

**LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**  
Registered Charity No 802409

**Chairman**

Mrs L Heath  
5 St John's Avenue  
Leah'd KT22 7HT  
Lea 372803

**Treasurer**

C V M Latham  
1 The Knoll  
Leah'd KT22 8XH  
Lea 372055

**Secretary**

Miss J Fuller  
21 Kingston House  
Gardens  
Lea'd KT22 7HL  
Lea 386348

**NEWSLETTER 2/92**

**MAY 1992**

**SECRETARY**

Joyce Fuller has moved from Ashted to Leatherhead, and her new address and telephone number are at the head of this Newsletter. Please do not hesitate to ring - or visit - her there if you need some information.

**PETER HOW**

It was with great regret that we learned of the death in late April of Peter How. From 1978 to 1981 he acted as "Clerk of Works" to oversee the work being done at Hampton Cottage, firstly by the builder and later by a squad of dedicated retired gentlemen who took over the work when the professional builder left. He was made an Honorary Friend of the Museum in appreciation of his work.

Our sympathy is extended to his family.

**NEW MEMBERS**

The Society is very pleased to welcome the following new members:

**Bookham**

Stracey, Mr & Mrs J M  
Tarpsee, Mr & Mrs P A

**Leatherhead**

Ainley, Mr & Mrs J  
Egan, Mrs G  
Hounsom, Mr & Mrs R

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Seventy members attended the AGM on 20 March, one of them being our Past President, John Lewarne, whom it was particularly pleasant to see.

The AGM brought the resignation of two long-serving Committee members: David Bruce and Geoff Hayward, the Museum Curator and Sales Secretary respectively. Small presentations were made to both of them as a token of the Society's gratitude for their work over many years, and indeed in many capacities.

Jim Middlemas also resigned as a Committee member, as his business affairs are at present leaving him very little free time.

The Society is extremely fortunate in having three new Committee Members. Trevor Edwards, the new Museum Curator, will be assisted by Mary, his wife. Howard Davies, the new Sales Secretary, will also be assisted by his wife, Kathleen. Janet Goldsmith will be a very useful addition to the Committee in many ways. Our thanks to all of them for offering their help.

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

#### THE MUSEUM

For many years the Museum has suffered from lack of storage space for its artefacts. Now, thanks to the sheer persistence of some of the Committee, a solution has emerged. The Society has been offered the basement of The Priory in Church Street, only a few hundred yards from the Museum, for five years, with the likelihood of being able to extend the lease for a further five years. A certain amount of work, mostly for security's sake, had to be done by the Society, after which a team of volunteers scrubbed and painted the walls

On Sunday, 26 April, another team of enthusiasts could be seen in the pouring rain, shoving, heaving and carrying a weird assortment of objects into the store from a garage at The Priory kindly loaned to us by the owner of The Priory until the permanent store was ready. Since that date many more artefacts have been moved in from the Museum itself.

Our thanks to everyone involved in all this work.

#### MOLE VALLEY ARTS FESTIVAL

In September and October, Mole Valley will be holding their biennial Arts Festival, and the Society is contributing three events, as well as a display at the Leisure Centre in October.

#### "The Bells and the Bridge of Leatherhead"

The first event will be two talks entitled "The Bells and the Bridge of Leatherhead", at 7.30pm for 8pm on Friday, 18 September, at the Leatherhead Institute. Alan Smith, Captain of the Leatherhead Bellringers, will talk about the bells of St Mary and St Nicholas Church, which were installed in their present form in August 200 years ago. Derek Renn, Vice-President of the Society, will talk about the bridge, which had a major restoration just over 200 years ago.

**"Ashtead Past and Present"**

The second event will be another talk by Michael Gale on "Ashtead Past and Present" in the Ashtead Peace Memorial Hall on Friday, 2 October at 7.30pm for 8pm. This will no doubt be as popular as before.

**"The Restoration of Hampton Court"**

The third event will be our annual Dallaway Lecture. The subject is "The Restoration of Hampton Court" and the speaker is Michael Fishlock, the architect in charge of the work after the fire there in 1986. This talk will be given at 7.30pm for 8pm on Friday, 16 October at the Leatherhead Institute.

**Tickets**

Members will be given priority booking during June and July for tickets at £2 by applying to the Secretary.. After July, the tickets will be on sale to the public at £2-50. Book early as all three evenings are likely to be very popular. A booking form is enclosed.

The money received from these events will be used for necessary repairs in the Museum, and also to help towards the Society's costs, such as publishing the "Proceedings" and the new "History of Ashtead".

**VISIT TO DORCHESTER - Thursday, 18 June**

The Surrey Archaeological Society are visiting Dorchester on 18 June and have invited our members to join them. The visit has been arranged by Alan Gillies in conjunction with Miss P Cunningham, RIBA, President of the Historical Fellowship and formerly Historic Buildings Officer for Dorset; and Steve Poulter, one of the Society's members who organised our own visit to Dorchester recently.

The cost is £13-50 for SAS members, £14-50 Visitors, to include coach, gratuities, entrance fees except to the County Museum (£2, £1 Senior Citizens), administration, and cream tea.

Pick up places are:

- 7.45am Reigate - Red Cross public house junction of West Street, High Street and Park Lane.
- 8.00am Dorking - Dorking Halls
- 8.30am Guildford - rear of Guildford station in Guildford Park Road.

Arrival in Dorchester will be by 10.30am and a programme of visits to many of the interesting and historic buildings has been arranged. After a cream tea, you will leave for home at 5.45pm.

Please send SAE with cheque to David Evans, 48 Guildford Park Road, Guildford GU2 5NF, telephone 0483-64079.

**PROGRAMME**

**Visit to Lichfield - 13 June**

Details and booking forms for this visit were included in the February Newsletter. There are still vacancies, so please get in touch with Joan Kirby as soon as possible if you wish to take part.

**Ripley "Walk" - Wednesday, 24 June**

Mr John Slatford of Send & Ripley History Society, has kindly agreed to guide us on a "walk" round Ripley - an opportunity to see this interesting village and meet one of our neighbouring History Societies. Meet at 2.30pm in the car park opposite Wyllie & Parr's shop in the High Street. The cost is 50p and a booking form is enclosed. Numbers restricted to 30.

**Bookham "Walk" - Saturday, 25 July**

Mr Fortescue, our President, will lead us on a Bookham "walk" on Saturday, 25 July. Meet at 2.15pm at the Manor House School, Manor House Lane, by the restored barn, where cars can be parked within the school car parks, or just off Manor House Lane. Mr Fortescue has then arranged a tour of several houses, none of which the Society has visited before. He has also kindly invited the party to have tea at his own home - Crest House, The Mount, Fetcham - after the tour, a most welcome end to the afternoon. The cost is 50p and a booking form is enclosed. Numbers restricted to 25.

**ASHTEAD COMMON DAY - from Alan Gillies**

Saturday, 12 September - 11am - 5pm  
opposite the level crossing. Displays, guided walks etc.  
Try your hand at traditional crafts.

**BUY NOW FOR CHRISTMAS!**

Queen Elizabeth's Foundation for the Disabled has produced a calendar for 1993 with photographs of old Leatherhead, mainly from the Society's archives. It is now on sale at the Foundation's gift shop in Bridge Street, price £2-50.

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The Secretary has moved from Ashtead to Leatherhead. Thanks to the pre-move help of the J R Clube Transport Co., and the D & L Heath Demolition & Construction Co., everything went like a dream. She will never be able to thank them enough.

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY  
Registered Charity No 802409

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE FOR 1992/93

President - S E D Fortescue, Crest House, 56 The Mount, Fetcham KT22 9EA - L.372847  
Past Pres - J G W Lewarne, 69 Cobham Road, Fetcham KT22 9HT - L.373736  
Vice Pres - Dr D F Renn, FSA, 7 Burrows Close, Gt. Bookham KT23 3HB - B.454880  
Vice Pres - L A Smith, MBE, Hazeldene, Glebe Road, Ashtead KT21 2NT - A.275466  
Chairman - Mrs L Heath, 5 St John's Avenue, Leatherhead KT22 7HT - L.372603  
Sec/Membership - Miss J Fuller, 21 Kingston Hse Gdns, Leah'd KT22 7HL- L386348  
Treasurer - C V M Latham, 1 The Knoll, Leatherhead KT22 8XH - L.372055  
Archaeology Sec - E A Crossland, ISO, 13 Clockhouse Mead, Oxshott KT22 ORW - O 842589  
Editor - J C Stuttard, 6 Orchardleigh, St Nicholas Hill, Leatherhead - L.375787  
Lecture Sec - N H West, MBE, 2 Beech Close, Effingham KT24 5PQ - B.454979  
Librarian - F J Kirby, 12 Highlands Avenue, Leatherhead KT22 8NF - L.376859  
Museum - T W Edwards, Flat 24, Copthorne Hse, Brighton Rd, Burgh Heath KT20 6BQ -  
Curator - 0737-359058  
Museum Treasurer - J R Bull, 98 Woodfield Lane, Ashtead KT21 2DP - A. 272800  
Record Sec - J R Clube, St Gerrans, Leatherhead Road, Gt Bookham KT23 4RR - B.453145  
Sales Sec - H J Davies, 72 Culverhay, Ashtead KT21 1PS - A. 275542  
Committee - D B Ellis, 23 Kingscroft Rd, Leatherhead KT22 7BU - L. 372509  
Committee - Mrs J Goldsmith, 27 Albert Road, Ashtead KT21 1BJ - A.277611  
Committee - H G Knowles, 7 Squirrels Green, Great Bookham KT23 3LE - B.458396