



NEWSLETTER

2020, ISSUE 1

February 2020

Chairman's Notes

The Committee wish all members a happy new year and new decade. This Newsletter includes the Annual Report for 2019 and notice of AGM in March. We hope everyone will attend. The Report draws attention to the activities of EEHAS over the year including fieldwork and ongoing processing work. The Test Pitting in particular, undertaken in concert with Surrey Archaeological Society's programme for the county, shows EEHAS's integration with the county society. It was a little disappointing that the results threw up more problems than they answered but that's archaeology.

Just before Christmas E&EBC announced their new six "principles" intended to guide implementation of the Borough's Local Plan. These concentrate, perhaps as to be expected, on consideration of new housing development and follows advice embodied in the Government's NPPF (updated in February 2019). There is a bewildering amount of policy and guidance at national and local level on every aspect of planning issues and which continues to be issued and revised.

(Continued under Membership Matters).

Inside this issue:

<i>November Meeting: The Vikings and my Travels to Denmark and Stockholm</i>	2
<i>Some War Time photos of Epsom</i>	2
<i>Christmas Party</i>	3
<i>The Bandstands of Surrey</i>	4
<i>Forthcoming Events</i>	5
<i>One hundred years of archaeology in Carshalton and District</i>	6
<i>Membership Matters</i>	7

Lecture Diary

March 4th	AGM and talk by our president Jon Cotton.
April 1st	Portable Antiquity Scheme, Finds Liaison Officers and the Treasure Act : Dr. Simon Maslin.
May 6th	Conservation in Epsom and Ewell : Lance Penman.
Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at St. Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell KT17 2BB.	
Doors open 7.45 for 8pm start. Members free, visitors £4, includes refreshments.	

November Meeting – The Vikings and my Travels to Denmark and Stockholm – Richard Watson

We hope to give a report of this talk in a future newsletter.

Some War Time photos of Epsom - Steve Nelson

I mentioned in the April Newsletter the collection of photos sent recently to the Society. Unfortunately they have no indication of name or date and many are simply family snaps. I was initially unsure of the date and thought they looked 1950s. However, a further look through with Jeremy Harte has suggested that the majority of local views date from the early war time period and seem to represent early members of the local ARP Epsom branch.

A number of the photos show a group of young women in uniform engaged in life-saving practice with stretchers. These are taken in the forecourt and car park of the Municipal Baths off East Street in Epsom – the gasworks gasometers can be seen in the background of some views. Some of the same girls are shown in different shots and they were presumably friends – a real pity we don't know their names. Other views show the Baths suitably sandbagged against blast.



There are also images of the Borough Council vehicles, including one Ambulance van. A couple of other photos show what appears to be other (male) volunteers, in civilian clothes, lined up in the entrance drive – looking very Dad's Army.

A further shot shows two girls adjusting a stretcher on the roof of their car and again taken in the entrance to the Baths. It shows the Telephone Exchange building on the left, and on the opposite side of East Street the Red Lion pub, which is now the site of the Job Centre.



Epsom Red Lion 50 East Street



It is interesting that the stretchers are of tubular steel type produced in large numbers during the war, and when redundant in post-war Britain many were requisitioned as railings on local authority housing developments, where some still survive.

What initially put me off the scent was the general air of jollity portrayed in the photos, rather incongruous for war time Britain I thought. However, as Jeremy pointed out, these photos probably date to the early war period before things became serious and with the sense of adventure that soon disappeared.

While there are a number of not readily identifiable views and the people are unknown, they are still an interesting collection of Epsom in this period. We are grateful to the sender who took the trouble to identify the local connection and forward them to us.

Christmas Party

Jeff Cousins

The Christmas party was held on 4th December and comprised its usual successful mixture of food, quizzes and entertainment. Many members contributed to the fare, and the mulled wine produced by David Hartley was particularly appreciated. Jeremy Harte and friends read extracts from Victorian "Penny dreadful"s.

Thanks to all who helped make this a successful event.

The Bandstands of Surrey—a correction - Jeff Cousins

Rosebery Park DID have a bandstand after all, despite it not appearing in Paul Rabbitts', database and Google not finding anything. Indeed, the sign in the park says that it used to have two, where military bands played regular concerts during WW1. Possibly it was one bandstand that moved. Maps and an aerial photograph from between the wars show a bandstand between the pond and Ashley Road.

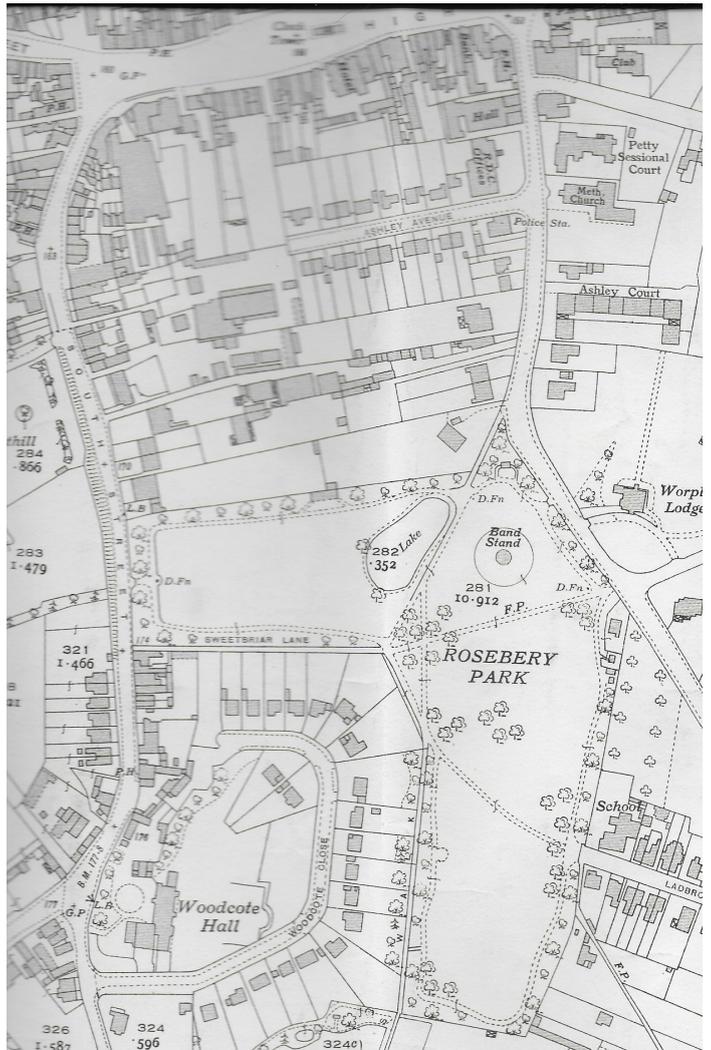
One gentleman told me that the bandstand was there until 1940, and that a band played every Sunday. Another said that his mother attended dances in the park in WW2, and that the bandstand was then still east of the pond. It appears to be missing from an aerial photograph of c1946. I was told that the bandstand was then relocated to between the pond and South Street, and that there were military band concerts on Sunday afternoons in the late 1940s.



1928 photo from the air



Epsom Downs Station c1900. Picture from John Mann collection.



1932 OS map (published 1935)

A photo from c1900 also shows a bandstand outside Epsom Downs station, presumably for the race traffic.

A couple of ladies told of concerts at a bandstand in Shadbolt Park post-WW2.

Forthcoming Events

Anglo-Saxons or the not so Dark Ages

Saturday 8th February 2020 at 1pm - 2:30pm, Bourne Hall Museum, Spring Street, Ewell, KT17 1UF. £5 per child.

Surrey Archaeological Society: Surrey Industrial History Group: Royal Trains

Thursday 13th February 2020 at 10am - 12, Letherhead Institute, 67 High Street, Leatherhead, KT22 8AH. Visitors £5.

Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society: The Old Stones - The Megalithic Sites of Britain and Ireland

Thursday 13th February 2020, at 7:30pm for 8pm, Surbiton Library Halls, Ewell Road, Surbiton, KT6 6AG. An illustrated talk by Andy Burnham, lead author of the Current Archaeology Book of the Year 2019.

Leatherhead & District Local History Society: TBA

Friday 21st February 2020, at 7:30pm for 8pm, Letherhead Institute, 67 High Street, Leatherhead, KT22 8AH.

Surrey Archaeological Society: Surrey Industrial History Group: Britain's Military Railways

Thursday 27th February 2020 at 10am - 12, Letherhead Institute, 67 High Street, Leatherhead, KT22 8AH. A talk by Geoff Roles. Visitors £5.

Surrey Archaeological Society: Annual Symposium

Saturday 29th February 2020 at 9:30am for 10am - 5pm, Peace Memorial Hall, Woodfield Lane, Ashted, KT21 2BE. Tickets £15 in advance.

Surbiton and District Historical Society: AGM

Tuesday 3rd March 2020 at 7.30pm for 7.45pm, Surbiton Library Annex.

Surrey Archaeological Society: Roman Studies Group: Using the Surrey Historic Environment Record to research Roman rural settlements in the county

Tuesday 3rd March 2020 at 7.30pm, Letherhead Institute, 67 High Street, Leatherhead. A talk by Rob Briggs; check with the SyAS website to confirm details.

Carshalton And District History & Archaeology Society: AGM and pictures of 2019 visits

Saturday 7th March 2019 at 2.45pm, Milton Hall (the Darby & Joan Club), Cooper Crescent, Carshalton, SM5 2LG.

Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society: Viking Age Non-ferrous

Metalworking

Thursday 12th March 2020, at 7:30pm for 8pm, Surbiton Library Halls, Ewell Road, Surbiton, KT6 6AG. Evidence from the British Isles and Scandinavia compared. A talk by Dr Justine Bayley.

Leatherhead & District Local History Society: TBA

Friday 20th March 2020, at 7:30pm for 8pm, Letherhead Institute, 67 High Street, Leatherhead, KT22 8AH.

Carshalton And District History & Archaeology Society: The Restoration of Clandon Park

Saturday 4th April 2020 at 3.00pm, Milton Hall (the Darby & Joan Club), Cooper Crescent, Carshalton, SM5 2LG. A talk by Paul Dommett.

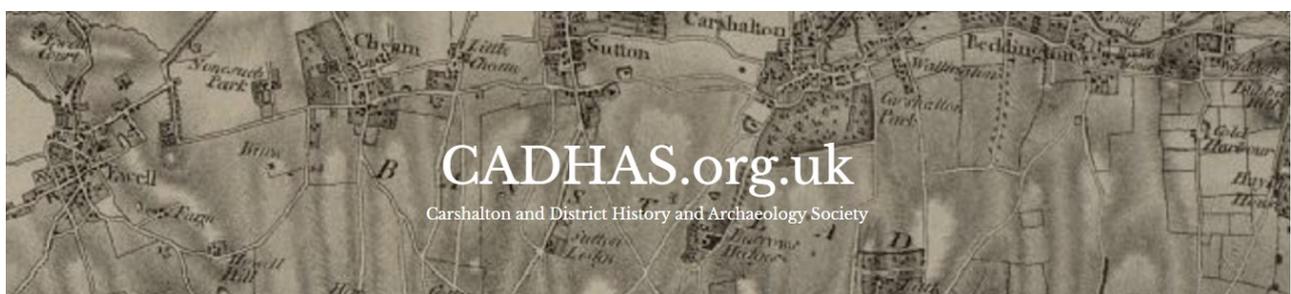
Friends of Nonsuch visit to the Archive Department of the Museum of London

If you can get hold of a copy of the November 2019 Friends of Nonsuch Newsletter (No. 116), take a look at the centre pages. In May 2019 the Friends of Nonsuch visited the Archive Department of the Museum of London, and were allowed to see some of the artefacts found during the 1959-61 excavations of Nonsuch Palace. There are coloured pictures of building materials of stone, carved wood and slate; plates and bowls in pewter; a Tudor rose carved on slate, with gilded tips to its petals; earthenware pots and flagons; early majolica from Italy; and a wooden tobacco pipe carved with a Turk's head.

One hundred years of archaeology in Carshalton and District

Clive Orton

One of Surrey's oldest local archaeological societies, the Carshalton and District History and Archaeology Society, will celebrate its Centenary in 2020. Formed as the Beddington, Carshalton and Wallington Archaeological Society in November 1920, it expanded its catchment area in 2006 to include the whole of the London Borough of Sutton, while remaining focussed around Carshalton (the geographical centre of the Borough). The year will be marked by a Centenary Tea for members in October 2020, as well as other events for the public throughout the year. A Heritage Treasure Hunt (with prizes) will be held in July/August, coinciding with the start of the national Festival of Archaeology, and other events are planned. To keep up with their plans for the year, visit the society's website, cadhas.org.uk.



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Chairman’s Notes (continued):

The Council’s “new” principles are very general and appear rather as all things to all men! The first principle for example includes the assumption that development should be “sympathetic to local character, including the surrounding built environment.” The proof of this of course is how far it influences individual planning decisions. We look forward to the new decade.

We welcome the following new members:

Mr H Collings

Mr H Ricketts

Can You Help?

We need a volunteer to deliver newsletters in Ewell. It is only five times a year and if you can help us please get in touch with Doreen at a meeting.

2020 Subscriptions

Members are reminded that subscriptions for 2020 become due on 1st January. Subscriptions can be paid at the monthly meetings, or by post to the Treasurer, Jane Pedler, or the Membership Secretary, Doreen Tilbury. Subs are £15 for ordinary membership, £22 for family membership, £6 for student, or £22 for corporate and school memberships. A slip is provided below:

2020 Subscriptions

I (we) wish to renew membership for 2020 Amount enclosed.....

Name and address.....

.....

.....

E-mail address.....

Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society
Founded 1960 Registered Charity No. 259221

Useful contact details

President: Jon Cotton MA, FSA

Chairman: Steve Nelson

Secretary: Nikki Cowlard, 1 Norman Avenue, Epsom KT17 3AB (01372) 745432

e-mail info@epsomewellhistory.org.uk

Treasurer: Jane Pedler

Archaeology Officer: Frank Pemberton

Conservation Officer: Nikki Cowlard (see details above)

Membership Secretary: Doreen Tilbury

Newsletter Editor: Jeff Cousins

Programme Secretary: Vacant

If you are interested in this post please contact the Secretary.

Please send copy for the next newsletter to the Newsletter Editor by 12 March 2020.

Visit our website

www.epsomewellhistory.org.uk

Gift Aid

Just a further reminder that if you pay tax EEHAS, as a charity, can claim Gift Aid on your subscription or donations, at no cost to yourself. In order for us to do this you need to sign a Gift Aid Declaration form which is available at meetings and can also be found on the Society website on the Membership page.

You can see a colour copy of this newsletter on the Society website from mid February
www.epsomewellhistory.org.uk

Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society

Annual Report for 2019



INTRODUCTION

This annual report highlights the main activities of the Society for the year ending 31st December 2019. The well-being of the Society owes a great deal to the hard work of a core group of members, and we thank them for this.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

The principal officers and committee members during the year were:

President	Jonathan Cotton
Vice President	Stephen Nelson
Chairman	Stephen Nelson
Secretary	Nikki Cowlard
Treasurer	Jane Pedler
Committee	Rosemary Burleigh, Jeff Cousins, David Hartley, Doreen Tilbury and Ian West.

The Committee held six meetings during the year.

Other functionaries are:

Archaeology Officer	Frank Pemberton	Conservation Officer	Nikki Cowlard
Membership Secretary	Doreen Tilbury	Newsletter Editor	Jeff Cousins
Programme Secretary	Vacant	Publicity Officer	Vacant

MEMBERSHIP

Memberships at the end of the year in terms of subscriptions paid were 56 (-1) ordinary and 18 (-2) family. There were a total of 74 subscriptions and the Society has 5 honorary members. The gradual decline in membership continues, and this combined with reduced involvement by existing members has implications for how the Society can function going forward.

LIAISON WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

EEHAS is affiliated to Surrey Archaeological Society, Surrey Record Society and the Council for British Archaeology. E-newsletters are exchanged with neighbouring local history societies. Some of our members have individual membership of Surrey Archaeological Society: our President, Jonathan Cotton is a Vice-President of the Society; Nikki Cowlard, our Secretary, is President and also Secretary of the Roman Studies Group; David Hartley and Steve Nelson are active members of SyAS' Medieval Studies Group. Several members are also members of other local archaeological and historical societies such as KuTAS, Esher History Society, and Surbiton and District Historical Society.

PUBLICITY

Thanks go to Nikki Cowlard for updating the Society information board at Bourne Hall Museum, and for running the website and Facebook page. **The post of Publicity Officer is still vacant** so, if you think you might be interested, do talk to a member of the committee who can advise you as to what the role entails.

PUBLICATIONS

The Society published Occasional Paper **58** *Wartime in a Surrey Town: Epsom 1914-1918* by Trevor White and a number of other publications are in the pipeline. We are grateful to Rosemary Burleigh for managing the sales desk at the monthly meetings.

Members are encouraged to carry out local historic research and to approach the committee if they have papers for publication.

ARCHAEOLOGY

Report 2019

Frank Pemberton, Archaeology Officer

Having completed the report evaluating the Iron Age and Roman site at Purberry Shot, Epsom Road, Ewell, it is worth drawing out the information of the five phases of evidence at the site.

There is evidence of an Early Iron Age (c. 600-400BC) settlement surface with many fragments of handmade jars, followed later by a pottery debris of the Early Romano-British Iron Age c. late 1st c. BC – 70 AD. The late 1st – early 2nd century is dominated by the remains of a hearth used for smithing and forging iron objects, and a well with a box construction which would have been built up of planks joined at its base by half-laps and above by dovetail joints. The well was back filled as a wide flat surfaced road was constructed across the site in the mid -2nd cent AD which seemed to continue in use until the 3rd century AD. The Roman sites nearby provide a picture of the known southern part of the settlement, along the line of the current High Street. The final version of the report is being prepared for publication.

Members may be interested that work in progress on the 1977-78 excavations at Church Meadow (formerly St Mary's Meadow), shows that the structure of the Roman road, Stane Street, consisted of alternate compacted layers of flints laid upon a base of redeposited Thanet Sand, suggesting that the road had been constructed on a scraped surface of the subsoil. Stane Street, originally built c. AD50, was subsequently resurfaced in a phase c. AD 60/70-150 and later in the 3rd century AD. The eastern side of the road revealed a flint wall tumble, postholes and a rubbish midden. Finds in these contexts include flagon, beaker, bowl, dish mortaria and amphora pottery sherds, and plain and decorated South, Central and East Gaul (France) Samian. Small finds include brooches, hair pins, bracelets, writing stylus, iron nails and 34 coins. This report is also being prepared for publication and sale to members soon.

I am currently working up the report on the 1978-1979 excavations that took place at the end of New Churchyard no.4. The aim of the excavations was to locate the back walls of a late 1st century AD Roman building with stone foundations found in 1970 facing onto the eastern edge of Stane Street. Instead the area has many postholes, a hearth and settlement debris probably from the 1st century and later 4th century buildings that stood along the eastern edge of Stane Street.

Next, the report on the 2003 rescue excavation along the boundary of the new churchyard is needed. The eastern edge of Stane Street and part of the camber was found. The interim report I completed at the time needs revisiting.

Church Meadow Project

Nikki Cowlard

Post-excavation work continues, albeit slowly. The cataloguing of the worked flint has been completed with the help of Jon Cotton, and the classification of the ceramic building material will recommence in the New Year.

Bourne Hall excavation report

Final editing is taking place and reports are still needed for a number of finds, including leather shoes, encaustic tiles, and turned wood from the well; it is hoped that it will be published in 2020.

Archaeological Watching Briefs and planning

Members of the Society, when qualified to do so, carry out watching briefs on small developments in the Borough on behalf of Surrey County Council's Archaeological Officer. In 2019 Steve Nelson and Ian West carried out a watching brief at the rear of the post office 4-5 Market Parade, Ewell Village in June. Three 1m sq. test pits, dug through the existing shop floor, were examined. Evidence suggested the area was a garden prior to the Market Parade shops. We highlight the need for archaeological monitoring conditions in the planning process, and building works that take place in the Borough and are large or important enough to warrant commercial archaeological intervention, are monitored by the Society, ensuring the results are disseminated.

CONSERVATION

The Society's Conservation Officer checks the Borough's planning applications regularly to highlight applications which affect listed buildings, locally listed buildings and buildings of interest within conservation areas. The Officer also respond to concerns from members about conservation issues that affect the community.

As always there is pressure on built-up areas for development, whether in back gardens, knocking down buildings and redeveloping, or on brown-field or green-field sites. Whilst we cannot stop future development in our neighbourhoods we can all help reduce the negative impact by voicing our concerns and ensuring that the development that goes ahead is appropriate for its surroundings and respects our historic buildings and environs.

The Committee has liaised with the Council Planning Heritage Officer to raise issues of concern related to nationally or locally-listed buildings. Planning applications or conservation issues which we have discussed, commented on or viewed include: 57-61 High Street, Ewell; 24-28 West Street, Epsom; 32 High Street, Ewell; The Star, Ewell; Woodcote Grove, Epsom; Lloyd's Pharmacy, Market Place, Epsom; 9A High Street, Ewell; St. Martin's School, Epsom; Westgate House, Chalk Lane, Epsom; Langley Vale memorial woodland site; St. Mary's Church wall, Ewell; 10 Church Street, Ewell; and The White Horse, Epsom.

We are fortunate to have the expertise of Ian West in recording buildings at risk, and to feed appropriately into planning applications.

We rely on you to let us know of any concerns you have about local buildings - we need 'eyes and ears' around the Borough to make sure problems are picked up and highlighted. You can contact us by phone, e-mail or post.

Nikki Cowlard, 1 Norman Avenue, Epsom KT17 3AB 01372 745432 nikki.cowlard@btinternet.com

BOURNE HALL MUSEUM

Members of EEHAS continue to support the Museum and Jeremy Harte, the Museum's curator, aids members' work on historical and archaeological archives.

LECTURE PROGRAMME AND VISITS

Committee members have arranged another interesting and varied programme of lectures, in the absence of a lecture coordinator. This year's lectures were: *An Incredible Journey: the Huguenots* (Joyce Hampton); *John Linnell (1792-1882): Finding glory in Surrey Landscape painting* (Iain McKillop); *The archaeology of Neolithic ritual and magic in Surrey and beyond* (Jon Cotton); *Life in the Victorian household* (Dr. Katie Carpenter); *Richmond upon Thames Through Time* (Paul Lang); Merton Priory (John Hawks); *The Roman-Saxon transition* (Rob Briggs); *'Why on Earth is Ewell where it is? The answer lies in geology, naturally'* (Prof. Richard Selley); *Victorian portraiture as a social history* (Stephen Furniss); *The Vikings and my travels To Denmark & Stockholm* (Richard Watson). The members' meeting in August had a number of varied talks: Tolworth Court Farm (Steve Nelson); Scandinavian Rock Art (Brenda Allen); *The Légion D'Honneur and my father* (Elizabeth Bennett). The Christmas party was enjoyed by attending members and included a number of Christmas related readings from Victorian authors. Mulled wine and a abundant buffet together with quizzes and a raffle spread festive cheer.

REFRESHMENTS

The role of refreshments co-ordinator has now been vacant since 2015, with the role being carried by the committee. All members are encouraged to take part in the refreshments rota - it is a good way to meet other members and helps to share the workload. Thanks to all those members who have contributed their help this year.

NEWSLETTERS

Five newsletters were produced throughout the year, edited by Jeff Cousins. Our thanks go to Jeff for producing such informative newsletters. They are also published on the website with colour photographs. The reports on the monthly lecture have been written by committee members due to lack of a volunteer from the membership. Articles that have appeared in the year's newsletters include: 21 Beaconsfield Place; The Great Hole of Danetree; The King's Arms; Romans at Durdans; Antiquitas Rediviva; Bourne Hall test pitting; Nonsuch Park test pitting. Steve Nelson has raised a number of pertinent issues in his Chairman's Notes: the proposed SCC cuts to its Cultural Services; the continued threat to the Borough's historic buildings; the changes to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (previously the HLF); the updating of the Treasure Act 1996 and the Code of Conduct; the KuTAS publication of excavations at Tolworth Court Farm and the paucity of sites open in the Borough for Heritage Open Days.

Thanks as ever to Doreen Tilbury for organising distribution of the newsletter. Assistance by volunteers in distributing to people who do not regularly attend our meetings gives a useful saving in postal costs.

FINANCES

The Treasurer's Report will be available at the AGM and will be published online in advance of the meeting. The Society's finances remain in the capable hands of Jane Pedler.



Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society

Annual General Meeting 2020

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of Epsom & Ewell History & Archaeology Society will be held on Wednesday 4th March 2019 at 8p.m. at St. Mary's Church Hall, London Road, Ewell.

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence.
2. To confirm the Minutes of the AGM held on 6th March 2019 (circulated with the April 2019 newsletter).
3. Matters arising from the Minutes not otherwise covered by the agenda.
4. To receive and adopt, if approved, the Annual Report (herewith).
5. To receive and adopt, if approved, the Treasurer's Report and the Account and Balance Sheet for 2019.

6. Election of Officers

The following are nominated for re-election:

President	Jonathan Cotton
Vice-President	Stephen Nelson
Chairman	Stephen Nelson
Secretary	Nikki Cowlard
Treasurer	Jane Pedler

Committee Members due for re-election are:

Rosemary Burleigh, Ian West.

Committee members not due for re-election this year are:

Jeff Cousins, David Hartley, Doreen Tilbury.

Election of independent examiner

Rod Clarke is nominated for re-election.

7. Open Forum

Members of the Society are invited to ask questions about EEHAS affairs and to give their views on future activities. If anyone prefers to make a short contribution to be read out at the meeting it should be sent to be received by the Secretary at least seven days before the meeting.

8. Any other business