

BASINGSTOKE ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY



NEWSLETTER 182

February 2008

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What is our Chairman doing?



Society Outings

Guided Walk around Whitchurch

Saturday 10th May 2008 at 10:30 am

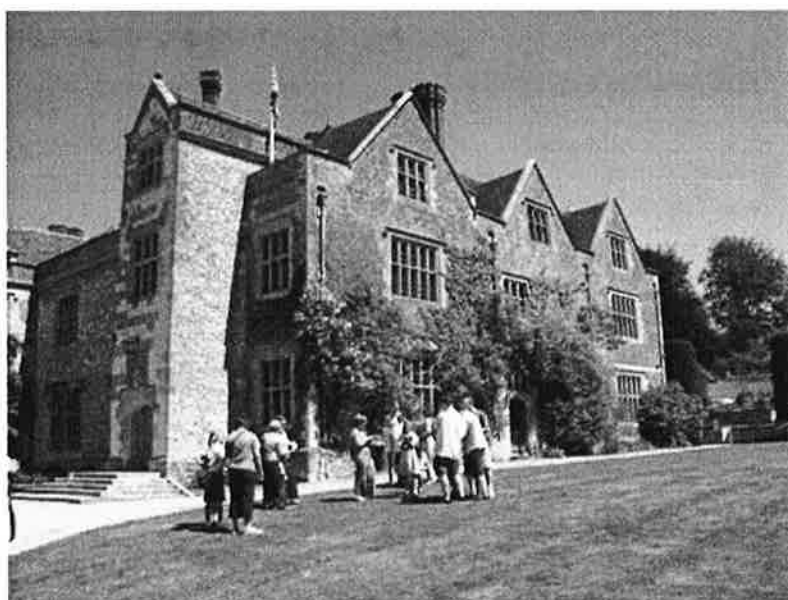
*with an optional Local Lunch & Guided
Tour of Whitchurch Silk Mill in the afternoon*



We meet at 10.30 am at the Methodist Church Hall in Winchester Street for a warm welcome by Dr Alison Deveson of the Hampshire Field Club. Alison is a local historian specialising in Whitchurch and the surrounding area, and will be our guide for the morning. After tea and coffee and a brief introduction to the history of Whitchurch, we will take a tour of this small historic market town, which contains no less than 22 listed buildings. The walk will wind through the town and alongside the river and should last between 1 and 2 hours, after which you may wish to take lunch at one of the local inns.

After lunch we have arranged a guided tour of Whitchurch Silk Mill, starting at 2 pm and lasting around one and a half hours. The Silk Mill has a DIY tearoom, gardens and shop, with car parking adjacent. See www.whitchurchsilkmill.org.uk for more details.

No charge for the town tour, but the Silk Mill tour has to be pre-booked at £4 per person (seniors £3.50 and children £2.50 each). If you wish to join in, please complete a booking form and return to Ginny Pringle, together with payment, as soon as possible. If you have any questions, contact her at ginny@powntleycopse.co.uk, or on 01420 550028.



Chawton House Library and Gardens Friday 11th July 2008 at 2 pm

Chawton House Library is a charity with a unique collection of books focusing on women's writing in English from 1600 to 1830. This specialist collection is set in the home and working estate of Jane Austen's brother at Chawton near Alton.

We meet at 2 pm at Chawton House for a guided tour of the house and library, which normally takes about one and a half hours. See www.chawton.org for more details and directions on how to find the House.

You may also wish to take this opportunity to visit the nearby Jane Austen's house or Chawton Church where Jane Austen's mother and sister are buried. There is also an excellent gastro pub in Chawton village for anyone requiring somewhere to lunch.

The guided tour has to be pre-booked at £9.50 per head and refreshments will be made available after the tour at an additional £2.50 per head (on a group basis). If you wish to join in, please complete a booking form and return to Ginny Pringle, together with payment. If you have any questions contact her at ginny@powntleycopse.co.uk, or on 01420 550028. Apologies to those who are unable to make a Friday, - the House is closed at weekends.

Visit to Silchester Excavations Thursday 24th July

As usual, meet at the car park
at 6 pm for 6.30

(remember, it's quite a long walk to the site).

Photo: Debz Charlton



ALFRED THE GREAT

Warfare, Wealth + Wisdom

**Exhibition at the Discovery Centre, Winchester
2nd February – 27th April 2008**

A reminder of this exciting once in a lifetime exhibition, which shows items together for the first time in history. Seven aestels (ornate pointers used to follow text), one from as far away as Norway, are brought together on this occasion. The most famous of them all, the Alfred Jewel, is on display during the first half of the exhibition before returning to the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford (being replaced by an 18th century replica approximately half-way through the exhibition).

Many precious items are on show – original manuscripts, Viking weapons and hoards, Anglo-Saxon jewellery, coins, ceramics and much, much more. "This is an unmissable, momentous show, featuring significant and stunning objects from the reign of King Alfred".

Tickets (advance booking recommended) are available from the Box Office, Theatre Royal Winchester, Jewry Street, Winchester on 01962 840440. Lectures and Author talks on the Alfred theme also take place throughout February, March and April (bookable in advance through the Box Office).

Fieldwork Report

Mark Peryer – 01256 780502 or mperyer@f2s.com

Our programme of fieldwalks has started the New Year with a flourish. We have started working to the West of Basingstoke and we are working with a couple of farmers to get access to their land when it has been ploughed. The first field walk was on Sunday 26th January at Dummer (To be known as Dummer part 1), and this will followed up by another field walk in the same field (Dummer part 2) on



Sunday 10th February. We will then switch our attention to another farm to the west of North Waltham, where there are many inter-locking crop marks, and there will be a field walk there **on the weekend of the 23rd/24th February** – location map and parking arrangements to be advised. My thanks to Ginny for conducting all the necessary negotiations with the farmers concerned.

A resistivity survey was carried out at the Austen Rectory site in Steventon in October and the results correlated with the magnetometry

results from the previous survey. The survey was carried out by Debbie Charlton, Pam Green and Natasha Wilson, supervised by Rev Dr Tim Astin of Reading University, who kindly provided the equipment and some training. The next step in this project is currently under discussion.

It looks very much as if there will be the opportunity for society members to get involved in some excavation work coming up at Basing House later on in the Spring, under the guidance of Dave Allen. Part of the ditch around the keep is to be investigated and potentially the Roman part of the site. If it happens, it will occur some time in May. If you are interested in any of these activities or would like to be put on the fieldwork e-mail list, please contact me by phone or email:

SILCHESTER FIELD SCHOOL/RESEARCH EXCAVATION

Marjolein Mussellwhite

32 King Johns Road, North Warnborough, Hook, Hampshire, RG29 1EJ

e-mail: marjoleine_2000@hotmail.com

As in previous years, the Committee has decided that we would like to sponsor two people to take part in the excavation at Silchester for one week during the summer. The field school is run from 23 June until 3 August 2008, and is suitable for both beginners and those with some experience. There will be supervision at all times, and training will be given.

The working week runs from Monday to Sunday with Friday as the day off, working from 9.00 until 5.30. You will have the opportunity to take part in all different aspects of an excavation, and will be taught about the use of excavation tools and how to dig, the collection and treatment of artefacts, how to record what you excavate. Talks will be held on other aspects of site recording such as surveying, planning, site photography and the use of environmental techniques. If you wish to use a week as part of further studies, formal accreditation is available from the University of Reading. Should you be interested to be considered for sponsorship, please send me a note with a brief overview of why you wish to be considered. See the website: www.silchester.rdg.ac.uk.

FOAM (Friends of Ancient Monuments)

Marjolein Mussellwhite

Odiham Castle has recently received a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund, and work is being carried out to arrest decline of the monument. It's currently covered in scaffolding but it is anticipated that the work to the castle itself will be finished by the end of March. After that work will be done to improve the access as well as put in signage. However, there is not enough money to cover the clearing of the moat, which is very overgrown, with a lot of fallen trees and debris all around. To carry out this work volunteers are needed and so the first FOAM weekend took place on the 19th and 20th of January. About 10 Society volunteers turned up to help clear the moat, and we were joined by



a team of Scouts from Worting accompanied by their leaders, one of them being David Hopkins, also known to us as the County Archaeologist!



The work consisted of cutting down branches overhanging the moat, getting coppice stools back down to size, clearing brambles from the top of the banks, and cutting down small willow trees growing in the moat itself. We had a huge bonfire going, which everyone kept feeding, and the Scouts in particular enjoyed doing this. The other thing they enjoyed a lot was the mud...

We were ably supervised by Phil Allen and Georgie Thorne from Hampshire County Council. They even produced

soup heated over a charcoal fire made in an old washing machine drum – most impressive! Despite the unpromising weather forecast, it stayed dry and everyone enjoyed a good honest work-out.

The next FOAM weekend is planned for the 16th and 17th of February. There is a lot of work to be done and we would love to see more people join us. We are working between 10 and 4 on both days. Even if you can only spare a few hours, do come and join us! Bring some wellies (it's very muddy) and if you have them, a bow saw and some loppers.

If you want more information please give me a call on 01256 701192, or 07753 724435. Alternatively send me an e-mail on marjoleine_2000@hotmail.com. A big thank you to all of you who helped out and I look forward to another successful weekend in February!

REPORT

Barbara Applin

01256 465439

barbara.applin@btinternet.com

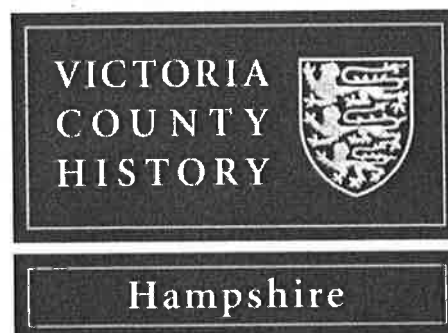
As well as interviewing people like Councillor Michael Woodall (in particular about his memories of Chute House, when his father was Rector there), our own member, Jo Kelly, has been interviewed herself! She has many fascinating stories to tell about her rather tomboy childhood and about Sarum Hill, which she knows intimately. We shall be going back for more!

Since the publication of *TAKING THE PULSE OF BASINGSTOKE*, we have continued the health theme in many of our interviews. The latest interview was with Dr Keith Thomson, who specialises in obstetric anaesthesia at North Hants Hospitals but also organises medical conferences in Baltic states like Lithuania and Esthonia. But of particular interest is his voluntary work with the Mercy Ships, which go out to African countries and moor in a particular port to which patients come from far and wide for state-of-the-art medical treatment on the ship. Jan Patterson, who did the interview, is hoping to arrange for Dr Thomson to give a public talk on Mercy Ships, to raise some money for them. We will announce the date when it is known – but if you have a particular interest, do let me know so that I can make sure you know the date if it falls between newsletters or meetings.

*Volunteers needed for
Victoria County History project*

**New VCH HAMPSHIRE:
Basingstoke
and its Surroundings**

Jean Morrin,
jean.morrin@winchester.ac.uk
01962 827377



In 2007 a group of interested organisations came together to seek to revise and update the **Victoria County History** Hampshire volumes. The Victoria County History is a nationwide organisation which was founded in 1899 to produce an encyclopaedic record of England's places and people from earliest times to the present day, contained in the well-known series of county volumes known as the 'big red books'. Five original volumes were produced, covering all the Hampshire parishes between 1900 and 1912, and they are now in need of revision. The old VCH Hampshire website has 5000-9000 hits per month. You can read the original histories of Basingstoke Hundred in Volume 4 at <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/source.aspx?pubid=525>

Hampshire is the first county to revise existing parish histories and, within Hampshire, the Basingstoke area is the first to be revised, so we are all learning and are being guided by the VCH head office team at the Institute of Historical Research in London. All parish histories are based on research topics and primary sources specified by London VCH team but these are adapted for local circumstances. Professor John Beckett, director of the VCH, spoke to Basingstoke volunteers on 16th January about the VCH way of writing parish histories.

The organisations involved in the New VCH Hampshire project include Hampshire County Council, the Hampshire Archives Trust, the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society, and the University of Winchester. The New VCH Hampshire will update parish histories in the original volumes and add many of the topics expected today, including local government, public services, economy and society, migration, sport, recreation and buildings. The New VCH Hampshire is beginning with Basingstoke and its surrounding area, as the town has been transformed since the original VCH was published. As well as the parish histories, a section on the expansion of Basingstoke as a result of its designation as a London overspill town will be researched. The ultimate intention is to produce a new 'red book' reflecting the dramatic transformation of the area in the twentieth century.

Current project

Initial work will be on the economic history of the area from 1500 and cover the parishes of Basingstoke and its surroundings: Basing, Basingstoke, Bramley, Cliddesden, Eastrop, Herriard, Mapledurwell, Nately Scures, Newnham, Sherborne St John, Steventon, Tunworth, Up Nately, Upton Grey, Weston Corbett, Weston Patrick and Winslade.

Volunteers needed!

To carry out this work New VCH Hampshire would like the help of a team of volunteers. You don't need to be a historian – just interested in local history! Volunteer leader, Dr Jean Morrin, will provide training in Winchester and at Chute House, Basingstoke.

Initially tasks are likely to include:

- transcribing census returns, 1851-1901
- studying maps to help identify local agriculture, industry and communications
- transcribing wills dating from 1500
- extracting information on local business and crafts from trade directories
- working on economic and social history since 1945
- field/street walking of parishes
- researching in the archives in Basingstoke, Winchester, London

There will be meetings to organise the project and to review progress at Chute House. Some tasks, such as transcribing wills, will be done initially in groups so that palaeography skills can be learnt. Others, such as transcribing the census, can be done at home after initial instruction classes.

A new 'red book' is the long-term goal, but short-term targets include:

- publishing economic histories from 1500 for each parish on the VCH Hampshire website, www.victoriacountyhistory.ac.uk
- using the VCH research to produce local parish histories if volunteers so wish

Hampshire was unusual in that all the parish histories were written before 1914. Many counties such as Oxford, Essex, Gloucester, Middlesex, Somerset, Sussex are still completing their original county volumes. Since 1950 the nature of their parish histories has changed to the modern formula, which includes economic history, social history, local government, religious history and buildings. Thus, you can see what a modern economic history section looks like by looking at recently published 'red books' or by consulting parish histories recently completed on the VCH website:

http://www.victoriacountyhistory.ac.uk/webdav/harmonise?Page/@id=72&Section/@id=573&Session/@id=D_EPfxjenYQvAve5fNFmbd

If you are interested in joining the Basingstoke and Its Surroundings project and want further details, please contact me.

Some of the group are about to transcribe Basingstoke directories and census returns onto EXCEL spreadsheets. If you would like to help with this, please contact Bob and Barbara Applin, 01256 465439 or bandbapplin@btinternet.com

BENEATH BASINGSTOKE

Video to DVD

Our Video will soon be available on DVD, and we have longer-term plans to make an accompanying DVD on what has happened "Beneath Basingstoke" since the video came out. We would like to set up a sub-committee for this, and members who are not on the main committee will be welcome to join it. Is there anyone who has expertise, or simply an interest, in scripting, filming or just helping to organise this? The first stage is to collect material on recent work and to capture film of current and future excavations and fieldwork.

Contact **Margaret Porter 01256 356012**
or margaretporter.333@yahoo.co.uk



ANCIENT APTERA

John Feuillade

*View across
Ancient Apera,
looking toward
the mouth of
Souda Bay*

Crete is an island of history and archaeological remains litter the landscape. One of the best post-Minoan sites on the island is Ancient Apera, with Dorian, Classical and Hellenistic Greek and Roman remains as well as a Venetian monastery and a Turkish castle. If you travel from Rethymno to Chania along the National Road, the motorway of the island, as you pass the Kalyves junction you will become aware of the castle high on a spur of the mountain you are heading toward. Luckily the road bends to the right around the base of the spur and soon you can turn left following the sign to Ancient Apera. Climb up through the modern village of Apera and then to Ancient Apera and park in the car park. There is a kiosk which sometimes has a person in it but he is just having a cigarette in the shade. Just by the entrance there is a map of the site.

Apera sits on the 200 metre high hill of Paliokastro overlooking Souda Bay to the north and with the White Mountains to the south. It had two harbours, Minoan probably near Souda, and Kissamos near present day Kalyves. Souda Bay is an excellent anchorage, was the site of much fighting when the Germans invaded Crete in World War II and is today the site of Greek, NATO and US naval bases. The historian Svoronos described Apera as the most commercial city of Crete.

The first mention of Aptera is in the Linear B tablets of Knossos (14 -13 c BC) as A-pa-ta-wa. No archaeological evidence of Minoan occupation of Ancient Aptera has been found and it is possible that Minoan Aptera was on a hill further south in the Stylos area or further north in the Kalimi area.. Many ancient geographers and historians have referred to the city's location, Skylax (5th c BC), Strabo (1st c BC – 1st c AD), Pliny (1st c AD), Dionysios Kallifontos (2nd c AD) and Ptolemy (2nd c AD). In modern times the traveller Pashley, in 1834, was the first to correctly identify the location of the city.

There are several suggestions as to the origin of the name. The first seems to be Artemis' attribute, Artemis Aptera. Another suggests that the name was given by the eponymous hero of Delphi Pterias but, according to the myth recorded by Stephanos Byzantios in the 6th c AD, the name comes from the mythical battle between the Muses and the Sirens in which the defeated Sirens lost their feathers and became featherless (apteres), became white and fell into the sea, making the islands in the Bay of Souda.

The city was founded on the present site in the Geometric period, according to remains found in the cemetery dating back to the 8th c BC. The period of the city's greatest influence started, as did that of all the Cretan city-states, in 4th c BC and as an independent state it maintained a political role in both internal and foreign affairs. The warriors of Aptera were famed as awesome archers and fought as mercenaries outside Crete.

Silver brought home by returning mercenaries allowed the city-state to mint its own coins and to develop further as an independent and efficient economy. Silver was also imported from Egypt and Cyprus. Most coins portray the goddess Artemis on the obverse, with the founder of the city on the reverse.

Crete suffered civil wars during the Hellenistic period, mainly in the 3rd and 2nd c BC, due to a continuing dispute between Knossos and Gortyn over the leadership of the island. These led Aptera to form alliances usually on the side of Knossos.

Crete was occupied by Rome in 67 BC and this led to another period of prosperity for the city during the 1st & 2nd c AD, as shown by the antiquities found on the site. In the mid 4th c AD the city was fortified by encircling with a strong wall 3480 metres long with defensive towers and gates. The earthquake in 364-5 AD started the decline of the city and this was followed by another powerful earthquake in the 7th c AD, which completed the abandonment of the city.



In the 12th c AD a small monastery, dedicated to St John Theologian, was founded in the central area of the ancient city.

Inside the 12th c monastery of St John, showing the monks' cells.

The people are entering the room with the display boards.

The Island was captured by the Turkish Empire and in 1866 they constructed a fortress on the north-east corner of the site, outside the ancient city walls. A lot of stone from the site was used in the construction of the castle and many statues were broken up and fed into lime kilns. This castle was supplemented by another, later, fortification below the castle at main road level, which has also been used as a prison and a barracks.



The 1866 Turkish Castle

After the Germans invaded Crete in May 1941, they excavated a small Doric temple which they dated to the 5th c BC. Part of a large temple which had been in use for many centuries has been found in the same area and another small Doric temple, dated to the 1st c AD, has been attributed to the goddesses Demeter and Persephone.

Recently, the pillared peristyle hall of a Graeco-Roman villa, which collapsed in one of the earthquakes the town suffered, has been uncovered outside the west gate. A theatre was found in a natural corrie to the south of the site and part of the stage and some of the stone seats have been conserved.



The most impressive remains, both in terms of size and preservation, are the Roman cisterns which collected rainwater through gullies and openings in the roof and through ducts from numerous wells. Each cistern supplied one of the two large bath-houses of the city, the largest of which must have been a public facility.

A section of one of the two Roman cisterns

The city had two cemeteries: one to the southeast with rock-cut tombs and another to the west. The western cemetery has been extensively excavated recently and has produced tombs of various types from the simplest ones including burials in pithoi of the 8th and 7th c BC, pit-graves of all periods and big chamber graves cut down into the bedrock, down to 3rd c AD.

When you enter the site from the car park take the path down the side of the monastery and turn left into the quadrangle of the monastery. Go into the middle doorway where there are lights burning and you will find a series of descriptive boards in Greek and English, giving the story of the site and its place in Greek history. If you go in the spring the site is ablaze with wild flowers but it is not so easy to see some of the archaeology because it is overgrown.

Antiquities of various periods from the site are exhibited in the Archaeological Museum in Chania. This museum and the Maritime Museum, which has a large section on the Battle for Crete, are both worth a visit.

This description is based on the pamphlet available at the site. Ancient Aptera is open Tuesday to Sunday 8.30 am – 3.00 pm and is closed on Monday.

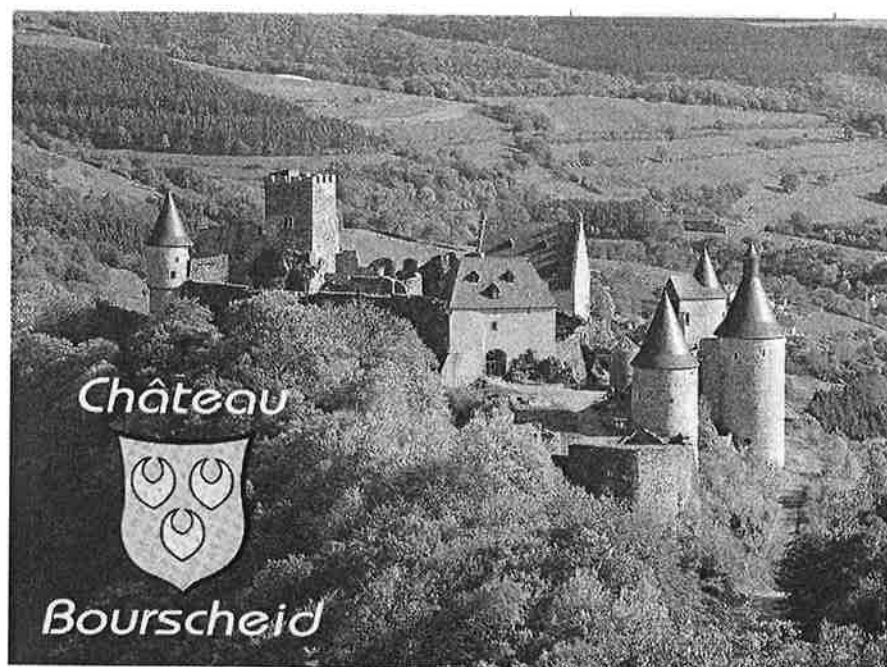
MORE NEWS FROM THE WILLIS MUSEUM

Sue Tapliss tells us that, after fund-raising at Hampshire County Council Museums Services, the money was raised to buy two original Diana Stanley paintings, which are being documented and reframed and will soon be hanging in the coffee shop at the Willis Museum. The first is entitled 'Jane Austen's ballroom' (the back of the *Anchor Inn* where it is said that Jane Austen came to dances) and it was published in Diana Stanley's book **Within Living Memory**. The second, of Mussellwhite's Yard, was a private commission for the family. She also tells us that the Museum website includes the exhibition created by The Friends of the Willis in 2006, giving a glimpse of Basingstoke 75 years ago compared with photographs from the same spot in 2006. These include some of the glass negatives taken in the 1920s and 1930s by Terry Hunt, a photographer who lived in Church Street.

<http://www.3hants.gov.uk/museum/willis-museum/local-studies-willis/basingstoke-then.htm>

BOURSHEID CASTLE

Ann Broad

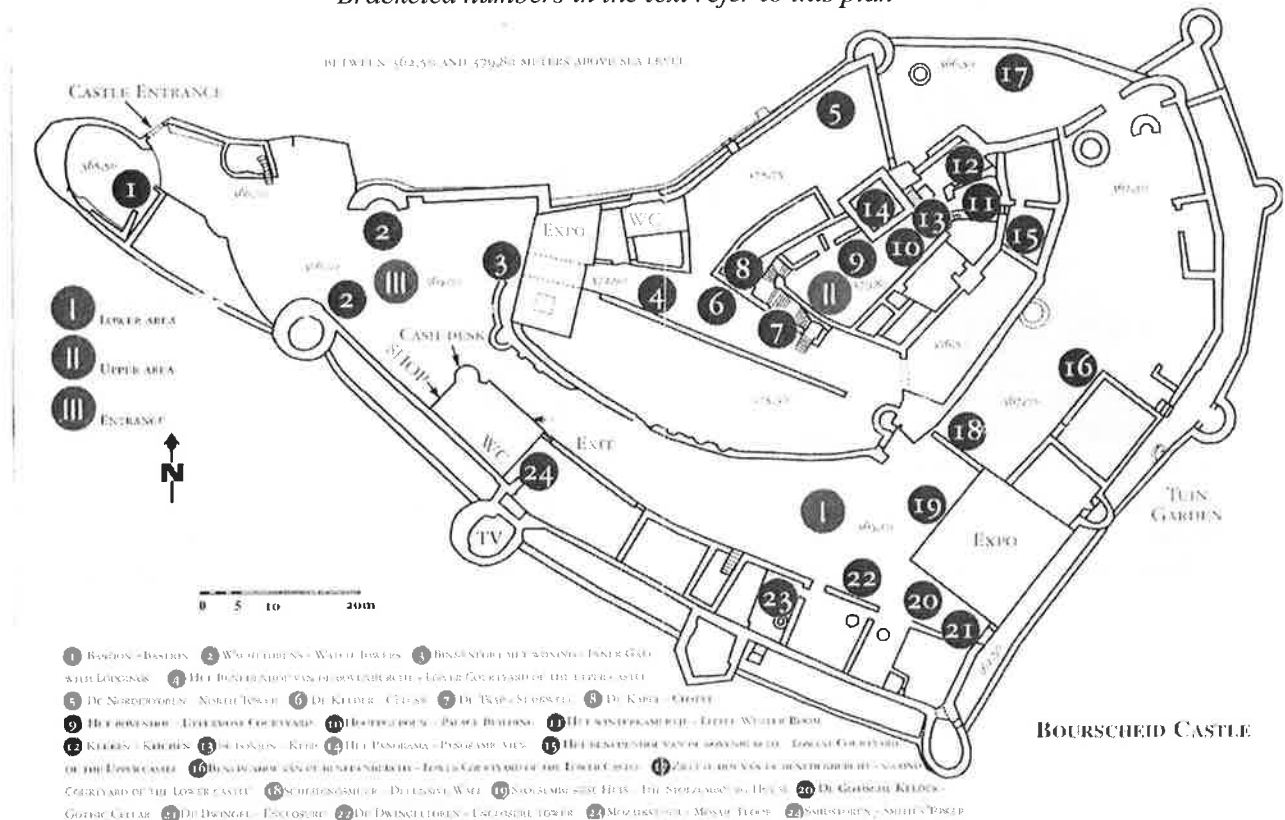


The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg is a small country, perhaps best known to an older generation for Radio Luxembourg, and most travellers seem to pass through it on their way to somewhere else. In the north the landscape is rolling hills of the Ardennes, with villages clustering around elegant steepled churches; it is sprinkled with artefacts and monuments from the WW2 Battle of the Bulge, Roman remains, interesting old churches and massive stone castles

in various states of repair. Amongst the latter, Boursheid Castle stands out as the most complete, with reconstruction and restoration which has rendered it accessible to visitors. It has such a large history that I can only describe what interested me when we visited it. I have used some of the officially printed details (in quotes) but the rest is taken from what I could note down from the English audio commentary and from what I observed. Boursheid Castle 'is situated on an isolated promontory accessible only from the north-west, 150 metres above the level of the River Sure and 370 metres

above sea level. Even today the ruins testify to an impressive fortification covering a surface of 8,000 square metres (151 metres long and 53 metres wide) and surrounded by a massive ring wall with eleven watchtowers.'

Bracketed numbers in the text refer to this plan



BOURSCHEID CASTLE

An earlier wooden defence structure was replaced around the year 1000 by a stone construction. 'Shortly after the year 1350 the construction of the extensive circular wall was begun. It was completed in 1384, the same year in which the Stolzemburger House in the lower area of the castle was erected.' With the death of the last member of the Bourscheid family in 1512, living arrangements were altered and it was never again used as a 'working' castle.

One of the most fascinating features of the castle is the way the buildings seem to grow out of the slate rock on which they are built, which is incorporated into the fabric of the castle. Round towers topped by grey slate turrets give it an almost fairy-tale quality.

In 1972 the Luxembourg State acquired the ruins and so began the reconstruction, restoration and archaeological excavations of the castle, making it accessible to visitors and adding greatly to knowledge of its history. The excavations have yielded traces from Ottonian, Carolingian, Merovingian and even Roman times.

There is a shell-shaped semi-tower (5) with a cellar and deep embrasures for shooting and viewing purposes and the only way to climb up the tower was by the use of ladders.

The staircase (7) is made of expensive, dressed sandstone and led to the chambers for the nobility. It is S-shaped so that the knights would be unable to ride up on their horses and would have to climb on foot.



A cellar with a chapel above (8) gave rise to a legend that there was a secret hole to enable the occupants to hear Mass from the chapel. The chapel is now open to the sky but would only have been for the use of the nobility; the locals worshipped in Boursheid village church. There is still a niche in the chapel wall and at some time grain was found in the loft over the chapel.



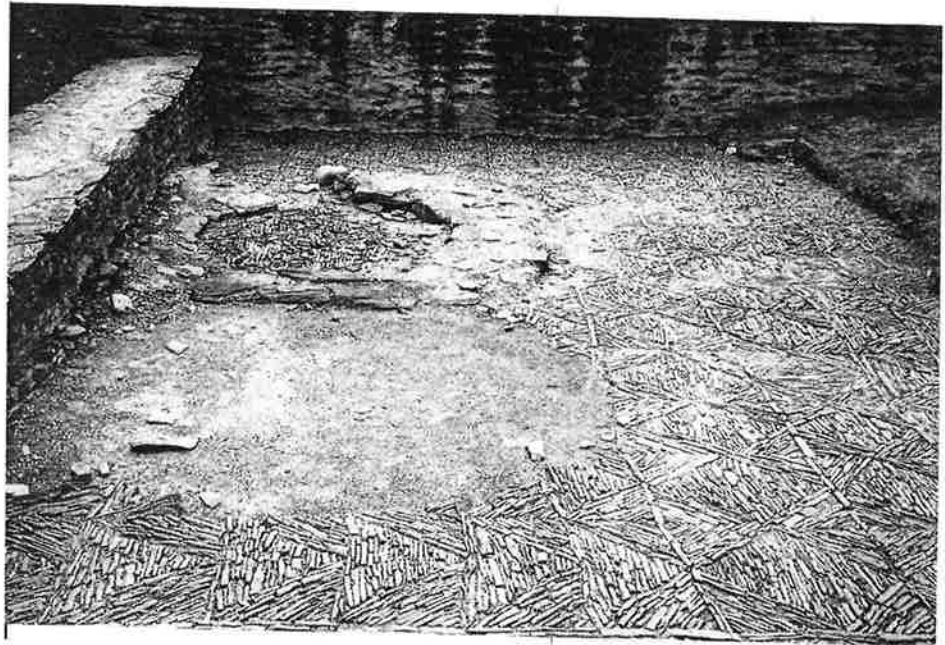
The Palace building (10) was the living area of the lords of the castle from 1400 to 1420 and included a Grand Hall, fireplace, and built-in cupboards, now just niches, but with one closet still in place. A small area of the Palace (11 and 12) was apparently very difficult for the historians to decipher. Originally it was thought that this was a chapel, due to the pillars at the four corners and a unique large stone arch with a chimney, and that the niches were windows. It was later decided, with the help of a 1680 drawing, that this was in fact a kitchen with cupboards but no windows. Excavations also produced a trivet, a three-legged stool, a fireplace and food. Above the kitchen would have been a little Winter Room for the Lady, pleasantly warm from the fire in the kitchen below and above this a Summer Room with a beautiful panoramic view of the Sure valley.

The Keep (13) in the Palace courtyard, originally 12th Century in style and 10 metres high, was renovated in 1986 and gives a feeling of majestic force, being made of slate blocks with the corners of sandstone blocks. In the base of the keep was a dungeon into which prisoners were lowered 7 metres by rope to two rooms, one on top of the other, with a hole/trap-door through which food was thrown to them. This dungeon was only used until a bake-house was built in the late 18th Century. There was then a pantry at the top of the outside stairs to the first floor of the keep. Whilst excavating the bake-house in 1791, archaeologists discovered wooden posts which confirmed that the castle was first fortified in the 11th Century.

Water cisterns are another feature of the castle, especially one excavated in 1985 which was found to be 33 metres deep; it was used for collecting rainwater and other water from the courtyard, the kitchen and sewers, but by 1791 it was no longer in use.

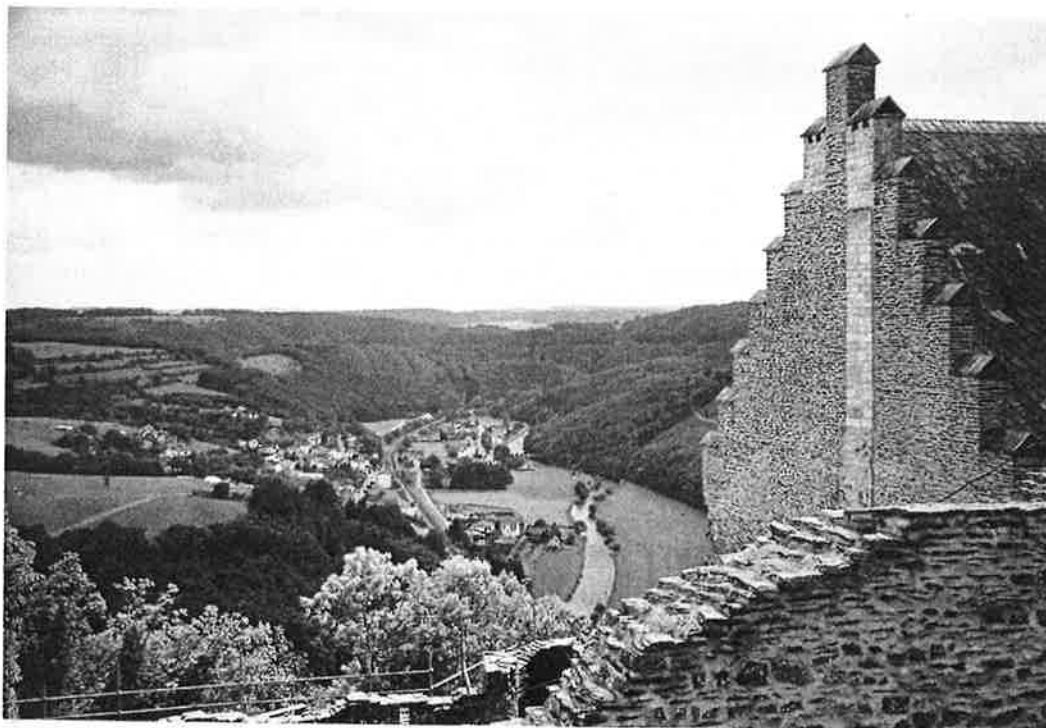
One of the most unexpected sights in the castle was one of two mosaic floors (23). Unlike any Roman mosaics I have seen, these were floors of a row of castle houses now only to be seen in outline. The foundations were uncovered in 1980, also revealing the mosaic floors of linear patterns

made from what looked like the edges of flat tiles; one room, possibly a kitchen, had a fire area still visible.



*An unusual
mosaic*

Boursheid Castle has seen many changes of fortune. Written evidence of 1636 showed 116 households fleeing to the castle and 500 individuals suffering from the plague, many of whom died of it. The noble family died out, only bailiffs lived in the Stolzembourg House in the 17th Century and yet around 1650 the chapel was enlarged and boasted two altars. In the 19th Century the last bailiff left and the castle was sold into private hands, where it remained until the Luxembourg State acquired the ruins. Now, much renovated but with still very much the feel of a castle, it provides tourists with a fascinating few hours and the Stolzembourg House, partially modernised, hosts concerts and weddings.



*View down Sure Valley and
the end of Stolzembourg
House*



Clare Park

*Dippenhall, Crondall, Hampshire
A History of the Estate and Its Owners*

Tony Wright

We have been asked to let you know about the re-issue of this book (first published in 2003), now with a fuller account of the period when Clare Park was a Girls' Boarding School up to its present use for Private Retirement Residences. There are more illustrations, annotated references and a new chapter discussing the possible origins of the name of the property. The landed gentry who either owned or occupied the 18th century mansion and estate at Crondall include Sugar Plantation owners, a Huguenot, a Seigneur and Jurat of Rosel in Jersey, a Provincial Banker and an Officer in the Army of the Honourable East India Company.

**£6 each, + 65p post & packing from
A. Wright, 1 Longmead, FLEET, Hants HU52 7TR**

? ? Anyone interested ? ?

Job Available

Mechanical Engineer

Whitchurch Silk Mill is needing a mechanical engineer who would be able to work with historic machinery. Much of the machinery is 19th century and produces silk for interiors, textile conservation projects and costume dramas.

The key functions would be:

1. Maintain regularly all production machinery, ensuring its effective and safe operation.
2. Undertake programmed restorations of machinery
3. Maintain the waterwheel and water power systems and restore when required.
4. Undertake any other mechanical work as required
5. You will be expected to use the machinery in the production of silk fabric.

The position would be for two days a week.

Please apply to: Whitchurch Silk Mill, 28 Winchester Street, Whitchurch, Hants RG28 7AL telephone number 01256 892065 for an application pack. Applications must be received by Monday 25th February 2008.

CALENDAR

2 Feb to 27 April	ALFRED THE GREAT exhibition (page 3)	
Sat 16/Sun 17 Feb	FOAM (page 5)	BAHS
Thurs 21 Feb	THE WATERCRESS LINE David Yaldren	FWM
Sat/Sun 23/24 Feb	Field walking (page 4)	BAHS
Thurs 28 Feb	AFTER THE ARCHER: RECENT DISCOVERIES ON BOSCOMBE DOWN Andy Manning (Archaeology Section, 7.30 pm, £1 on the door)	HFC
Tues 11 Mar	THE WILLOW OF BASING – WILLIAM PAULET Alan Turton	FBH
Thurs 13 Mar	RECENT EXCAVATIONS AT THE HENGE AND CIRCLE, BROOMEND OF CRICHIE Amanda Clarke	BAHS*
Wed 19 Mar	BUILDING ON PEVSNER: WINCHESTER'S ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE AND THE REVISION OF THE <i>NORTH HAMPSHIRE</i> VOLUME John Crook, & AGM Historic Buildings Section	FWM
Thurs 20 Mar	NEPAL AND THE GURKHAS Major Gerald Davies	FWM
Fri 21 Mar	Basing House opens for 2008	
Thurs 10 April	BASINGSTOKE & OTHER NE HAMPSHIRE TOWNS, WINNERS AND LOSERS Derek Spruce	BAHS
Sat 12 April	WALLED WESSEX: FORTIFICATIONS, DECORATIONS, CRENELLATION (Centre for Wessex History & Archaeology), Salisbury & South Wilts Museum, 10 am – 5 pm £12	FWM
Thurs 17 April	IT'S A MONK'S LIFE Bro. John Hodges	FWM
Sat 26 April	AGRICULTURE IN HAMPSHIRE Local History Section Spring Symposium, 9.30- 4.30 at Hampshire Record Office, Sussex St, Winchester (10 HFC members, £12 non-members)	HFC
Thurs 8 May	BERKSHIRE IRON AGE HILLFORTS, THEIR CONSTRUCTION AND USE Andrew Hutt	BAHS*
Sat 10 May	VISIT TO WHITCHURCH (page 2)	BAHS
Thurs 15 May	UPSTAIRS, DOWNSTAIRS AT HACKWOOD PARK Brian Spicer	FWM
23 June – 3 Aug	Silchester Field School/Research Excavation (page 4)	
Fri 11 July	VISIT TO CHAWTON HOUSE (page 2)	BAHS
Thurs 24 July	VISIT TO SILCHESTER (page 3)	BAHS

BAHS

FBH

FWM

HFC

Our Society

* 7.30 pm at Church Cottage

Friends of Basing House, 7.30 pm, at the new Tea Room ('Bothy')

Friends of the Willis Museum, 7.30 pm at the Museum

Hampshire Field Club at Science Lecture Theatre, Peter Symonds College, Owens Rd, Winchester

BAHS Secretary: Margaret Porter 01256 356012

Website: <http://www.bahsoc.org.uk>

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