

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY
Registered Charity No 802409

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NEWSLETTER 2/96

MAY 1995

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome to the Society, Mr & Mrs D Robinson of Leatherhead.

DAVID BRUCE AND GEOFF HAYWARD

Two of our best-known members - David Bruce and Geoff Hayward - are leaving us for new lives in other parts of the country. In fact, Geoff has already moved to Dorset, and David will shortly be moving near Bristol. In their many years in the Society, they both performed just about every duty there is on the Committee and were also Trustees of the Museum. We wish them and their families every happiness in the future.

David Bruce is already an Honorary Member; we are delighted that Geoff Hayward has just accepted the Committee's invitation to become an Honorary Member.

MEMBERS

Sadly this month we have to report the death of four of our members:

A W Dean - one of the very early members of the Society. He had lived in Horsham for many years but was still very keen to keep in touch with the Society and its activities.

His Honour Judge G F Leslie - Again a member for many years, though latterly his interest had to be confined to our publications.

Gilbert Mackenzie - A member who enjoyed all the Society's activities, never missing a lecture or visit. He was a familiar figure accompanied by his wife Gina, whom we are glad to know is continuing her membership.

Norman West - Norman was our Lecture Secretary for many years. His death came very suddenly, and he will be a great loss to the Committee.

We send our sincere condolences to the families of all four members.

48TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: 21 APRIL 1995

The President, Stephen Fortescue, took the Chair for the meeting. He paid tribute to the many members who help with

all the activities that are needed to make the Society a thriving body: not many Societies were so lucky. He referred to Norman West who had served the Society so well; and also mentioned Ernest Crossland who has been elected an Honorary Vice-President of the Surrey Archaeological Society - a rare honour kept only for those who had done important work in the archaeological field.

The previous Committee were re-elected. Dr D R Whittington was elected Lecture Secretary: we are very glad to welcome him to the Committee - he has already taken over the Society's publicity, a job done until recently by Ron Johnson. A list of the new Committee is enclosed for your retention. Please note that John Bull has a new telephone number.

Speakers - Other organisations ask the Society for members to give talks. At the moment there is a desperate shortage of members willing to do this. This was raised at the AGM, and if you can help, please get in touch with Dr D R Whittington on 01372-277180.

PARISH ARCHIVISTS

The Parish Archivists for Fetcham and Bookham have changed - another result of the departure of Geoff Hayward and David Bruce. The new Archivists are:

Bookham -	B E Godfrey 12 Greenway, Gt Bookham KT23 3PA 01372-454654
Fetcham - Documents:	J D Mettam 20 Badingham Drive, Fetcham KT22 9EU 01372-373171
- Maps & Photo-: graphs	A E Tims 38 Mole Road, Fetcham KT22 9RH Fetcham KT22 9RH 01372-374908

Our thanks to all three for taking on this task. A full list of Archivists is given on the back of the Committee list.

PROGRAMME

VISIT TO WILLIAM MORRIS GALLERY & VESTRY HOUSE MUSEUM,
WALTHAMSTOW - FRIDAY, 9 JUNE

The information on this visit went out in November - so we are repeating it:

The Gallery is in Water House, the 18th century boyhood home of William Morris. Collections include textiles, wallpapers, designs etc by Morris, the pre-Raphaelites and contemporaries. There is also the Frank Brangwyn collection of pictures and sculptures by 19th century and other artists.

Vestry Museum is the local history museum housed in an early 18th century workhouse in Walthamstow Conservation area.

Lunch will be at The Bell (2-course).

Cost is £12 which includes coach, lunch and entrance charges. Full details of pick-up times on tickets, but leave Bookham 9am, depart Walthamstow for home 3pm.

Joan Kirby has arranged this day specially for the Society but she is handling it through the LCA - hence the booking arrangements.

Visit to Brooklands Museum of Motor Racing and Aviation, Weybridge - Friday, 7 July

This visit follows the fascinating talk given by Gordon Knowles after the recent AGM, on early fliers and flying. Gordon has arranged a conducted tour from 2pm to 4.30pm.

Please be at the Clubhouse Visitor Reception just before 2pm so that the tour can start sharp at 2pm. The party entrance fee is £3-50 per person, and as Brooklands is comparatively near, transport will be by your own cars.

Numbers are restricted to 40 and a booking form is enclosed. Booking must close on 30 June as arrangements for guides have to be made.

Effingham "Walk" - Saturday, 12 August - Mary and Frank Rice-Oxley are arranging and will lead this walk in an area we have not visited for a very long time - ? if ever. Details have not yet been completed, so please enclose a stamped addressed envelope for details to be sent to you. The walk will be at an easy pace and take about one and a half hours. The cost is £1 and a booking form is enclosed.

Visit to Strawberry Hill, Twickenham - Wednesday, 20 September - The house was bought in 1749 by Horace Walpole who, for the next fifty years converted the modest property into his own version of a Gothic fantasy. A century later Lady Frances Waldegrave added a magnificent wing to Walpole's original structure. You will love it or hate it, but either way, you will be glad you have seen it. The guided tour will start at 2.30pm and last about an hour, after which we have arranged tea of your choice - cream tea (which from personal experience we know is very good) £4, or Tea & Biscuits £1-10. Leave for home at 4.30pm. Cost of the afternoon is £5 coach, £3-50 entry, £3 OAPs, plus tea if you wish. Booking form enclosed: booking must close on 3 September as arrangements are being made specially for us. Numbers restricted to 35.

Pick-up times are: 1.40pm Bookham - The Parish Church
1.45pm Fetcham - Lower Road, by The Street
1.50pm Leatherhead - Bus stop by Linden
Court flats near the Institute
1.55pm Ashtead - Post Office, The Street

FRIENDS OF LEATHERHEAD MUSEUM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - The Friends are holding their eleventh Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, 6 June 1995, at 7.30pm for 8pm in the Small Hall at Leatherhead Institute. "Friends" will find papers for the meeting enclosed with this Newsletter. Anyone is welcome to attend, however, whether they are "Friends" or not. The formal business of the meeting will be followed by a talk by Linda Heath on certain aspects of the history of Leatherhead Parish Church.

FUND RAISING EVENTS - Two fund-raising events will be held this year. We hope members will support both as the Friends can only help the Museum if they have the money to do so:

1. Coffee Morning - Tuesday, 27 June, 10.30am to 12 noon, at the Museum. Admission 50p including coffee and biscuits. There will be a raffle, Friend's sales - and a bring and buy stall, for which gifts would be greatly appreciated. Please bring any items you can spare to the Museum before the day, though they will still be welcome on the day.

This event was held for the first time in 1994: it turned the Museum back into a house for the morning and was greatly enjoyed by everyone present. We look forward to welcoming a good crowd again this year.

2. A Talk will be given by member Bill Culley at The Old Barn Hall, Bookham, on Friday, 13 October 1995, 7.30 for 8pm, about early 20th century Bookham. Details later.

SALES - Items for sale this season include green tea towels, and new notelets and postcards.

FRIENDS VISIT - A visit is being planned for September. Details in the August Newsletter.

At the risk of being repetitive -

The Secretary would like to thank everyone for their good wishes and help during and after her recent six weeks in hospital. She had the one operation she was expecting, but finished up having another a few days later. Never again! Enough is enough.