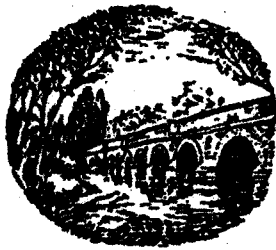


FEBRUARY 1997

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT  
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

**NEWSLETTER**



**LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**  
Hampton Cottage, 64 Church Street, LEATHERHEAD Surrey KT22 8DP  
Tel: 01372 386348

Registered Charity No. 802409

CHAIRMAN

**Peter A. Tarplee**  
01372 452301

SECRETARY

TREASURER

**Peter E. Starling**  
01372 273092

**NEWSLETTER 1/97**

**FEBRUARY 1997**

**JOYCE FULLER An Appreciation**

Nobody's indispensable - or are they? Few of our members will not have heard by now of the sudden death of Joyce Fuller on 5 January. Although Joyce was suffering from bronchitis after Christmas, it had not seemed serious compared to all the other health problems she had to cope with, so her death came as a tremendous shock to us all. Somehow, it seems a bitter irony that this should have happened just after she had got her splendid "buggy" to transport her round the town and give her so much more independence. The Society's new computer was also giving her a lot of pleasure and she was really enjoying finding out all the marvellous things it could do.

Joyce became Honorary Assistant Secretary of the Society in 1980 and took over as Secretary shortly afterwards. She was the linchpin of the Society, and I often used to say that we would never find any one person to do all the things that she did - Compiler and Editor of the Newsletter, Membership Secretary, Executive Committee Minute Secretary and General Factotum, Organiser and Stay and Support of Chairman and all Officers of the Committee. She was also invaluable to Janet at the Museum as an unofficial Deputy Curator and permanent Standby for Stewards. Joyce will be sadly missed by all members, not only for the many things which she undertook for the Society, but also for her cheerful personality and her courage in the face of adversity.

Linda Heath

If you would like to make a donation toward the purchase of an item to act as a memorial to Joyce Fuller then please send your contribution to Peter Tarplee at Donard, East Street, Bookham, KT23 4XQ.

## **SECRETARY'S DUTIES**

Following the sad death of Joyce Fuller a number of changes, some of which are temporary, have needed to be made to the organisation of the Society.

- (a) All correspondence for the Society should be sent to L D L H S, Hampton Cottage, 64 Church Street, Leatherhead KT22 8DP. It will then be forwarded to the appropriate Officer of the Society for action.
- (b) Subscriptions and membership applications should be addressed to the Membership Secretary. Janet Goldsmith is undertaking these duties.
- (c) Bookings for the use of the Institute library on weekday afternoons should be made with our Librarian, Gwen Hoad (Tel: 01372 273934).
- (d) Newsletter contributions should be addressed to the Newsletter Compiler, Anthony Gordon. We realise that because of her intimate knowledge of all the Society's activities Joyce wrote a lot of the Newsletter herself. We are now asking all members to provide articles and items of interest so that the Newsletter may continue to provide a service to us all.
- (e) Members should note that there is now a telephone at the Museum and messages for Officers may be left. The number is 01372 386348.

We realise that it is unrealistic for any one person to take on all the duties which Joyce performed for the Society, and this would not be expected.

We urgently need a Society Secretary. The job involves taking minutes at six committee meetings and one AGM per year and distributing them. There is also preparation of AGM papers and dealing with a small amount of correspondence.

Please, if any member feels that they may be able to take on this task for the Society they are invited to talk to Peter Tarplee (452301) to discuss what would be involved.

## **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

If you have not already paid your subscription, can we remind you that the rules say they must be paid by 31 March or membership ceases - though we are usually a bit more lenient than that! Many thanks to those who have paid and included donations to the Friends of the Museum. Please send payments addressed to the Membership Secretary at the address at the top of page 1.

## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday, 18 April 1997 and enclosed are the papers for the meeting. We need volunteers for the Committee. If you can help, in any capacity whatever, please get in touch with the Chairman

who will be very pleased to hear from any of you - but in particular, if you are younger than retirement age, you will be welcomed with open arms!! Please also make sure you attend the meeting, where you can raise any points you wish.

The meeting will be followed with a talk by Ernest Crossland on the Roman Palace at Fishbourne, and the Weald & Downland Museum.

### **FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

I have recently had the privilege of representing the Society at two local events.

**Parson's Mead School** - On 12 November 1996 I attended a book launch at Parson's Mead School, when the book written to celebrate the school's centenary was introduced. "An Act of Faith" - The Story of 100 Years of Parson's Mead School" describes the history of the school since its opening in 1896 and outlines its development up to the present day. Copies are available from the school and there is a copy in the Society Library.

**Peace Memorial** - On 5 December 1996 I attended the Dedication Ceremony of the Peace Memorial erected by Surrey County Council at Young Street, Leatherhead. The ceremony was led by the Revd. David Eaton, Rural Dean of Leatherhead, and Revd. Paul Boughton, Rector of Fetcham, with a collect and reading by Councillor Janet Marsh, Chairman of Mole Valley District Council, and Baroness Thomas of Walliswood, Chairman of Surrey County Council.

The memorial has been provided by the County Council as a visible recognition of 50 years of peace. Representatives of ex-service associations were present, including a group of Canadian veterans commemorating the part their countrymen played in constructing the adjacent road: in fact, there was one person there who had worked on the construction of Young Street, and attended the opening ceremony in 1941 and the re-opening ceremony in 1978.

### **COMMON MEADOWS, LEATHERHEAD**

Last October the Society learned that the Common Meadows of Leatherhead were to be disposed of by the London Borough of Merton. This land is part of the Metropolitan Green Belt to which the public enjoy uninterrupted access and we wrote to Mole Valley District Council suggesting that it seemed appropriate for this land to remain in the hands of a local authority.

Accordingly the local authority said that they would give thought to whether they should, or could, purchase the Meadows.

MVDC has advised us that they have decided not to put in a bid for the Merton land as much of it is protected by virtue of being a common to which the public

have rights of access for air and exercise and that these rights will continue whoever owns the land. There are also three footpaths giving access to the land. Nevertheless our Authority will keep in touch with the London Borough of Merton and monitor how the sale is progressing.

**THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE** is on the move. Their notice reads :-

"Public Record Office - Central London Reading Room.

Microfilms of the Census, Probate records, Death Duty records, Non-Conformist Register and the Shop will, from 10 March 1997, relocate to

**Myddelton Place, Myddelton Street, London E C 1**

The Office for National Statistics will relocate its Public Search Room from St Catherine's House to the same address from 1 April 1997.

Please note that the reading rooms and facilities currently at Chancery Lane will close on Saturday, 8 March while the move takes place.

For further information please telephone 0181-392-5200"

### **"RESEARCHING SURREY'S PAST - A guide to sources"**

As an initiative arising from the Surrey Heritage Strategy the County Council has produced a booklet listing the wide range of locations in which information about Surrey's past can be found. The booklet lists Record Offices, Museums, local History Societies, planning departments and national organisations that may help those carrying out historical research. Details are given of addresses, opening hours and whether appointments are necessary, as well as a brief description of the areas covered and what documents are held.

Copies may be purchased from Dinah Saich at County Hall or from many local Societies, price £2. Surrey public libraries and museums also have copies.

This Society has two copies for general reference: in the library at Leatherhead Institute and on the Stewards' desk at the Museum.

This book has been produced for the benefit of all with an interest in local history and it is hoped that many will make use of it. Inevitably this first edition will contain some errors and omissions: details of these should be passed to the County Archivist (0181-541-9051) or to this Society's Chairman.

### **"LEATHERHEAD" - by Linda Heath**

This is the latest book in the Archive Photographs series published by the Chalford Publishing Company.

Linda Heath compiled this book with over 200 photographs of the town. Most are from the Society's archives and provide readers with a reminder of Leatherhead over the last century, illustrating many scenes which have disappeared. The book enables a number of our photographs to be seen by a much larger audience than if they were only in the Society's archives, and hopefully, more people will learn about the history of the town. For this, and for the financial gain to the Society, we thank Linda for all the work she has done in compiling it on our behalf. This effort can best be repaid by encouraging folk to buy as many copies as possible. At £9.99 the book may be obtained from local bookshops and libraries, but members are asked to buy theirs from our Sales Secretary, Howard Davies, either at our meetings or, post free from 72 Culverhay, Ashted KT21 1PS. Please make cheques payable to "L D L H S".

The Society held a book launch at Letherhead Institute on 12 December 1996 at which Linda gave an illustrated talk about the book and the background to some of the photographs. We were delighted to see a large number of members and others at this launch, and pleased once more to welcome Councillor Janet Marsh, Chairman of Mole Valley Council, together with other guests.

### **COPY FOR THE NEWSLETTER**

In the November 1996 Newsletter we appealed for short pieces of local history interest for inclusion in the Newsletter. Mr Meredith Worsfold has supplied this:

#### **Soup Kitchen in Leatherhead**

The Leatherhead Parish Magazine was first published in 1880, initiated by the Rev Frank Utterton, later Canon. In his introductory remarks in the first issue, he proposed the establishment of a soup kitchen in Leatherhead, and wrote -

"There are many who would gladly work but who can get no work to do. We have therefore thought it wise to open a soup kitchen twice in the week, as the best means of regularly and systematically helping those who would gladly, if they could, help themselves".

The thought quickly became the deed for the February magazine announced that

"A soup kitchen is held every Tuesday and Friday during the winter at Mr Tribe's, Grocer. Any family wishing for soup must procure a ticket from a Subscriber or Member of the Committee, and will then be entitled to soup at a penny per quart. Any meat, bones, or vegetables will be thankfully received at the Kitchen on any Monday or Thursday"!

(This is just the sort of contribution we need - so keep them coming!)

## **NEWS FROM THE LIBRARIAN**

"This delightful old world Surrey town, which during the last decade has shown signs of renewing its youth, is a favourite resort for jaded Londoners who desire to breathe a pure air and be surrounded at the same time with some of the loveliest scenery in the County of Surrey. Situated only 18 miles away from the Metropolis, with an excellent train service on two lines of railway, Leatherhead is becoming a favourite place of residence for City men, especially those who are fond of motoring, for which it is an excellent centre. At the 1901 census the population of the town was 4,694 and is now 5000." So says W S Bird in his guide book to the area, entitled "Lovely Leatherhead" and published around 1910. Apart from the population figures, it could almost have been written yesterday. (In 1991 the population was quoted as 9,718.)

Recent acquisitions to the Library include:

### **SURREY - Records**

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL, SURREY RECORDS OFFICE.**  
**Researching Surrey's Past: a guide to sources. SCC, 1996.**

### **SURREY - Topographical & maps**

**"THE TRAMP" - The Surrey Hills: the story of some wanderings .... in the lovely country served by the London, Brighton and South Coast Railway. London Bridge Terminus, 1922**

### **SURREY - Individual Towns & Villages**

#### **ASHTEAD**

**CORPORATION OF LONDON - Ashtead Common management plan. Corporation of London, 31 December 1995**

**DAWSON, Barbara - An Act of Faith: one hundred years of education at Parsons Mead School, 1897-1997. Parsons Mead School, 1996**

#### **DORKING**

**WEIGHT, Cliff - The South Street caves, Dorking. Dorking & Leith Hill Preservation Society, Local History Group, 1988**

#### **LEATHERHEAD**

**HEATH, Linda compiler (on behalf of LDLHS) - Leatherhead (The Archive Photographs Series). Chalford, 1996**

These and other books in the Society's Library are housed within the Institute Library room, and may be borrowed or referred to during the LCA Library's opening hours - Tuesday, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, 10am to 1pm or by special arrangement with Gwen Hoad (01372-273934). A Library catalogue is

available in the room which indicates the approximate location of each item, but reference books in the locked cupboards may not normally be taken away.

## PROGRAMME

### Lectures

Lectures are held on the third Friday of each month at 7.30pm for 8pm in the Dixon Hall of Letherhead Institute. Coffee is available before the meetings.

\*\*\*\*\* **HELP WANTED** \*\*\*\*\*  
The Committee needs help at our monthly meetings. Chairs need setting out before 7.30pm and stacking afterwards. Our coffee-making team has, for various reasons, lost members. We need one or two people willing to help. It involves coming before 7.30pm - but there is no washing up! Please contact Peter Tarplee or any other member of the Committee if you can help with either task.  
\*\*\*\*\* **HELP WANTED** \*\*\*\*\*

### Friday, 21 March - "The Burning Question" - by Ron Shettle.

The story of fire fighting in Surrey, with particular reference to our own area. Mr Shettle is closely involved with Fire Brigades of Surrey Preservation Trust.

Friday, 18 April - The Annual General Meeting, followed by a talk by Ernest Crossland on the Roman Palace at Fishbourne, and the Weald & Downland Museum at Singleton. A visit has been booked for 21 June

Friday, 16 May (N.B. not 19) - "The Lost Palaces of Claremont" by Stephen Webbe who is currently writing a book about Claremont. A visit to Claremont is planned for September.

### Visits

#### Visit to Ashted Common - Saturday, 19 April

At the invitation of the Corporation of London who own and manage the Common, an afternoon visit with the Surrey Archaeological Society has been arranged for Saturday, 19 April with emphasis on the oak pollards of 300-400 years old which are of European significance. No advance booking or charge, but a collection for the Lord Mayor's charities will be taken on the day. (£1 minimum suggested.) The visit will last about two hours and be led by Vikki Forbes, Assistant Keeper.

Meet at 2.30pm sharp at Ashted railway station where parking is free on Saturdays. N.B. Wear suitable footwear.



### **Visit to the Public Record Office, Kew - Tuesday 29 April**

Morning Visit by cars to the Public Record Office, recently centralised at Kew. There will be a description of how the record system works, followed by a tour. Arrive at 10.15am. Further details available from Howard Davies. Cost £1.00

N.B. This visit is limited to 20 people.

### **Walk round Headley Village - Saturday 17 May**

MORNING visit by car to Headley for a walk around the village led by Peter Denyer who talked to us about Headley in November. This has been arranged for the morning so that we can see work being done in the forge. Arrive at the car park outside the Cock (now called the Cock Horse) at 10.30am and the walk will include the forge, the church, the old well and the outside of the Old Rectory. Anyone may drop out at any time if too much walking and we can either have lunch at the pub or go straight home. Cost £1.00.

### **Visit to Fishbourne and Singleton - Saturday 21 June**

All day coach visit to the Roman Palace at Fishbourne and Singleton Weald and Downsland Museum. Coach will pick up from Bookham 9.00am, Fetcham 9.05am, Leatherhead 9.10am, Ashted 9.15am. Cost £15 per person to include entrance fees, but not refreshments, which are available both at Fishbourne and Singleton. We plan to arrive back at about 6.30pm.

### **Advance dates for your diaries. Details in May Newsletter.**

Saturday 6 July. Afternoon visit by cars to Whiteley Village near Hersham, led by Ernest Crossland.

Saturday 9 August. Whole day coach visit to Farnborough.

Saturday 6 or Sunday 7 September. Afternoon visit to Claremont. Date to be confirmed.

### **Also**

#### **Leatherhead and District Countryside Protection Society**

The Countryside Protection Society has pleasure in inviting our members to "Conserving the World's Flora", an illustrated talk by Professor Sir Ghilleen Prance FRS, Director of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, at Manor House School, Bookham, 7.30 pm Wednesday 9 April. Tickets £7.50 to include a reception. Cheques to LDCP Society with s.a.e. before 25 March, to The Prance Lecture, c/o LCA Post Box, The Institute, 67 High Street, Leatherhead KT22 8AH.

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**Copy for May Newsletter to the Society's office by April 19, please**



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

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The 50th Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held in the Dixon Hall, Letherhead Institute, at 7.30pm for 8pm on Friday, 18 April 1997.

**A G E N D A**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of 49th Annual General Meeting held on 19 April 1995  
(Copy enclosed)
3. Matters arising from the Minutes
4. Presentation of Executive Committee Report of the Society's Activities in 1996  
(Copy enclosed)
5. Presentation of the Society's Accounts for the year ended 31 December 1996
6. Appointment of Honorary Auditor
7. Report of the Leatherhead Museum Trustees Accounts for the year ended 30 September 1996  
(Copy enclosed)
8. Review of subscriptions for 1998  
"That from 1 January 1998 the Adult Single Membership Annual Subscription be £9 and the Husband & Wife Membership Annual Subscription be £14"  
proposed by the Committee
9. Election of Executive Committee for 1997/8  
(Paper enclosed)
10. Any other business

After the business meeting there will be a talk given by Ernest Crossland (the Society's Archaeology Secretary and an Honorary Vice-President of the Surrey Archaeological Society) on the Fishbourne Roman Palace and its formal garden, part of which has been restored; and the Weald and Downland Open Air Museum at Singleton which contains local rescued buildings from medieval times to the 19th century.

## **Agenda Item 2**

### **MINUTES OF THE 49TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT 8PM ON FRIDAY, 19 APRIL 1996 IN THE DIXON HALL, LETHERHEAD INSTITUTE.**

**PRESENT Mr S E D Fortescue - President  
Mrs Linda Heath  
69 other Members**

Before the meeting began, Mr Fortescue welcomed members to the Society's 49th Annual General Meeting. The Society was founded in October 1946 and was therefore in its 50th year. It had progressed ever since its inception to become a successful and respected organisation.

Among the members who had died in 1995, he wished to pay particular tribute to John Lewarne. He had been an active member since 1953, holding many posts on the Committee, becoming President in 1977 until 1987, when he retired

**The Millennium** - Mr Fortescue wondered how the Society would commemorate the Millennium and hoped it would bring the acquisition of permanent storage with space for the Library, Records, and for research work: a worthy goal to aim for.

Mr Fortescue said he would introduce an extra item on the Agenda - Item 11(a) - Linda Heath

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** - Received from John Bull, Dr Barry Cox, Alan Gillies, Janet Goldsmith, Mr & Mrs John Read, Mr & Mrs Frank Rice-Oxley, B E Rowland

#### **2. MINUTES OF THE 48TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Adoption of the Minutes of the 48th Annual General Meeting was proposed, seconded and carried.

**3. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE AGM MINUTES** - None

#### **4. MINUTES OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 15 SEPTEMBER 1995**

Adoption of the Minutes was proposed, seconded and carried.

**5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE SGM MINUTES** - None

**6. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 1996** - This was introduced by Linda Heath.

**Programme** - Two extra lectures had been arranged in May and September, in answer to comments that the lecture season was too short.

**Publications** - Congratulations to Jack Stuttard for the 1995 Proceedings, and for his Editorship of the new History of Ashtead; also to Howard Davies and his sales team for organising the distribution of the History to sales points.

**Archaeology** - Note had been taken of the criticism by the Museum of London Archaeology Service that the Society's archaeological collection was not properly catalogued, stored and in some cases even washed. Help was needed in the summer months to put that situation right.

**Library** - The death of Frank Kirby meant the loss to the Society of a good friend as well as its Librarian. Gwen Hoad, a trained Librarian, had volunteered to take his place. She had recently produced a new and detailed catalogue which was already in use in the Library.

The Society also thanked the Institute Trustees for again allowing it to use the Institute Library for meetings and research on most afternoons in the week.

**Museum** - Many members seem barely conscious that the Society has a Museum. Their Museum would be greatly improved if more Society members took an active part in running it.

**Thanks expressed to** - The Committee, Stephen Fortescue for his support and advice, and to all members. Linda Heath felt she had been very privileged to lead a society that was held in such high regard by other organisations as well as the public.

## **7. TREASURER'S REPORT**

Mr Latham said this would be his last report as sometime during 1996 he expected to be moving from the area. A new Treasurer was therefore urgently needed.

The accounts for 1995 had been audited without any change from those circulated to members. Mr Latham explained one or two points in them, and after questions had been answered, their acceptance was proposed, seconded and carried.

**8. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR** - Mr F Kirby was willing to continued as the Society's Auditor. His re-appointment was proposed, seconded and carried.

## **9. REPORT FROM THE MUSEUM TRUSTEES**

As Mr John Bull, the Treasurer of the Museum Trust funds, could not be present, his report was read by Mr Fortescue. Mr Bull pointed out that it was exactly twenty years ago that it was decided to acquire Hampton Cottage and convert it into a Museum and Heritage Centre. With the generous support of residents in the district, and a twenty year loan from an anonymous donor, this aim was achieved. As the term of the loan has now matured, the widow of the donor has generously decided to donate this sum - £7,500 - for the Museum Trustees to use as an Endowment Fund for the maintenance of Hampton Cottage and the basis for the future purchase of land and/or premises, to further the aims of the Society.

## **10. REVIEW OF SUBSCRIPTION FOR 1997**

The Committee considered that for the moment the financial position was sufficiently sound for no increase in subscription to be necessary.

In answer to a question whether this item need only appear on the Agenda when an increase was to be made, the Secretary said that a previous AGM had requested that the subject was reviewed every year at the AGM. Members were perfectly entitled to challenge any decision made by the Committee, either to increase the subscription or leave it at its present level.

## **11. ELECTION OF NEW COMMITTEE**

Since the paper for this item was circulated to members, Dr Barry Cox had offered to join the Committee. The meeting therefore elected the new Committee en bloc, Peter Tarplee being appointed Chairman in place of Linda Heath.

### **11A LINDA HEATH**

Mr Fortescue wanted to pay tribute to the work Linda Heath had done during her seven years as Chairman. Amongst many achievements, she had found storage for the ever-expanding artefacts placed in our custody; persuaded Surrey County Council to name the new reading room in the conservatory in Leatherhead Library, the Joseph Payne Room, and to erect a plaque there commemorating the Grammar School he ran in the Mansion; initiated the research and writing of the new History of Ashted; and she had never missed a meeting of the Society or the Committee.

She was leaving the Society in good heart for the future.

But thanks must be given to her husband, David, who had been a great supporter whenever required during her Chairmanship, and was always available to give advice and physical help.

In appreciation of her leadership, the Committee asked Mr Fortescue, on their behalf, to present Linda with two books; they hoped that she and David would long continue their association with the Society.

## **12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS - None**

There being no further business to discuss, Mr Fortescue thanked the members for attending and closed the meeting.

## Agenda Item 4

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

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE SOCIETY DURING 1996

##### 1. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

This report is presented by the Executive Committee elected at the 1996 AGM. A full list of Committee members appears in the 1996 Proceedings

##### 2. MEMBERSHIP

Sadly during 1996 four members died: Miss W Underhay, Mrs J Alexander, Mrs J Blair and Mr B E Rowland.

As at 31 December 1996, the membership compared with 1995 was:

	1996	1995 (revised)
Honorary	11	11
Single Membership	158	156
Husband & Wife	134	144
Juniors	<u>---3</u>	<u>---</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>311</b>

The Committee are well aware of the slight drift downwards of membership numbers and are taking steps to try to recruit more members.

##### 3. PROGRAMME

A full list of the year's programme of lectures and events is given in the 1996 Proceedings.

The extra lectures in May and September proved popular and will be continued.

##### 4. PUBLICATIONS

**Proceedings** - Volume 5, No 8 dated 1995 was published in February 1996.

**History of Leatherhead** by J.C. Stuttard - This short history, a revision of the one which first came out in 1986, was published in June 1996.

**Leatherhead in Archive Photographs** - This book was compiled by Linda Heath on behalf of the Society, for publication in the Archive Photograph Series of towns and villages. It has already proved most successful. A "book launch"

was held on 9 December 1996, at which some special guests, Society members and members of the public were present.

**A History of Fetcham** - The Editor has already held two meetings with a group to discuss the format and content of a history of Fetcham. Much research was done in the past by John Lewarne (one-time President of the Society) and Geoff Hayward in preparation for the publication of a book on Fetcham, though much more research remains to be done.

## **5. SALES**

This has been another exceptional year for the Society's book sales. The total value of sales amounted to some £6500. Of this figure £4000 was received from sale of 'A History of Ashted' mainly in the first half of the year. £2000 was received from the sale through the Society of 'Leatherhead' in the archive photograph series, all in the last five weeks of the year. This gives the Society a clear profit of £2000 overall. Both these books will continue to be on sale at the Society's meetings and at the Museum.

## **6. RECORDS**

The 50th anniversary of the Society is a reminder that records have been acquired since 1946, with the result that today there are about 1700 documents and papers, 2000 pictures and photographs, 400 maps, and Rate Books and sundry other items not individually classified. In the early years of the Society the records for Leatherhead, Ashted, Bookham and Fetcham were held centrally, whereas today they are held in the charge of an archivist in each parish.

These records have been invaluable in producing the Society's various histories and papers. The Archives Photographs Series "Leatherhead", published in November 1996, was compiled by Linda Heath using predominantly the Society's records both for pictures and textual material. They were also used by members in talks, both internal and to the public.

All parish archivists have dealt with queries from the public during the year. This has involved approaches from teachers, students with projects, requests for old maps to enable appropriate names to be suggested for new roads and buildings, and even for discovering where bombs fell in wartime. Considerable time is often necessary to deal with such enquiries - but they are one of the principal reasons for the existence of the records.

## **7. ARCHAEOLOGY**

No field-work has been undertaken this year. Until a powered hoist can be obtained with a skip capable of lowering and retrieving the excavator as well as the spoil, work on the well must be suspended. This is unfortunate since the main object of the exercise was to reach the original bottom and



recover objects that fell in during the years the well was in use - possibly 250 years.

Several talks on archaeological and allied subjects have been given to other Societies and schools, some of which have resulted in useful donations to the Museum as well as engendering interest in it.

## **8. THE LIBRARY**

A new and detailed catalogue of the Library has been typed from a card index, and copies have been distributed to those members who have asked for them. A copy is available for reference in the Institute Library room, with brief details of the location of each item, and this is constantly updated.

It is the Librarian's intention to purchase only such books as deal with our particular areas, in whole or in part, but gifts of any relevant books will continue to be very welcome. Five volumes of Victorian Leatherhead Parish Magazines have recently been repaired or re-bound.

The Society is appreciative of the Institute Trustees allowing space for our Library in a section of theirs, and also for allowing the continued use of the Library each week-day afternoon for small meetings and research: much use has been made of it.

## **9 THE MUSEUM**

The Museum was open to the public from 4 April to 21 December 1996, on Thursday afternoons, Friday mornings and all day Saturdays. 1,900 visitors called during that time, including 300 children.

The Curator was supported by the Museum Sub-Committee and some 40 volunteer stewards throughout the year.

We have lost several stewards during the year, which makes it increasingly difficult to open the Museum for three days each week. As always, we would welcome more volunteers. Some of the stewards have been there since the Museum opened in 1980. The Society appreciates very much their loyal service.

The Society and Friends Of The Museum gave a Christmas Party at Letherhead Institute on 13 December 1996 to thank the Stewards and other helpers.

In August 1996 the Museum's clothing and textile collection was surveyed by Amber Rowe, Head of Conservation Services at the Textile Conservation Centre at Hampton Court. This was part of a county-wide survey commissioned by Surrey Museums Consultative Committee. As well as providing a record of all textiles held in the Surrey Collections, this was an opportunity to receive much needed help and advice from a national expert.

The Museum has come a long way since it opened to the public in 1980, but it still has far to go to realise its full potential. Although money will always be

needed, a great deal can be done with just pairs of hands. 1997 will be a year in which we hope to get the garden back into some sort of order, and embark on a programme of documenting and packaging our collections. We look forward to installing a telephone at the Museum this winter - finally catching up with late 19th century technology as we rapidly approach the 21st century.

**The Friends Of The Museum:**

**Sales** - The Friends continue to make steady profits from their sales at the Museum with tea towels, notelets, bookmarks, maps, fridge magnets and pencil tins all continuing to sell well.

The Hume Fund has been used to finance yet another three new postcards - Eastwick Park, Great Bookham, 1841 - View from Box Hill, 1840 - Norbury Park by George Barrett 1780. We now have nine postcards in the collection, all selling well at the Museum and at Leatherhead Library.

**Financial Support** - The Friends continue to support the Museum, and this year's projects included paving the small front garden, the provision of 12 new spotlights and racks for books and leaflets. Plans for 1997 include the renewal of the garden trellis and help towards the installation of a much needed new front door and side gate at Hampton Cottage.

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The Committee thanks all members for their interest in the Society and its activities. Particular thanks go to those who work for the Society and/or the Museum. Without their help, nothing would happen!!



LEATHERHEAD MUSEUM  
AND HERITAGE CENTRE TRUST  
Reg. Charity No. 273798.

HAMPTON COTTAGE,  
94 CHURCH STREET,  
LEATHERHEAD,  
SURREY.

**LEATHERHEAD MUSEUM AND HERITAGE CENTRE TRUST**  
**REGISTERED CHARITY No. 273798**

**Receipts/Payment Account for Year Ended 30th September**

<u>Receipts</u>	<u>1995</u>	<u>1996</u>
Donations	52.50	46.83
Leatherhead District Local History Society	200.00	100.00
Interest from Government Stocks	1005.52	922.52
Bank Deposit Interest	3.27	6.13
Redemption of 15¼% Treasury Stock ('96)	809.87	333.93
	<u>2071.16</u>	<u>1409.41</u>
<u>Payments</u>		
Administration including P.L. Insurance	334.49	356.99
Repairs to building and services	-	139.94
Investment in C.O.I.F. Accumulation Units	1500.00	-
Investment in C.O.I.F. Deposit a/c shares	-	800.00
	<u>1834.49</u>	<u>1296.93</u>
Excess of Receipts over Payments	236.67	112.48
Bank balance at beginning of year	138.90	375.57
Bank balance at end of year	<u>375.57</u>	<u>488.05</u>
<u>Invested Funds</u>		
Government Stocks	9245	8911
C.O.I.F. Accumulation Units	3278	3665
C.O.I.F. Deposit Account	-	800
	<u>£12523</u>	<u>£13376</u>

Please note that repayment of our initial loan of £7500 due in 1996 has been, very generously, waived by the Widow of our anonymous donor. The Trustees have conveyed their warm gratitude for her thoughtful gesture, on behalf of the Society. She has expressed a wish that, although this Money shall be used, primarily, for the well-being of the Museum buildings, she would like to see half of this gift, notionally set aside, to inaugurate a Fund for the purchase of additional premises for storage, in due course. Any contributions towards the maintenance and preservation work to be carried out in Hampton Cottage. would be most helpful and gratefully welcomed, in any form.

**Accountants Report**

We certify that we have made a close examination of the books and records of this Trust and that the foregoing Statement is in accordance therewith.

.....

PARRY KIRKBY & Co., Certified Accountants, Great Bookham, Surrey

I declare that the above Statement of Accounts is true and accurate.

.....

J R BULL, Treasurer of the Trust

Dated 23-11-96.....

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

**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1996**  
**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

1995		1996
£	<b>GENERAL FUND – INCOME</b>	
2,428.08	Subscriptions & Tax Recovered	2,117.00
1,941.30	Donations Received	272.74
47.00	Surplus from Visits & Outings	43.70
(7.97)	Surplus / (Deficit) from Meetings	(243.00)
8,257.30	Ashtead book sales	4,131.00
652.44	Sales of Other Publications	2,753.21
828.90	Interest Received	1,027.16
1,050.00	Archaeological Prize & Legacy	0.00
15,197.05		10,101.81
£	<b>GENERAL FUND – EXPENDITURE</b>	
	<b>MEMBERS' PUBLICATIONS</b>	
1,289.00	Proceedings	1,257.00
309.13	Newsletter & AGM	317.01
	<b>SOCIETY ACTIVITIES</b>	
4,462.04	Cost of Astead Books Sold	2,302.01
402.30	Cost of Other Publications Sold	2,250.94
959.35	Museum Costs & Payment to Trustees	729.51
301.53	Storage Running Costs & Lease Amortization	302.95
106.22	Library Books & Records Expenses	192.70
6.85	Research Projects	0.00
	<b>ADMINISTRATION</b>	
–	Equipment & Computers	727.13
401.12	Insurance	514.29
385.09	Postage, Printing & Stationery etc	497.95
159.07	Other Expenses	56.30
112.00	Donations & Subscriptions	73.51
8,893.70		9,221.30
6,303.35	<b>SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR</b>	880.51
£		

**ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1996  
BALANCE SHEET**

1995		1996
£	<b>ASSETS</b>	
87.07	Cash in Hand (Floats)	150.00
8,824.77	Midland Bank	3,677.40
339.09	Abbey National Bank	1,371.94
4,408.63	Charities Official Investment Fund	13,015.49
4,979.20	National Savings Investment Account	5,249.17
-----		-----
18,638.76	<b>Total Cash Funds</b>	23,464.00
4,323.63	Stocks of Saleable Items (Books)	1,726.00
706.35	Lease Cost Less Amortization	588.63
2,680.20	Debtors and Payments in Advance	484.20
-----		-----
26,348.94	<b>Total Assets</b>	26,262.83
	<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
846.12	Creditors	0.00
<b>25,502.82</b>	<b>NET ASSETS AT 31 DECEMBER 1996</b>	<b>26,262.83</b>
=====		=====
	<b>REPRESENTED BY GENERAL FUND</b>	
12,270.78	Funds at 1 January 1996	20,937.51
8,666.73	Surplus for the year	880.51
-----		-----
20,937.51	Funds at 31 December 1996	21,818.02
-----		-----
	<b>SHEILA HIND FUND for Financing Publications</b>	
4,000.00	Balance of fund	4,000.00
	<b>FRANK BENDER FUND for Book Repairs</b>	
565.31	Funds at 1 January 1996	565.31
0.00	Less payments	(120.50)
-----		-----
565.31	Funds at 31 December 1996	444.81
-----		-----
<b>25,502.82</b>	<b>TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 DECEMBER 1996</b>	<b>26,262.83</b>
=====		=====

I certify that the above accounts are in accordance with the books and records of the Society

Peter Starling  
Honary Treasurer

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

**Agenda Item 9**

**ELECTION OF COMMITTEE FOR 1997/98**

Following the death in January of Joyce Fuller the post of Secretary is vacant.

Roddy Clube is resigning as Records Secretary and Brian Godfrey has been proposed to take his place.

Peter Starling is standing for election as Treasurer having been co-opted by the Committee on the departure of Chris Latham.

The position of Programme Secretary is vacant.

Anthony Gordon is standing for election to the Committee having been co-opted to fill a previous vacancy.

The rest of the Committee are willing to stand for re-election. No other nominations having been received the proposed Committee is therefore:

Chairman	Peter Tarplee
Secretary	VACANCY
Treasurer	Peter Starling
Archaeology Secretary	Ernest Crossland
Editor	Jack Stuttard
Lecture Secretary/Publicity	Dick Whittington
Librarian	Mrs Gwen Hoad
Museum Curator	Mrs Janet Goldsmith
Treasurer of the Museum	John Bull
Trust Funds	
Programme Secretary	VACANCY
Records Secretary	Brian Godfrey
Sales Secretary	Howard Davies
Committee members	Dr Barry Cox
	Gordon Knowles
	Anthony Gordon

