

*LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT  
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY*

# *NEWSLETTER*



MAY 2008

# **LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY**

Registered Charity No. 802409

**Hampton Cottage, 64 Church Street, LEATHERHEAD, Surrey, KT22 8DP**

**Telephone: 01372 386348**

**Leatherheadmuseum@localhistory.free-online.co.uk**

**Web site: www.leatherheadlocalhistory.org.uk**

**CHAIRMAN**

**David Hartley**

**01372 377839**

**SECRETARY**

**Vivien Hollingsworth**

**01372 801357**

**TREASURER**

**Ron Clarke**

**01372 375496**

The Society meets on the third Friday of the month at the Letherhead Institute  
between September and May.

For details - see programme in the current Newsletter

## **2008 Membership Subscriptions**

Ordinary.....£15.00      Associate.....£6.00      Junior (under 18).....£1.00

**MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY    Jenny Morris**

**01372 362524**

**The Museum** is open at the following times

Thursdays and Fridays .. 1.00pm to 4.00pm Saturdays ..10.00am to 4.00pm

**CURATOR**

**(Vacancy)**

**01372 386348**

**The Friends of Leatherhead Museum** support the Society's work on behalf of the  
Museum

**CHAIRMAN**

**Fred Meynen**

**01372 372930**

**The Library** at The Letherhead Institute is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays  
from 10.00am to 12.30pm. It is no longer open on Saturdays. Exceptionally,  
arrangements may be made to use it at other times by applying to the Librarian.

**LIBRARIAN**

**Peter Wells**

**01372 272367**

**Lectures** Co-ordination of the Society's lecture and visits programme and  
L&DLHS speakers for local societies.

**PROGRAMME SECRETARY**

**Fred Meynen**

**01372 372930**

Further details are given on the inside back cover

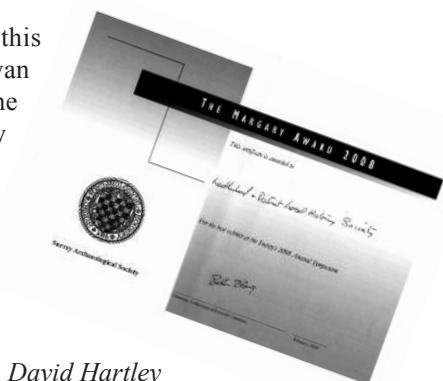
## *Chairman's Report*

As you will see from this issue of our Newsletter there are a number of forthcoming local events which I hope you will take the opportunity to participate and support in various ways over the coming months.

The fact that the Museum was unable to open on the 3rd of April is a cause of disappointment and regret, outside the control of both the Trustees and Museum management. The hope now is that work on the Museum is well in hand which will mean that the re-launch and re-opening of the Museum is not that far off. There is nevertheless still a lot of work to be done before that happens - the cleaning and re-organising the interior spaces which I understand the Museum Manager Alan Pooley has already planned for. We, as onlookers to this event can only give the Trustees and the Museum Manager and his team and the Friends of the Leatherhead Museum our whole hearted support in their efforts to get the Museum open for business.

On executive committee matters I am pleased to announce that Frank Haslam has accepted an invitation to join the Executive Committee. Frank Haslam has run the History Society / Museum website:www.leatherheadlocalhistory.org.uk for a number of years and I feel confident but not complacent that having him and Martin Warwick our Newsletter Editor on the Committee together with Barry Cox the Editor of the Proceedings can only strengthen and improve the position of the History Society at home and further afield, not forgetting of course the other members who make up your Executive Committee who have and continue to provide the dedication and commitment to both the History Society and the Museum, giving up their time to organise and support the various activities on your behalf.

I am pleased to be able to record that this year's Surrey Archaeological Society 'Ivan Margary Award' was given to the Leatherhead & District Local History Society at the SAS Annual Symposium held at The Peace Memorial Hall Ashtead on 23rd February. The Chairman received the certificate and a cheque for £100 on behalf of the History Society.



*David Hartley*

# ***Leatherhead Museum Reopening Deferred***

Work is well under way to restore the museum after the damage caused by the car crash which wrecked the front of the building last January. The museum normally reopens for the season at the start of April but this will not now be until May or even June depending on the rate of progress with the restoration.

Besides work to ensure its structural soundness, much needs to be done to restore the interior, the displays and the furniture. Some additional improvements are planned for the exhibits on the upper floor but these must wait until the load-bearing capability is assured. The funding of repairs is covered by insurance but the Trustees are endeavouring to raise funds for the future maintenance of the 400 year old building. An appeal is in full swing.

Enquiries about Leatherhead Museum can be addressed by telephoning 01372 386348 or sending an email to [staff@localhistory.free-online.co.uk](mailto:staff@localhistory.free-online.co.uk).

John H Wettern



The museum with its new bay window

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## **News from the Museum Committee**

At the beginning of April it seemed unlikely that our museum would be opened again for another month or so. The windows had just been replaced and although the front room already looked more normal with the hoardings down we were unable to order new cabinets and carpets. However, revising the position at the end of the month, it suddenly looks far more optimistic. We have now been given the go-ahead to order the carpet and cabinets; this has been done and it is hoped that these will be in place by the end of May and the electrical work and decoration should also be complete by then.

While we have been closed we have received a number of new artefacts, some of considerable local interest, many of which we plan to put on display when the replacement cabinets are in place. Some of the other displays both in the museum and

the window were in the process of being changed when the accident occurred. We are hoping to complete these once the dust from the crash and the building work has settled and been removed.

Regarding the new displays the Museum Committee would like to express their sincere thanks to the Friends of Leatherhead Museum for generously paying for a number of items of display material and card holders enabling us to better present the artefacts in the galleries as well as providing some new display items for the shop.

During our long closed period we received a visit from the county museum conservation officer and she gave us many helpful ideas about storing and protecting the artefacts. Our metal objects particularly are being better preserved and we hope that their appearance is also enhanced.

Once we are able to re-open to the public we look forward to seeing as many of you as possible visiting 'Hampton Cottage'.

*Peter Tarplee*

## ***Letter to the Editor.....***

Dear Editor,

### **Family History**

Our society has the great distinction of catering for a very diversified range of interests - local history in all its aspects, archaeology and industrial archaeology, the lives of former local people, the growth and decline of local industries - these are just a few.

One area which I believe we do not include is family history. I wonder why? Many people nowadays are pursuing this hobby which has become increasingly popular thanks to computers and access to the Internet. Incidentally, the society has a valuable database which contains information from the National Census covering Leatherhead and surrounding villages, readily available to our members.

Maybe family history is outside the intended scope of the society's programme or maybe no one has thought to bring it into our present scope. If the former, then the society will, I am sure, remain effective in all that it undertakes. But if there is the feeling this subject could become an interesting extension of our activities, perhaps we should consider the formation of a new group which might be of interest to quite a number of our members, and perhaps even help to enlarge the total of our membership.

What do readers of The Newsletter feel about this ?

Yours sincerely,

John Wettern

# *Archaeology Report*

This month there are a number of forthcoming events that I would like to bring to your attention some of which involve the History Society and the Museum and others outside the area which you may find interesting and diverse.

## **Talks & Conferences**

### **31st May Saturday - Aqua Britannica.**

A one day conference on Water in Roman Britain at the Chertsey Hall, Chertsey Surrey. The conference will run from 10.00am – 4.45 pm and is organised by SAS Surrey Roman Studies Group. Tickets £12.00 (£10.00 for members of Surrey Roman Studies Group) and will include morning coffee and afternoon tea. A hot lunch will be available at the venue at a cost of approximately £5.00.

The conference will be chaired by Mike Fulford and speakers will include:

Professor Miranda Aldhouse-Green – Religion and Water

Dr Bill Putnam – The Dorchester Aqueduct

Ian Blair – The London Water - Lifting Machines

Dr Bob Spain – Watermills

Anne Jones – Water for Domestic Needs

Dr David Bird – Water in Mining

### **7th June Saturday - Local History Day.**

At the Friends' Meeting House, Euston Road, London starting at 10.30am–4.30pm organised by the British Association for Local History. Tickets £12.50 (£10.00 for members of BALH) includes coffee on arrival, packed lunch and tea after the lecture. Contact details BALH 7 St Mark's Road Salisbury SP1 3AY. Website [balh.co.uk](http://balh.co.uk)

**Open Forum discussion** – Publishing local history. Speakers - Dr John Hargreaves (Halifax Antiquarian Society) and Dr John Chandler (Hobnob Press, Wiltshire). The chairman will be Dr Alan Crosby (editor of the Local Historian).

### **BALH Annual General Meeting**

### **Local History Awards 2008**

**Annual Lecture** - Eighteenth Century Antiquarians. Professor Rosemary Sweet (Director of the Centre for Urban History at the University of Leicester).

### **20th June Friday - Goodbye Surrey?**

Does anyone care about our Heritage? An illustrated lecture by Dr Simon Thurley, Chief Executive English Heritage.

HSBC Investments Charity Service is the sponsor of this the annual lecture of the Surrey Archaeological Society at the Menuhin Hall, Stoke D'Abernon, doors open

at 6.30pm, you are welcome to picnic in the grounds and a cash bar is available from 6.45pm. The Lecture commences at 7.45pm. Tickets: £12 (including a glass of wine) cheques to be made payable to 'Menuhin Hall' and sent together with a stamped addressed envelope to the box office The Menuhin Hall, The Yehudi Menuhin School, Stoke D'Abernon KT11 3QQ.

## **12th – 20th July - National Archaeology Week**

**Saturday 12th July** – 10.00 am – Launch of National Archaeology Week at Leatherhead Museum.

An invited guest speaker (to be announced) is to open NAW with a short speech, followed by refreshments, canapés and a glass of wine.

The Museum Opening Times are

Saturday 12th 10.00am–4.00pm

Thursday 17th 1.00pm–4.00pm

Friday 18th 1.00pm–4.00pm

Saturday 19th 1.00pm-4.00pm

### **Exhibitions**

New Exhibition: '**Air Travel in the 1930s**' an exhibition devised and created by John Wettern, illustrating the 'Style' of the early years of air travel.

It is hoped that the **display and a presentation will be given by John Wettern on Friday 25th July** at the Letherhead Institute from 7.00pm – 8.30pm. A forthcoming notice will appear on posters and posted on the History Society website: [www.leatherheadlocalhistory.org.uk](http://www.leatherheadlocalhistory.org.uk)

**Exhibition: Ashtead Roman Villa** a display of painted wall plaster and pottery and other artefacts from the excavation of the Villa by AWG Lowther between 1926 -1929

**Exhibition: Exploring Surreys Past** a display of the work of the Surrey History Centre and their website.

**Activities for Children** - Designed for children and their parents to be held in the garden of Leatherhead Museum Hampton Cottage (weather permitting).

**Saturday 12th July** afternoon 1.00pm–4.00pm **Puppet Making** - a competition to make and decorate a hand Puppet from cardboard tubes and papier mâché is to be held in the Museum Garden of Hampton Cottage.

**Saturday 19th July** 10.00am – 4.00pm **Children's Fun Day**, Picture Making and other activities to be announced nearer the time and posted on the website: [www.leatherheadlocalhistory.org.uk](http://www.leatherheadlocalhistory.org.uk)

## **Dates for your diary continued.....**

### **14th June Saturday - Ashtead Village Day at Ashtead**

### **21st June Saturday - Bookham Village Day**

At the Old Barn Hall, Great Bookham Surrey - See the press for details and local notices and posters. The History Society will again be represented at this annual event.

### **20th July Sunday - Epsom Charcoal and Woodland Day**

Lizzie Bruce Chief Ranger has informed me that the Ashtead Common Rangers will be attending and represented at Ashtead Village Day and Epsom Charcoal and Woodland Day and will be promoting the heritage aspect of Ashtead Common.

### **27th August to 14th September – A third Season of Excavations on the site of the Roman Villa and tileworks on Ashtead Common.**

The Surrey Roman Studies Group is undertaking this third season of excavations on the Villa Site commencing 27th to 31st August, 3rd to 7th September and 10th to 14th September with the possibility of needing 15,16th September for tidying up etc. Last seasons report written and prepared by David Bird was published in the SAS Bulletin and our own February Newsletter.

### **11th -14th September - Heritage Open Days.**

Mole Valley District Council will again be organising and celebrating the local heritage of the Mole Valley with this year's theme 'Hidden Treasures'. This four day event as usual will be hosted and supported by various voluntary organisations, societies and businesses and private individuals. A full programme and booking forms for events is in preparation. The Civic Trust are the national co-ordinators of Heritage Open Days. We would welcome the support of members of the History Society and Friends of Leatherhead Museum to assist in the manning of exhibitions and displays at the Leatherhead Institute and the Museum during this celebrations.

### **13th September Saturday - Ashtead Common Event**

This will take place during the last weekend of archaeological work on the Roman Villa site this year and will involve a number of guided walks up to the villa to look at the site of the archaeological excavation as well as stalls down at the Estate Office. Contact: Lizzie Bruce Senior Ranger - Ashtead Common NNR telephone 01372 279083 email, lizzie.bruce@cityoflondon.gov.uk website cityoflondon.gov.uk

*David Hartley*

## *The Leatherhead Area and Brooklands*



DH60 Moth at Brooklands

In a follow-up to my request for information on further connections with Brooklands, we have received a letter from John Wettern telling us of his first flight as a passenger in a DH60 Moth at Brooklands around 1934. He also emailed two photographs taken at the time showing the aircraft and the Brooklands Flying Club building.

Regarding aviation incidents in the area and although not flying from Brooklands at the time, a Vickers Viking airliner prototype belly-landed at Effingham on 25th April 1946 during a test flight from Wisley aerodrome. The registration was G-AGOK and the aircraft was damaged beyond repair but no injuries were suffered by the crew or people on the ground.



Other aviation incidents in the area were

13th October 1920 - G-EAVE, a Supermarine Amphibian owned by Hubert Scott-Paine crashed at Great Bookham

27th October 1940 – R6721, a Vickers Supermarine Spitfire 1 flown by Sgt DE Kingsby of 92 squadron at Biggin Hill force-landed near Effingham during a routine

patrol. The pilot was unhurt and the cause of the accident is unknown. There were also conflicting reports of the aircraft being repairable or a write-off.

1944 (date unknown) – an Avro Anson force-landed at Bookham in a field alongside the A246. No further details are known.

1997-8 – a Cessna 337 twin engined aircraft crash-landed near Leatherhead due to engine failure with no casualties and no further details.

If anyone has any further information on these incidents or any other aviation incidents in the Leatherhead area please let us know.

A small error appeared in the previous article in that Thomas Gillett broke speed records at Brooklands in the 1920's not 1990's.

*Doug Hollingsworth*

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## *Cycling on the Surrey Roads*

Our March lecture ‘Early Cycling on the Surrey Roads’ was given by Les Bowerman who gave a fascinating account of the development of the bicycle from the early 19th century to WW2 and illustrated by excellent pictures and photographs. Les is a member of the Veteran Cycle Club, Vice President of the Charlotteville Cycling Club of Guildford and has a collection of over 200 veteran cycles, three of which were demonstrated at the lecture.



Laufmaschine

The ancestor of all bicycles was the ‘laufmaschine’ designed in Germany in 1817 by Karl von Drais who was inspired by skating, the rider sitting down and propelling himself with feet on the ground. This was followed two years later by the pedestrian curricule or hobby horse and then by the velocipede which had a ratchet device fitted to the front wheel ‘pulling like the reins of a horse’. In 1850 four wheeled velocipedes appeared and then in 1860 in Paris the first two wheeled pedal bicycle was produced, made entirely of wood with iron tyres and pedals cranking the front hub. In the Surrey Comet of the time the bicycle was described as a ‘machine of solitary locomotion, costing less than a very bad horse and eats nothing’. In Guildford Museum there is a photo of Lewis Carroll astride such a machine. Les demonstrated one of the ‘bone



The Hobby Horse

Talbot in Ripley. By now the High Bicycle or Penny Farthing with its huge front wheel was being produced and in 1882 L Cortis of Streatham rode a 60 inch wheeled bike with 60 spokes at 20 mph at Crystal Palace, the event being commemorated with a memorial in Ripley church.

By now efforts were being made to design bicycles which were safer and for women and in the 1880s the familiar diamond framed bike with wheels of similar size driven by pedal and chain was making cycling popular. Les showed photos of cycle camps outside Guildford and Dorking and venues popular for cyclists at the Anchor run by the Dibble family in Ripley, the Hut on Bolder Mere and the Bull and Swan Hotels in Leatherhead.

In answer to a question from the floor Les demonstrated, without actually mounting, how to get on the High Bicycle bringing to conclusion a well presented and entertaining lecture.

*Dr Fred Meynen*

shaker' bikes he had brought and showed early photos of Bolder Mere near Wisley depicting these bicycles and their riders.

The bicycle then evolved to having a larger front wheel enabling the rider to travel faster resulting in races and 'monster meets' at Hampton Court where 2000 riders rode round Bushey Park watched by crowds of over 3000 people. In 1871 the Surrey Bicycle Club was formed holding races between Kingston and Guildford finishing at the



Penny Farthing

## *News from the Friends of Leatherhead*

We remain hopeful that the museum will open in the not too distant future. After the restoration of the front wall the museum will be redecorated and thoroughly cleaned before the public are admitted. Together with the Museum Committee we shall be looking for volunteers to help with these tasks. John Millard has taken over as steward rota coordinator from Pat Seymour and we are reminded that new stewards are needed to complete the rota.

Friends and members of the Society visited Dorking Museum on 11th March to learn about its history and current plans for refurbishment. We had an introductory talk by Tony Wooden, secretary to the Museum who told us that the museum had started with a collection of fossils and minerals donated by Lord Ashcombe just after WW2. A permanent site was found in 1976 at the old foundry works in West Street, the foundry building housing the archive centre and the industrial buildings containing the artefacts. The Dorking Preservation Society and the Dorking History Society are the joint owners, the museum having three curators and fifty stewards! A bequest of half a million pounds in 2001 enabled the freehold of the site to be bought and the museum is currently embarking on a 2.4 million rebuilding project which will include a new three storey building. We were full of envy of the archive centre with its extensive cataloguing systems and space to spread out maps and manuscripts and speculated whether there would be a possibility of some joint working with our museum.

We then repaired to a local hostelry, the Kings Arms in West Street to have lunch and sup the local ales before going on to the Caves where we were met by the local caveman Professor Richard Selley who gave us a highly entertaining and informative tour of the Caves dug deep in the greensand under Dorking. If you haven't been you are in for a treat as the caves have plenty of atmosphere, lit by candles and ending in a 'mystery cave', origin and purpose unknown. Future Events -please come and support us at the Swan Centre barrow on 17th May, at the Craft Days 29th, 30th and 31st May and coffee morning on 21st June at the museum subject to it being open.



*Fred Meynen, Chairman*

## Forthcoming Visits

### JUNE

#### 18th Wednesday - Cherkley Court

The house and grounds were the home of Lord Beaverbrook, the newspaper proprietor and member of Winston Churchill's War Cabinet and have recently been restored by the Beaverbrook Foundation, the gardens affording sweeping views over the Mole Valley. A tour of the house starting at 11.00am has been specially arranged for us as the house is not normally open to the public. Lunch can be taken in



the Orangery with its excellent cuisine followed by a tour of the magnificent gardens at 2.30pm. To book a place please complete and return the reply slip, the cost of the house tour being £8 payable by cheque in advance and £4 for admission to the Orangery and gardens payable on the day. Numbers for the house tour will be limited to 22.



### JULY

#### 23rd Wednesday - Horsham Museum and Town visit details.

This charming West Sussex town has so much to offer of historic interest. Its extensive museum includes displays covering every aspect of local life and of the past. Following a visit there and a choice of places to spend the lunch hour, there will be an optional guided tour of the town which cannot fail to fascinate. Horsham can be reached by car, bus or train - travel advice will be sent to those interested on receipt of a SAE. The cost to members will be £4 which includes a donation to Horsham Museum. The application form should be returned not later than 1st July.

## SEPTEMBER

**13th/14th - Heritage Weekend.** Linda Heath is the local representative for the Leatherhead Community Association and Peter Tarplee for the History Society. We would welcome the support of members of the History Society and Friends of Leatherhead Museum to assist in the manning of exhibitions and displays at the Letherhead Institute and the Museum during the celebrations.

### **19th Friday - 'Wayneflete Tower, Esher' by Penny Rainbow**

Penny owns and lives in part of the medieval manor house of the Bishops of Winchester which has been excavated by Channel Four's Time Team and others.

## OCTOBER

### **17th Friday - 'Excavations at the Ashtead Roman Villa and Tileworks 2008' by Dr David Bird.**



Wayneflete Tower

The director of the excavations, Dr Bird, will bring us the latest news from this summer's work on the site. Last year's illustrated report appeared in the February Newsletter.

## NOVEMBER

### **21th Friday - 'Brooklands and the Hawker Hurricane Aircraft' by Brian Hennegan**

## DECEMBER

### **19th Friday - Christmas Social Event**

Following on from her lecture in January Beryl Saich will show her slides on John Evelyn's gardens. Mince pies, canapes and wine will be served at the conclusion.

*Fred Meynen Programme Secretary*

## *Indices for our Proceedings*

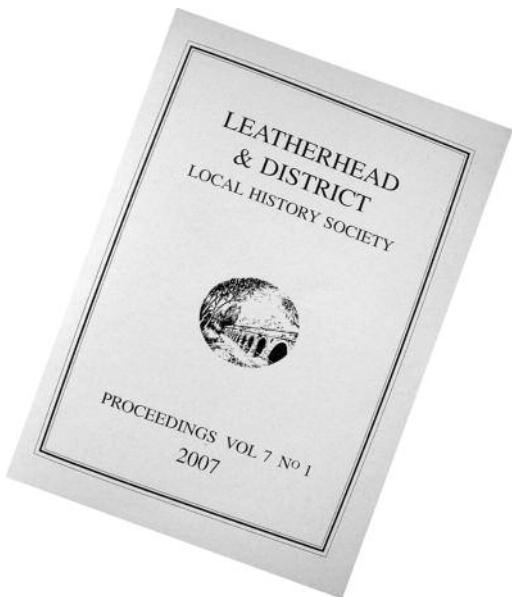
The index for volume 6 of our Proceedings has now been done by a professional indexer. Furthermore, Alan Pooley has already made an integrated index of volumes 1-5, and can integrate the index to volume 6 into this.

The big question now is how should we make these documents available – in print, or online, available via our web-site? It would be also possible to have the index on a CD. More and more researchers now habitually go on-line for their information and I wonder how much we need (or ought) to spend for the dwindling number of those who do not.

To take first the index to volume 6 (8pp), it would cost £75 to print 20 copies, £175 to print 150 copies. I suspect that the great majority of our members do not need a printed copy, and would be quite happy for it to be only available online. If so, there seems to be little point in printing a large number. To help us to gauge this, I should be grateful if those who would like a printed copy of this index could let me know.

To print the integrated index (80pp) would, of course, be much more expensive — £220 for 20 copies, £880 for 150 copies. I myself feel that, if members already have the individual indices available, it is probably unnecessary to go to such an expense for having even a small number printed. But what do you think?

Now that the first issue of volume 7 has been published, I am happy to receive contributions for the next. It would be nice to get some new authors involved, and I should be quite prepared to be helpful to anyone who wanted to try their hand/pen/keyboard. Contact me on 01372 273167 if you want to talk about it.



*Barry Cox, Editor Proceedings*

## ***Wedding of Graham Evans and Margaret***

Most members will remember Graham who was the society's museum curator for a number of years and left the area recently to live in Sussex. Many of you know that Graham and Maggie now run the Lake Side Tea Rooms at Holmes Hill and I know that some members have patronised this excellent café.

Graham and Maggie were married on 26th April and have now set up home in Ashburnham. Alan Pooley and I, with our wives, were pleased to be invited to Graham's wedding which was held, on the hottest day of the year to date, on the Bluebell Railway. The marriage ceremony was held in one of the waiting rooms at Horsted Keynes station after which guests all boarded the Golden Arrow Pullman train and travelled up to Kingscote, down to Sheffield Park, up to Kingscote again before returning to Horsted Keynes for the wedding cake and toasts. Whilst on the train we were served a 3-course lunch in luxurious surroundings hauled by West Country Class locomotive 21C123 'Blackmoor Vale'. The railway was holding a special event over the weekend, Built at Brighton, which explains why our event seemed to attract dozens of serious railway photographers.

So although Graham has left our local history society it will be apparent that he, and particularly his wife, still has an interest in things historical; in fact the happy couple left the Bluebell Line to spend a few days on the Isle of Man

with more vintage transport.

We all had a very enjoyable day and we are sure that all members who knew Graham wish the happy couple all the best for the future.

*Peter Tarplee*



# *Recent Additions To The Library*

## **Surrey – Literary and Other Associations**

**Pepys, Samuel - ‘The Concise Pepys’: edited by Richard, Lord Braybrooke. Wordsworth Editions, 1988 [donated by Brian Bouchard].**

The local, truncated references to Ashtead and Epsom can be compared to fuller descriptions in ‘Ashtead: a village transformed’, edited by Alan A Jackson, pages 59-62. Here follows a short extract from ‘The Concise Pepys’:

25th July, 1663:

‘Towards the evening we bade them adieu! And took horse; being resolved that, instead of the race which fails us, we would go to Epsom. When we come there we could hear of no lodging, the town so full; but which was better, I went towards Ashsted, and there we got a lodging in a little hole we could not stand upright in. While supper was getting I walked up and down behind my cosen Pepys’s house that was, which I find comes little short of what I took it to be when I was a little boy.’

## **Surrey – Individual Towns & Villages : Fetcham**

**Banham, Derek & Dilys- ‘Monks Green Farm: speculation, facts and anecdotes’.** Privately printed, 2007 [donated by the authors]. From the acknowledgements:

‘More recently, Ed Timms, who encouraged us to get started with this compilation and Alan Pooley from the L&DLHS who gave us the benefit of his specialist knowledge and research and has been very supportive’ [particularly with regard to the 1787 Copyhold Survey and the ‘Fetcham Farms’ Draft]. Jack Stuttard’s ‘History of Fetcham’ is also acknowledged. Here follows a short extract from the Prologue:

‘Inside the house we noted the beautiful 18th century brass door handles and splendid Victorian fireplaces as well as a number of eccentric features such as the two staircases both arriving on the same landing. We and our children fell in love with it and, assuming that, at some fture date, we would be able to purchase the Old Farmyard, we bought the house.

In 2006 we were asked by some members of the Local History Society if we would put what we had discovered in some readable form. We are not historians so whatever we produced was going to be more of an informal memoir.’

As this lavishly produced book is a strictly limited edition, could you please apply to me if you would like to borrow it. It can then go on the shelves at a later date.

*Peter Wells*

# ***Volunteer Stewards Needed***

The museum is always in need of stewards. It entails only 3 hours of your time once a month, working together with another steward. No experience or specific knowledge is necessary but an interest in local history is helpful.

The work is rewarding as it involves dealing with the public, receiving artefacts, answering queries and learning about local history.

Training is given, so come along and meet us - we are a friendly crowd. Please tell your friends and if you need more information give me a call.

*Dr Fred Meynen 01372 372930*

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## Archaeology

ARCHAEOLOGY SECRETARY David Hartley 01372 377839

The Newsletter is published quarterly in February, May, August and November.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR Martin Warwick 01372 453717  
Email : martin.warwick@hotmail.com

## **August Number – Articles to be sent in not later than 14th July**

## Proceedings

EDITOR Barry Cox 01372 273167

Email : barry\_cox@btopenworld.com

Forge Cottage, 11 Blacksmith Close, Ashtead, KT21 2BD

## Records

RECORDS SECRETARY Brian Godfrey 01372 454654

The Society has some archival material, documents, illustrations and maps which may be accessed through the following members:-

Ashtead Jack Willis

Bookham Brian Godfrey

# Fetcham documents Alan Pooley

# Fetcham photographs and maps

# Leatherhead document

# John Derry

## Leatherhead photographs Linda Heath

Leatherhead maps Alan Pooley

The Historical Enquiry Service offers to seek answers to questions about the history of Leatherhead, Ashtead, Bookham and Fetcham submitted via the Museum

CO-ORDINATOR Peter Wells 01372 386348

## Sales of L&DLHS Publications

SALES SECRETARY Goff Powell 01372 374923

