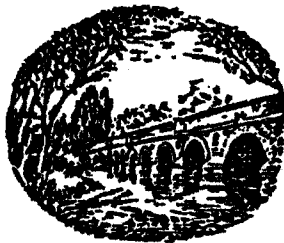


LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

4/1992



LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY
Charity Registration No 802409

Chairman

Mrs L Heath
5 St John's Avenue
Leatherhead KT22 5HL
L.372603

Treasurer

C V M Latham
1 The Knoll
L'thead KT22 8XH
L.372055

Secretary

Miss J Fuller
21 Kingston Hse Gdns
L'thead KT22 7HL
L.386348

NEWSLETTER 4/92

November 1992

GEOFFREY GOLLIN

The Society has lost one of its most active and best known members by the death on 11 August 1992 of Geoffrey Gollin. Our sympathy goes to his family. Mr Gollin joined the Society in 1961 and wrote many papers following his researches into the history of Ashtead. He produced his own book "Bygone Ashtead" in 1987.

A "Gathering of Remembrance" was held on 26 September, at which readings were chosen to mark his wide-ranging interests and achievements. His career was in fuel technology, but his interests included the Liberal Jewish Synagogues of St John's Wood and Kingston, the Boy Scout's Association, The Worshipful Company of Gardeners of London, Parsons Mead School Educational Trust, our own Society and other historical research bodies.

One of the readings was of "Abou Ben Adhem and the Angel" by James Leigh Hunt. Ben Adhem, talking to the Recording Angel, said "Write me as one who loves his fellow men." As the reader said, "Such a man was Geoffrey Gollin."

On a lighter note, many people have happy memories of him. For instance Roddy Clube (our Records Secretary) was writing an article for the Proceedings. He consulted Geoffrey about it, and Geoffrey offered to point out certain features on the ground. So in February this year they set out in Roddy's car. After a while Geoffrey said "Now drive past Farmer Page's house". A moment's hesitation - then Roddy realised he was being directed according to James Lawrence's map of Ashtead of 1638!

NEW MEMBERS

The Society is pleased to welcome the following new members:

Leatherhead

Amthor, R C
Harwood, Mrs M J
Jenkins, Mrs A

Others

Alexander, Mrs J F - Carshalton
Beeches
Carty, Mrs A M - Banstead
Leefe, Mrs J E - Ashtead
Russell, Mrs R - Great Bookham

JOHN FROMM

One of our overseas members is John Fromm, who lives in a small town called Benicia in California, from which he goes by ferry each day to his office in San Francisco. He has very kindly said that he would like the opportunity to meet any of our members who are travelling in his area, so if you are intending to be in or around San Francisco, please contact him at his office:

c/o Bank of America
1 South Van Ness Avenue
4th Floor (3209)
San Francisco, CA 94103, USA

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

The Treasurer has given the Committee warning that, but for the profit made on the three Mole Valley Festival events, the Society would this year have made a small loss. Measures must therefore be taken to remedy this. So:

1. Starting with the monthly meeting on 15 January 1993, the entry fee will be 50p for members and £1 for Visitors. This is in line with, and in some cases less than, the charge made by other similar organisations.
2. With this Newsletter is a Deed of Covenant for your subscriptions which will enable the Society to claim back from Inland Revenue the tax the Society pays on the money you pay us - at the moment one third of the amount covenanted. This applies only to your Society subscription, not to payments to the "Friends".

For those unfamiliar with covenants, signing it makes absolutely no difference to the amount you pay us, and involves you in no formalities except to complete and sign the Deed of Covenant and have your signature witnessed. It is the Treasurer who will have the work of negotiating with the Inland Revenue.

This scheme will make a great deal of difference to the value of our subscriptions. On every £6 subscription paid, £2 tax can be claimed; on a £9 subscription £3 can be claimed, making them worth £8 and £12 to us.

To qualify to sign the Covenant, you yourself must be paying Income Tax either directly or by deduction from salary, wages, pension, investment income, Building Society interest etc.

1993 subscriptions are due on 1 January 1992 and a payment slip is enclosed. When you sign the Deed of Covenant and

the cheque for your subscription, PLEASE MAKE SURE THE DEED IS DATED AT LEAST ONE DAY BEFORE YOUR CHEQUE, otherwise the tax cannot be claimed this coming year. If you pay your subscription by Banker's Order, they are paid on 2 January, SO YOUR COVENANT MUST BE DATED BEFORE THAT.

Please send all Deeds of Covenant and subscription payments to the Secretary, Miss J Fuller, 21 Kingston House Gardens, Leatherhead KT22 7HL

NOTICE OF 1993 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The date of the next AGM is Friday, 19 March 1993, at 7.30p m for 8pm in the Dixon Hall of the Institute. The meeting will again be followed by a speaker.

We should be glad to hear from anyone willing to join the Committee in any capacity. Please contact the Secretary or any member of the Committee.

All papers for the meeting will be circulated with the February 1993 Newsletter.

THE MUSEUM

Since our Acting Curator, Janet Goldsmith, came on the scene, no-one who visits the Museum regularly can have failed to notice "the woman's touch" that has appeared. Mary Edwards made a start in the short while she was with us, and Janet has carried on. She has washed and polished every bottle, cleaned out the cupboards, and swept the floor. The window looks a picture and even a new dustbin has appeared. Already some of the displays have been improved, and no doubt over the winter some more will feel her touch! We shall look forward to the Spring re-opening with more than usual interest!

Questions asked at the Museum

What is PORTER?

A beer made dark and bitter by partly charring the barley malt, sometimes made of half and half of mild and bitter (ie made bitter with hops) beer. It became popular with porters from about 1722, hence its name.

Why are TURNPIKES so called?

In the mid 17th century, Acts of Parliament provided for the setting up of Trusts to improve and maintain main roads, particularly for the benefit of the stage-coaches. They were financed by being given the power to charge tolls on vehicles and animals using these roads. To collect the tolls gates were put across the roads with a small cottage (toll-house)

where lived the toll-gate keepers who collected the money. A turnstile enabled pedestrians to pass through without charge. The gates had spikes along the top - hence they became known as TURNPIKES and the roads were often given the same name.

FRIENDS OF LEATHERHEAD MUSEUM

Those of you who are "Friends" will find with this Newsletter your copy of the Friends Newsletter for 1992.

Subscriptions of £1 each, or £20 minimum Life membership, are due on 1 January 1993: they can be added to your Society subscription on the form enclosed. Many more Friends are needed. Their numbers are increasing, but not fast enough. So please join - and persuade some of your friends to join as well, whether they belong to the Society or not.

"Restoration of Hampton Court Palace"

One of the Society's Mole Valley Festival events was a talk on "The Restoration of Hampton Court Palace". This should have been given by Michael Fishlock, but unfortunately he was in hospital - we sent him our best wishes - and his place was taken by Dante Vanoli, the Project Architect of the restoration.

The evening was a great success, but a long queue of people had to be refused admission. Hopefully to please those who did not hear the talk the first time, and to raise money for their funds, the "Friends" have arranged for Mr Vanoli to give another slightly different talk on THURSDAY, 10 December 1992, at 7.30pm for 8pm in the Dixon Hall of Leatherhead Institute. Tickets £2-50 including coffee, at the door only - no advance booking.

PROGRAMME

All meetings on Fridays at 7.30pm for 8pm in the Dixon Hall of Leatherhead Institute. The entry fee for 18 December 1992 is 20p for members, 50p for visitors. From 15 January 1993 onwards the charge will be 50p members, £1 visitors.

THURSDAY, 10 DECEMBER - "Restoration of Hampton Court Palace - details above.

December 15 Christmas Miscellany organised by Derek Renn. Short contributions by members themselves. If you have anything you would like to contribute, please ring Derek Renn on Bookham 454880. Eileen Smith and her party will be serving mince pies with the coffee, so if you can bring any, please let her know on Ashted 275466.

January 15 South-East England in Roman Times
1993 is the 1950th anniversary of the Claudian invasion of the south east of England in AD43. This talk will be given by Charles Abdy. (Members will remember the beautiful slides he showed with his talk on London's Bridges.)

February 19 The Society's Collection of Slides: Bookham
Continuing the showing of the Society's own slides, this year Bookham has been chosen. They will be presented by Derek Renn, who is a resident of Bookham.

March 19 Annual General Meeting plus speaker to be announced.

OCCASIONAL PAPER NO 4 - THE HOWARD VAULT

Enclosed is a sheet of information for inclusion in your copy of Occasional Paper No 4. The information is the result of Ernest Crossland having noticed a memorial tablet in Lichfield Cathedral during the Society's visit there in June this year.

OTHER ORGANISATIONS

A new body, known as SCOLA, has been formed to safeguard the Archaeology of the London area. It will be chaired by the President of the Society of Antiquaries of London, or the Council of British Archaeology on an annual alternative basis, the first Acting Chairman being Rosamund Hanworth, FSA, Past President of Surrey Archaeological Society. The Treasurer is Dr D F Renn, CBE, FSA, one of this Society's Vice Presidents.

The Surrey Archaeological Society 1993 Symposium will be held at Dorking on 20 February 1993.

The Surrey Local History Council will hold a Spring Meeting on 20 March, its 1993 AGM on 11 July, and its Symposium on 13 November 1993, the theme being "Royalty in Surrey".

GIFTS OF DOCUMENTS

The Society gratefully acknowledges the gift from Mr Charles Bowles of Great Bookham, of a number of papers:

- 4 pages - The Civil Defence organisation for Leatherhead and details of ARP, the war-time fore-runner of CD. Mr Bowles himself served in Civil Defence during and after the war.
- 2 pages - "Leatherhead and the War Years"
- An article entitled "Our Towns in Heraldry" dated October 1947, explaining the origin of the heraldic device awarded to Leatherhead.

- A rolled-up canvas depicting the actual device on a large scale.

SALE OF EARLIER PROCEEDINGS

The sale of surplus Proceedings of the 1950's went very well and the revenue helps to increase the funds available for future publications. Only 1955 Proceedings now remain, which contain much information about Bookham.

Our surplus stock of the 1960's period consists of the following:

- 1966 (1) J H HARVEY on Thomas Clay's Great Bookham plan
1614-1617
TEC WALKER Turnpikes to Guildford & Horsham
GH SMITH Further information on the church at
Leatherhead
- 1967 (3) AT RUBY Legends (1) John Wesley and Kingston House,
Leatherhead
(2) Judge Jeffreys and The Mansion,
Leatherhead
L R RUSSELL MUIRHEAD The Cock Inn, Fetcham + picture
FJG JEFFERISS Fetcham Cottage, Bell Lane + picture
JGW LEWARNE The Fetcham Enclosure Award 1813 + map
DF RENN, AG PARTON & JA EVANS Various articles on
Bookham
GH SMITH Further information on Leatherhead Church
- 1968 (6) AT RUBY. The coming of the Saxons
Ordnance Survey 1816 - Map of the Area
FB BENDER Leatherhead Common Meadow
DF RENN The early church at Fetcham
GH SMITH Further information on Leatherhead Church
- 1969 (7) JH HARVEY Bookham in 1797-1798 + maps
JM HARDING Slough Farm, Headley
GP ELPHICK Great Bookham Bells and Bellframe
JGW LEWARNE Census Returns of Fetcham, 1841, 1851
1861
GH SMITH Rectors & Vicars of Leatherhead with
biographical notes

Please ring the Sales Secretary, Howard Davies - Ashted 275542 with your order, or write to him at 72 Culverhay, Ashted KT21 1PS. The cost is 50p each plus postage if incurred.



FRIENDS OF THE LEATHERHEAD MUSEUM

Chairman:

J W Middlemas
10 Highlands Avenue
Leatherhead KT22 8NN
Leatherhead 374035

Treasurer:

G W Wilson
61 Ottways Lane
Ashted KT21 2PS
Ashted 272898

Secretary:

Mrs J L Goldsmith
27 Albert Road
Ashted KT21 1BJ
Ashted 277611

NEWSLETTER 1992

October 1992

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The eighth Annual General Meeting of the Friends was held on 19th June 1992 at the Leatherhead Institute. During the formal part of the meeting, officers and committee members elected were:

Chairman: J W Middlemas
Treasurer: G W Wilson
Secretary: Mrs J L Goldsmith
Committee: J G Clark
Miss J Fuller (Membership)

Ernest Crossland gave a short talk on the well excavation at Hampton Cottage, and Jim Middlemas talked on the activities of the Newcomen Society. Many thanks to Joan and Frank Kirby for their help with the refreshments.

MEMBERSHIP

By the end of September 1992, the membership was 178, made up of 4 honorary members, 18 life members and 156 ordinary members.

The honorary members are:

J V K Beddoe
D Bruce
S E D Fortescue
L A Smith

We sincerely thank all members for your continued support, and for your donations sent in addition to subscriptions. Please try to persuade some of your friends to become Friends of the museum. We do need more people, particularly those who might be willing to join the committee or become a steward at the museum once a month. Subscriptions are for life membership £20 minimum and for ordinary membership £1 minimum.

MUSEUM STEWARDS

Once again we record our appreciation to all the stewards who open the museum to the public on Fridays and Saturdays. We do need more volunteers to enable us to keep the museum open. If you are able to help, please contact Joe Parry (375359) for Fridays and Linda Heath (372603) for Saturdays. If you are not able to commit yourself to a regular date, perhaps you would be willing to act as a reserve.

THE LATE GEOFFREY GOLLIN

Sadly the LDLHS and the Friends have lost a long-standing member, Geoffrey Gollin, who died in late August. The Life Membership of the Friends was started in 1989 at his suggestion, and Mr and Mrs Gollin were our first life members. Geoffrey will be greatly missed by all his friends in the society and at the museum.

THE LATE TREVOR EDWARDS

In July, our museum curators, Trevor and Mary Edwards, left us to move to a new home and job in Sussex. Sadly Trevor died suddenly on the 16th July, the day after they moved to Sussex. During the short time they were at the museum, they made great progress and put in a tremendous amount of hard work. Like David Bruce before them, they will be a hard act to follow for the new curator. We hope Mary will come back to visit us at the museum to see how we are getting on.

MUSEUM CURATOR

At present Janet Goldsmith is the Acting Curator, and is assisted in the day to day running of the museum by a small committee.

EXHIBITIONS

This year the museum is still showing exhibitions on "Saxons In Surrey" and "The Howard Vault", which have proved to be of great interest to our visitors.

Items which have been excavated from the well in the garden of Hampton Cottage are also on show. The excavation is now 22ft deep and there is still no sign of the bottom! Work has been temporarily suspended at present, but will continue as soon as possible. We record here our thanks to the Leatherhead Venture Scouts for all their hard work on this project.

It is hoped to stage new temporary exhibitions in 1993, and plans are being considered for a "kitchen" area in the ground floor centre room, around the old fireplace, as the museum now owns quite a number of domestic items.

ACQUISITIONS

People continue to donate gifts to the museum and recent acquisitions include:

- Several items of Ashtead Pottery.
- A Victorian writing box/slope.
- A stoneware hot water bottle from Moulds Ltd, Leatherhead and Cobham.
- Numerous old photographs and documents of local interest.
- A working model of a water pump which was in the window of Buchanan & Curwen's premises in Bridge Street.
- A carpenter's glue pot, complete with old glue!
- A Goblin cylinder vacuum cleaner with tools, in its original box, in very good condition.

HAMPTON COTTAGE

Inevitably, a 17th century building always requires attention and Hampton Cottage is no exception. Extensive repairs are to be carried out to the rear elevation to prevent the ingress of rainwater this winter, together with the replacement of the first floor rear window frame. These works will cost in the region of £1,000 and it is hoped that the Friends may be able to contribute towards this expense. The LDLHS have offered to pay for the new window frame.

A member of the Friends has very generously donated a new sink unit, and the Friends have paid the plumber to install it in the museum office. This gift has made working at the museum, especially cleaning, so much easier and is very much appreciated.

The Friends Committee has also agreed to pay for the following items: A more modern and efficient night storage heater, a new vacuum cleaner, half the cost of a dehumidifier for the Priory basement store, and the Surrey County Council fee for a listed building plaque. Donations have also been paid by the Friends to the Leatherhead Venture Scouts for their help with the well excavations.

Without the help of the Friends, the museum would not be able to afford any of these items; your support is greatly appreciated.

VISIT TO COBHAM MILL

On Friday 3rd July 1992, the Friends visited Cobham Mill. This water mill, on the bank of the River Mole just outside Cobham, has been recently restored by enthusiastic volunteers, with the aid of a generous donation from the local branch of Sainsbury's.

The weather was dreadful; it had poured with rain all day, but the Friends were lucky enough to catch a short dry spell which enabled them to admire the landscaping that had been carried out along the river banks.

The mill was very interesting and the visit was enjoyed very much by all who went along, in spite of the inclement weather. Our Chairman, Jim Middlemas, had arranged the outing, but was not well enough to attend himself. We all send him our best wishes for a speedy recovery to his usual cheerful self!

RALPH HUME FUND

In 1990 this fund was set up with donations received in memory of the late Ralph Hume. This money is to be used to finance the printing of postcards for sale. Enquiries are being made, and it is hoped that some of the Society's old photographs will be printed as postcards ready for sale when the museum re-opens in April 1993.

RESTORATION OF HAMPTON COURT
REPEAT LECTURE ON 10TH DECEMBER 1992

Friends who were at the illustrated talk on 16th October on the restoration of Hampton Court after the fire in 1986, may know that not only was it completely sold out, but quite a large number of people had to be turned away.

It so happened that Michael Fishlock, who was to have given the talk, was in hospital and his colleague, Dante Vanoli, who was the project architect in charge of the restoration, took his place and gave a most successful talk, illustrated by Mr Fishlock's superb slides.

There has been such a demand for a repeat of this talk that Mr Vanoli has very kindly agreed to come and give it again in the Dixon Hall at Leatherhead Institute, at 8pm on Thursday 10th December 1992, admission £2.50 as before.

Many of the Friends will probably have been to the previous talk, so although this will be an opportunity for those who missed that one to hear it and see the slides on 10th December, it is really intended to be a talk organised by the Friends for the general public, as a means of raising funds for the museum.

We want as much publicity as possible for this event, so please do your best to make it known to people, in any way that you can. There will be posters and handbills for adult education centres, libraries, etc. but if you know of other groups where it could be publicised, please give your suggestions to anyone on the museum committee or anyone on duty at the museum. We want to make this a really big fund raiser for the museum, so the more publicity the better.

This time there will be no advance booking - admission £2.50 at the door on the night, including coffee and biscuits.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST

Please do visit us at the museum. We are open from April to December, Friday mornings 10am to 1pm, Saturdays 10am to 4pm. We will be very pleased to see you.