# BASINGSTOKE ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

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## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Please make a note of the correct date of our next AGM: Thursday, 22nd June. It was wrongly given on the programme card as 23rd June, which of course is a Friday. Did anyone notice? And this year it will be held, not at Chute House, but at Basing House. More details later.

#### EXCURSIONS

Isle of Wight and Boxgrove

For those members who did not collect their notices and application forms for our Summer Excursions at the last meeting, they are enclosed with this Newsletter.

At his lecture last April, David Tomalin offered to show us round Maritime Heritage sites on the Isle of Wight. Taking up this invitation, the sub-committee have arranged an excursion to the Isle of Wight on Saturday 3rd June. They have also persuaded our May lecturer, Mark Roberts, to show us round excavations at Boxgrove on Saturday, 8th July, to be followed by a visit to Singleton Open Air Museum.

\*\* Please return the application forms, with the appropriate sum of money, in good time to Martin Morris.

## FORTHCOMING LECTURES

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK IN KINGSTON AND ITS HISTORICAL CONTEXT Marion Shipley, Chute House, Thursday 13th April

Members who came on the Society outing to Dorset last year may remember meeting Marion Shipley, of Kingston Heritage. We seized the chance to invite Marion to come and talk to us about archaeological work that is going on now in Kingston, and place this in its historical context.

EXCAVATIONS AT BOXGROVE Mark Roberts, Chute House, Thursday 11th May

This lecture will be an excellent introduction to our July excursion. In an article on "The New Palaeolithic" in Current Archaeology 113. John Wymer refers to the knapping floors discovered at Boxgrove as a major contribution to the "new look" now emerging for the Palaeolithic in Britain.

# LOCAL ARCHAEOLOGY Some Site Visits

The WEA, in partnership with the University of Southampton, have organised a series of five meetings: a lecture and four visits. At the first meeting, 7.30 pm on Tuesday April 18th at The Vyne Community School (Room O2O, old Queen Mary School block) Mary Oliver will give an overview of the sites to be visited and introduce the other leaders. for visits to sites of the Bronze Age, Iron Age, Roman and Mediaeval periods. The fee is £14 (concessionary fee for OAPs £7; members of Southampton University Adult Education scheme £10).

## BUCKLERS HARD & BEAULIEU

The Hampshire Field Club excursion on Saturday August 19th is to the eighteenth century fishing village of Bucklers Hard and excavations at Beaulieu. This is particularly good value at £5.00, especially as the coach will pick up first from Basingstoke (bottom of Church Street, 9 am). Booking forms from Mary Oliver (Basingstoke 24263). Non-members of the Hampshire Field Club are welcome to take part.

## FRIENDS OF BASING HOUSE

The Inaugural Meeting of Friends of Basing House will take place at 3 pm on Saturday 8th April at Basing House. Alan Turton tells us that he hopes the Friends will cover all aspects of the site = clearance, archaeological work, tours and "dressing up and doing silly things". For more details ring Alan Turton on Basingstoke 467284.

## PRACTICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

The field walking at Manor Farm, near Rooksdown (off the Kingsclere Road) has been going ahead steadily. But since this field seems to be close to the largest in England we have a long way to go. About a third of the field has been covered, with some practical difficulty, as the field is so large that we lose our marking rods into the distance. Tim says he is losing the sight in one eye, due to squinting into the distance trying to line up on a ranging pole which gets ever smaller and smaller.

The finds up to now have been disappointing in relation to the good crop marks Mary has seen on aerial photographs of this field. Many flints have been found, some pottery - and lots of

potatoes! But finds are well scattered, giving no indication of heavy settlement.

The weather has been kind to us, with just enough rain to wash the ground, and the farmer kindly raked the field for us. But the mild winter has meant that the winter wheat has grown so fast that we have had to abandon any more attempts this spring. This may be a good thing, as the field will not disappear, and building work is starting in Basingstoke with many areas to be looked at. If you have any ground work going on near you, please contact myself on Basingstoke 472610 or Mary on Basingstoke 24263.

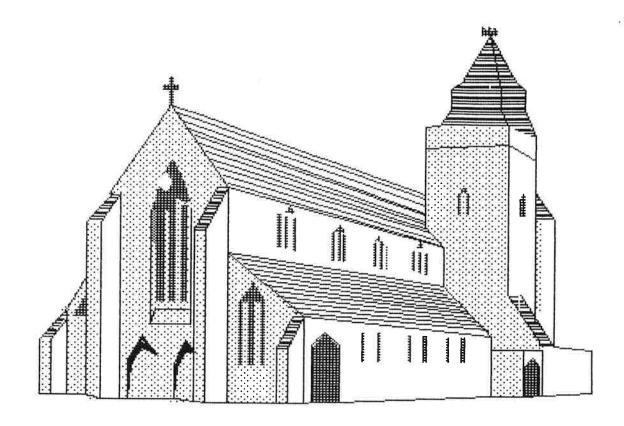
PETER READ

# TEMPLE MOORE AND ALL SAINTS CHURCH

Members who supported the recent campaign to protect the environment of All Saints Church in Southern Road from the encroachment of a multi-storey car park may like to know a little more about its architect, and the reasons why his work is held in such high esteem.

Temple Lushington Moore, generally known as Temple Moore (1856-1920), architect, was born in Tullamore in Ireland where his father, Major-General Moore, was quartered. After an early education much disturbed by ill-health, he was articled to the architect George Gilbert Scott, junior, son of Sir George Gilbert Scott, one of the greatest Victorian architects. In 1876, at the age of 20 (!) he set up in practice in Hampstead, and later in Queen Anne's Gate, London. He kept a close professional relationship with George Gilbert Scott, although this never became a formal partnership, but due to Scott's failing health he assumed much responsibility for the work of both practices until Scott retired in 1890.

It soon became clear that Moore, while respecting the elder man's adherence to the Victorian Gothic principles in church design, felt the need to develop these to embrace a more imaginative concept of church architecture and pioneered a school of thought which put new life into ideas which were showing signs of sterility. In all he designed 18 churches in England; the Anglican Cathedral in Nairobi; the nave of Hexham Cathedral; a chapel in Pusey House in Oxford and the Bishop's Hostel in Lincoln. In addition sixty churches were added to or restored by him, and in many of these there is furniture and decoration of his invention. His skill in the design of such accessories brought him also many opportunities for display in buildings with which he was not otherwise connected. A considerable body of work in a relatively short career span.



(Illustration by kind permission of the Team Vicar, All Saints)

Moore's work, like that of George Gilbert Scott, is important in the history of English architecture, not only for its beauty but for the emancipation it shows from the theories of his main predecessors. A. W. Pugin, the pioneer of the Victorian Gothic revival, had assumed an essential incompatability between mediaeval architecture and the machine age being ushered in by the Victorians. Sir George Gilbert Scott had attempted to reconcile these two opposites, and his son further developed this policy. Moore believed that the Gothic style was the most natural form of Church architecture, and that it reflected the rituals of Christian worship. His designs flowed from this concept; he thought and built in Gothic without any attempt at stylism. The limits of his style were the limits of his predelictions, with no constraint save that of good taste. He died in 1920, after seeing his last church in Basingstoke, one his three greatest, almost completed. But this brief note of his life only begins to tell of the eminence of this man.

Temple Moore might have been an English craftsman working in the fourteenth or fifteenth centuries, building courches naturally and with a free spirit, for English people, adding his own inspiration in design to the common stock-in-trade of the English mason. His devotion to design led to an attention to every detail on his buildings down to the humblest gutter head or door latch.

Even the pattern of jointing of the stonework was not fortuitous. It is clear that he was much influenced by the ideas of the Arts and Crafts Movement of William Morris and C. R. Ashby, which gave a fluidity to many of his designs. He was a craftsman in his own right, and knew precisely the boundaries set by the physical agilities and tools of the artizan. Where possible he used local materials, and gave much thought to the way in which the buildings were positioned on their selected sites.

His greatest works are All Saints, Basingstoke; Trinity Church, Tooting; St Wilfrid's, Harrogate and the chapel of Pusey House, Oxford. But you have to travel to a remote village in North Yorkshire, at Sledmere, near Malton, to see the greatest of them all, an estate church built for a private client, Sir Talbot Sykes.

I hope I have shown in this short article how important to the cultural life of the town is this church. It is not a museum. It fulfils the ideas of its creator and remains a place of worship, embellished in recent years with great sculpture and stained glass. There is not much left in Basingstoke for us to preserve for generations to come. This church by Temple Moore <u>must</u> be high on the list.

ANDREW DUCKWORTH

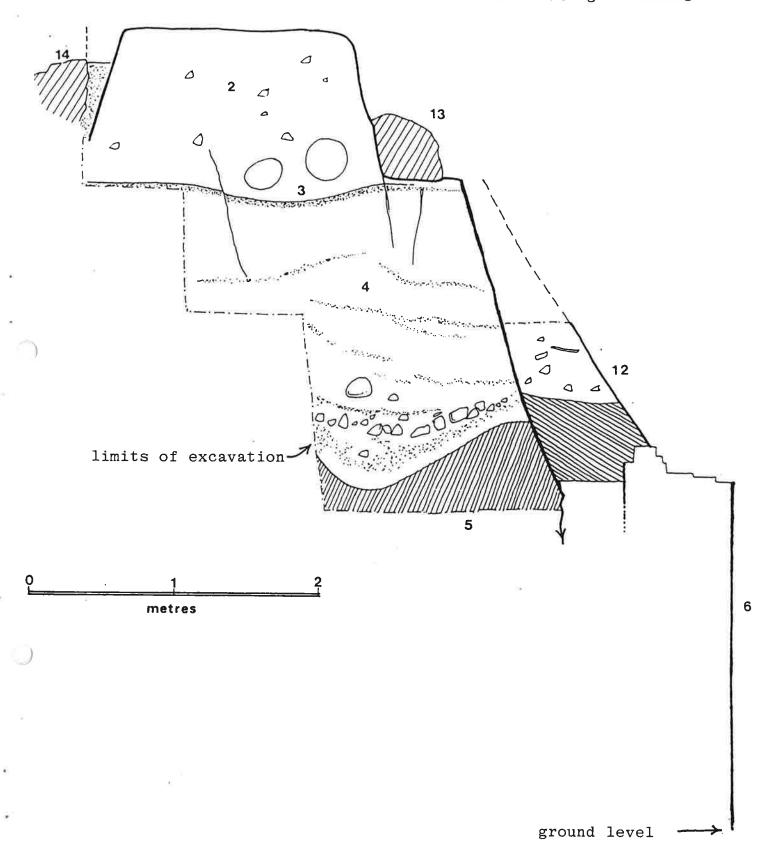
## THE PHASING OF BASING

Recent work at Basing House has centred on the Walled Garden near the dovecotes, where an earlier 17th century Period Garden is to be created. There has also been the opportunity, however, to examine the Old House or Citadel defences, following a landslip, at a point almost directly opposite the Citadel gateway.

When the gate itself was examined (1978-83) by Tim Schadla-Hall, Ken Barton et al, doubt was cast on the Upper levels of the ringwork bank being an early feature. It was thought that there had probably been substantial heightening of the ring, post Civil War. The new work turns this theory on its head, and now reestablishes the bank as an early element in the Basing story.

In summary, a massive bank of clay and chalk (4 & 5 on drawing), about 5.0 m in height stood in this location before the Tudor brick walls were constructed by the Paulets (mid 16th century).

A heightening of this bank (layer 2), built on to a level surface (3) may also be of early origin. Of the three layers (2, 4, 5) it was the only one to produce dateable material, and this was in the form of a Samian sherd and piece of combed flue tile! A Roman site is known in this locality (Camb)ey et al, 1964 & 1968).



The dating potential is therefore that the bank (4 & 5) could be prehistoric, with a Roman capping; but more realistically the whole could be two-phase medieval - the defences of the early castle used by William Paulet as the basis for his Basing mansion. Wall 6 represents this 16th/17th century occupation, and following its destruction as a result of the Civil War, layers 12 and walls 13 and 14 were added as "garden features" during the tidying up of the Citadel (17th-19th century).

So the phasing of Basing is perhaps a little clearer (in this corner at least!) and much of the Old House enceinte must be medieval in origin. But for all the various diggings at the site since 1875, it is still a very patchy story and one with many secrets still to be revealed.

Refs: Pike & Combley "Excavations near Basing House 1962-3", Proc. Hants Field Club xxiii pt 1.13

Combley, Notman & Pike, "Further excavations at Basing House 1964-6", Proc. Hants Field Club xxiii pt 3.96

> DAVID ALLEN Keeper of Archaeology Hants County Museum Service

## THE SEARCH FOR MR FRIZER

In "The Angel, Basingstoke and a Sharp Dealer" (Newsletter 105) Barbara Applin suggested I might like to have a look at Basingstoke records in the Hampshire Record Office and see if I could find who owned the Angel in 1589 and sold it to Mr Frizer, who then resold it almost at once. Also which party to the sale entered into a bond with the cunning Mr Frizer and lost by it.

There are no rentals surviving between 1574 and 1601. There are records of land conveyances between 1538 and 1599, very tattered and faint. I have read these and as far as I know have not left one unread, and Mr Frizer does not appear.

I have read the Court Books 1585-1591 and 1591-2 and, although they are in better condition, the writing is occasionally very bad with the usual Latin shorthand and faded ink. The name Frizer, not being a Basingstoke name, should be fairly easy to spot, even though the capital letter "F" was then written "ff", because if he came from London the fact would have been included after his name.

What often happened was that the Bailiffs and some respectable citizens bought the land from the owner or, if the Town actually owned the land or house, acted as a group. They then sold it again. So if I could find the Bailiffs for that year I would

still have to get a list of the under-bailiffs and it could be any one of them who got mixed up with a bond. I am writing to Mr Urry, when I have made quite sure I have exhausted every possible source, to ask if he has recorded which court the matter of the bond came up in.

In 1585 the Court Book tells me that "Robert Holloway ... keeps under-tenants who break down hedges and he is to get them out of the Angel (removare subtenant ... extra domum sue vocat le Angel)." In 1587 "Richard Rive doth keep undertenants in the house called the Angell" and in 1591 there is a mention of "the house of Richard Deane called the Angel". So probably Richard Deane bought it, but who sold it is uncertain.

My last hope, the Estreat Rolls, were no help, being 1582, 1584 and then none till 1660. I did, in passing, find where the Butts (archery) were. They came between the back of the George and - where else? - what later was called Butt Lane, then Back Lane, and now Southern Road.

ANNE HAWKER

For more details about Robert Holloway, Richard Rive and Richard Deane, see Anne's book VOICES OF BASINGSTOKE 1400-1600.

# THE STAKIS HOTEL SITE, YORK

On a recent visit to York I had the chance to go round the Stakis Hotel site (Leedham's Garage).

The discoveries are on the site formerly occupied by the garage, roughly backing onto the previously excavated General Accident site. The area lies alongside the river and the excavation has gone down 3 to 4 metres in the southeast trench; this has revealed a section of Roman road in very good condition. There seems to be good reason to believe that the roadway is the major one leading to a bridge or bridgehead. The area has been altered considerably since Roman York and, although it seems a contradiction to what is said below, the river would have been narrower in those times. Despite a trench being put down on what one would say is the likely line of the river, the excavators have failed to find where it ends up yet (the trench has been backfilled).

The area alongside the road which separated the site from the river is the one being excavated at the present time and it is a fairly confused site, revealing all sorts of pits, stone work and short work piling (the lower part of revetment of what

appears to have been infilled to make a quay). The material found in the upper layers included a good deal of leather and it can safely be assumed that this was a leather working area in mediaeval times and may date back to the Saxon occupation. Large quantities of bone, horn and pottery have been found in the area and dating is varied as one would expect from a dump or filled area.

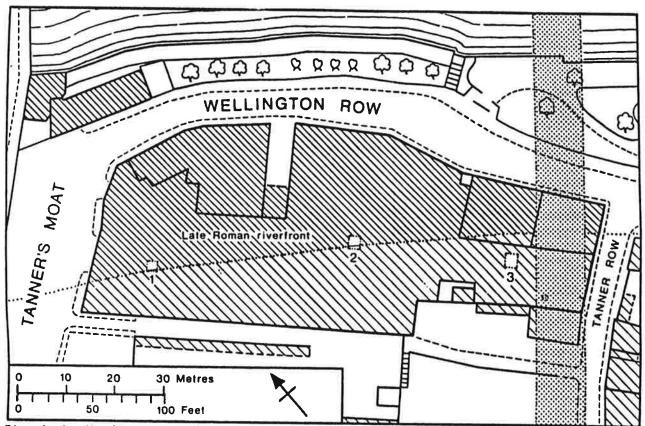


Fig. 1 Leedham's Garage: Plan of excavated trenches showing possible line of late Roman riverfront and main Roman road (stippled).

## Illustration from site leaflet

I was surprised by the wet-sieving system used here. The soil is very muddy and is a dark silty type. They use a cement mixer into which containers of soil are placed, some water is added and the contents are given a few whirls and then tipped into a large sieve fitted into a bottomless builders' wheelbarrow. The large finds are then washed on benches with a pressure hose. The small items seem to be dealt with rather similarly, using fine mesh. I was informed that many samples of soil are taken to York University for general studies of grain and weed seed and the other sundry items, to help piece together another part of York's history. I found it very refreshing to remember whilst taking in the atmosphere of this site and its surroundings that we have

been a little overwhelmed by the Viking Jorvik - but that's simply a personal note.

It is worth mentioning that before the cement mixer was brought into use tests were carried out with it using modern utensils such as flower pots, and snail shells.

ERIC ROBINSON

## BEGGARWOOD LANE & DUMMER CLUMP

The Hampshire County Council's Annual report ARCHAEOLOGY IN HAMPSHIRE for 1988 contains a short account of fieldwalking and trial trenching carried out by the Trust for Wessex Archaeology in a 24 ha. field, north of Beggarwood Lane, Kempshott and immediately south of the Brighton Hill excavations (SU 602 483). A number of features were identified by crop marks as a "banjo" enclosure, an oval enclosure which produced Early-Middle Iron Age pottery, and a small group of ditches containing later Iron Age material.

The report also mentions a recent accession by Winchester City Museums (no 3642) of a Neolithic "macehead" made from a natural pebble with an "hour-glass" perforation, from Dummer Clump (SU 604 450).

#### REVIEW

BENTWORTH: The Making of a Hampshire Village Georgia Smith, published by Bentworth Parochial Church Council orders to Barbara Applin: £3.50

When I picked up Georgia Smith's little book on Bentworth at the Society's bookstall, I must admit that my only reason for buying it was to increase my knowledge of the Candover Valley, about which so little material exists in printed form.

I read it the same evening, and slowly realised that in fifty pages Georgia Smith had somehow epitomised, in writing the history of this small Hampshire village, the whole history of our County since Saxon times.

The parish of Bentworth lies hidden in the wooded, closely folded hills which form the south-eastern end of the Hampshire Downs. This area, about fiften miles long and five miles wide, is dotted with a chain of villages from Herriard to Froxfield, is of

diverse character and has never been studied on a regional basis. The land is of chalk, extensively covered with clay-with-flints. Very few streams intersect the area, so water was always short, the villages being supplied by ponds and a few deep wells. Almost all the land of the parish of Bentworth lies between the 500 and 700 feet contour lines.

An absentee Lord of the Manor meant that the Manor holdings were divided between a number of farms. The Saxon open field system gave way to enclosures at an early date, and it is clear that as a result many of the villagers lived precariously close to subsistence level. There were many indications that the lack of proper stewardship of the Manor increased the hardships of the villagers and led to problems in the repair of the housing stock, as the Lord's steward could not authorise the felling of trees for this purpose. Yet the village survived, even after the Black Death in 1348-9 reduced the number of tenancies from forty to twenty-five, and this reduced number had to pay an increased total rent by the year 1400. It is interesting to seek a reason for this survival, and Georgia Smith gives us some clues.

It has always seemed to me that this area of Hampshire, with small fields in folding ground, sheltered by clumps of woodland and watered by dewponds, would have been ideal grazing ground for cattle and horses. In Bentworth parish, the common pasture, downland and woodland encircled the parish and bordered on similar areas in neighbouring villages such as Wield, Medstead, Bradley, Herriard, Lasham and Thadden. This pasture can be traced today from the Saxon element in the field names: "holt" for wood, and "dean" or "den" for pasture, used as suffixes. Miss Smith names two areas of pasture: Fellingdean, on the west, bordering Wield, and Harleydean on the north, bordering Lasham, which must have brought considerable revenue to the Manor in grazing rights. and employment to the villagers. The final agreement between the Lord and the tenants on enclosures came at an early date, in 1642, after which grazing agreements must have been of great economic value. It is perhaps an exaggeration to imagine this country as "cowboy country", but certainly there is a great difference between this area and the more open cornlands and sheep grazing country west of the Candover stream.

A review must not turn into an article, so at this stage I will say - buy the book, read it, visit Bentworth in the summer with it in hand, and see what you can by walking the parish footpaths. You will read that the village does not appear in Domesday, as it was part of the King's lands in Odiham Hundred; that the Manorial Charter is dated between 1111 and 1116 (Henry I); that grazing rights were bringing revenue to the Manor as early as 1340; that the foraging activities of the Civil War armies caused near destitution to the parish; and that in 1677, after the final enclosure agreement, Basingstoke Council bought a farm of 246 acres from former common land, and therefore probably pasture, as trustees of the Richard Aldworth foundation, sufficient to maintain six boys at the school.

I cannot resist quoting the bizarre story of a gamekeeper named Lewis Gunner, who terrorised the neighbourhood in 1729, and was arrested and sent to Winchester Gaol to await the assizes, upon which his associates began to burn the Bentworth barns. The rector wrote to the Duke of Bolton at Hackwood Park, drawing his attention to the fear the villagers had that they would be attacked if Gunner were to be hanged. At the assizes he was released on condition that he transported <a href="https://limes.com/himself">himself</a> for 14 years! He was still in this area in March 1730, collecting signatures for a reprieve! The County justices had by now had enough, and the indications are that representations to the Secretary of State, the Duke of Newcastle, led to some action being taken (probably by the S.A.S. of the day) and nothing more was heard of him!

All this is but a sample of the wealth of information in this little book. I began to read it casually, and found I couldn't put it down. Georgia Smith should be given wider acclaim for this scholarly piece of local history research. She has shown that this subject need not be dull, and I hope that she will find time to expand this story of an English village into a larger book: for she tells the story of the making of England.

#### ANDREW DUCKWORTH

Editorial note: Eric Robinson complained that there isn't much archaeology in the Newsletter, so he sent in two pieces. Instantly so much turned up that I have had to hold over Eric's second article, and more news from David Allen, until the next issue!

Even so, I am always looking out for more articles + particularly from members whose voices aren't often heard. And line drawings are always welcome - in black ink, please, sent with stiff card backing.

Contributions to: Barbara Applin, 138 Old Kempshott Lane, Basingstoke, Hants

# CALENDAR

March Thurs 30	What do Conservators do for Archaeology? Suzanne Keene, Willis Museum, Basingstoke	H
April Sat 8	Friends of Basing House Inaugural Meeting, 3 pm, Basing House	В
Sun 9 Thurs 13	Hampshire Record Office Open Day 10.30=4.30 ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK IN KINGSTON & ITS HISTORICAL CONTEXT Marion Shipley	HRO **
Sat 15 Tues 18	Symposium County Government Introductory lecture to visits: LOCAL ARCHAEOLOGY	H W
Wed 19	Aspects of Basingstoke's Archaeology Mary Oliver	T ·
Thurs 20 Sun 23		F F
May Thurs 11 Sun 14 Wed 17 Thurs 18	Open Day at Eling Tide Mill British History from the Air Mrs E Goodburn	** T F
June Sat 3 Sat 3 evening Wed 21 Thurs 22	Excursion ISLE OF WIGHT Visit to current excavations, Southampton (date to be announced) Walk round Whitchurch 30 Years of Railway & Wedding Photography David & Marion Canning ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Basing House	** H F F
July Sat 1 Sat 8	Open day, Meonstoke Roman Villa Excursion, BOXGROVE & SINGLETON	H **
August Sat 19	Excursion Bucklers Hard & Beaulieu	Н
	** Society event (lectures 7.30 pm, Chute House)	