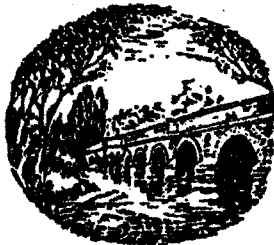


MAY 1996

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER



LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY
Registered Charity No 802409

Chairman

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Secretary

Miss J Fuller
15 Kingston Hse Gdns
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NEWSLETTER 2/96

MAY 1996

MEMBERS

We are very pleased to welcome to this Society these new members:

Ashtead

Barnes, M M
Starling, Mr & Mrs P

Fetcham

Ibrahim, Mrs V
Ibrahim, Sara (Junior)

Leatherhead

Eckersley, Cllr & Mrs R
Eckersley, Edmund (Junior)

Other areas

Hollis, C J - New Haw,
Addlestone

The two Junior members - Sara Ibrahim and Edmund Eckersley - are particularly welcome.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 19 APRIL 1996

The President, Stephen Fortescue, chaired this meeting, which was the 49th AGM of the Society. Mr Fortescue reminded the meeting that 1995 had been a year in which several members had died, among them, John Lewarne, to whom he wished to pay tribute. He had been a tireless worker for the Society, holding many office over the years from 1953 to 1988, when he retired as President.

Sadly, Linda Heath resigned as Chairman after seven years service, during which time she had never missed a meeting of the Society or its Committee. She was, as everyone agreed, an exceptional Chairman, who made a great contribution to the history of the Society. The Committee wished to show their appreciation of her very successful leadership, and on their behalf Mr Fortescue presented Linda with two books. A special "thank you" was given to "the Chairman's husband - David", who had given Linda immense support and was always around to advise and help.

The meeting elected Peter Tarplee to replace her and we wish him a very happy Chairmanship.

Two new members of Committee were also elected: Dr D Barry Cox and Brian Godfrey. A complete list of the Committee - and of the Parish Archivists - is enclosed for your retention.

NEWS FROM THE MUSEUM

While the Museum was closed for the winter, the chance was taken to sort, catalogue and package the collection of some 200 newspapers and magazines.

Curator Janet Goldsmith and Steward Pat Smith spent a very grubby but interesting day getting the collection of mostly national newspapers, into order.

If Royalty is your interest, we have weddings, funerals, coronations, abdications and jubilees, ranging from the death of Queen Victoria in 1901 to the wedding of the Prince of Wales in 1981.

The "non-Royalty" collection includes the first ascent of Mount Everest (1953), Festival of Britain (1951), Launch of the Queen Mary (1936), the River Mole Flood (1968), the general strike (1926) and of course, world wars I and II.

Perhaps the most topical one just now, as we approach the millennium, is the gold printed copy of the Daily Mail - 31st December 1900 - the dawn of the twentieth century.

The collection also acts as a reminder of newspapers now gone - Daily Graphic, News Chronicle, Picture Post, Evening News, Daily Herald, for example.

Some of the papers are in a poor condition, but they all contain many advertisements - a very good source of social history. A complete list is available from Curator Janet Goldsmith, Librarian Gwen Hoad or Secretary Joyce Fuller, and the papers can be obtained from the Museum store via the Curator.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARIAN

The new catalogue of the Society's Library is now available for reference alongside the Society's books, which are housed separately in the Institute Library room. Copies have also been distributed to those members who have asked for them, and it is suggested that they watch this newsletter for any recent additions. This month two publications have been added:

National & General Topics: Buildings & Conservation

Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England,
Strategic plan. RCHME, 1996

Surrey - History

Surrey Local History Council

Surrey History, Vol 5 No 1. Phillimore, 1994.

Members should also note that the Mickleham Parish Magazines 1885-1893 have now been transferred to Dorking Museum.

Any queries about these or other matters relating to the Society's Library should be addressed to Gwen Hoad, who will be pleased to help you.

PROGRAMME

DORKING INDUSTRIAL "WALK" - Saturday, 22 June

As well as being our new Chairman, Peter Tarplee is Secretary of the Surrey Industrial History Group which has recently published "A Guide to the Industrial History of Mole Valley District". Peter will lead a walk around Dorking for us on Saturday, 22 June looking at some mills, railway stations, waterworks and other industrial sites in the town centre. Please meet at Dorking station at 2.30pm. The charge is £1 each, and a booking form is enclosed.

VISIT TO JUNIPER HALL FIELD CENTRE - Saturday, 20 July - 2.30pm

This is Juniper Hall's Open Day, and a special tour of Juniper Hall itself and some of the Centre's other buildings, has been arranged: we have been asked to restrict the number of visitors to 20. The charge is £1 each which will be given as a donation to the Field Centre, and a booking form is enclosed.

We are very pleased to have the Field Centre as an Honorary Member of this Society.

VISIT TO LOSELY HOUSE - Saturday, 17 August.

A tour of the house has been arranged for us at 3pm. Loseley House is an Elizabethan mansion built in 1561 by William More, cousin of Sir Thomas More. It has fine ceilings and panelling. It is also the home of the Loseley dairy products, and after the tour of the house you are free to visit the dairy and the grounds, or have tea, until the coach leaves at 5.30pm. The cost is £7-50 for the coach and tour. This is a special party rate and we need at least 30 people to make this viable, so please book as soon as possible. A booking form is enclosed.

Pick-up times and places are:

- Ashtead - By the travel agents at Epsom end of The Street
- Leatherhead - By the bus stop beyond the multi-storey car park (coming from Ashtead)
- Fetcham - Lower Road, by the Street
- Bookham - The Old Crown, opposite the Parish Church

LEATHERHEAD HERITAGE DAY - Saturday, 14 September

This is a "town" day with tours of buildings of historic interest, guided walks etc. Linda Heath is organising it and more details will be in the August Newsletter.

WINTER LECTURES - Our lectures will be held on the third Friday of each month from September 1996 to May 1997, at 7.30pm for 8pm, with coffee before the meeting. The first lecture will be:

Some of the Society's Slides - Friday, 20 September

The Society has recently been given a collection of about 250 slides, but few are dated and some do not even give their subject and site. Dr Derek Renn will present a selection of them - and we need your help in identifying, dating etc. what could be a very valuable addition to the records.

The Dallaway Lecture - The History of the Society - given by Stephen Fortescue, the Society's President. The Society is approaching its 50th anniversary. Mr Fortescue is a founder member who has held many offices on the Committee.

FRIENDS OF THE LEATHERHEAD MUSEUM

The Friends have two fund-raising events organised -

"20th Century Bookham" - Wednesday, 29 May 1995 at 8pm at the Old Barn Hall, Bookham. - A second talk by Bill Culley, following his October 1995 one. You still have time to book a ticket at £2-50, obtainable from John Clark, 16 Willow Vale, Fetcham, KT22 9TE, telephone 01372-452479; from Patrick Gardener Estate Agents, Bookham; or at the door on the evening if there are any left!

Coffee Morning & Bring-and-Buy - Tuesday, 25 June, 10-12 noon at the Museum. Entry 50p. Come and have a morning coffee and enjoy the Museum at the same time. We would like items for the Bring & Buy Sale, and for raffle prizes; please leave them at the Museum before the coffee morning if possible, but they will still be very welcome on the day.

Please help the Friends by attending these events - they can only help the Museum if they can raise money for it to spend!

FRIENDS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - FRIDAY 14 JUNE

The Friends A G M is on Friday, 14 June at 7.30pm for 8pm in the Small Hall of Leatherhead Institute. We need many more Friends, so please come and hear what they are doing to help the Museum. Members of the Society who are already Friends will find enclosed the papers for the AGM, which will be followed by a talk on St John's School by Jack Stuttard, who is our Editor and a history lecturer at the school.

FRIENDS VISIT - The Friends are planning a visit to the "Derby Experience" in the Queen's Stand at Epsom Racecourse, on Sunday, 8 September. Details & booking form in August Newsletter.

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY
Registered Charity No 802409

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April 1996

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY
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