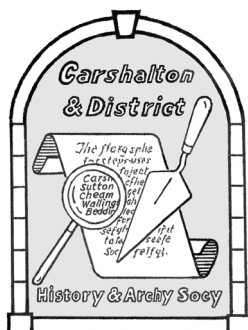


# A History of the Beddington, Carshalton & Wallington Archaeological Society



Now the  
Carshalton & District History &  
Archaeology Society



## By Beryl Palmier

Carshalton & District History & Archaeology Society

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Cover picture:  
Carshalton High Street by Winifred Madder a founder member of  
the Society. (London Borough of Sutton Museum Collection)

## **Acknowledgements**

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I apologise for any inaccuracies which I have endeavoured to avoid.





Dr Albert Peatling, a fine historian of Carshalton and a founder member of the Society.



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In view of the change in the Society's name it would seem an appropriate time to bring the record of its history up to date.

## **SECTION I: CONCERNING MEMBERS**

### **1. Early progress of the Society and founder members**

The Society was founded in 1920 at a meeting in the Council Chamber of the Carshalton Council, which is now the Carshalton Library. Preliminary work had been done in the form of a letter to the local newspaper to raise awareness of the need for such a society, written by Mr J.G. Thorns and supported by Sir Edward Braybrook, Dr A.V. Peatling and others. The meeting was presided over by Mr T. Lewes Sayers from the Town Clerks' department of the Guildhall. Councillor Mr T.K.F. Page was elected first Treasurer and Mr H.V. Molesworth Roberts first Hon. Secretary.

Subsequently Councillor W.E. Davis was elected first President. (A list of all Presidents to date, compiled by Derek Bradford, is attached at the end of this history). Initially the President could serve indefinitely, as the present ruling of a two-year term was not in force.

The Aims of the Society (as decided at this meeting; and they still hold true today) were as follows:

extending the knowledge of local history, encouraging the preservation of objects of beauty and interest, whether natural or structural, placing archaeological finds in safe keeping, visiting places of interest, and providing instructive lectures.

Founder Members in 1920 and 1921 included some notable people of whom the following were the most prominent.

Sir Edward Braybrook of Langham House, Stafford Road, Wallington (one of the enthusiasts who initiated the idea of the formation of the Society). He was Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies and an expert on Social Insurance. He was born in 1839 and died in 1930 having been President of the Folklore Society, the

South East Union of Scientific Societies and the Economic Section of the British Association.

Sir Thomas Cato Worsfold of Hall Place, Mitcham, the first MP for Mitcham, Master of the Cutlers' Company and author of several books on historical subjects including Vestal Virgins.

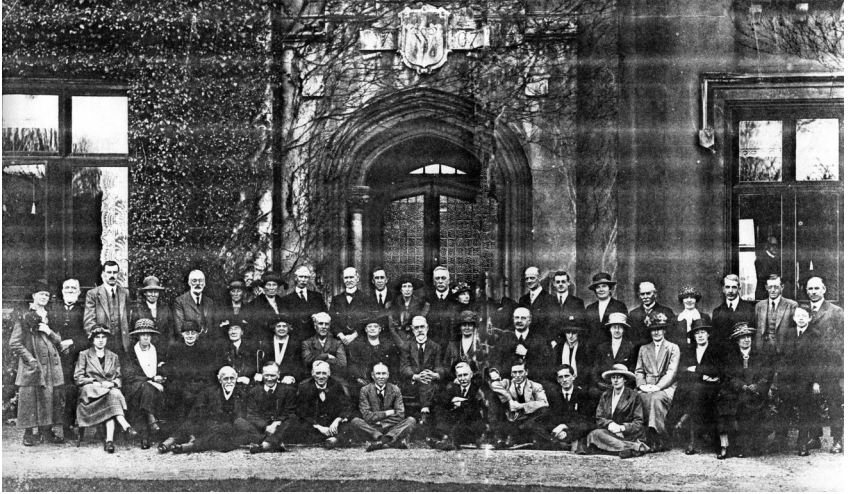
Dr Albert V. Peatling, one of our first local historians, who joined in 1920. He illustrated a "Gazette of Ancient Stained and Painted Glass in the Churches of Surrey", which was published by the Surrey Archaeological Society. He was one of the enthusiasts and prime movers who led to the formation of the Society. He had a collection of antiquities, and took great interest in the local community and its history. He collected a vast amount of material for a history of Carshalton but died before it was completed. However, his papers survived to provide the foundation for much subsequent work on the history of Carshalton. He married Muriel Palliser Barrow, the daughter of Sir Samuel Barrow, who lived at the Grove. Dr Peatling, his wife and two sons lived at 35, High Street, Carshalton (this can easily be recognised today as it has the sign GURNER & Co on the front of the building).

Dr Peatling's father was a wine merchant and Mayor of Wisbech, Cambridgeshire.

Dr Peatling went to Magdalene College, Cambridge and qualified in medicine at St Thomas's Medical School. He was a ship's doctor in the 1890's, served in the Boer War and eventually settled in Carshalton in 1902.

Dr A.V. Peatling's excavations took place before the formation of the Society. He excavated a trench in the "Frying Pan" in Carshalton Park in 1920 and found it had a floor of rammed chalk. He concluded that this was for a pond.

In April 1922, Dr. Peatling developed acute appendicitis and died two weeks later in Woodcote Nursing Home, Beddington Gardens, which was run by Dr. Cressy. He left a widow and two sons. He is commemorated by an oak cross in All Saints' churchyard Carshalton.



The early members of the society outside Hall Place, Mitcham, the home of founder member Sir Cato Worsfold.



In 1906, Dr Peatling married Muriel daughter of Sir Samuel and Lady Florence Barrow, who lived at The Grove.



Dr Peatling with his sons Paul (left) and Tom (right).

Lieutenant-Colonel H.T. Bidder DSO of Ravensbury Manor, Mitcham. He was so enthusiastic a digger of Merton Priory in the 1920's that he dug between the railway sleepers in order to expose the foundations of the Norman chapter house, and repeated this in the coal sidings in order to expose portions of the cloister, refectory and dormitory walls. This was all while the trains were still running! One can imagine periodic shouts "Train coming!" and a dash to save life and limb! Needless to say the number of his diggers gradually declined. (Surrey Archaeological Collections, 1930).

Mr H.V. Molesworth Roberts of Maywood, Stanley Park Road, Carshalton, a highly respected local historian. Before retirement Mr Molesworth Roberts had been Chief Cataloguer for the Royal Institute of British Architects.

He was a founder member of our Society, President in 1950-52, and Secretary for many years. In 1931 he wrote "A Historical Guide to St Mary's Church Beddington," which he revised in 1938. In 1937 he also wrote "A Historical Guide to the Church of the Holy Trinity and the Parish of Wallington" and many articles in the local paper. The Brochure entitled "The First 25 years of the Society" was edited by him. He was a respected local historian, who had given several lectures to the Society and conducted walks. In 1945 he was presented with a cheque in recognition of all the work he had done for the Society and in helping to preserve local buildings of historical interest over the previous twenty years. He died in September 1978.

Mr C.S. Piers of Queen's Well, Carshalton was an active member of the Society. He was instrumental in saving the eighteenth-century Carshalton cricket bowl which is now in Sutton's Museum Collection. He also left a large collection of paintings to the Council.

Dr. Arthur Zell Claydon Cressy, a great character, with a gold-rimmed monocle, who used to dress in a grey frock coat and top hat, and drive an open carriage. He was born in Honeywood by the ponds where his father practised medicine – a famous family tradition as there were Cressys practising medicine in Carshalton during the time of the French Revolution. He had a nursing home near the site of Wallington Town Hall and was one of the founders

of The Carshalton Memorial Hospital. He was also a founder member of the local Sutton & District Medical Society and its first President. He had a particular reputation as an obstetrician, and surgeon.

Mrs J.E. Birch of Lorraine House, Wallington Green, became a key early member of the society, and organised its first excavations i.e. Wallington Chapel in 1921 and Bunkers Field in 1923. Her home was on the Carshalton side of Wallington Green, The land had originally been bought by Major Wright in 1788, who built the house and Wright's Row cottages. He sold the house to Mr George Lorraine (hence the name), a wealthy timber merchant. His daughter Violet Lorraine became a well-known actress and his son, Robert started the first boys' school in Wallington in 1825. Robert personally paid the schoolmaster's fees for 50 years!

The house had extensive gardens stretching down to the fields which extended to Park Lane. These were the fields where Haydon, the butcher, kept his animals. The animals were ready for slaughter and sale in his shop in Carshalton High Street, which stood opposite where "WINE" (previously Bottoms Up) is now. Both the butcher's shop and Lorraine House received direct hits during the war. An eye witness, who saw the ruins of Lorraine House, said there were large cellars and a dumb waiter that was moved between floors by pulling on ropes.

In 1929, Mrs J.E. Birch was killed in a road traffic accident and buried six days later in Filey Brigg in Yorkshire. She carried out a number of excavations in Wallington of which the most significant were the Wallington Chapel (1921) and the work at Bunkers Field, behind the Wallington Boys' Grammar school (1923). This borders on the Grange Estate and was just off the Croydon Road. She found axe heads, flint arrowheads, prehistoric pottery, Roman and Saxon finds and animal bones. A fort and a possible Roman road were postulated although the interpretation is now treated with some scepticism. Unfortunately she did not write up her work for publication, possibly because she died suddenly. She employed a Mr Slaymaker to do her digging, Mrs Birch was infuriated when he went directly to the press without consulting her!

She had been instrumental in saving Dr. Peatling's archaeological finds and had been co-operating with him on a book on Carshalton at the time of his death.

Besides her work in archaeology, she took great interest in the Girl Guide Movement. This is probably why the present Guides Hall is behind the Dukes Head in Wright's Row as it would have been near Lorraine House, Mrs Birch's home.

Her husband, Commander J.K.R. Birch (a member of our Society), and their two sons survived her. Commander Birch presented all her books and archaeological artefacts to the society.

The Mrs. J.E. Birch fund, set out in the accounts presented at the Society's Annual General Meeting each year, is dedicated to her memory.

Major Lovelock was appointed Clerk to the Local Board in 1893, which in 1894 became the Urban District Council of Carshalton. He trained men of the East Surrey Yeomanry and Territorial Army during World War I and was awarded the M.B.E.

While working at the Council, he helped to organise the building of the new Carshalton Council office building (now the Public Library) combined with the Fire Station for £2,500 in 1908.

He retired from the Urban District Council in 1918 after 25 years service. He continued to be Chairman of the Day Nursery, Secretary of the Old Age Pensions Committee and Chairman of the Cottage Hospital in Rochester Road. He was the first Secretary of the War Memorial Hospital from 1924 to 1931.

In 1913, while Major Lovelock was Clerk to the Council, he was principally responsible for the Council purchasing part of Carshalton Park and other land including Wrythe Green and the Upper Ponds from Mr Blake Taylor, the Lord of the Manor, of Carshalton Park. The Taylor family wealth was acquired from sugar plantations in St Kitts, West Indies.

Major Lovelock also suggested to Mr Taylor that he should give to the Council land alongside certain roads such as Park Hill which were narrow cart tracks. As a result, land worth £1000 was donated to the Council. (See p143 of Michael Wilks Book of Carshalton,). Councillor Parker declared that he believed that Major Lovelock was principally responsible for the appearance of Carshalton as it was in 1965. Major Lovelock died in 1933.



Major Lovelock the influential Clerk to Carshalton Urban District Council.



## **2. Membership progress**

At the end of the year 1921 membership rose to 129, thanks mainly to the free publicity given by the local newspapers and in 1924 it was 188. The Society membership fell to 88 in 1943, but had risen again to 127 by the end of 1946. When the Society was founded the population of Carshalton was only 14,023. In February 1946, the population was 60,000.

In 1950 the Committee decided that the following should be Honorary Members (no criteria were stated):

Rev. Corbould  
Rev and Mrs G.M. Jukes  
Mrs A. Lovelock  
Miss E.W. Madder  
Mayor of Beddington and Wallington Council  
Mr and Mrs H.W. Morgan  
Mr K. Ryde  
Chairman of the Carshalton Urban District Council  
Mr W.C. Berwick Sayers  
Mr J.G. Thorns  
Mr Edward Yates  
Wallington and Carshalton Advertiser, Herald and Times

Miss E. W. Madder was a Councillor on the Urban District Council of Beddington and Carshalton and had been a close friend of Mrs Birch. She had worked tirelessly in the Mrs Birch Memorial Museum in an effort to try and keep it open. She lived in Westcroft Farm House, reputed to be sixteenth-century, and was an accomplished artist. Mrs Birch had several of Miss Madder's paintings in her collection.

On reviewing the newsletters and minutes of the Annual General Meetings from 1946 to 1975 it was noted that Members in 1950 lived in Hackbridge, Croydon, Mitcham, Sanderstead, Sutton and Cheam, as well Carshalton and Beddington. (At this time some districts did not have their own society).

### **The Membership Fee**

Pre-war the fee was 5 shillings for the first member of the household and 2 shillings and sixpence for each subsequent

member. During hostilities the fee was reduced to 2 shillings for one and 3 shillings for a couple,

1949 the fee reverted to the pre-war figure of 5 shillings for the first member of the household plus 2 shillings and six pence for subsequent family members.

1955	10s (50p)
1976	£ 1.00
1978	£ 1.50
1986	£ 2.00
1988	£1.50 for one and £2.25 for a couple
2006	£5.00 for one and £8.00 for a couple

In 1950, it was suggested that badges could be made available for members. The price would be 2s 6d if more than a gross was ordered, otherwise the price would be 3s 6d. The suggestion does not seem to have been popular as there was no further mention of this idea.

### 3. World War II

During the war there were two Presidents. Mr. W.C.J. Marshall (1938-43) and Mr. H.W. Morgan (1943-48), Mr. H.W. Morgan was elected President “for the duration of hostilities”!

The Grove Hall, where the meetings were held, was taken over for “War Purposes”, so Annual General Meetings were held in the house of the Chairman, Mr. Harry Morgan in Rotherfield Road, Carshalton.

General Meetings of the Society were resumed in 1944 after the cessation of raids by the pilotless planes (doodlebugs). From 1944 to 1949, Annual General Meetings and some of the other meetings were held at Captain Lowther’s residence, the Grange Mansion, in London Road, Hackbridge. After a lecture in 1948, there was a social evening at the Grange.

During the Second World War, 1939-45, there was considerable destruction in the area. The Old Post Office at Beddington (thought to be fifteenth-century), many buildings in Carshalton High Street, for example the “King’s Arms” and in the surrounding extensive housing developments, were demolished. Many high explosives and incendiaries fell in the Oaks Estate. The Oaks Mansion was damaged by the blast but fortunately did not sustain a direct hit.

In March 1944, the Carshalton District Council requested suggestions for the reconstruction of Carshalton High Street and general local reconstruction, so a special meeting was convened in 1945 to discuss this. In January 1945 in a lecture, Mr. Graham Crump of the Ministry of Works outlined the work of the War Debris Survey of Croydon and said that payments would be made for the preservation of buildings of architectural and historical value. He described how cottages in Wright’s Row, Wallington Green and Guy Road could be restored. As a result the Society made a list of thirty historical buildings in Carshalton, which was sent to the Council. A similar list for Wallington and Beddington had been prepared.

The Old Post Office was one of these buildings. It appeared to be structurally fairly sound but would cost a considerable sum to make it inhabitable. The amount the Ministry of Works would contribute was minimal and the local council felt it was not justifiable to spend money on a project that would not be for public use.

Mr. Molesworth Roberts therefore appealed for donors in the Wallington Times. Presumably these were not forthcoming as the Old Post Office was demolished.

In October 1944, it was noted that the cottages in Guy Road dating from the fifteenth-century had been damaged by a flying bomb, which had revealed a secret staircase.

## **4. Personalities Past and Present – 1940 onwards**

### **Past Personalities**

William Slaymaker's obituary in the Wallington Times stated that he was a "well known historian" and that he had worked in conjunction with Commander Birch at the fourteenth-century kiln at Cheam and with Mrs Birch at the Wallington Chapel. He had provided many of the finds for the museum. He assisted when the Tollhouse was moved from the top of Wrythe Lane to Wrythe Green where it was often called Woodcote House and can still be seen. He died in 1940.

Miss Hilda Clarke was President (1958-60) and the Treasurer for 18 years. She had made the suggestion in 1951 that the Society should cease to hire caterers to provide the teas and she organised the teas committee from volunteer members. As you will see in the chapter on teas a Special Projects fund was set up with the profits. She retired early from I.C.I. and devoted a good part of her retirement to the Society. She will be remembered by many members with her distinctive flower in her silver buttonhole posy container.

She died in 1979 and as a fitting tribute to perpetuate her memory it was decided, at the September 1979 meeting of the Society, to hold an annual lecture entitled "The Hilda Clarke Memorial Lecture". Mr. Ron Michell (President 1973-74) gave the first Hilda Clarke Memorial Lecture entitled "Life and Death in the Middle Ages – a Study of Peasant Life in the Carshalton Area". This ended with the catchy rhyme:

Sutton for Mutton  
Carshalton for Beef  
Croydon for a pretty girl  
And Mitcham for a thief.

A limited edition of this lecture was published by the Society.

Mr Keith Pryer was a highly respected and active Society member for 30 years, with a wide knowledge of local archaeology and a great support to the Society. He was President from 1962-64. In 1964, he was one of the excavators at Orchard Hill in Carshalton Village. In 1968, he discovered a post-mediaeval barn at Number 9,

The Park, Carshalton and in 1969 he discovered post-mediaeval finds in Milner Place, Carshalton. In 1971 Mr Pryer was one of the instigators of a repeat dig in Bunkers Field, behind Wallington Grammar School, by Alison Laws and Margaret Wooldridge. His documentary research into the Carew Estate papers was fundamental to the formation of the Carew Manor Group and the realisation that the Manor had been moated.

In addition in 1974, he was the author of the Society's Occasional Paper No. 2 "The Beddington Portion". This was an obscure medieval institution in the parish of Beddington. A document in the Public Record Office, regarding a law suit, gave the explicit boundaries of the Portion. In 1978 he excavated at the Bandon Hill Cemetery. This excavation was led by Clive Orton.

In 1980 "The Past Our Future, Studies in Local Archaeology and History" was presented to Keith to mark the Diamond Jubilee of the Beddington, Carshalton & Wallington Archaeological Society.

He was always ready to help and answer questions from those less knowledgeable.

He died in 1989 and a formal presentation, in his memory, of the painting "Honeywood across the Ponds" took place in the presence of the Mayor of Sutton, Mrs Olive Pryer and family at the Heritage Centre on 2 November 1992. The painting was commissioned by the Society from the artist, Freda Wright and hangs in Honeywood Museum.

Mr. Ron Michell was President (1972-74) and had been the Headmaster of the School at the Queen Mary's Hospital for Children. In 1973 he wrote the Society's first occasional paper "The hospital of St. Mary & Hamilton Almshouses, Beddington". He was also the author of two editions of "The Parish of Beddington in 1837" (we were so glad to present him with a copy of the second version shortly before he died). He also produced "The Carews of Beddington" in 1981, which is well illustrated and a very informative book.

In the publication to mark the Diamond Jubilee of the Society he gave a comprehensive description entitled "Examination of Carew Manor" which he had carried out.

He gave the Society seven talks between 1975 and 1987 and led several walks. He died in 1991.

Miss Edna Fox had been Secretary and Vice-President and very active in the Society for many years. She died in 1991.

Mr. Hugh Waterhouse was President (1986-88) and was keen enough to do the Diploma in Archaeology of the University of London after his retirement. He assisted in many ways but his main contribution was the excavation of the dried lake bed at Carshalton House, where a complex of buildings was discovered, which predates the present House. Clive Orton who visited the excavation, observed that the foundations of these buildings were built mainly of chalk and were probably farm out-buildings. Dating was not possible as the sample from the only timber post was not large enough for tree-ring dating and there were no datable stratified finds. Only part of the out-buildings was excavated and the rest of the building remains were covered by the bank of the lake. Hugh examined the interior of the Carshalton Park Grotto and he excavated the pool in front of it as well as the canal that flowed from it. He did some work on the Wandle while working for the Manpower Services Committee but not under the auspices of the society.

He died in 1992. Many thanks were extended to his wife for presenting his collection of books on archaeology and his excavation notes to the Society.

Miss Muriel Hayman had been President (1980-82), Vice-President and Membership and Programme Secretary. As part of these duties she organised the lectures and visits from 1974 to 1990 without any help. It was decided that £100 be donated by the Society in her memory. It was suggested that this was to be used to finance a translation from the Latin of material relating to the Arundel Map, which was kept at Arundel Castle, but an alternative was the future publication of Hugh Waterhouse's excavation of the St. Philomena's lake bed. She died in 1999.

Mr. Doug Cluett had been President (1996-98) and became the Heritage Officer when the Heritage Centre opened in 2000. He added greatly to our knowledge of the history of our area and that of Croydon Airport. He wrote "The Story of Five Parishes" and contributed to the guidebooks for Little Holland House and The Wandle. He assisted in the excavations at Carew Manor. In addition he wrote many books about Croydon Airport and the early years of aviation. He died in 2000.

Miss Mary Pugh was Secretary to the Society and member of the Programme Committee for several years. She conducted three overseas visits. Mary died on 24 October, 2004 having endured sudden blindness and a long illness.

Mr. Hedley Gowans attended Sutton Grammar School as a boy and later taught there. He was in the London Scottish Territorials and so was called up in 1939. He was transferred to the Intelligence Corps because of his skill at languages. He was in Norway, East Africa and later Burma. While in Africa he had to learn Swahili in six weeks and said this was the language he found easiest to learn! After the war he did an external London University degree in French and returned to Sutton Grammar School to teach. He subsequently became Head of Languages at Heath Clarke's school in Croydon where he introduced Spanish.

He taught himself Russian and it is obviously this skill at languages that enabled him to translate "The Court Rolls of Bandon and Beddington" from the Latin. He had many other interests and was an active member of the Society. He took part in the digs at Nonsuch Park, Milner Place and Queen's Well and wrote the Society Newsletter for several years. He died in 2005, aged 91.

Mrs. Margaret Cunningham had been President (1998-2000) and author of several books, the most noted of which was "The Story of Woodcote Hall and Little Woodcote" in 1989 and "The Oaks and Oaks Park" in 1993. Margaret gave talks on both these subjects to the Society.

She died in 2008. She kindly bequeathed £2,000 to the Society, which "shall be used for local archaeological and historical projects undertaken by the Society".

## **Present Personalities**

Mr. Clive Orton was the Society's Field Officer (1976-88), during which time he excavated widely in our area, particularly in order to elucidate the Carshalton Village area. He was appointed Editor of the London Archaeologist magazine in 1976. He was President of the Society (1978-80) and subsequently became life Vice President. In 1995 he was elected Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London. In 2001 he was appointed Professor of Quantitative Archaeology at University College, London Institute of Archaeology and on his retirement in 2008 was appointed Emeritus



Professor. He was given the Lifetime Achievement Award (The Silver Trowel) by the British Archaeological Awards in 2008.

John Phillips – the Society’s Field Officer – worked for Sutton Libraries from 1974. He was drawn into local history and archaeology in 1980 when Doug Cluett invited him to join the Carew Manor project. He soon joined the Society and became the Field Officer in 1988. His main interest has been the investigation of Carew Manor, Beddington a project which still continues. He has published several items on local history including “The Chronology and Layout of Francis Carew’s Garden at Beddington, Surrey” in *Garden History* and “Garden at Carew Manor, Beddington, Interim Report on Investigations 1979-2005” both co-authored with Nicholas Burnett.

## 5. Meetings

Initially the Attendance Book was signed at each meeting. From November 1931 to February 1936 there was an average attendance of 20 to 30 members i.e. only about 17% compared with 60% nowadays. Attendance at the outdoor meetings was 10 to 20, only occasionally more. Presumably because of the usually small numbers attending, there was no registration required. Unusually, 60 people turned up for the Tower of London visit, which caused some problems!

There were winter indoor meetings, but the programme was irregular, for instance there might be an indoor lecture in October and an outdoor visit in March or April. The subject of the pre-war lectures was not recorded in the minute book, only the name of the lecturer. The names of two lecturers, Sir Henry Lambert and Sir Thomas Cato Worsfold, may strike a chord in the memory of the older members. In 1936, the Magic Lantern was still being used to illustrate lectures. Lectures for Juniors were arranged on a few occasions, probably as the Headmaster of Beddington School, Mr T. Chapman and the owner of Ladymount School, Miss Hepple, were members. A large number of pupils attended but the names of the schools were not recorded.

In the 1920's Dr. Peatling gave an impromptu lecture on William Scawen (due to the illness of the intended speaker). Sir William Scawen had eight or nine children but, when he died in 1722, left £10,000 to his nephew with which to build a house in Carshalton Park. This was never built as the nephew married a rich lady and went to live in Buckinghamshire. The nephew returned to Carshalton for two months each year to collect the rent! Dr. Peatling stated that Sir William was a war profiteer (we were at war with Holland at the time). Sir William was also Surveyor of the Highways and arranged for Carshalton High Street to be repaired.

In April 1921, Major C.P. Lovelock spoke on "Carshalton in the Eighteenth-century". In 1720 the Vestry Minutes state that the population of Carshalton was 1,400. He mentioned the many mills along the Wandle River, some of which made hand-made paper and were owned by Huguenots. In 1723 a cockfight was recorded at the Greyhound Inn. The Carshalton Park Gates were erected in 1726 by

Thomas Scawen. These were put up for sale in 1921 by Lord Wittenham, who wanted £12,000 for them.

At the Society's Annual General Meeting in January 1924, the belief was expressed that the cannon for Cromwell's army had been cast in the Grove Ironworks. These Ironworks did not exist in Cromwell's time so this is not possible. In 1811, Lyson's Supplement referred to a mill for boring cannon in the occupation of Messrs Heath and Co so it is possible that there was a previous ironworks on the site.



The Grove Iron Works by William Tatton Winter.

Miss W. Madder gave a lecture in 1934 when “various” schools attended. The subject of the lecture was “Old Houses of Carshalton” (of which there were many more then than in 2009).

A Celebration on the 25th Anniversary of the Society was held in May 1946 at the Grange Mansion, Wallington, the President, Mr. H.W. Morgan being the host. A souvenir brochure compiled by the Acting Secretary, Mr. H.V. Molesworth Roberts, was published. The Society suggested to the Council that a suitable war memorial would be a museum with Art Gallery and Library attached. This suggestion was rejected.

Mr. J Foster Petrie, President (1964-66) gave a lecture in 1950 on the “Surrey Horse Drawn Iron Railway”. He emphasised that this was the world’s first public railway opened in July 1803, and extended from Croydon to Merstham in 1805. Traffic ceased in 1846, the line having been purchased by the London and Brighton Railway.

Forty-four boys from the County School, together with the Senior History master, Mr A.M. Robertson, attended a lecture by Mr Molesworth Roberts.

Meetings were held in the small Public Hall, Carshalton High Street from 1950 to 1956 and from 1957 to 1959 in Highfield Hall, Carshalton Road, Carshalton.

The first winter meetings to be held in the Darby and Joan Club (Milton Hall) were in 1959 and the first Annual General Meeting was held there in January 1960. All the Society’s meetings have been held there ever since.

At the Annual General Meeting in 1961, following a proposal by Mr Keith Pryer, Rule 6a was added to the Society’s constitution stating that the President should not serve for longer than two years at a time.

In 1971, Miss Leslie Ketteringham gave an illustrated lecture on the Mediaeval Manor House at Netherne.

The Diamond Jubilee Dinner took place at the Greyhound Hotel in 1980 to mark the 60th anniversary of the founding of the Society. The Society’s Occasional Paper No 4 “The Past-Our Future” was published to mark the occasion.

The 75th Anniversary of the Society was celebrated in 1995 with a Dinner in the Great Hall at Carew Manor and proved to be a memorable occasion. The host was the President, Dr Beryl M. Palmier, who gave a short speech with a brief history of the Society. There were many honoured guests including the Mayor of Sutton and his wife. There were presentations to Miss Muriel Hayman and to Mr. Doug Cluett, in appreciation of all their work for the Society.



The Great Hall at Carew Manor by Thomas Allom (1804-72).

## 6. Teas

In the early days special notice had to be given of one's intention to stay for tea. In 1944 such notice had to be given to Mr C.H. Lyford, who liaised with the Caterers.

The price of tea was 2 shillings until 1967, which considering the annual membership fee was only 5 shillings, was quite a lot! For the special tea after the AGM the cost was half a crown (2/6d)!

This must have caused dissatisfaction, as in 1950 it was announced at the committee meeting that only seven members had requested tea and that members should be made aware that catering facilities could not be provided unless at least 36 people had tea!

The reason for this high price for teas was because local bakers and confectioners had been doing the catering. In 1951 Miss Hilda Clarke suggested that better teas at a lower cost could be provided by volunteers among the members, who were willing to provide this service. Thus the Tea Committee was formed. With the agreement of the Treasurer profits on teas were transferred to a Special Projects Fund, and used to buy a lectern, crockery, also a projector and screen, which had been previously hired.

In 1972, the cost of tea was 10p and 12p for the special tea after the Annual General Meeting. At that time teas included sandwiches and fruit salad for the special tea. Miss Murtagh organised the teas for many years. In October 2006 at the suggestion of the Treasurer, Alex Palmier, teas were included in the price of the membership subscription, which was increased from £3 to £5 for a single person and £8 for a couple. The tea now consists of tea and cakes.

We are all grateful for the work done by the teas committee. When we have an enjoyable tea or use the lectern and other equipment we should remember Miss Hilda Clarke, whom we also commemorate in the Hilda Memorial Lecture usually given at the Society's first indoor meeting in November.

## **7. Proposed Museum**

In February 1921, Mr. L. Lewis and Dr. Peatling both offered items for the museum should it materialise.

In 1923, Major C.P. Lovelock and Mr Bawtree drew up a list and a report on Dr Peatling's acquisitions and presented this to the Committee with a suggestion that a museum and library should be set up in his memory. In January 1930, it was proposed that the Society should purchase a desirable old cottage, abutting on the churchyard, for the Society museum and meeting place. There was space for erecting a small hall alongside the cottage, which might be used for the meetings. £250 had to be raised before 15th March. By 8th March £120 was still required for the purchase of the cottage, which was eventually purchased by a member of the Society for himself.

The ceremony for the opening of the Birch Memorial Museum, by Sir Thomas Cato Worsfold, took place in January 1931. The Museum was housed in two rooms of the old Carshalton Council Offices. There were paintings by Miss W. Madder (one of Mrs. Birch's best friends) and her large archaeological collection, including Roman glass lamps, pottery and keys, a pewter moneybox from Carshalton Church, a beadle's hat and a pilgrim's badge. Throughout the year, lectures and meetings were held in the museum. Parties from schools visited the Museum which was declared of great educational value. Unfortunately two articles, including a Saxon necklace, were stolen from the museum. The lack of volunteers also led to the museum not being open when scheduled. As a result attendances declined and the Council urged the need for greater publicity to increase the number of visitors. The museum was described as one of "the best in Surrey". It was decided to offer it to the Council. This was done in 1933 but the Council declined the offer.

### **Report by Ron Michell on Carshalton Museum in 1977**

The Birch Memorial Museum was opened by Sir Cato Worsfield on 10 January 1931. It included Mrs Birch's finds from the Wallington Chapel, Bunkers Field and other sites. According to the "Times" there were also books of great rarity and historical value. In 1933,



Sir Cato Worsfold was a founder member of the Society, master of the Cutler's Company and author of a book on the Vestal Virgins.



due to lack of volunteers to supervise the museum, negotiations were started for a transfer to the Carshalton District Council Offices. The Council never agreed to the re-establishment of the Museum. The contents of the museum were boxed by Mr Cottrill from the London Museum. In 1942 the Birch Memorial Fund was set up by investing in Treasury Stock (this proved disastrous and the money is now on deposit with the Society's bank). Income from this is mentioned in the accounts at the AGM each year. The boxes containing the finds and contents of the Birch Museum, were stored and do not appear to have surfaced since.

At the Society's request, the whereabouts and contents of the Memorial Museum Collection were investigated by John Phillips, who reported as follows:

The collection contained lantern slides, photographs and plans, some of which were still available in the Sutton Local Studies Library at the Sutton Central Library, coloured engravings, assorted documents, old newspapers, coins (some Roman) and tokens. The Heritage Museum had some duplicates of the books in the Society's collection. The most valuable was Smee's "My Garden". This is fortunate as the Society's copy is missing.

Some of the paintings were in the Heritage collection. Those by Winifred Madder were likely to be Mrs Birch's as she was one of Mrs Birch's best friends and worked tirelessly to try and keep the Birch Museum open.

The Archaeological Collection consisted of material from Bunkers Field (this must be preserved) and miscellaneous items. The latter consisted mainly of pottery, unfortunately as the labelling had deteriorated and the stratification (layer in which it was found) was not recorded, the provenance was lost and the items were of doubtful value. Now all this material is being slowly catalogued and computerised and the Society's ownership, where established, will be recorded. Summing up, Mr. John Phillips stated there was much good material, especially the paintings. These required restoring and reframing to the cost of which the Society subsequently contributed. Thanks are due to Mr. John Phillips, as the investigation must have caused him a considerable amount of work but we owed it to Mrs. Birch's memory as these items formed part of her memorial museum.

## 8. Visits

Pre-war visits tended to be fairly local, for example the Tower of London, the Temple, Lloyds of London, Westminster Abbey, the Public Record Office, the College of Arms, and many churches. Tours were arranged with emphasis on the historic parts of Mitcham, Wallington, Carshalton, Banstead, Clapham, and Wimbledon.

In November 1921, Mrs. Birch took members to her excavation of the Wallington Chapel. The Chapel foundations were 24 feet by 13 feet and the window glass was dated from the thirteenth to the fifteenth-century. There were fourteenth-century floor tiles and roll and cavetto mouldings.

In April 1925, the Society visited The Kings Arms (originally in the High Street, Carshalton on the site of the present “WINE” shop – previously “Bottoms Up”). It was mentioned in documents of 1600 but it was older. It was a coaching inn with a daily coach to London, which took 3 hours at a charge of 2 shillings. It would appear to have been too near the Greyhound Inn from the point of view of client numbers but it was, at that time, on the main road from Kent to Guildford and Epsom.

There was also a visit to Westcroft Farm House – said to have been built between 1530 and 1580, which contained two great inglenooks with original brick ovens.

Visits during and immediately after the war were usually to local places of interest, for example:

- 1940 Banstead Church and Well Farm
- 1941 Carshalton House (St Philomena’s School)
- 1942 Addington Palace
- 1946 Hampton Court and Polesden Lacey

In 1951 the Society visited the Sir Hans Soane Museum in Lincoln’s Inn Fields and the Inns of Court.

The Old Rectory in Carshalton High Street, was visited by the Society in 1955, to view the paintings and art treasures. It was demolished in the 1960’s.

In 1963 members were allowed to visit the Great Hall of Eltham Palace by kind permission of the Administrative Officer of the

Institute of Army Education. The coach fee was 8s 6d and gratuities 2s 6d. This was Crown Property and the Army occupied Eltham Palace until much later.

At the Society's 1972 Annual General Meeting it was reported that the Spring and Autumn Rambles recently inaugurated had been very successful.

The Society's May week-ends were a welcome innovation started in 1976 by Miss Muriel Hayman (Past President and Programme Secretary) which enabled us to visit places further afield that could not be visited on a day's outing. The first visit was to Norwich, and in succeeding years the Society visited Cardiff, the Cinque Ports, Chester and Cirencester.

Miss Hayman continued to organise the week-end for approximately 20 years, followed by Mr Tony Allen, our present programme secretary, who arranged the week-end from 1991 to 1997. Since 1998, Mr John Thornton, a member of the Programme Committee has taken over the task. The 2007 week-end was based in Buxton. We are very grateful to all the organisers of the away week-ends.

Miss Mary Pugh, Secretary for many years, decided in 1995 to organise a visit to Bruges. (see photographs) She subsequently took groups to Cologne in 1997 and the Isle of Man, in 1999.

## Some Society Outings



Runnymede, 1998



Bodiam Castle, 2007.

## Some Society Outings

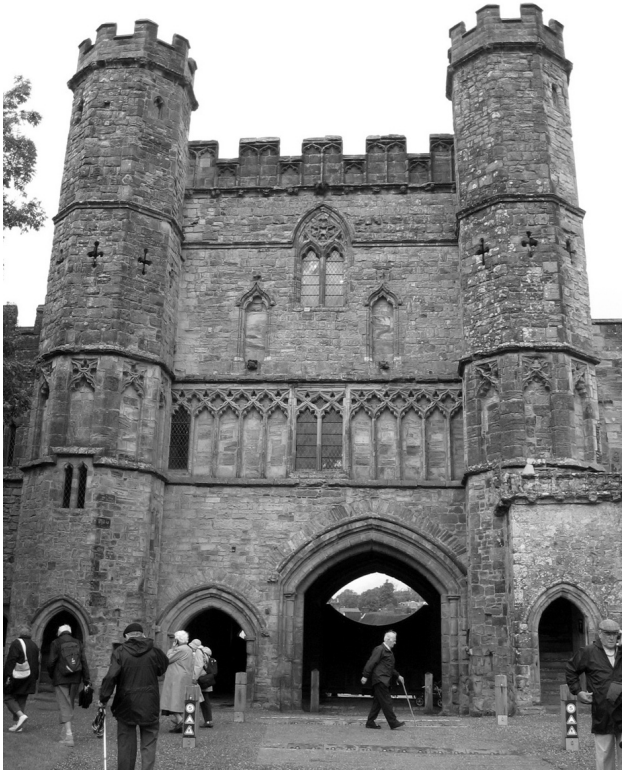


The Weald and Downland Museum, 2009.



Deal Castle, 2008.

## Some Society Outings



Battle Abbey, 2007



Richborough Roman Fort, 2008.

## Some Society Outings



The Great Hall at Penshurst Place, 2009.



The inner bailey wall, Old Sarum, 2008

## Some Society Outings



Beaulieu Motor Museum, 2009.



The Palladian Bridge at Wilton, 2008.



## Overseas Visit

The Cathedral at Bruges on the occasion of a Society visit in 1995.



St Boniface Bridge with the Grunthuis Museum, Bruges,

## 9. The Society Today

The membership in 2009 stands at approximately 200.

Since 1960, our meetings have been held in Milton Hall, Cooper Crescent, Carshalton. From November to April inclusive we have six indoor meetings (one of which is the Annual General Meeting) and monthly outdoor visits, within the reach of a day's outing, in the rest of the year,

From 1973, a newsletter had been sent out twice yearly. For the first 6 years this was organised by Miss E.M. Fox, then Mr Hedley Gowans took over. Mr Tony Allen continued the good work from 1989 to 1994. Any information is now included with the Summer or Winter programmes.

The Society's Presidential badge was inaugurated in 1990, at the suggestion of Alex Palmier to commemorate his term in office as President of the Society.

During 2006 we had a new sound system installed at the Milton Hall, where we have our winter meetings.

In 2006 we decided to apply to become a Charity. This has the following advantages,

1. No tax is paid on income
- 2 Gift Aid is refunded
- 3.Publicity is derived from being on the Charity Commission's Website and Register.

The Commission suggested that we should use the GD3 Model Constitution for Charitable unincorporated associations, and our aims were registered as "to advance the education of the public in Archaeology and History."

In accordance with the Charity rules all the committee members are Trustees. We were finally registered as a Charity in December 2006.

We are moving with the times! In 1989, the list of Members and their addresses were computerised.

In the 1920's, Members were shown Dr A.V. Peatling's Magic Lantern Collection. During 2006/7 we started to have lectures involving a laptop computer and data projector.

Peter Stephenson set up the Society's web site in July 2006, the web address being [www.cadhas.org.uk](http://www.cadhas.org.uk). One of the Society's Committee is now officially the Website Liaison Officer.

The Change of Name from Beddington, Carshalton & Wallington Archaeological Society to Carshalton & District History & Archaeology Society was decided for the following reasons.

In 2004 the Nonsuch Antiquarian Society decided to become the Epsom and Ewell History and Archaeology Society, and to be no longer involved in Sutton and Cheam. Therefore, in 2006, our Society decided to include Sutton and Cheam, thus covering the whole of the London Borough of Sutton, hence the change in our Society's name. The name Carshalton & District History & Archaeology Society was chosen as the society had started in Carshalton in 1920 and Carshalton is in the centre of the five areas constituting the London Borough of Sutton, namely Beddington, Carshalton, Cheam, Sutton and Wallington. To mention all the areas covered would have been too cumbersome. Information concerning the Society's activities are published in the periodical "Sutton Scene".

The change in name necessitated the designing of a new Logo for the Society. This was designed by Alan Crowe, who designed the original logo. A new President's Badge was donated by Alex and Beryl Palmier and the previous Badge was presented to the Sutton Museum Collection.

## **SECTION II**

### **THE SOCIETY'S ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

#### **10. Planning and Preservation**

##### **The Research and Preservation Sub-committee.**

The purpose of the committee is to keep abreast of technical matters relating to the local history and archaeology of the London Borough of Sutton. New and ongoing publications, archaeological excavations and reports and documentary research are discussed. Derek Bradford chairs this committee which reports to the Executive Committee. The Society's Field Officer is the mainstay of the Committee.

The Society has an important part to play in Conservation within the Borough at a time of financial cuts and reduction of professional archaeological resources.

The Research and Preservation Committee continues to monitor planning applications and ensure that the interests of archaeology are fully represented.

##### **Conservation Areas Advisory Consultative Group Sutton**

The Executive Committee sends a representative to CAACGS which was set up by the London Borough of Sutton Planning Department for the purpose of consulting local concerned groups, societies and architects in the Borough. Planning applications within conservation areas, and those concerning listed buildings and their settings, are considered and recommendations made to the Planning Department.

The Society is, of course, particularly concerned with the Archaeological and Historical implications of such developments and makes appropriate recommendations as to what it believes should be added to planning consents to safeguard the archaeology or extract archaeological information, which would otherwise be

lost. The representative is usually selected from the Research and Preservation Committee to ensure the greatest expertise is available.

## **The Carshalton Society**

During the 1920's and 30's many fine buildings had been demolished in order to make way for suburban housing developments, for example, Beddington House, Carshalton Park House and Wallington Manor House. In the 1960's the developers seemed to be taking over at an even more rapid rate. This caused considerable local concern. At a meeting in January 1963 it was proposed by Mr. Keith Pryer that a subcommittee should be set up for the Preservation of Old Buildings and Scenic Amenities and that this committee should be provided with funds not exceeding £10 ! So the Society financed the production and distribution of literature on this subject. As a result the Carshalton Society was formed in the 1960's. The aim of the Carshalton Society was to preserve old historic buildings and the scenic amenities of Carshalton. Over the years, the Carshalton Society has given considerable support to our society on matters of mutual interest.

## **M23 Interchange**

In 1972, the Greater London Development Plan was discussed. Professor Michael Wilks of the Carshalton Society, and Mr. Keith Pryer, Chairman of the Society's Research and Preservation Committee, presented the objections to the M23 Interchange at Beddington.

The Chairman of the Inquiry Panel concluded that "Carshalton should be by-passed".

As many of you will remember, there was considerable anxiety that the beauty and tranquillity of Carshalton would be ruined if the M23 motorway was allowed to pass nearby, so the outcome of the Inquiry was of considerable importance, and the verdict was greeted with joy and relief.

## **Wandle Trail**

In April 1976, Mr. Ron Michell, local historian and Past President of our Society, reported that the Borough Development Plan for Wrythe and Hackbridge Council had prepared a comprehensive survey and proposed a number of Housing Development Estates on

Beddington Marsh. The Society's Research & Preservation Committee felt that the proposed development would prevent for ever the formation of a linear park along the banks of the tributary "little river" of the Wandle River, and strongly opposed the scheme. As a result of many people's efforts the Wandle Trail was set up and has proved a success.

## **Framework Plan for Wallington District Centre**

In 1981, the Borough Planning Officer requested comments on this Plan. There were no objections raised on archaeological grounds.

## **Formation of the Carshalton Water Tower Trust**

The Water Tower Trust is not strictly our Society matter but many of our members are involved, it is of general public interest, and so included. English Heritage during 1982 and 1983 had done considerable restoration work to the outer fabric of the building. This was conditional on the Tower being open to the public for at least 30 days per year. A management committee was set up including representatives from the Daughters of the Cross, the London Borough of Sutton Heritage Department, the Society, the Carshalton Society and the London Wildlife Trust and a representative from the London Borough of Sutton itself. The Declaration setting up the Carshalton Water Tower Trust was signed on 28 April, 1987 and the lease of the Water Tower to the Trust was signed on 22 October, 1987.

The official opening was at Easter 1989. Mr. Andrew Skelton had contributed to the recent new knowledge of the development of this building, and of the Carshalton Park Grotto. Mr. Clive Orton paid tribute to all the work Andrew had done for the Society (and continues to do!).

The Friends of the Carshalton Water Tower were set up in 1990 and the present pattern of summer Sunday openings followed shortly after.

Our Society is well represented on the Management Committee.

In 2007, the name of the Trust was altered to the Carshalton Water Tower and Historic Garden Trust reflecting the fact that the Trust is now also responsible for the Lake Bed, the Hermitage and the Lodge Building.

## **Carshalton Water Tower Restoration**

The first phase was opened by the Mayor, Mr. John Brennan, on 9th November, 1990.

In 1986, Mr. Ron Green had examined the flow of water under the Carshalton Water Tower which was very complex. He discovered a decorative flight of steps leading down to the lake.

The first phase of restoration was the freeing of the pump chamber. This had been completely concreted over. It was necessary to remove a mass of concrete; no easy task! The spillway channel was unblocked. As a result the floor had to be restored with wooden panels and a glass panel inserted for observation. An interesting eighteenth-century lead pipe was exposed. This was obviously constructed by folding a lead sheet over a cylinder and folding the two ends over one another and pinching them into a pleat to render them water-tight. The bearings of the waterwheel were also exposed.

Future work included turning the waterwheel round to reveal the half hidden below, this being necessary as the wheel had been cut in half and the upper half thrown away! The Robing Room had a very incongruous modern window, which was replaced by a clever eighteenth replica (see photographs: The Mayor of Sutton is seen unveiling the new window).

### **Representation on other bodies**

The 1993 Minutes stated that the Society sent representatives to the following meetings:

- The Standing Conference on London Archaeology
- The Sutton Borough Liaison Group
- The Conservation Areas Advisory Consultative Group
- Wandle Group
- The Water Tower Trust



The new window awaiting unveiling at the Water Tower.



Unveiling the window restored by the Water Tower Trust in 1992.



## **Rochester Road Clinic**

In 2001 the Rochester Road Clinic was to be demolished. This was site of the home of Samuel Long, which had been demolished in 1822. His was an old local family, which had made its money in the West Indian sugar plantations. The house had belonged to Sir Thomas Scawen upon whose death in 1730 it was left to his wife Dame Martha. In December 1754 the house was taken by Beeston Long (1711-1785) a West Indian Planter and Governor of the Royal Exchange Assurance Company. Samuel Long succeeded to the property on the death of his father. The advisability of an archaeological clause was discussed.

During geotechnical investigations on the site in 2000 John Phillips observed a very substantial red brick wall towards the extreme west boundary of the site and much demolition rubble, suggesting the possibility of remains of the house having survived. The re-development was therefore subject to an archaeological watching brief. This was supervised by Mark Bagwell, previously of Pre-Construct Archaeology.

Archaeological remains were only found in the central third of the site due to air raid shelters and an extension to the cottage hospital built on the other two thirds. Briefly, medieval finds included evidence of fourteenth-century occupancy, with a chalk and flint wall, sherds of pottery from 1150 to 1350, and a tile hearth.

All the post medieval finds were eighteenth-century foundations or cellar attributed to Beeston and Samuel Long (London Archaeologist Spring 2004 Volume 10 No 8).

# **11. Historic Buildings**

## **The Mediaeval Crypt**

In April 1931, a mediaeval crypt (either fourteenth or fifteenth-century) in a well preserved condition had been unearthed just below ground level near the Manor House, Manor Road, Wallington Green (not far from the Dukes Head). It was 14 feet by 15 feet and 12 feet high with gothic ribbed vaulting. There were spiral staircases down to the crypt. Viewing was by permission from Mr. Black and Miss Warner. The crypt was not directly beneath the Manor House and it has never been established what, if anything, stood above the crypt. Despite many protests the Manor House was in the process of being demolished and as a result of the disturbance of the ground the crypt was uncovered. In 1939, in a lecture given in Christchurch Hall, Mr Molesworth Roberts said that Mrs. Birch had owned a print of the crypt. Unfortunately this cannot be traced. The builders filled the crypt in, presumably prior to building on top of it ! It is a pity there was no archaeological clause prohibiting this. [The law then made no provision for archaeological clauses].

## **Beddington Place.**

Beddington Place was demolished in 1934. It had been the house and park of the Collyer-Bristowe family, who were lawyers. It was situated in Croydon Lane in the village of Beddington and was shown on the enclosure award plan of 1819 (Parish of Beddington in the year 1837- Ron Michell).

## **All Saints' Church, Carshalton**

A much altered church which nevertheless has its origins in Pre Norman Conquest times. The tower is considered to be ninth-century.

### **1. Amyand Monument**

Mr. Andrew Skelton supplied the following information. Sir George Amyand (1720-66) lived in Carshalton House until his death. His wife, Anna Maria, died in 1767.

The financial accounts of his estate for the period of his son's minority survive in the Hereford Record office. Andrew examined

these documents and quoted “1768 Dec 31st. To hand Carter for a monument erected at Carshalton £65.”

Andrew concluded that this was the large urn and niche at the west end of the south aisle next to the monument to Sir John Fellowes.

## 2 Lady Chapel

Andrew Skelton also reported that it was necessary to remove the monuments at the East end of the north wall of the Lady Chapel in order to let the walls dry, and aid restoration. As a result, an earlier aumbry cupboard, concealed behind the Gaynesford tomb chest, and an internal string course running round the east end of the chancel were found.

The Victorians had virtually rebuilt the wall further west, but had left 3 of the eastern jambs of the eastern mediaeval window, which were shown to have been painted red on the inside. A mid-fourteenth-century blocked doorway was found in the outer south aisle, probably an addition to the original twelfth-century fabric, which might be earlier, even before the Norman conquest of 1066.

## Honeywood

In the mid-nineteenth-century, two houses stood at the western end of the Carshalton Ponds. The one nearest to the Greyhound Inn was at that time called Honeywood and the other to the north was called Wandle Cottage.

In 1883 the freehold of both properties was acquired by John Pattinson Kirk, who demolished the building nearest to the Greyhound and transferred the name “Honeywood” to the further cottage.

The date of the original Honeywood was almost certainly reflected in the probable seventeenth-century half-chequered chalk block and flint walls in the present Honeywood. This meant that it was older than the second half of the eighteenth-century which was as far back as it could be traced in the deeds.

The Arundel map, which is dated to the beginning of the seventeenth-century, shows no houses at the west end of the Upper



Honeywood, (then called Wandle Cottage) in the 1880s by William Tatton Winter (Sutton Museum and Heritage Service).

Pond, which would lead one to conclude that the older house was built in the second half of the seventeenth-century. As stated in the section on excavations, John Phillips' examination of the culvert in 1990 revealed no evidence under the house that either of these houses had been a mill. It was a curious place to build a house. At this time spas were very fashionable, and John suggests that possibly this building was constructed to act as a cold water spa. Maybe the venture was not successful so did not last long and this use was forgotten.

### **Canon Bridges Bridge**

The bridge built by Canon Bridges in Beddington Park was damaged by a falling tree in the hurricane of 1987 and this revealed evidence as to its construction. Members of the Society salvaged some of it and found that the terracotta had been made by the Watcombe Pottery at Torquay and the bricks were from Ballingdon near Sudbury in Suffolk.

Canon Alexander Henry Bridges was Rector of Beddington from 1864 until he died in 1891. He was one of the wealthiest people in

the district his family having made a fortune manufacturing gunpowder at the Ewell Powder Mills. There were a number of explosions, and some loss of life, until the mill was finally closed as a result of the Explosives Act of 1875. Canon Bridges officiated at the funeral of the last Carew, Charles Hallowell Hallowell-Carew in 1872. He built two cricket pavilions, and provided a cricket ground and an archery range. He was patron of the Archery Society founded in 1875. While Rector he bought much of Beddington Park to prevent it falling into the hands of the developers. He changed the course of the Wandle and as a consequence built two new bridges.

## **12. Documentary Research**

In 1949 Capt. A.W. Lowther reported a recently discovered charter dated 1229 granting land at Beddington and Wallington to “The New Hospital of St Thomas the Martyr” at Southwark. (Surrey Archaeological Collections 50, 168-9).

### **Beddington Caves**

In 1974 Mr. Keith Pryer entered into a lengthy and voluminous correspondence concerning the possibility of the existence of a passage running south from Beddington Caves along Plough Lane (The main caves have been known for years and many people have been in them). There were two entrances opposite The Plough Inn, Beddington which employees had used for storage. There were potholes under Woodcote Park Golf Club grounds. Other tunnels were dug for sand for the brick industry. In approximately 1900, there had been an excavation of a shaft at Beddington Brickworks down to 62ft. It was thought that objects thrown down glanced off into galleries that extended from the bottom. This was later filled in with rubbish.

In 1372 the widow of Sir Thomas Huscarls married Nicholas Carew (Keeper of the Privy Seal under Edward III). A legend developed that the manors of Huscarls, Freres, and Home Beddington were joined by tunnels.

Mr. Pryer studied the Enclosure Award plans of 1812 and 1820 and no tunnels were shown. However, maps of 1853, 1856 and, 1860 suggested underground passages. The map of 1868 quite definitely showed underground passages.

He came to the conclusion, that with the passage of time, the disturbance by bombing, the presence of springs and the high water level, the investigation of possible caves was not justified. He wrote accordingly to the Chelsea Speleological Society, which had been exploring the moat at Carew Manor and had written to him concerning these caves.

### **The Account Books for Repairs at Beddington House**

Keith Pryer reported in 1979 on the Accounts Book for repairs at Beddington House 1649 to 1653 - acquired in 1979 by the Surrey Records Office, which shed new light on Carew Manor (present day

name for Beddington House). The accounts relate to the time from the execution of Charles I to the Eviction of the Rump Parliament.

During this period the estate was owned by a 14 year old minor and the accounts included communications between the Guardianship, Carew Raleigh and various tenants. The Earl of Warwick, being one of the tenants, found the Manor in a state of disrepair.

Repairs reveal that the moat and drawbridge were still present. New stoves and repairs to the present stoves in the Orangery were mentioned.

The Home Beddington Manor also administered Huscarls, Bandon and Freres Manors.

The Carew Estate papers also included numerous parchments that went back to 1200 before the time of the Carews and the Black Death. They concerned grants, conveyances, leases, manorial rolls, rentals and quit claims relating to Beddington, Bandon, Wallington and places further afield, with which the Carews were involved.

This was the first documentary confirmation of the presence of the moat and drawbridge. It was supportive of the Carew Manor Project, which has done so much to elucidate the intricacies of the grounds and its development over the centuries.

## **Manorial Courts Records of Bandon and Beddington 1498 to 1552**

Mr. Hedley Gowans published his translation from the Latin in 1983. This was a record of the proceedings at the Manorial Courts in Bandon and Beddington during the reigns of Henry VII, Henry VIII and the 6 years of the reign of Edward VI.

The main purpose of the courts was to enforce the rights and protect the interests of the Lord of the Manor.

Successive Lords of the Manor were Sir Richard Carew, Sir Nicholas Carew, King Henry VIII and King Edward VI.

Enquiries were made of new tenants to ensure they fulfilled their obligations. Action was taken against those who killed the Lord of the Manor's rabbits, cut down his trees, milled their own corn (!) and failed to appear to serve as jurors. Tenants were made to pay to pasture their pigs on the lord's land. Efforts were made to try and protect the interest of the tenants by preventing overgrazing of

common pastures. It might be possible at a later date to trace where the lost village and Manor of Bandon were situated.

In 1986, Mr. Nicholas Burnett transcribed the 1508 reparation accounts of Carew Manor.

### **Carshalton: The Walpole Papers**

The Walpole Papers with regard to Carshalton House were researched by Mr. Andrew Skelton.

### **Carshalton: The Scawen Papers**

Since 1997, the Scawen papers are available on microfiche in the Search Room of the Central library. The Society is joint owner of the microfiche as it had contributed to the cost. These papers are a record of the Estate Management of Carshalton from 1788 for 5 to 6 years and were researched by Mr. Andrew Skelton and Mrs. Margaret Cunningham.

An article on the Huscarls and the Beddington Roman Villa by John Phillips, was published by the London Archaeologist Vol 11 No 5 Summer 2006.



## **13. Excavations**

These are some of the excavations in the local area. Some have been organised by the Society and some by other organisations. There is a fuller list in the appendices.

### **Aldwick Road, Beddington**

The Society's first excavation was in Aldwick Road, Beddington in 1920. It was an Iron Age site dating from c. 500 B.C. Several hearths were discovered and one burial. Finds included pottery, a square bronze object and Mesolithic flints.

### **Wallington Chapel**

This site near 32 Burleigh Avenue, Wallington was excavated by Mrs. Birch in 1921. She employed Mr. Slaymaker to do the digging. He cleared the whole site down to a certain level, i.e. worked by open plan; a method that was not unusual then and did not dig trenches. The excavation was not recorded properly. There were several burials attached to this chapel. It was an isolated chapel, possibly a "chapel of ease" which had been converted into a barn, using the original foundations. It stood on the site of the present 32 Burleigh Avenue, in the back garden.

In September 1976, it was reported that skeletal material had been found at 32 Burleigh Avenue, Wallington in the front garden. This consisted of the bulk of a human skeleton minus the skull. The bones were within a few yards of the foundation of the Wallington Chapel, excavated by Mrs J. Birch 1921. The chapel was in existence from the thirteenth to the fifteenth-century, and could be relevant to the finding of the skeleton.

A fuller report in 1977 by Field Officer, Clive Orton on the findings at 32, Burleigh Avenue, was as follows:

1. Prehistoric findings: flint flakes in keeping with Mesolithic activity
2. Late Iron Age and Roman pottery small sherds
3. Saxon oven. Magnetic dating from the floor of the oven suggested a date before 800 AD.
4. Two Mediaeval burials, associated with Wallington Chapel.

5. Post-mediaeval, an extensive area of Chalk blocks had been laid down in the seventeenth-century to assist in the conversion of the chapel into a barn.

In 1977, a further skeleton had been discovered, at No 32 Burleigh Avenue. Both skeletons appeared to be the subject of orderly burial and were presumably attached to the Old Wallington Chapel, which was beneath the back garden of the present house.

In 1997, yet another skeleton had been discovered at 24 Burleigh Avenue not far from the 1976 excavation by Mr. Clive Orton and was probably associated with the chapel excavated by Mrs Birch in 1921.

It was unusual for chapels to have burial rights. If burial occurred in the chapel grounds, this usually led to a dispute with the local parish church to which burial rights belong, and for which burials were a valuable source of income.

It seemed likely that the chapel was so old that it existed before the establishment of the parish system.

The chapel was described as a barn in Bishop Willis' Visitation of 1725, see 'Answers made to Visitation articles 1724-25, ed. N. E. Malden' Surrey Archaeological Collections vol. 39. [This doesn't mean that Bishop Willis actually visited the chapel himself. In the Church of England a Visitation can refer to a questionnaire sent out to each church].

In the Visitation the barn is described as belonging to Thomas Scawen of Carshalton.

The chapel/barn was demolished in 1797, according to the Victoria County History of Surrey, vol. 4, p. 169.

## **Queen's Well**

This was a house facing the Upper Pond standing between the Parish Church and the Greyhound Inn. It had been the home of our founder members, Mr and Mrs Piers. It was demolished in 1962-3. As a result the area was available for excavation, which was carried out by Mr D.J. Turner in 1963 (Surrey Archaeological Collections 67 page 37).



Queen's Well seen across Carshalton Ponds before 1890.

There was a lot of rubble where the house had stood so 2 trenches were dug in the garden area at 90 degrees to one another. Two mediaeval pits were excavated, the first contained grey and grey-brown sandy ware, mainly cooking pots, but no white ware, which suggested a dating of earlier than 1325. The second pit contained a greater variety but appeared to be of the same date. There were 3 Georgian pits that contained late eighteenth and early nineteenth pottery; in particular many pipe sherds dating from 1660-1840 and an eighteenth-century wig-curler with initials W.B.

There was also a possible hut site, tentatively dated by its pottery to c. 1300.

The house, Queen's Well, appears in many old paintings and photographs, so some details will be of interest.

### **Documentary evidence concerning Queen's Well**

A 1781 indenture granted a lease to Thomas Clegg for 21 years from Michelmas 1762 at £20 p.a. This land was part of the Scawen Estate. In 1781 James Scawen conveyed all his estates in Surrey to Earl Bathurst, Robert Drummond and Charles Bragge, as trustees in order that they could be sold. The lease of Queen's Well was conveyed to John Fielding, the half brother of Henry Fielding, the

well known author and dramatist. Henry was a magistrate, and together with his brother, John, formed the Bow Street Runners, the forerunners of the present police force.

The house may have been built in the sixteenth-century and had 3 gables, it was aligned along Church Hill and subsequently in 1810 to 1820 a large extension was built along Pound Street facing the ponds, which partly obscured the original if seen from the other side of the ponds.

Under the eighteenth-century house there was a cellar built of chalk blocks with a drain discharging into the ponds. In the south wall of the cellar there was a stone, probably of the seventeenth or eighteenth-century, neatly inscribed with the name Richard Harris. The identity of this Richard Harris has never been traced.

The original house contained a fine staircase with a balustrade of bulbous design, which Mr Molesworth Roberts thought was of similar design to that in the Old Rectory and which he dated to 1700.

A subsidiary dig in 1966 directed by Mr. A.S. Gilbert found a chalk and mud boundary wall between the site and the Greyhound Inn and a brick boundary wall. He also found a tiled passage way, which led from the pond to an extension of the Greyhound Inn. This extension was subsequently demolished.

## **Orchard Hill**

This area was excavated by Mr. D.J. Turner from 1964 to 1965 (London Naturalist 45 p100).

This is the area behind Queen's Well and the Greyhound Inn. There had been a group of pleasant cottages here, which had been demolished by the Council to make way for an Old Peoples' Home. Before the cottages were built, the hunting stables for the Greyhound Inn were on this site.

Anderson Shelters, from World War II, were also found during the excavations.

Two north/south and one east/west trenches were dug. There was evidence of mediaeval ploughing.

The pottery consisted of Romano-British, Anglo-Saxon, Norman, and hard gritty ware of thirteenth-century and mediaeval pottery contemporary with that found while excavating Queen's Well.

The most important find was that of 15,000 pieces of worked flint of all types, probably dating from the end of the Mesolithic period c. 4000 BC.

The most frequent flints found were microliths with the point blunted obliquely, probably for attachment to harpoons used for hunting and fishing. This was the largest Mesolithic assemblage ever found in North-East Surrey, and would indicate an extensive industry.

### **Bandon Hill Cemetery**

In 1975 a Romano-British burial jar, dated first-century AD, together with a votive vessel dated to the 100-150 AD, was found by the gravediggers. The jar was broken in antiquity and contained the cremated bones of 2 individuals aged 20 years and between 12 and 16 years respectively.

In 1978, a narrow trench dug under the supervision of Mr. Clive Orton showed evidence of long term occupation with Iron Age and Roman sherds and clay objects thought to be Saxon loom weights.

In June 1979, Mr. Keith Pryer reported the finding of an almost complete Romano-British storage jar in Bandon Hill Cemetery.

### **Beddington Sewage Farm and Roman Villa**

The proposal in 1977 to sell the gravel on this site had caused considerable consternation in the Society. It was well known that a Roman bathhouse had been discovered in 1871 when trenches were dug to prepare for the sewage farm. A lead Roman coffin had been discovered in 1870 near St Mary's Church, Beddington, which was near the site and a stone Roman coffin had been discovered, in the same locality, in 1930. All this implied that there must have been a Roman Villa in the area and as one does not have a bath-house without a house, the villa must have been on the sewage farm site.

A Roman lamp had been excavated in perfect condition in 1951. In view of this and other finds, 46 acres were scheduled as an Ancient Monument in 1972.

The wholesale removal of all the gravel would destroy for ever all evidence of the villa. A structured excavation of this magnitude would cost a lot of money, which the Society did not have.

It was a great relief when the South West London Archaeological Unit of the Surrey Archaeological Society started negotiations with Thames Water, GLC and the Boroughs of Croydon, Merton and Sutton, who jointly agreed to contribute the salaries of two full-time archaeologists who would be directors of the excavation, namely Lesley and Roy A. Adkins.

Members of the Society helped with the dig, financially and in many other ways.

Miss Muriel Hayman, a past President of the Society and Programme Secretary, had a special mention of appreciation in the Adkins' book "Under the Sludge" as did Tony and Brenda Allen, and many others. Andrew Skelton supervised a group of potential archaeologists. Even school children gave a hand.

The South West London Archaeological Unit started excavations on 21 March 1981 at the Roman Villa site.

After three months of digging trenches by hand as it was feared that a mechanical digging might obscure vital clues, they found a large quantity of painted plaster. This indicated that there must be a collapsed building nearby. It took 2 months to excavate all the plaster.

From 1981 to 1983, 600 careful plans were drawn. The bath-house was located and recorded.

Weeds were a problem, as the area had been a sewage farm for 100 years and the ground was very fertile!

In August 1982 the Villa was found. It was the farmhouse and the living quarters of the people who ran the Roman estate. The northern half of the Villa had been destroyed by an irrigation channel dug for the sewage farm.

By September 1983 excavations had finished and help was needed with the considerable quantity of finds. The Society gave a grant towards the cost of the post-excavation work and all Boroughs concerned contributed. The book "Under the Sludge" by Lesley & Roy Adkins gives a full account of the excavation and the interesting post excavation work.

The pottery was probably bought in markets in London but it came from many widely dispersed kilns in Kent, Essex, Dorset, Oxfordshire, Herefordshire, Surrey, France, Germany, and Spain. Most of the pottery from the Continent was Samian ware. One piece was clearly marked C.VCCIL.LIM showing it was made by a potter called Cucullus active between AD 145-175. Many loom weights were found, some dating from the Iron Age. Romano-British brooches were among the finds.

The plaster fragments mentioned above were carefully arranged on muslin and were found to be a red and yellow geometric pattern for a ceiling in the bath-house. Three and a half tons of tiles were found and 1400 nails!

Many ditches and cuts for wooden buildings were uncovered, some dating from the Late Bronze Age and the Iron Age. This fact together with many Bronze Age finds suggested that the area had been farmed from 700 BC to the Roman invasion.

It was concluded that the bath-house was abandoned from AD 350 and the villa from AD 400.

This villa is the nearest Roman Villa (so far found) to the centre of Londinium.

Great admiration was expressed for those working on the site sometimes in terrible conditions of rain, frost and snow.

The above information has been gleaned from Lesley and Roy A. Adkins' book "Under the Sludge". This was published by the Society having been turned down by the London Borough of Sutton's Heritage Service. It was a great success both in terms of its contribution to archaeology and financially. Total Outlay £1,641 Cash receipts £1,935. This publication became a set book for students of Archaeology and requests for it still continued for 2 years after it was out of print.

A final report on the Beddington Roman Villa was a publication edited by Isca Howell entitled "Prehistoric Landscape to Roman Villa, Excavations at Beddington Surrey 1981 to 1987"- Museum of London Monograph Series (26 / 2005.)

## **Beddington Sewage Farm Site excavations by Wessex Archaeology Services**

The Society was not involved in these excavations but they followed on from the work on the villa. In 1995-96 possible Bronze Age Ring Ditches had been identified together with seventeenth and eighteenth-century field boundary ditches (see London Archaeologist).

In 2003, two successive Neolithic enclosures were discovered by the Wessex Archaeology Services. This demonstrates that the site was occupied for long periods prior to the Roman occupancy.

## **Wandle Valley Community Project**

In 1987, the Society had successfully petitioned for the employment of 3 archaeologists to ensure that no archaeological findings went unrecorded during the work of improving the amenities of the river as part of the Wandle Valley Community Project.

## **Carshalton Park Grotto**

In 1984, Mr Hugh Waterhouse described the interior of the Carshalton Park Grotto. The grotto was built in 1724 over a spring. Excavations in the pool in front of the grotto revealed objects dating from 1724. These included plain and coloured glass fragments, possible ironworks waste and lead fronds imitating seaweed or coral. There were also shells, some of which were large cockles and scallops, species not native to this country. Large slabs of slag and flint were fixed vertically by iron clamps to the base of the pond.

Further down the canal from the pool, a brick weir was unearthed and at its western end there was a sleeper with 2 planks and 2 posts, which suggested a sluice gate of eighteenth-century date.

In 2005, north of the Grotto pool in Carshalton Park, brick arches were uncovered, which were probably culverts associated with old toilets, as they run in the direction of the toilets.

## **Archaeological Excavations and observations on Carshalton Village Centre 1966 to 1981**

This was a summary of archaeological excavations and observations in order to try to come to some tentative conclusion.



Twenty four sites were listed including excavations, stratigraphic recordings, chance findings and surface collections.

### **Milner Place, Carshalton**

This was excavated by Mr. A. Gilbert in 1969 as the cottages on the site were being demolished in order to make space for a car park off Carshalton High Street. Unfortunately Mr Gilbert died shortly afterwards and all his notes were lost except for his daybook. Seven post-mediaeval pits were found two contained nineteenth-century pottery and glass, two contained eighteenth-century wares and three were not dated.

The only mediaeval finds were a rim sherd and one coin of Henri II of France.

It appears that the main use of this land, before the cottages were built, was as a rubbish dump.

### **Bales Car Park off The Square**

This was a nineteenth-century dumping ground. The Thanet Sand below this was so compacted by the passage of heavy vehicles that it was only possible to dig down 1 metre. In the soil layer 9 pieces of struck flint of the Mesolithic and Neolithic period and 2 sherds of mediaeval pottery ware found.

### **No. 6, The High Street (Woodman's) immediately east of Carshalton Parish Church**

The conversion of the sixteenth to seventeenth-century timber framed building into a wine bar (which had originally been Woodman's butcher's shop) gave an opportunity to excavate the yard and garden behind the shop. Only a small trench was feasible. The earliest feature was a horizontal surface of stone blocks, green sand, chalk and one piece of re-used Portland stone dated to 1700. This was thought to be a free-standing garden feature. An obelisk was mentioned in the deeds of 1767. A late eighteenth-century bedding garden trench and two paths were identified. A fifteenth-century pit was found by the builders under a modern extension (which forms the south-eastern part of the house) which contained Cheam white ware.

Evidence was found of early eighteenth-century gardening and twentieth-century working areas associated with a butcher's shop,

shown on the 1850 deeds together with stables, slaughter house, piggeries and sheds.

Photographs were taken of the interior when it was in the stripped state. Minor structural changes made during the conversion.

### **Builders Trench at the rear of 3 The Square.**

This revealed an eighteenth-century cesspit.

### **Trench for a Gas Main in The Square.**

Brick footings were found opposite No 3. They appeared to be of the eighteenth-century, no earlier than the building at No 3 The Square, which appears on the sale plan of 1849.

### **Archaeological Investigation in the area of Stone Court 1981-85**

Stone Court was the name given to a building created in the eighteenth-century out of former out-buildings of the original Stone Court, The main building had been demolished in 1800.

In 1981, a trench was dug for a new electricity cable across the lawn south of the building known as Stone Court in the north-west corner of Grove Park. A wall 5 feet long with 6 courses of eighteenth-century bricks running in a north-south direction, was found at the eastern end of the trench. The bricks were a boundary wall between North Street and Stone Court which was demolished in 1983. A machine trench was excavated to take foundations of the new wall. Mortared and un-mortared chalk walls were found with a brick wall at right angles to these. These chalk walls were thought to be the boundary wall shown on the Ordnance Survey maps of 1867 and 1896.

The south-west end of the trench showed chalk blocks and 4 courses of seventeenth or early eighteenth-century bricks.

There was a possible brick-surfaced yard with a commemorative medallion dated 1846, an iron sash window weight and seventeenth or eighteenth-century clay tobacco pipes.

### **The Water Level at Stone Court**

Certain of the walls are beneath the present level of the Wandle River as in the eighteenth-century there was a rise in the water level.

There is evidence in the landscaping that the ground was raised during the occupancy of the Scawen family 1729-1778, presumably because of the high water level. (Subsequent excavations in 2005 cast doubt on the change in water level but this does not rule out the fact that the ground was raised during the Scawen occupancy and they may have regarded a rise in the water level as a threat at that time).

The griffin head on the stone bridge over the outfall from the ponds is part of the Scawen arms and is believed to date from this period.

### **Rebuilding at Stone Court**

In 1982 demolition of the end section of Stone Court was reported by Derek Bradford. This was rebuilt with a different alignment to Mill Lane 3 feet further away from the road, in order to widen the road and prevent damage from chemical road tankers turning in and out of Mill Lane. (Stone Court is situated at the corner of North Street and Mill lane.)

Examination of the site after the demolition showed 3 or 4 courses of brick on a chalk footing. This was either the remains of a previous building or part of a boundary wall.

### **The Stone Court Mansion Cellars**

In 2005, “Young Roots” carried out an excavation of the cellar of the Stone Court (which was demolished in 1800). This was displayed showing the floor, which included loose red tiles and flints. The bricks dating from 1690 – 1700 were 59 millimetres thick. Artefacts found were few: a seal from a wine bottle with the Scawen crest, clay pipes dating from 1800 and transfer printed pottery which was not of good quality.

### **The Lodge, Carshalton**

In 1984 there was a proposal to build a housing development on the former allotment ground. (This proposal was subsequently dropped).

Excavations in 1984 in the grounds of The Lodge, Carshalton, were in the form of two trenches, east to west parallel to West Street Lane and north to south across the boundary, shown on the OS map but not then apparent, but clear of the allotments. The bottom of these trenches contained prehistoric material, Bronze Age sherd,

three flints, and one very small sherd of Late Iron Age or early Roman pottery.

For further details on mediaeval finds see “Recent Archaeological work on Carshalton” Clive Orton, Surrey Collections 1989.

Trench 1 contained a mixed assemblage of 370 pieces of Mesolithic and Neolithic worked flints. These can be divided into 10% cores, 5% retouched flakes and blades, 75% un-retouched flakes and blades, and 10% other pieces. The north–south trench contained similar but less dense amounts.

There were 50 sherds of mediaeval pottery in the east-west trench 50% of which was dated 1250 to 1350. There were other mediaeval and post-mediaeval glass, pottery and tile fragments and also some eighteenth and nineteenth-century clay tobacco pipes.

### **Carshalton Village - Discussion and Conclusion**

The Carshalton Village lies on the chalk dip slope spring line which is dissected by three valleys now dry but presumably caused by the headwaters of the river Wandle, when the water table was higher. The natural topography has been altered by landscaping. The westernmost stream had been diverted eastwards to feed the artificial lake in the grounds of Carshalton House.

Part of the easternmost stream appears to have been diverted to form an ornamental artificial canal in Carshalton Park and the Westcroft Canal that ran north of the High Street. Part of this still existed in 1819 and fed a small mill at No 8 High Street. The dumping at Bales car park might have been near the original bed of the easternmost stream, later diverted to feed the Mill at No 8 The High Street.

Mr. Clive Orton mentioned two major sites associated with Mesolithic and Neolithic finds at the Grove and Orchard Hill (between the Parish Church and the Greyhound Inn). There were a surprisingly large number of sites that contained Roman pottery but these were all field scatter. He concluded that there was evidence for Saxon/Mediaeval settlement, all west of the Parish church at Queen’s Well, Orchard Hill and the Lodge.

Findings from the post-mediaeval period appeared to be confined to the foundations both of the un-mortared chalk block boundary walls and of the farm buildings on the Carshalton House lake bed. The

foundations of the boundary walls and of the farm buildings, he felt, were certainly earlier than the eighteenth-century. Copies of these reports with maps are in the Local Studies Section in the Sutton Central Library.

## **Carew Manor**

### **The Moat**

Mr, Clive Orton, Field Officer, reported in 1979 that a water mains trench had cut through a large eighteenth-century culvert and revealed the foundation of an earlier moated manor house at the rear of Carew Manor. This led to the setting up of the Carew Manor Group, which added to our knowledge of the Carew Manor complex and its garden.

### **The Carew Manor Group**

This was formed in 1981, following a meeting convened by Mr D.J. Turner in the Civic Offices of the London Borough of Sutton. The aims of the Group were as follows;

1. To co-ordinate historical and architectural research into Carew Manor and the surrounding area.
2. To encourage publication and dissemination of such research.
3. To consider means of conserving historic structures and landscapes and to make recommendations to landowners and local authorities.
4. To encourage public understanding and interest.



The Orangery Wall at Carew Manor.

A group of volunteers was assembled, who would help with elucidating the findings in Carew Manor, its garden and in particular the moat. They were not part of the Society. The group ceased to exist in 1988, and the activities of the group were merged into those of the Society.

### **Beddington Park Cottages**

In the 1980s the Carew Manor Group made a record of Beddington Park Cottages to the north of Carew Manor School. The north end building was timber framed with a crown post roof suggesting a late medieval or early sixteenth-century date.

### **Excavation at the North East corner of the Moat, 1988**

This showed an accumulation of sand and silt, demonstrating that the river had run through the moat.

### **The Orangery Wall, 1998**

A trench was dug in order to find the South wall of the eighteenth-century Orange house and to look for its Tudor predecessor. A massive eighteenth-century brick foundation of the south wall was found. This had been demolished before 1820, (see large scale map of 1820) the trees having died in the winter of 1739-1740.

The distance between this foundation and the North wall (still standing) was only 5.35m so there would have been only room for one row of trees.

The chalk footing just inside the Orange House had been cut away to make way for the eighteenth-century Orangery wall. It is possible that this was the footing of the Tudor Orangery.

### **The moat alongside Beddington Church Chancel**

The Field Officer reported on a trench, dug in 1992, on the north side of the outer wall of the chancel which revealed the wall of the mediaeval moat. This enabled the width of the moat to be established as 15 metres (50ft), which was wider than the average house moat, which was 9 metres (30ft). It was probably built for the first Nicholas Carew in the second half of the fourteenth-century.

The lower part of the wall on the inner side was built of flint and mortar faced with stone, while the upper part was flint and earth. The walls were thick, but being of flint and earth, they were not

strong and there were no flanking towers. The moat would have kept out unruly tenants (it was the time of the Peasants Revolt) but could not be regarded as a fortification. It was built more for appearances.

### **Carew Manor Cellars**

While a survey of the cellars was being carried out in 1991, workmen coincidentally discovered a previously unknown sixteenth-century window on the first floor. This was uncovered while they were working on the thin Victorian wall which previously had covered it up.

There had been a number of alterations at Carew Manor when it became an orphanage, which had been moved from Lambeth where it was founded in 1758 by Sir John Fielding (the brother of Henry Fielding the Magistrate and author of “Tom Jones”).

Two surveys of the cellars had previously been carried out. The one in 1974 was by Mr F.C. Cotton and in 1980 Mr. Ron Michel had made a thorough examination of the cellars which he reported in the Society’s Occasional Paper No 4 published to celebrate the Society’s 60th anniversary.

### **A “Grotto” in Carew Manor Precincts – an Early Garden Building**

This was discovered in 2001 after the felling of a sycamore tree and the digging of a trench in the south-east of the garden.

The walls contained flint cobble, ferrous conglomerate, 4 pieces of tufa, an abalone shell, a piece of grey granite, gneiss, black mineral, and red and grey marble. The lower part of the interior was covered with brown mortar unlike that seen in other structures. It is likely that this was part of Francis Carew’s sixteenth-century garden decoration.

The soil deposits around the structure contain coral and decorative materials, clearly from a demolition. A beautifully made leaf of thin copper sheet 24 mm long 20 mm wide covered with calcite suggesting that it had been in a fountain, was found among this debris together with coral and glass pieces. A later culvert cut right through the “grotto“. This culvert was then demolished and subsequently rebuilt.

## **Carew Manor Drawbridge Abutment**

In August 2007, the Carew Manor summer dig took place, the drawbridge abutment was exposed and it was shown that the construction was different from that of the moat. The wall running off to the south contained reused Reigate stone and oolitic limestone, probably of sixteenth-century date. The overlying cobbled surface was thought to be eighteenth-century.

## **The Society's 1999 Newsletter**

The following were stated:

1. The brick kiln at Waddon was considered to be mid-sixteenth-century.
2. The Upper Mill Carshalton tail race needed draining and dredging.

## **A Roman building in West Street, Carshalton**

This was dated from the late first or early second-century AD and was discovered in 2001 by the Sutton Archaeological Services, as a result of planning requirements. It lay at 45 degrees to West Street. The outline of the foundations was intact and rectangular. There were few finds – the building material having been robbed. The Roman site may extend under the car park of the Racecourse Public House. A resistivity investigation was planned in the grounds of St Philomena's Convent to determine how far the site extends.

## **The Butter Hill Site, Wallington**

In 2001 Pre-Construct Archaeology excavated a site below Butter Hill Bridge. Some prehistoric material was found and also a pit containing flints and a pick made from red deer antler. The latter were carbon 14 dated to the Saxon period.

## **Excavation by the Museum of London**

In 1990, copies of the following had been sent to the Society library:

1. Report on archaeological excavation and site watching of the Wandle overflow and main effluent carrier channels.
2. Evaluation at Wandle Meadows Hackbridge.





Above and below: Excavating the bridge abutment at Carew Manor 2007.



3. Beddington Lane; Report on proposed new loading dock site for London Carriers Ltd.
4. Beddington Sewage Treatment Works Preliminary report on Interim flood water storage pond site.

## Honeywood

Honeywood, now occupied by the Museum, stands over a culvert, which carries water from the spring behind the house into the Upper Pond. In January 1990, when restoration was taking place preparatory to it becoming the Heritage Centre, it was necessary to remove the roof of the culvert in order to treat dry rot. Mr. Doug Cluett, the Heritage officer at the time, suggested to John Phillips that this was a good opportunity to investigate the history of the building.



A seventeenth-century tin glazed tile found in the gravel in the culvert below Honeywood, 1990.

Examination of the water courses under Honeywood was carried out and there was no evidence that there was ever a mill on this site. The culvert passes under the shop at the front of the house. The west wall of the shop was supported by a brick arch, the north end of which rested on a mass of brick, chalk and mortar which in turn

rested on chalk blocks. The chalk blocks extended down till they rested on the gravel.

The gravel and sand contained pottery, a tile, bone nails, an oyster shell, stone and slate.

Datable samples were taken of clay pipes and pottery. The clay pipes were subsequently dated to 1660-1680.

There was a wall at the back of the culvert that extended upwards into the house, consisting of chequered chalk blocks and flint. This was a common building method from the fifteenth to the seventeenth-century. Examples of this construction, in two walls, can be seen inside Honeywood.

The chalk blocks used to build the first Honeywood were dated 1680 -1700.

The Centre was opened in 1994 the opening having been delayed by the dry rot, referred to above.

## **Excavations at St. Philomena's School 1992**

An Early Bronze Age Collared Urn was discovered by Mr. Andrew Skelton and Ms. Lesley Howes at St Philomena's School near the gymnasium. An important collection of late Bronze Age pottery, which resembled that found at Queen Mary's Hospital, was found in a ditch near the Science Block. Collared urns were usually associated with cemeteries and it was possible that there was a prehistoric cemetery on this site. Andrew felt it important to stress that there had been evidence of heavy disturbance in the post-mediaeval period.

Subsequent excavations have shown this prehistoric settlement to be quite extensive.

## **14. The Society Library and Photographic Records**

### **The Library**

The first collection of books, included many given by Mr J.G. Thorns, and books acquired after the deaths of Mrs Birch, Dr Peatling and others. This collection was situated in the Carshalton Council offices. This building became the Public Library. In the early days the library was indexed and cared for by Mr and Mrs E. Fulleylove and subsequently by Mr Don Clark. The books were formally handed over to the library in the 1930's. After the Second World War, the Society kept its separate library and there have been continual additions since. In 1992 the library was re-indexed by Library Liaison Officer, Pam Vernon.

In 1994 the ceiling fell down but fortunately no-one was in the library at the time!

In 2005, the library was moved to Wallington Library, on the first floor. (Ask the librarian on duty on the first floor for the key, having presented your Society membership card).

In 2006-7, the contents of the library were stamped with the Society's new name by joint librarians, Lynn Bright and Gordon Rookledge. The library is also being re-arranged.

We owe our thanks to all the librarians throughout the years, with special thanks to the present librarians.

We are arranging annually to make a printed copy of the contents of our website and this will be available in the Library.

### **Photographic Records of Carshalton and Wallington**

The considerable pictorial records of the area including photographs, paintings, prints, and printed reproductions from the eighteenth-century to the present, are on permanent loan to the Sutton Archives in the Central Library and to the Borough's museum collection. It is available to the members and the public to be consulted and the paintings to be viewed and appreciated.

## 15. Recollections of Old Inhabitants

These recordings were suggested by Keith Pryer. At the time it was felt that the cost of publication would be “prohibitive” so it was decided to include them in the newsletter. Here are some highlights:

George Bryant, 3 Culvers Way born in 1890 in Irish Yard (Wandle Mount). He remembered the statues on the Park Gates Carshalton, seen in the picture by William Tatton Winter, a reproduction of which was recently published in “Reflections on Carshalton” by Derek Bradford. He recollected plenty of trout in the Carshalton ponds and the fact that Henry Haydon, the butcher in the High Street, Carshalton used to display his prime cattle alive in front of the shop at Christmas time and a few days later would take them behind the shop to slaughter them.

Mrs Gilbert born in 1878. Her father was a ploughman and had moved from Shoeburyness to Mitcham in order to find work. Farm labouring was the main occupation in this area, at the end of the nineteenth-century. She recollected that transport was very difficult. They either walked or rode on horseback, if they could afford it. She believed that the sewage farm was in existence when she was born. She remembered the owners of Culvers House (Mr and Mrs Gassiot) having a brougham and a team of horses.

Mr S. Mayers of 74 Onslow Gardens born between 1888 and 1893. He recollected Sandy Lane as a single lane cart track and a very old and large farmhouse, Harris’s Farm, that included all the land between Sandy Lane and Purley Way. It was a mixed farm and stretched from Purley Way to Great Woodcote Manor House. He described in detail a very dramatic Gipsy Funeral in 1912 of “The Princess of the Galatians”. The gypsies danced round the open coffin throwing gold coins on to the corpse.

Mrs O. Kennedy of Palmerton Road, Carshalton born in 1899. She remembered the May Pole Dancing in Beddington Park. She sat near the “Big Gates” in order to see the dancing. (These would have been the gates bought by the Council for £30 from a “Surbiton Mansion”.) The big girls plaited the coloured ribbons round the Maypole as they danced and each represented a flower which they wore in their hair. They were accompanied by a “real” military band!! She said it was the high light of their year!

There were seven girls in their family and they all went to Sunday School twice on Sunday. Lord Seymour was the Rector at the time and Mrs Kennedy remembered Lady Seymour visiting parishioners in their homes. In the winter there was skating on the ponds and people had lights on the end of poles.

At festival time the ponds were decorated with tiny lanterns and there were rowing boats provided by Sir Samuel Barrow from the Grove

She used to ride on the top of the open trams that ran down Ruskin Road. She remembered the lavender fields off Park Road, and especially the watercress beds next to the paper mill in Mill Lane, as they could get a basketful sufficient for their large family for only a half-penny.

She described the horse buses going through Carshalton Village to Beddington.

Mrs Kennedy attended the Church School at the top of Mill Lane. Her mother paid 4d per week. She had “delicious” soup for 2d and remembered “Everlasting” sweet sticks for a farthing and ribbons of liquorice for a halfpenny.

Frederick Orton born in 1903 in Manor Farm Cottages. His father, William had come from Sussex in answer to an advertisement for farm help at Manor Farm, Beddington. His father worked for Philip Mighell for 45 years and Fred worked for him for 30 years until the property was sold. Manor Farm farmhouse was at the top of Hilliers Lane. It had seven rooms on the ground floor and seven rooms on the first floor with three rooms in the attic for the servants. Seven men worked on the farm. Mr Orton Senior was told to bid for further land in Beddington for cow pasture, which was owned by Farrows Bank, which had invested heavily in land and as a result had become bankrupt. This resulted in a big sale which took place at the Greyhound Inn. In 1935 Mr Mighell sold 10 acres of Beddington land for £27,000 to “Ideal Homesteads” and gave immediate notice to all employees at that time.

The Society is grateful to Mr Pryer for recording these recollections as he obviously took a lot of time and trouble to do so.



Carshalton Park Gates by William Tatton Winter. These were remembered by George Bryant (p.69).

## 16. Honeywood Museum

This was opened in 1990 It has some permanent displays from the Borough's museum collections as well as changing exhibitions on different themes. The original nucleus of the museum collection was largely formed from early Society members' collections such as those of Dr Peatling and Mrs Birch and Mr and Mrs Piers. Those collections included paintings by Miss Madder, also a member. The present collection contains water colours, oil paintings pastels and drawings, many being of local scenes and from the nineteenth-century. The museum collection includes a large collection of William Tatton Winter's work showing local scenes.

Derek Bradford's "Reflections on Carshalton" published by the Friends of Honeywood illustrates many of the nineteenth and early twentieth-century paintings of Carshalton,



## **17. Conclusion**

The Society has now flourished for nearly 90 years giving pleasure and interest to Members. We like to think that its subcommittees have stood sentinel, guarding, to the best of their ability, our historical heritage and its excavations and documentary research have added knowledge, insight and greater appreciation of our interesting locality.

**LONG MAY THE CARSHALTON & DISTRICT HISTORY &  
ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY CONTINUE TO FLOURISH !!**

## 18. Bibliography

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Phillips, John *Old Carshalton*. The Friends of Honeywood and Sutton Museum and Heritage Service, 2008.

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Whittington, T.H., *The First 50 years of the Sutton Medical Society*, 1969.

Wilks, Michael *The Book of Carshalton*, Edited by Stella Wilks and Gordon Rookledge. Halgrove, 2002.

## **19. Appendix 1: Amateur archaeology in Beddington Carshalton and Wallington**

This is a rough list of local society and similar excavations. It does not cover stray finds or most watching briefs.

### **Beddington**

#### **Aldwick Road, Beddington**

An Iron Age site. The finds belong to Croydon Natural History and Scientific Society. I am not certain of the circumstances of the find.

#### **Bandon Hill Roman cemetery**

This was a chance find which was followed up by an excavation. It was published as K.A. Pryer Wallington (London Borough of Sutton): Romano-British cinerary urn and other vessels, in modern cemetery, Bandon Hill (TQ 299647) Surrey Archaeological Collections 71, 1977, p289-291.

There was a follow up excavation in 1978 directed by J. Perry for BCWAS. Mesolithic flints and Iron Age pottery but no Roman features. See Archaeology in Surrey 1976-78 Surrey Archaeological Collections 72, 1980, p249.

#### **Carew Manor Culvert, 1979**

Investigation of south moat culvert carried out in 1979 when it was cut by a water main trench. Typescript report by Clive Orton and finds list in the local collection.

#### **Carew Manor investigations 1980 to date**

Investigations and excavations led by John Phillips initially under the auspices of the Carew Manor Group and then of BCWAS / CADHAS.

### **Wallington**

#### **Wallington Chapel**

This was excavated by BCWAS in 1921 under the direction of Mrs Birch.

### **32 Burleigh Avenue, Wallington**

Directed by Clive Orton for BCWAS. The key report is Clive Orton Excavations at 32 Burley Avenue, Wallington, 1921 and 1976. Surrey Archaeological Collections 72, 1980, p77-82.

### **Wallington, Bunkers Field, 1923**

This was a Mrs Birch excavation for BCWAS. There is a note in Wallington. Surrey Archaeological Collections 36, 1925, p113-4 by A.F. Major.

### **Wallington High School for Boys**

The Museum of London was involved in this site. The report is Alison Laws and Margaret Wooldridge Excavations at Wallington High School for Boys, 1971 in Clive Orton, The past our future. BCWAS, 1980, p18-22.

## **Carshalton**

### **Queen Mary's Hospital, 1903 and 1937**

The key consolidating report on the older work on this site is Lesley Adkins and Stuart Needham New Research on the Late Bronze Age enclosure at Queen Mary's Hospital, Carshalton. Surrey Archaeological Collections 76, 1985, p11-50.

### **Weihurst Gardens**

Skeletons were found on the south side of Carshalton Road to the west of the railway bridge in unknown circumstances.

### **The Carshalton Road 'hillfort'**

Three negative trenches excavated by Dennis Turner in 1961 for the London Natural History Society in conjunction with the BCWAS.

The sites were:

18 Hillcroome Road  
165 Carshalton Road  
Harrow Road

See DJ Turner Excavations in Carshalton, 1961 Surrey Archaeological Collections 60, 1963, p50-53.

### **Queen's Well, 1963**

Dennis Turner reported this in 'Queens Well, Carshalton' in Surrey Archaeological Collections 67, 1970, p37-53.

### **Orchard Hill, 1964**

This was behind Queen's Well and the Greyhound Inn and not to be confused with the Queen Mary's hospital site. This site produced a large quantity of flint. See Dennis Turner Excavations at Orchard Hill, Carshalton London Naturalist 45, 1966, p100-104.

### **7-9 The Park, 1968**

See Keith Pryer Excavations at the Park, Carshalton. Surrey Archaeological Collections 70, 1974, p1-13.

### **Milner Place, 1969**

On the site of the car park between the High Street and The Grove. Clive wrote this up but did not run the excavation. See Clive Orton Archaeological Excavations and Observations in Carshalton Village Centre, 1966-81, Photocopied report, 1987.

### **Woodman's, 6 High Street, 1980**

See Clive Orton Archaeological Excavations and Observations in Carshalton Village Centre, 1966-81, (Photocopied report, 1987). Also Clive Orton Recent archaeological work in Carshalton, a dip-slope spring line settlement. Surrey Archaeological Collections 79, 1989, p161-172.

### **Stone Court 1981, 1982 and 1985**

Watching briefs by Clive Orton on contractor's trenches around Stone Court and the North Street boundary wall. Report Clive Orton Archaeological investigations in the area of Stone Court, 1981-85. Photocopied report. BCWAS, 1987.

### **River Wandle Survey, 1984**

Investigation of various sites along the river Wandle including the lake bed at St Philomena's and Carshalton Park Grotto by Hugh Waterhouse on behalf of the Manpower Services Commission. See Archaeology in Surrey, 1984 Surrey Archaeological Collections 77, 1986, p226.

### **The Lodge 1984**

Excavation by Clive Orton on the north side of the Lodge Land (now the Ecology Centre). Report Clive Orton and Andrew Skelton Excavations in the grounds of the Lodge Carshalton. 1984: prehistoric and medieval evidence. Photocopied report, 1987

### **Finds from the Honeywood culvert, 1990**

These fall into two groups:

- Items found by the builders during the reconstruction of the culvert.
- Finds from a small 1990 excavation in the Culvert.

The latter was directed by John Phillips for the Heritage Service. See John Phillips The early history of Honeywood, Carshalton in Clive Orton (ed) Celebrating Our Past BCWAS, 1995, p11-16.

## **20. Appendix 2 : Publications relating to Sutton and district written by society members and others**

Date	Title & Author & Publisher
1946	The Story of the First 25 Years. H.W. Morgan and H.V. Molesworth Roberts. BCWAS.
1965	From Medieval Manor to London Suburb. A.E. Jones. The Author.
1973	The Hospital of St Mary & Hamilton Almshouses. Ronald Michell BCWAS Occasional Paper No. 1.
1974	The Beddington Portion. K.A. Pryer. BCWAS Occasional Paper No. 2.
1975	Parish of Beddington in the Year 1837. Ronald Michell. BCWAS Occasional Paper No. 3 – Revised 1991.
1979	Anyone for Tennis? Eileen Whiteing. London Borough of Sutton.
1980	The Past Our Future Studies In Local Archaeology and History presented to Keith Pryer on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of BCWAS. Edited by Clive Orton. BCWAS Occasional Paper No. 4.
1983	Courts of the Manors of Beddington and Bandon 1498-1552. Transcribed and translated by Hedley Marne Gowans and edited by Michael Wilks and Jennifer Bray. London Borough of Sutton.
1980	The Story of Carshalton House. A.E. Jones. London Borough of Sutton.



- 1986 Under the Sludge – Beddington Roman Villa.  
Lesley & Roy Adkins.  
BCWAS.
- 1989 The Moat at Carew Manor, Beddington.  
John Phillips.  
The London Archaeologist 6 (2) p41-45.
- 1981 The Carews of Beddington.  
Ronald Michell.  
London Borough of Sutton.
- 1989 A Short Guide to Carew Manor.  
John Phillips.  
London Borough of Sutton.
- 1989 The Story of Little Woodcote and Woodcote Hall.  
Margaret Cunningham.  
London Borough of Sutton.
- 1993 Orchard Hill (Queen Mary's Hospital for Children)  
Archaeological Investigation.  
Penny Bruce.  
Museum of London.
- 1993 The Oaks and Oaks Park.  
Margaret Cunningham.  
London Borough of Sutton.
- 1995 Celebrating Our Past.  
Edited by Clive Orton.  
BCWAS Occasional Paper No. 5.
- 2005 Prehistoric Landscape to Roman Villa Excavations at  
Beddington Surrey 1981-1987.  
Edited by Isca Howell.  
Museum of London.
- 2005 The Chronology and Layout of Francis Carew's Garden  
at Beddington.  
John Phillips and Nicholas Burnett.  
Garden History 33 (2) p155-188.
- 2008 Garden at Carew Manor Beddington Interim Report on  
Investigations 1979-2005.  
John Phillips and Nicholas Burnett.  
C&DH&AS Occasional Paper No 1.

## 21. Appendix 3: Presidents 1921 - 2009

The Inaugural Meeting was chaired by Major Lovelock on 27th November 1920. The Society's first President was elected on 12th February 1921.

W. E. Davis	1921 - 1926.
Major Lovelock.	1926 - 1931.
Dr. D. H. Mylecreeste	1931 - 1935. Died in office.
Colonel H. F. Bidder	1935 - 1937.
W.C.J. Marshall	1938 - 1943.
H. W. Morgan	1943 – 1948
Major L. R. Gaywood	1948 - 1950.
H. V. Molesworth-Roberts	1950 - 1952.
Major L. R. Gaywood	1952 - 1954.
C. Edwards	1954 - 1956.
J. W. Wright	1956 - 1958.
Miss H. K. B. Clarke	1958 - 1960.
W. P. Roberts	1960 - 1962.
K. A. Pryer	1962 - 1964.
F. Petree	1964 - 1966.
A. S. Gilbert	1966 - 1968.
Mrs E. Rothschild	1968 - 1970.
D. J. Turner	1970 - 1972.
R. A. Michell	1972 - 1974.
J. H. Williams	1974 - 1976.
J. Hartland	1976 - 1978.
C. R. Orton	1978 - 1980.
Miss M. Hayman	1980 - 1982.
Miss D. Andrews	1982 - 1984.
D. E. Bradford	1984 - 1986.
H. Waterhouse	1986 - 1988.
A. Palmier	1988 - 1990.
A. Allen	1990 - 1992.
D. E. Bradford	1992 - 1994.
Dr B. Palmier	1994 - 1996.
D. Cluett	1996 - 1998.
Mrs M. Cunningham	1998 - 2000.
A. Mann	2000 - 2002.
G. Rookledge	2002 - 2004.
D. Yeo	2004 - 2006. Last President of BCWAS
Mrs J. Oliver	2006 - 2008 First President of C&DH&AS.
J. Thornton	2008 - 2009

## **22. Appendix 4: Committee members, 2009**

President: Mr John Thornton

Vice Presidents: Mr Adrian Mann, Mr Clive Orton, Dr. Beryl Palmier

Immediate Past President: Mrs Jacky Oliver

Hon Secretary: Mrs Margaret Coombs

Hon Treasurer: Mr Alex Palmier

Membership Secretary: Mrs Valerie Brawley

Programmes Secretary: Mr Tony Allen

Research & Preservation Committee: Chairman: Mr Derek Bradford

Field Officer: Mr John Phillips

Librarians: Mr Gordon Rookledge, Mrs Lynn Bright

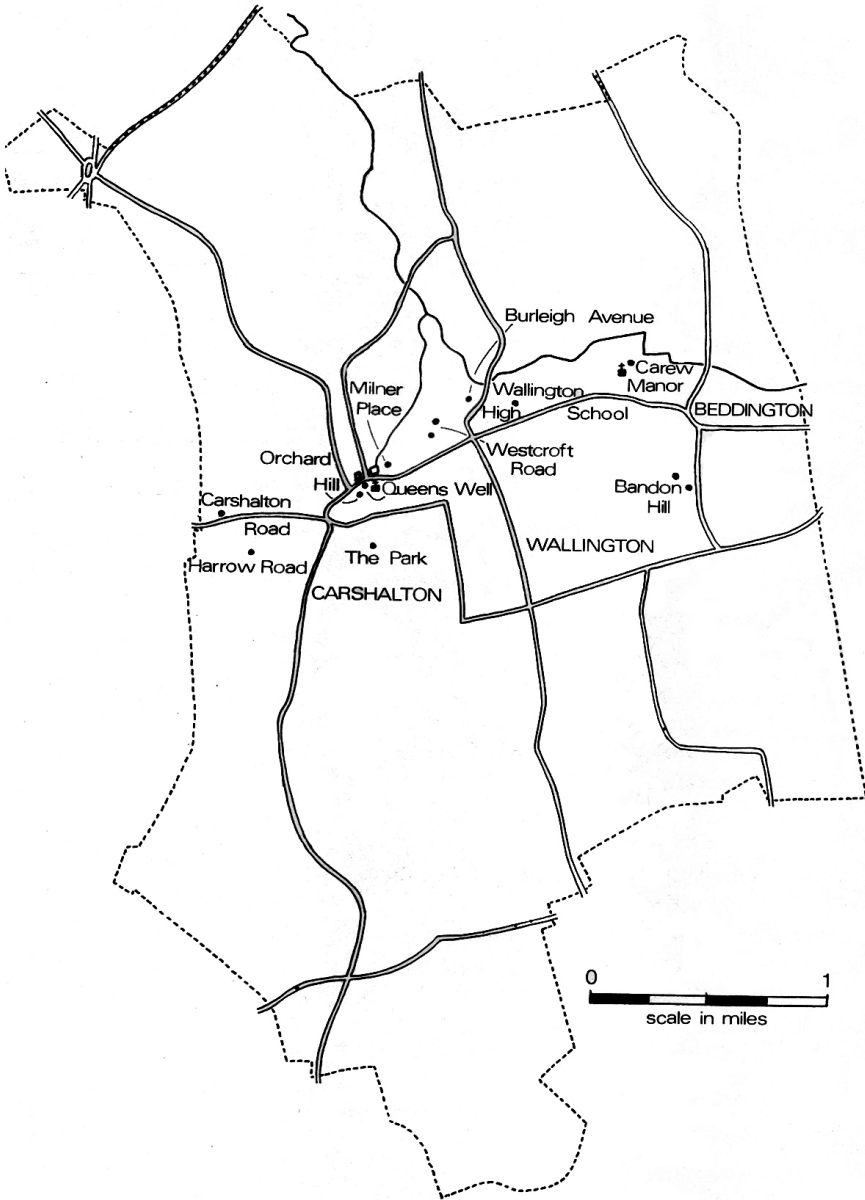
Publications Officer: Mrs Jacky Oliver

Web Liaison Officer: Dr Beryl Palmier

Minutes Secretary: Mrs Chris Attfield

Members: Miss Jane Howard, Mr Derek Yeo

# 23. Appendix 5: Map of Beddington, Carshalton & Wallington



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