1838.

Look for these in the Museum, or telephone Geoff Hayward on Leatherhead 372674.

ASHE LABORATORIES - From David Bruce

Following my appeal in the November 1989 Newsletter, much information has been received about Ashe Laboratories: many thanks to all those who wrote to me. The information is being put together and will appear in the November Newsletter.

FRIENDS OF THE LEATHERHEAD MUSEUM

The Friends of the Leatherhead Museums subscription is £1 payable on 1 January each year, and more Friends are always needed. If you would like to join, their Secretary is also the Society's Secretary: Miss J Fuller, 6 Siddons House, Howard Close, Ashtead KT21 1DY, telephone Ashtead 277876.

The Friends are holding their sixth Annual General Meeting at 8pm on Tuesday, 5 June 1990, in Room G6 of Letherhead Institute. If you are interested in taking an active part in their fund-raising activities etc, Committee members are needed. There are a maximum of four actual meetings a year, but your help and ideas are essential. Miss Fuller would be glad to hear from any volunteers.

1990 DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- TUESDAY
5 JUNE Annual General Meeting of the Friends of Leatherhead
Museum: Room G6, Letherhead Institute, 8pm
- SATURDAY
16 JUNE Visit to Chatley Heath Semaphore Tower and Hatchford
Park
- FRIDAY
5 JULY Friends of the Museum: Evening visit to Shere;
Village Walk and guided tour of the Museum of Victorian
and later "Bygones": 6pm in Shere
- THURSDAY
12 JULY Day visit to Dorchester
- SATURDAY
8 SEPTEMBER All Day Visit to Historic Dockyard Museum, Chatham
(jointly with LCA)
- FRIDAY
21 SEPTEMBER Contribution to Mole Valley Festival of the Arts:
"Leatherhead Revisited" - 8pm, Leatherhead Parish
Church Hall
- SATURDAY
22 SEPTEMBER LCA contribution to Festival of the Arts: Film -
"Tales of Old Surrey" - 8pm Dixon Hall, The Institute
- FRIDAY
19 OCTOBER Dallaway Lecture (also open to the public):
Mr D J Turner - "Conservation in Surrey": 8pm,
Dixon Hall, The Institute
- FRIDAY
26 OCTOBER Contribution to Festival of the Arts: "Bygone Ashtead" -
8pm, Ashtead Peace Memorial Hall
- SATURDAY
10 NOVEMBER Surrey Symposium - "The Artist in Surrey" - Guildford
Museum
- FRIDAY
16 NOVEMBER Photographic exhibition, 8pm, Dixon Hall, The Institute
- FRIDAY
14 DECEMBER Christmas Miscellany - 8pm, Dixon Hall, The Institute

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No T 802409

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE FOR 1990

President	S E D Fortescue, Crest House, 56 The Mount, Fetcham KT22 9EA	L 372849
Past President	J G W Lewarne, 69 Cobham Road, Fetcham KT22 9HT	L 373736
Vice-Presidents	Dr D F Renn, FSA, 7 Burrows Close, Gt Bookham KT23 3HB	B 54880
	L A Smith, MBE, Hazeldene, Glebe Rd, Ashtead KT21 2NT	A 275466
Chairman	Mrs L Heath, 5 St John's Avenue, Leatherhead KT22 7HT	L 372603
Secretary/Membership Secretary	Miss J Fuller, 6 Siddons House, Howard Close, Ashtead KT21 1DY	A 277876
Treasurer	E A Marsh, Chandelle, Orestan Lane, Effingham KT24 5SN	B 53433
Editor	J C Stuttard, 6 Orchardleigh, St Nicholas Hill, Leatherhead KT22 8NF	L 375787
Museum Curator	D Bruce, 7 Fox Lane, Little Bookham KT23 3AT	B 58722
Museum Treasurer	J R Bull, 98 Woodfield Lane, Ashtead KT21 2DP	A 272800
Archaeology Secretary	E A Crossland, Oldberrow, 13 Clockhouse Mead, Oxshott KT22 ORW	O 892589
Lecture Secretary	N H West, MBE, 2 Beech Close, Effingham KT24 5PQ	B 54979
Librarian	F Kirby, 12 Highlands Avenue, Leatherhead KT22 8NN	L 376859
Record Secretary	J R Clube, St Gerrans, Leatherhead Rd, Gt Bookham KT23 4RR	B 53145
Programme	Sub-Committee: Contact the Secretary	A 277876
Committee Members	D B Ellis, 23 Kingscroft Rd, Leatherhead KT22 7BU	L 372509
	H G Knowles, 7 Squirrels Green, Gt Bookham KT23 3LE	B 58396
	J W Middlemas, 10 Highlands Av., Leatherhead KT22 8NN	L 374035

May 1990