



Colchester Archaeological Group

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ANNUAL BULLETIN VOL. 30 1987

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COLCHESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

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Committee 1988

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EDITORIAL

The main contribution to this Issue, Volume 30, is the book on the Red Hills of Essex which has been produced by members of the Group to commemorate the work of Mrs. K. de Brisay. It is under separate covers and comes to members with this Issue. It will be available as an individual publication later in the year.

The 1987-88 Winter programme of lectures was up to the usual high standard and we are most grateful to Ida McMaster for arranging them, to Pat Adkins for regularly showing the slides for the lectures and to Harry Palmer for assiduously writing the weekly notes.

In July we celebrated, on a fine warm evening, the Group's 30th birthday with a really splendid party kindly hosted by Mr. and Mrs. A.B. Bonner at Threshelfords. Hazel West brought a fantastic birthday cake representing an excavation complete with edible tools and artefacts. Our President proposed the Group's health with a most diverting poem, see over.

In April members had a most enjoyable weekend visiting the Viking Exhibition at York. Accommodation was in the University and we wandered round the town visiting museums and sites to suit our various interests. Our sincere thanks go to Dennis Tripp who kindly made the efficient and most satisfactory arrangements.

Richard Shackle is now taking over the Editorship of the Bulletin and Volume 31 will be his first. We thank him heartily for undertaking this task and wish him well in it. I now wish to stand down having produced Volumes 20 - 30 and I would like to express my gratitude to members for all their support, particularly those who contributed articles.

Editor.

BIRTHDAY PARTY

BIRTHDAY PARTY

We meet tonight, by kindness of the Bonners
To hold a party, and to do the honours
For it is thirty years since first we met
And this, our group, upon its course was set.

Twice fifteen summers may cause some alarm
To those who write for magazines of charm
And threaten drastic economic shocks
For Steffi Graff or, worse, Samantha Fox,
But we, as archaeologists, are sure
Like port or stilton, we are but mature.

Not the balloonist's transatlantic thrills
For us, who modestly ascend Red Hills;
For us, who find tranquility serene
In clearing out a legionary latrine,
Or see depicted in the grass and loam
The Celtic homesteads and the farms of Rome.

As in Imperial triumphs men conveyed
Reminders that earth's laurels quickly fade,
So we remember Kay and Dick, but know
We tread the path that they would have us go.
And so, in this our Anglo-Saxon habit
Come hell, high water, Parsonson, or Tebbitt,
We raise our glasses, and proclaim with me
"A Happy Birthday to the C.A.G."

D. T-D. Clarke

- The toast at the Group's 30th Birthday Party

THE TWENTY NINTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE COLCHESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP HELD ON MONDAY 12th OCTOBER 1987 at 7.30 pm.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Secretary reported that apologies had been received from Mr. and Mrs. McMaster, Mrs. Bettie Young, Mr. E.J. Russell, Mrs. Jackie Sheard and Mr. Alf Doorne. Approximately 50 persons were in attendance.

MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Minutes of the meeting held on 13th October, 1986 had been published in the Bulletin and copies of the Minutes had also been sent to all members. It was agreed that the Minutes should be taken as read and they were accordingly signed by the Chairman. There were no matters arising to be dealt with, other than those included separately on the agenda.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer circulated to those present a statement to 11th September, 1987, showing a deficit for the year of £45.18 and net assets at the end of the period of £201.26. The charge for the hire of the lecture room was being increased from £5 to £10. In view of this situation, the Committee had decided that it would be necessary to increase the entrance charge for lectures from 20p to 40p for members and from 50p to £1.00 for non-members.

The Treasurer also reported that the Group had collected £108 for the Keep Colchester Castle Appeal and had 'bought' the year 1096.

The accounts and the Treasurer's oral report were accepted.

RED HILLS BOOKLET

Kath Evans expressed regret on behalf of the Sub-Committee that the preparation of the booklet had taken very much longer than anyone had expected and this had been a great disappointment to the Sub-Committee. However, approximately 85% of the work had now been completed and the volume containing the working manuscript was available at the meeting for those who would be interested to see it. The plan now was to publish the booklet in March 1988 in place of the usual full-scale Bulletin.

Dennis Tripp reported that the Kay de Brisay Memorial Fund presently stands at £985, after spending £236, mostly on drawings for inclusion in the booklet.

THE BULLETIN

Kath Evans, as Editor, reported that the 29th issue, produced as a memorial to Dick Farrands, had been very well received. There will be a small, token, Bulletin which will be published as a commemorative 30th Edition in conjunction with the Red Hills booklet. Contributions for that will be welcome but most will perhaps be held back for the issue to be published in 1989.

GROUP ACTIVITIES

Mr. James Fawn outlined the outings and parties which had been held during the year.

He also reported on the plans that are being made for field-walking and invited those interested to sign the list provided for this purpose so that they can be contacted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that the existing officers should be confirmed in the appointments with the addition of Miss Mary Dale as Outings Secretary and Mrs. C.D. de Roche as Librarian.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that Miss Mary Dale should be re-appointed for a further term and that Mrs. Kath Evans, a co-opted member, should be appointed to membership together with Mrs. Honor

Chamberlain.

The Chairman thanked the retiring members for their past work on the Committee: Miss Mary Dale, Mrs. Nan Gibson and Mr. Pat Adkins. Mrs. Evans expressed the Group's thanks to Mrs. McMaster for the programme of excellent talks she had arranged and to Mr. Adkins for his work as projectionist.

APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER ORGANISATIONS

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that the existing representatives should continue in their respective appointments, with the addition of Mr. James Fawn as our representative on CADFAS in place of Mr. Harry Palmer, who has asked to be replaced. The Chairman thanked Mr. Palmer for his services as a representative.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Essex History Fair

The Chairman reported that he and the Treasurer had attended a preliminary meeting but had decided that it would not be in the interests of the Group to take part in the Fair in 1988.

2. Archaeological Symposium

The Secretary drew attention to the Symposium which is being organised by the Essex Archaeological and Historical Congress in Colchester on Saturday 7th November. Copies of the application form were available for those interested.

3. Weekend Outing 1988

Mr. David Clarke outlined a possible outing to Chichester, including, perhaps, a visit to Fishbourne and other places. A straw poll indicated that about 25 of those present would be interested in such an outing.

4. Twinning

Mrs. Pat Brown referred to the Minutes of the previous year and enquired how matters now stood. The Secretary stated that the Group had written to both Avignon and Wetzlar during the year but had heard nothing from either. Mrs. Brown said that it was her understanding that we would be hearing from Wetzlar, where an exhibition is intended to be held.

COLCHESTER ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

WINTER MEETINGS 1987/1988

In the Lecture Room, Colchester Castle, at 7.30 pm

- 1987
- 12 Oct **Annual General Meeting** followed by **The Evolution of an Aisled Hall at Feering**
Richard Shackle, Essex County Library, Local Studies Department
- 19 Oct **The Salt Trade of West Africa**
Dr John Alexander, M.A., F.S.A., St Johns College, Cambridge
- 26 Oct **The Middle Saxon Settlement at Brandon, Suffolk**
Bob Carr, Senior Archaeologist with Suffolk County Planning Department
- 2 Nov **The Haddenham Long Barrow**
Paul Shand, Co-Director of the Haddenham Project, University of Cambridge
- 9 Nov **Benvenuto Cellini and the Jewellery of Late Medieval and Renaissance Europe**
Hugh Tait, B.A., F.S.A., Deputy Keeper of Medieval and Later Antiquities, British Museum
- 16 Nov **Commercial Rabbiting in Medieval East Anglia**
Dr Mark Bailey, Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge
- 23 Nov **HMS Warrior (1860), Her History, Restoration and Return to Her Home Port**
David van Lennep, Member of the Warrior Association
- 30 Nov **The First Millennium BC in Essex**
Dr Owen Bedwin, B.A., F.S.A., Assistant County Archaeologist, Essex County Council
- 7 Dec **Christmas Party**, to be held at St Paul's Hall, Colchester, near North Station Road - parking in Bellevue Road on the North side of the By-pass
- 1988
- 18 Jan **Horsham St Faith Priory and its Wall Paintings** (near Norwich)
David Sherlock, F.S.A., English Heritage, Inspector of Ancient Monuments
- 25 Jan **Some Archaeology in Normandy**
David Clarke, M.A., F.S.A., Curator, Castle Museum, Colchester
- 1 Feb **The Knights Templars**
John Hope, B.A., Brain Valley Archaeological Society
- 8 Feb **Aerial Photography in the County Archaeological Section**
Deborah Priddy, B.A., Sites and Monuments Records Officer, Essex County Council
- 15 Feb **Animal Bones for the Archaeologist**
Tony Legge, Department of Extra-mural Studies, University of London
- 22 Feb **Archaeology and the Woods of South East Essex**
Dr Oliver Rackham, Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge
- 29 Feb **Trade and Markets of the Roman World**
Dr K E Griffiths, Research Fellow, Newcastle University
- 7 Mar **Recent Studies of Havering Palace**
Richard M S Matthews, Romford and District Historical Society
- 14 Mar **Group Activities**
- Members - entrance per meeting 40p
Non-members are welcome - entrance per meeting £1