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# SOCIETY NEWS

THE BULLETIN OF THE ENFIELD ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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SOCIETY NEWS

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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

12th November, Wednesday

Civic Centre, Enfield, 8.00 p.m.

### THE INNER SECRETS OF WESTMINSTER PALACE AND THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

John Neal

The royal palace of Westminster, originally built by Edward the Confessor (Westminster Hall was added by William Rufus) was the normal place of Parliament from about 1340. St. Stephens Chapel (first mentioned in the reign of John) was used from 1550 for the meetings of the House of Commons which had previously been held in the Chapter House or Refectory of Westminster Abbey. The House of Lords met in an apartment of the royal palace.

The disastrous fire of 1834 destroyed the whole palace except Westminster Hall, and the present Houses of Parliament were erected on the site between 1840 and 1867. Fortunately, the original Westminster Hall was saved from the fire. First built by William Rufus in 1097 it was rebuilt, after a fire, by Richard II in 1398. Its famous hammer-beam roof of oak has an unrivalled span of 70 feet.

The chamber of the House of Commons was destroyed by enemy action in 1941 and was rebuilt between 1948 and 1950.

8th October, Wednesday

Civic Centre, Enfield, 8.00 p.m.

### FILM SHOW

The theme of this year's film show is the archaeology of Israel.

SCROLLS FROM THE SON OF A STAR Archaeological findings of the Roman era in Israel and the revolt of Bar Kochba. Yigal Yadin relates the difficulties he encountered during these excavations.

MASADA The excavations of Yigal Yadin trace the history of the last Jewish stronghold against the Roman legions. The story of this site appears elsewhere in this bulletin.

10th September, Wednesday

Civic Centre, Enfield, 8.00 p.m.

### THE CHRISTIAN BACKGROUND TO THE VIKING INVASIONS IN S.E. ENGLAND

Peter Huggins

Viking raids on this country began at the end of the eighth century and became a serious menace between 835 and 878. In the latter year Viking attacks led to the retreat of Alfred to Somerset and the creation of an area of Danish rule in southeast England. Following the treaty with Guthrum after 886, the Lea became the frontier between Saxon and Dane. Renewed Danish attacks in the second half of the tenth century culminated in the unification of the country under the Christian court of the Danish king Cnut in 1016. The conversion of this country depended on Roman and Celtic influences and the effect of these influences on southeast England will be considered.

## LECTURE REPORTS

### 'RECENT RESEARCH ON ROMAN VILLAS IN BRITAIN'

Was the subject chosen by Dr. Ilid Anthony for her Presidential Address on Wednesday 14th May. Dr. Anthony described the main groups of villas in lowland Britain and outlined the progress made on research into this subject during the past twenty-five years.

Several villa sites were excavated during the 19th and early part of this century. Many had been carelessly dug, the main aim being a search for coins and mosaics, and to make a plan of the walls. Two of the better excavated sites were Park Street by Helen O'Neil and Lockleys by Ward Perkins. Some sites were so well preserved that they were put on view to the general public, Chedworth in Gloucestershire and Brading on the Isle of Wight are two such cases.

Since then many other sites have been excavated and the results of recent work has given us a lot more information about individual sites as well as the villa system as a whole. One important site is at Gadebridge, near Hemel Hempstead, dug by David Neal over several seasons. There has also been a good deal of selected re-excavation. Work at Chedworth by Ian Richmond and at Bignor by Sheherd Frere are cases in point.

Attempts have been made to assign other functions to the villa in Roman Britain-but, apart from one or two possible exceptions, their economy was firmly based on agriculture. The collection of the annona or tax in kind, gave the spur to increased agricultural production and the villa system was able to provide the corn needed to maintain the army and to supply the population of the towns.

Many villas began life as pre-Roman farms, sometimes as far back as the Bronze Age, which is not surprising as the desirability of each site would be apparent to farmers in whatever age they lived.

In the mid-first century the first villa buildings were often simple structures, but bath blocks were soon added and with the addition of rooms, sometimes twenty or more with connecting corridors, they developed during the fourth century into large and complex structures. There were subsidiary buildings, among which a large barn for the storage of grain was essential.

The occupants of villas ranged from romanised Britons, retired army officers and officials. In some cases they were administered by bailiffs on behalf of an absentee landlord, or for the government if it formed part of an imperial estate.

Many of the rooms were floord with mosaics and recent studies have shown that various schools of mosaicists existed in this country.

Following a recession, the fourth century was a golden age for villa owners in this country. Barbarian attacks in Gaul had devastated large areas of corn growing land and Britain was able to export large quantities of grain to the Continent.

Saxon raids on this country destroyed the means of communication on which the villas depended for the distribution of corn and they were eventually abandoned. The sites of most villas being completely forgotten until revealed by the spade of the modern excavator.

### THE SAXON SHORE

Was the title of Harvey Sheldon's lecture on Wednesday 11th June. He began by describing the invasion of Britain in 43 A.D. and the establishment of a frontier along the line of the Fosse Way. Later on, the Roman armies moved north and west to occupy Wales, and to build a line of forts in northern Britain, later to be followed by Hadrian's Wall. Another advance was made, and for a few years the Antonine Wall marked the northern limits of the province. This line was eventually abandoned in favour of the more easily managed Hadrian's Wall.

A new frontier region was created when German tribes, loosely labelled 'Saxons' by the Romans, began raiding the coasts of Gaul and south east Britain. To counter these raids, forts were built in the threatened areas. In Britain, these forts extended from the Wash to Southampton, at Brancaster, Burgh Castle, Walton Castle, Bradwell, Reculver, Richborough, Dover, Lympne, Pevensey and Porchester. There is another fort near Carisbrook on the Isle of Wight and another, recently discovered near Portsmouth, both of which were probably connected with the shore defences.

Not all were built at the same time. The constructional characteristics of individual forts suggest that the first to be built were Brancaster on the Wash and Reculver in Kent, during the third century. Others were added in the late third century and the last to be built were Pevensey and Clausentum, near Portsmouth in the fourth century.

At Dover the fort overlay the earlier site of a base for the British fleet which played an important part in patrolling the coasts of Britain in order to give early warnings of Saxon raids.

Little is known about the garrisoning of these forts, except to say that in the beginning they were occupied by regular troops, but by the fourth century they were probably manned by peasant soldiers, a sort of local militia, who lived outside the fort and cultivated land nearby. A system often used during the period of the late Roman Empire.

Much of the information regarding the units stationed in the forts comes from the Notitia Dignatatum, an official document which purports to show the dispositions of the Roman army in the late Roman Empire. However, as the surviving documents are copies of one or more originals, the information given is suspect.

Signal stations and a courier system would have linked the forts to a central headquarters under the command of the Count of the Saxon Shore. Recent discoveries suggest that these signal stations extended up the Thames estuary to warn the city of London of an impending attack. The river wall of London was almost certainly added as a result of Saxon Raids.

The lecture was well illustrated and included some of the dramatic reconstructions of forts drawn by Allan Sorrell.

For further reading on the subject, Harvey Sheldon mentioned the Council for British Archaeology Research Report No. 18 'The Saxon Shore', a book entitled 'The Saxon Shore' by Stephen Johnson and a cheaper but very useful guide book on the subject by the same author were also recommended.

#### EXCAVATIONS ON MONASTIC SITES IN WEST ESSEX

During her lecture on Wednesday 16th July, Pat Wilkinson reported on three recent excavations at three monastic sites in Essex, Barking, Stratford Langthorne and Waltham Abbey.

Barking was a very important nunnery of the Benedictine Order and the Abbess was often a member of the Royal family. The abbey had been founded by the Bishop of London in 666 A.D. and was the sister house to Chertsey Abbey. The only surviving part is the Curfew Gate, which dates from the 14th century. Part of the site was poorly excavated in 1910 and the exposed area of the nave has been grassed and paved.

In 1966, the West Essex Archaeological Group excavated on the site of the infirmary chapel where some substantial walls were found. Also found was a skeleton beneath the altar which resulted in the local corner closing down the site until he was satisfied that the burial was medieval!

Barking Council carried out some landscaping in 1971 which revealed some chalk walls. A limited excavation was carried out which uncovered rubbish pits containing Saxo-Norman pottery. The work also revealed evidence of rebuilding for the same period and this could be related to the time when William the Conqueror stayed here while the White Tower in London was being built. A sewer trench across the site exposed the massive foundations of the monastic wash-house.

The Abbey was eventually demolished on the orders of Henry VII and most of the building material went into the construction of a palace on the other side of the river.

Stratford Langthorne A Cistercian house founded in 1135. The area was originally very marshy and numerous drainage channels were necessary to keep the site from becoming flooded. At one time the floods were so serious that the monks were forced to abandon the site and retreat to Billericay. Richard II subsequently provided funds for the restoration of the site and it was probably at this time that the several 'moats' were dug to overcome the problem of the flooding. Most of the site is now occupied by industrial buildings and a tower block. A nearby railway line covers the site of the cloisters.

The main feature uncovered during recent excavations was the foundation of a house of 13th century date to which several alterations had been made; there was evidence of blocked doorways and there was a large fireplace which had been reconstructed on four occasions. The opinion is that it was a reception house for visitors to the Abbey. The finds included lead calmes for window glass, floor tiles and some pottery.

Waltham Abbey An area north of the main monastic buildings was excavated and traces of service buildings were found. A 17th century road had been laid over the remains of earlier walls and a gravel courtyard. A well, dated by the contents to 1500, was cleared and a large pit of uncertain use. Large rectangular pits were also uncovered and these are believed to have held lead vats used for brewing. Lead pipes provided a supply of water. Extensive burning over part of the site appears to be linked to 11th century metal working. In the same area, traces of an apsidal church, earlier than the monastic building, was uncovered. The foundations at least, were of stone and there was evidence of two building phases.

The finds included a 16th century pewter plate, stamped C.E., from the well, two spurs, several keys, gilded bronze ornaments from a Saxo-Norman deposit, a bronze hinge of the same period, a gilt and silver buckle and a few coins. A piece of glass, blackened and encrusted when first discovered, revealed some very nice decoration during subsequent cleaning. The site has produced a fine collection of 13th century glass.

All three sites were destroyed during the dissolution of the monasteries and evidence of this destruction was found on each site.

It was interesting to see the sections showing the archaeological problems involved and they reminded us of the difficulty of correctly interpreting the evidence. An interpretation often made more difficult by the limited area in which the archaeologist has to work.

G.R.G.

## MASADA

South-East of Jerusalem in Israel, and three miles from the Dead Sea, arises an enormous rock, first labelled Masada over 2,000 years ago, by the then High Priest, Jonathan.

The flat top of this rock is 23 acres in area, the perimeter is  $\frac{3}{4}$  miles around. It is an elongated, diamond shaped plateau, facing North, South and geologically is composed of dolomite. On the East side, the rock drops sharply 1,300 feet to the shores of the Dead Sea. The Western side is approximately 330 feet above sea level. Its natural approaches are steep and arduous and on every side, broken off by deep ravines in a wilderness resembling the surface of the moon. From the air, it resembles a stranded aircraft carrier with its superstructure sheared off. It dominates the landscape and emanates an air of horror which exactly reflects its history. To understand the significance of Masada to the Jewish people, it is necessary to know something of the political situation in Palestine 2000 years ago.

The overriding political fact of the period was the Roman occupation of Palestine, where the last remnants of Jewish independence had ceased about A.D. 6. Direct Roman intervention in Jewish affairs occurred through dissension in the then Jewish Royal family. In 67 B.C. two brothers engaged in a squabble for the throne and it was this that led to Roman intervention, in the shape of the armies of Pompey. Neither of the brothers became king, instead Pompey installed an Edomite, by name Antipater, as governor, who became the Roman's chief ally and inaugurated the Roman policy of ruling Palestine through native "quislings", who were made responsible for collecting the tribute in money and grain. Subsequently whenever the Jews attempted to rebel against Roman rule, Antipater acted on the side of Rome. After the death of Pompey, Antipater attached himself to Caesar and helped him in his campaign in Egypt. In gratitude, Caesar made him Procurator. Antipater was assassinated shortly afterwards and his son Herod succeeded him. Herod became a "client king". The main task of a client king was to keep his kingdom in good order and loyal to Rome. Herod was as cunning and resolute as his father. While he ruthlessly suppressed any manifestations of Jewish nationalism, which had any anti-Roman basis, he encouraged non political expressions of the Jewish spirit. He rebuilt the Temple in Jerusalem in a magnificent style. However, suspecting a twofold threat, not only from his Jewish subjects, but also from the threat of Cleopatra of Egypt, he took himself off to MASADA, with the remnants of his family. He transformed the rock into a mighty fortress and converted part of it into a palace for his living quarters, where he finally died, mad, in 4 B.C.; it can be assumed that from 6 A.D. to 66 A.D. the outbreak of the first Jewish War, MASADA was garrisoned by the Romans.

After Herod's death, his son Archelaus, whom he had nominated as his successor, travelled to Rome to have his appointment ratified by Augustus. He never became king and was finally banished to Vienna. In his absence, the Roman grip in Palestine tightened. Roman troops under Sabinus, took possession of Jerusalem and robbed the Temple. This inflamed the population and an insurrection broke out which was only put down with difficulty.

Palestine now became under direct Roman rule, and the role of Procurator was established. To become a procurator in Palestine was equivalent in today's role of the I.T.V.'s companies licence to print money. The chief task of the Procurator was to collect taxes from Judea. They knew that their term of office was likely to be short and that they would probably never again have such an opportunity to enrich themselves by dipping their hands in the Imperial till.

Tacitus records that in 17 A.D., the Jews sent a delegation to Rome to protest about over-taxation, without any redress. In the end to enforce their rule, the Romans had troops stationed permanently in Judea, primarily in Caesarea, a seaport built by Herod, and in Jerusalem itself. The official Roman position was not to insult the religious beliefs of the Jews, but the Procurators were brutal, narrow minded men who had no appreciation of monotheism and saw it as an affront to their pride as Romans. It seemed that the policy of the Procurator was to produce chaos, especially the last two who held the post, Albinus and Florus. In 66 A.D., Florus' final provocation was to rob the Temple in Jerusalem. The Jews protested and were killed for their pains. Having succeeded in causing an open revolt, Florus called in the Legate of Syria, Cestius Gallus to bring in his legions and crush the rebels. He had an army of 30,000. He forced his way through Galilee and into Jerusalem and it looked as if the war would be over in three months. For some unknown reason, he then broke off hostilities and began to retreat. On his way back to Syria he was ambushed by the Zealots, who were the revolutionaries of the time, and completely routed. The first Jewish War had begun in earnest, but the Zealots had been in a state of rebellion, from the time of the Roman occupation in A.D. 6.

At the outbreak of the War, Menahem attacked MASADA at the head of a band of Zealots and captured it from the Romans by a stratagem. With the Roman garrison eliminated, there were now a total of 967 men, women and children in the fortress. Menahem returned to Jerusalem to organise the resistance there, but during the internecine struggles of the different Jewish factions there, he was murdered and his place as the leader of the Zealots was taken by Eleazar ben Jair who then escaped from Jerusalem and took over the leadership in MASADA.

In A.D. 67, Nero sent Vespasian to Palestine to crush the revolt. His first task was to attack a stronghold called Jotapata, defended by the famous or infamous Josephus, who escaped from the city when it was on the point of falling, hid in a cave and handed it over to Vespasian. By turning traitor and helping the Roman cause, we are nevertheless indebted to him in his role as historian for many details of this war.

In A.D. 69, Vespasian was recalled to Rome to become Emperor, on the forced suicide of Nero and during the power struggle that followed, and he left the leadership of the army in Palestine in the hands of his son, Titus. By the beginning of A.D. 70 the siege of Jerusalem had begun, and by September of that year it had been completely destroyed, including the Temple, the palace and the upper and lower halves of the city. The total number of deaths in Jerusalem during the siege, famine and in the final slaughter was over a million. The siege had lasted five months and the war already four years, though pockets of resistance still remained in the country, e.g. MASADA. The trophies captured from the Temple can still be seen sculptured on the Arch of Titus in Rome.

In A.D. 72, Flavius Silva, governor after the destruction of Jerusalem, marched against MASADA, the last remaining stronghold of the Zealots, at the head of the 10th Legion. His first task was to build a wall completely surrounding the base of the rock, making escape from the rock impossible. Next, he realised that frontal attack was impossible, so he had constructed a ramp, long enough, wide enough and big enough to reach right up to the walls of the fortress. This ramp is still in existence, along with the outlines of the Roman camps, which can be clearly seen.

When it was clear to the defenders that this ramp, when finished, would reach up to the wall, Ben Jair called the people together and said, in effect, better to die by their own hands rather than be slaughtered by the Romans or live as slaves. Mass suicide then took place by lots, one in ten responsible for the deaths of nine others, down to the last ten, and then the last one, who finally died by his own hand. And so on the morrow, when the Romans broke through, all that met their gaze were dead bodies and smoking ruins. 960 men, women and children lay dead on the plateau in silence, a sight that even the Romans found terrifying. Eventually two women and five children emerged as survivors, by hiding in one of the caves, in which the Zealots had lived. This epic night was the 15th of April, A.D. 73. So ended the first Jewish war and it was nearly another sixty years before another revolt broke out, the Bar Kochba in A.D. 132, but this is another scenario. The Zealots had lived on the plateau for seven years.

It was obvious that a great mass of archaeological evidence would be discovered, if and when MASADA could be reborn. So in 1963, Yigael Yadin, professor of Archaeology at the Hebrew University was chosen to lead an assault on the rock to bring to light the evidence of Herod's and the Zealot's life.

Volunteers came from all over the world to help in this work, be it noted, without pay. Hundreds had to be turned away. The response was quite fantastic. This was no easy task. The heat on MASADA is fierce and devastating, one must cover one's head as some protection, but the rewards were worthwhile. The finds range from Herod's palaces to the water cisterns, the food stores still containing dates, walnuts, corn, olive stones, wine and grain jars, implements of war and coins. Numerous coins, struck during the War were found in large hoards of 350, 200 and 100. Mostly ordinary bronze, but also 37 silver shekels and 35 half shekels representing all the years of the War, including the rare year 5. This was the first discovery of shekels in a dated archaeological stratum. It is interesting to note that the official currency again in Israel today is the shekel. In spite of their isolation, the Zealots had lived a normal life, as some of the finds showed. Remnants of textiles, sandals, cosmetic utensils, heating ovens for cooking, oil lamps. The saddest find of all was a woman's plait of hair still attached to her scalp. Beside her skeleton were those of a man and boy. The religious faith of the Zealots was underlined by the discovery of the three most important buildings in MASADA. These were the synagogue, the earliest ever discovered, the Miqveh, a ritual immersion pool and a building which was probably a schoolroom. The greatest satisfaction was the finding of 14 scrolls, written on leather and parchment. Two scrolls were found under the floor of the synagogue. The text of one of the scrolls is the same as one of the famous Dead Sea Scrolls found in Qumran in 1947. The amount of material found on MASADA is enormous and it will take many years before it is all documented, but MASADA is now a place of pilgrimage and a symbol of man's indomitable spirit.

J.E. Michaelson.

Thank you to Mr. Michaelson for such an interesting article. Ed.

#### CHURCH LANE, EDMONTON, N.9.

As this bulletin goes to print, Roger Dormer is directing an excavation on waste ground on the East side of Church Lane with Ermine Street, the Roman road in his mind and has after only one weekend, traced the rubble foundations of one of the old thatched cottages which had previously stood on the site. These were most likely to be of a pre-1700 date and were demolished in the early 1900's.

Church Lane, Edmonton As this bulletin goes to print, Roger Dormer is directing an excavation in Church Lane, Edmonton, to attempt to find a trace of Ermine Street. This is the first of a series of trenches in an endeavour to trace the line of the roman road exactly. Later this year excavations will continue at Edmonton County School and as previously mentioned at Bulls Cross Ride, Forty Hill.

Shopping Precinct, Enfield Town As some readers may have noticed, fences are appearing around the site of this construction and the builders will be McAlpines. Arrangements are in hand to meet the builders to discuss the possibility of further excavation in selected positions.

53 Leighton Road, Enfield At Easter, Richard Coxshall had hoped to continue his excavation (Bulletin 70) in the adjacent garden of 51, to establish if his earlier findings could be confirmed as Ermine Street. Unfortunately having made the necessary arrangements with the occupier, he suddenly changed his mind when Richard arrived to start work and would not let the excavation go ahead. Richard is attempting to find an alternative site later this year to follow this important evidence.

John Ivens.

ACTIVITIES GROUP MEETING At the July Activities Group Meeting, Ian Jones described his work on the history of Enfield Palace. He showed slides of several recently discovered sketches and had on display the plans of the building which he has drawn from surviving prints, sketches, photographs, inventories and other cartographic and documentary evidence. Coloured ink was used to show the brickwork observed in gas and electricity board trenches dug in the Town area and reported by members. The results of the 1977 excavations next to Pearsons store were also shown.

Don Hubbard brought along an album of photographs and postcard views of this area. This sort of material is invaluable when researching a given area, for while the recollections of older residents are useful, memories are often faulty and need to be supplemented with pictorial evidence. Someone once said that the possession of a camera is as common as a fountain pen, but they forgot to add that it should be carried at all times.

Ron Green showed us why when he projected slides he had taken of various 'holes in the ground' in different parts of the Borough. They ranged from a mysterious hole next to Edmonton church, brickwork to be observed in foundation trenches and scenes of the recent work near Edmonton Town Hall where work in replacing the culverted Salmons Brook is in progress.

Forty Hill As the result of a call from Mr. Alex Hurry (Forty Hill Conservation Group) John Coleman visited 'The Hermitage' (opposite Goat P.H.) where a brick lined well had been found in the side garden. An initial examination has shown the well to be over 20 feet deep with 6 feet of water holding steady in the bottom. Owing to the interest and co-operation of the occupier, Mrs. Wakelin-Saint, builders who were working on the site attempted to pump the water out, but this proved impossible. As the date of the well is in doubt, but is most probable of a 17th/18th date although it could be much earlier, an examination in detail is necessary to form a positive date. To enable this to be achieved, I contacted the Edmonton Aqua Lung Club, and Mr. Dick Newton has arranged for divers from the club to attend the site and work with us in the near future. 'The Hermitage' was built around 1700 but there is evidence of much earlier buildings having stood on the site, so it is hoped that this joint venture will be successful in its aims.

Upsdell Avenue, N.13 As you will have read in bulletin No.71 the finding of animal horn cores for land drainage in the late 17th/early 18th century was most interesting and to confirm our earlier findings we returned to the adjacent garden at 32, Upsdell Avenue in February this year and further trenches revealed a second row of horn cores running parallel with the first row 10.3 metres apart. Research into history of the period has shown that the area was part of Bow's Farm which is shown on John Roques Map of Middlesex (1754) standing in Green Lanes near where Melbourne Avenue is today. A full report will be appearing later this year in The London Archaeologist (a worthwhile publication issued quarterly. Subs. £1.60 per year. Details from 7, Coalecroft Road, S.W.15). It is also hoped to have offprints for later sale. I would like to record my thanks to Mr. Graham Dalling and Mr. David Pam of the Borough History Department for their help with the historical evidence.

North Middlesex Hospital, Edmonton. Mr. Ron Green (a new member) spotted a builders trench near the casualty department which had been cut into part of a Victorian rubbish pit and he retrieved a nice selection of clay pipes and glass waste.

Church Street, Edmonton, opp. Fire Station Recently during the laying of electric cables, Mr. Ron Green observed brickwork in the trench which on examination proved to be a 19th century brick culvert 34cms. in diameter, running North-South under the road. Discussion with William Press Ltd., on site, confirmed that near the junction of Stanley Road, N.9., there is substantial brickwork and as this trench is extended, a watching brief is to be kept for this.

## HISTORY AND CONSERVATION WEEKEND 1980

To remind you that the History and Conservation Weekend will be held in the Arts Centre, Millfield House, Silver Street, Edmonton on 18th and 19th October from 2.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. each day. There will be lectures and exhibits by many local societies and full details of the events will be obtainable from the libraries nearer the date concerned. Please come along and support the Weekend at its new venue.

## WORKROOMS, FORTY HALL MUSEUM

We intend to sort and properly store the many items held in our workrooms at Forty Hall. Shelf space is at a premium and I would be pleased to hear from any members who have timber suitable for making shelves on which we can store our books and boxes of pottery. There is a particular need for a four drawer filing cabinet, so if you know of such an item .....

G.R. Gillam, 23 Merton Road, Enfield.  
367 0263.

## THE HERMITAGE, FORTY HILL, ENFIELD. M.R.166/300983

On Sunday 1.6.80, the examination of a brick lined well was undertaken with the assistance of the Enfield Under Water Youth Centre. Divers were necessary as there was over 1 metre of water at the foot of the well, which was 4.7 metres from the ground surface. The bricks suggested an 18th century date and this was borne out from the diving, which unfortunately, was unable to recover any sherds of pottery. However part of an iron spade was recovered together with pieces of timbering which had been used as a base for the brick work, which was not keyed in any way. The bottom of the well was 6.41m from the ground surface and diving was made difficult as there was 0.75m of mud below the water, the supply of which was from an underground stream flowing from the west. Originally, water was probably obtained by a bucket, but in the 19th century, it seems a lead pipe was added which led into what was originally the kitchen, where it would have been attached to a hand pump. I would like to record our thanks to the Mrs. Wakeling Saint, the owners, for their interest and grateful thanks to the divers who suffered from the icy water.

**MEMBERS OUTING TO CHIPPING ONGAR DISTRICT, SUNDAY,**  
**28th SEPTEMBER, 1980.**

A visit has been arranged to Chipping Ongar Church and Greenstead Church, together with other points of interest in this ancient market town.

**CHIPPING ONGAR CHURCH**

The church was built about 1080 of flint rubble and re-used Roman bricks. The Patron Saint, St. Martin (AD 320-401) was a Roman soldier who became a Christian and retired from the army to become a monk and a missionary. To the N.E. of the Church there are the remains of a large moat which originally surrounded Ongar Castle, built by Richard de Lucy about 1155.

**GREENSTEAD CHURCH**

If you have'tnt visited this oldest wooden church in the world in its beautiful setting, now is your chance, and if you have, well you know the pleasure a further visit will give. Need I say more.

**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY - TIMETABLE**

- 1.15 p.m. Meet Market Place, Enfield Town.
- 1.30 p.m. Leave for Chipping Ongar. (The party will leave promptly so if you are late, you can meet up with us at Chipping Ongar Church,) M.R. 167/552029.
- 2.15 p.m. Arrive Car Park. High Street. M.R. 552031.
- 2.30 p.m. Meet Canon Vaughan-Jones at Church who will conduct a tour for us.
- 4.00 p.m. Arrive Greenstead Church where our guide will be Mrs. Jane Barley.

If time and weather permit, we hope to walk to Greenstead Church, if not, then vehicles will be used. (A 25 minute walk).

For those of you intending to come and do not have transport, this can be arranged at the meeting on Wednesday 10th September 1980.

Any queries to John Ivens, 806 1375.