

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT
LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER



February, 2003

LEATHERHEAD & DISTRICT LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Registered Charity No. 802409

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CHAIRMAN

Peter A. Tarplee

01372 452301

SECRETARY

Judith Mills

01372 372146

TREASURER

Norma Robertson

01372 453795

The Society meets on the third Friday of the month at the Letherhead Institute from
September to May. For details see programme in this issue.

2003 Membership Subscriptions

Ordinary.....£12.00

Associate.....£5.00

Junior (under 18)..... £1.00

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

Jenny Morris

01372

The Museum will remain closed until 3rd April. From that date opening times will be: -

Thursdays and Fridays 1.0 p.m. to 4.0 p.m.

Saturdays 10.0 a.m. to 4.0 p.m.

CURATOR

Graham Evans

01372 386348

The Library at The Letherhead Institute is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 10.0 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. **It is no longer open on Saturdays.**

Exceptionally, arrangements may be made to use it at other times by applying to the Librarian.

LIBRARIAN

Gwen Hoad

01372 273934

The Records are available for study by arrangement.

RECORDS SECRETARY

Brian Godfrey

01372 454654

Lectures . Co-ordination of the Society's lecture and visits programme and L & D L H S
speakers for local societies.

PROGRAMME & LECTURE SECRETARY **Gordon Knowles**

01372 458396

The Newsletter is published quarterly in February, May, August and November.

Copy for the May 2003 issue should reach the Society's Office by 25th April, 2003.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR **Peter Wall**

01372 277690

The Friends of Leatherhead Museum support the Society's work on behalf of the Museum.

SECRETARY

Thelma Lucas

01372 844345

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

First of all I must give a warm welcome to the new editor of the *Newsletter*, Peter Wall. We are very grateful that he has agreed to take over from John Wettern for, as I explained in an earlier issue, the *Newsletter* is a very important part of the Society's activities. For many members, particularly those who do not come to our monthly meetings, it is their main channel of communication with us. It is also a useful means of putting on record items which may be too urgent, or not appropriate to appear in the *Proceedings*.

It is also very pleasing to record that Jenny Morris has agreed to be nominated as Membership Secretary to take over from Jack Barker at the AGM.

Enclosed with this *Newsletter* you will find most of the papers for the AGM. From these you will note that we still have vacancies on the committee and that more nominations are required. For a society such as ours to operate properly there are a number of tasks which need to be carried out. If you are keen for the society to continue doing all the things to which we have become accustomed please give some thought to see whether there is any way in which you may be able to help us.

Last month I listed some of the improvements which have been made to our museum recently for which we have received grants. I am pleased to report that we have now received a further grant from the Surrey Museum Consultative Committee of around £1,800. This is half the cost of some new display cabinets. Having obtained the grant the cabinets have now been ordered and will be installed before we reopen in the Spring. We are very grateful to SMCC for this help as grants of this type enable us to attempt to transform our very small museum into a more 'professional' operation.

Once again we are grateful to Gordon Knowles for organising a very interesting Christmas Miscellany with a varied selection of contributions. It was particularly pleasing to meet the Rev Dr Stephen Sheppard, who was one of our founder members, and who had travelled from Hereford using five trains and a bicycle in order to arrive at Leatherhead. He also made it worthwhile for Margaret Longstreeth to open the 'shop.'

Since the meeting I have received a letter from Stephen expressing his pleasure at the occasion and also provided more memories of his early life in Fetcham. Some while ago Dr Sheppard kindly gave a copy of his second doctoral thesis to the Society. 'Primeval Pagan Mnemosyne' - described as a penetrative investigation into Primordial Paganish Beliefs and Ritual Practices in Six Selective Areas: with particular reference to the Early Christian Missionaries, what they insouciantly encountered, discovered, knew of, rebuffed or syncretised with, whatever may be deduced. This includes a study of our local area and any member wishing to read this should contact the Records Secretary

Peter Tarplee

SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE

ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

This year the annual symposium will again be held in the Peace Memorial Hall, Woodfield Lane, Ashted. The event is to be held on Saturday 22nd February between 10.00 am and 5.00 pm.

A full programme of talks will take place with a number of displays, one of which will be provided by our society.

The tickets will cost £5.00 at the door.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARIAN

Among fairly recent books published about our area is one which appeared in 2001. "*The History of St John's School, Leatherhead*" by Richard Hughes and published by Gresham Books. Here is a short extract from it.

"In 1943 the school purchased the large house opposite the school, '*Windfield*', for £11,000 from the Still family. (E R Still, Chairman of the Council between 1918 and 1930, had married the daughter of Charles Churchill, the philanthropist who had arranged the removal of the school from Hamilton Terrace [Marylebone] and who was the first Chairman of the committee. He had died in 1931). The intention of the school was at first to resurrect the idea of a preparatory school and locate it in the building but this idea was soon abandoned. In fact the '*Windfield*' purchase was a constant headache for the school which never really worked out what to do with it. It was leased for a time to Leatherhead Hospital, then to a vacuum cleaner manufacturer; an ambitious proposal to place all the day boys in it was rejected on the grounds of expense; part of the estate was compulsorily purchased by Leatherhead Urban District Council for the building of old people's bungalows - this reduced its attraction as a school facility. In 1961 it was sold to New Ideal Homes Ltd for £150,000 - so it had probably been a wise investment despite the difficulties."

Other additions are :—

SURREY - History

EDWARDS, Pamela, ed - "*Surrey Villages*". Surrey Fed. of WI's, 1968

MOULE, Thomas - "*A topographical description of Surrey, 1837*".

Brian Stevens Historic Prints, 1972.

RIX, Martin & Alison - "*Wisley: the Royal Horticultural Society's garden*".

Julian Holland Pub. 1989.

SURREY - Individual Towns & Villages

BOX HILL

SANKEY, Ann - *The Box Hill book of orchids*".

The Friends of Box Hill, 2000.

LEATHERHEAD

"*Leatherhead Parish Church*", Friends of - St Mary & St Nicholas Parish Church, Leatherhead, 2002.

MOLE VALLEY

GOODACRE, Don - "*Exploring Surrey: the Mole Valley*"

Privately published 1989

All these books and others in the Society's Library are housed within the Letherhead Institute library room. It is accessible to our members only when the L.C.A. library is open to its members, but not on Saturdays (see details on the inside cover of this Newsletter).

It is most important that you show your current L&DLHS membership card to the librarian on duty when you use the library.

Gwen Hoad

MILLENNIUM BOOKS

It was generally recognised that Fetcham had more successful activities during the Millennium than most of its neighbours. It was decided by the 20 members of its Millennium Committee to record these in a book of memorabilia compiled by its chairman Judith Pinsent and Edwina Vardey.

In burgundy with gold-tooled lettering on the cover, it covers the Millennium Trail through to the distribution of mugs and St Luke's Gospels; the kneelers project for St Mary's Church and the Open Air Service, Village Day and It's a Knockout.

Now completed, two identical copies have been made, one for the Surrey Archive at Guildford; another for Fetcham in its Reading Room, while the last will be housed in our museum.

Edwina Vardey

SURREY CASTLES IN THE LANDSCAPE

Paul W Sowan, Chair of Subterranea Britannica has written following the item in the November 2002 *Newsletter*:

"As ever, I enjoyed reading the Society's *Newsletter* and the latest issue to arrive is, to me, particularly interesting.

However, I should point out one error in the article on Surrey Castles in the Landscape. Reigate Castle is on, and the tunnels underneath it are excavated in, the Folkestone Sand and not the chalk.

The Castle is a Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM). The so called 'Barons Cave' (first mentioned in 1586 in William Camden's *Britannia*), and the later sand mines, falling within the SAM boundary, are thus also Scheduled, although parts were filled up in 1987 on safety grounds by Reigate & Banstead Borough Council. Two fairly extensive networks of sand mine excavations remain accessible under the SAM and a further one immediately beyond the SAM boundary. The road tunnel under the castle, opened in 1824, is of interest as England's oldest surviving road tunnel (Listed II).

The Wealden Cave and Mine Society, under licence from the Council, opens the Barons Cave and the sand mines east and west of the tunnel to the public on selected summer Saturdays. Large numbers are attracted off Reigate High Street for guided tours of these pleasantly cool places".

Paul W Sowan

SILENT FILM-MAKING ON FETCHAM DOWNS

A talk on a BBC Radio 4 programme described the early days of British film making during the silent era and I was initially surprised to hear that cowboy films had been made in Britain. Then I remembered my mother walking myself and my sister on Fetcham Downs in the latter days of WWII and early post war years. She remembered watching 'Wild West' films being shot in the area

Updown Wood/Walnut Tree Clump/Junipers area. Western style coaches and horses raced along the tracks criss-crossing that area. There were Red Indians as well as the cowboys. Unfortunately she did not remember any film titles. It seems that in the early 1920's the area's scenery was considered a suitable substitute for the American 'West'. At that time all films were silent. Some of the actors and film directors lodged in the Duke's Head, Leatherhead High Street. My family lodged in the area before moving into the Leatherhead Electricity Company's housing, or while waiting for their new home; "Wroxall", 13 St. John's Avenue, to be completed. As the family did not meet any other people while walking on Fetcham Downs it seemed an ideal, secluded place for film making with little chance of interruption by outsiders. Whether the film makers paid any one for using the land is not known. Attitudes were more relaxed then and expenditure on film making less lavish. It would be interesting to learn if these activities were reported in local newspapers. With the advent of 'talkies' many silent film actors faded into oblivion as the silent screen stars were either unsuitable or could not change.

Charles R Butt

REPORT OF THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

On Friday 15th November our president, Linda Heath, gave a lecture on 'Fanny Burney in Surrey' on the 250th anniversary of the death of the writer, the first English authoress to make a name for herself, before Jane Austen, the Brontes or George Elliot. Fanny Burney was born in Kings Lynn the daughter of Charles Burney, a Doctor of Music and eminent musicologist. She was one of eight children, joined by five more when her father married for a second time. She was especially close to her sister Susan and it was through her that she eventually came to live in Surrey. The family was a cultured one and Fanny met Dr Johnson, Sir Joshua Reynolds, Edmund Burke and other celebrities when the family moved to live in London. She became influenced by a family friend, Samuel Crisp, who lived at Chessington, then in the depths of the Surrey countryside.

Fanny was of small build and indifferent health throughout her life, always frail and easily fatigued. She was shy and hated publicity and was a mixture of conservatism and progressiveness, with a desire to please, timid yet morally and physically courageous. She started writing her journal at the age of fifteen and her first novel, 'Evelina', was written in 1778 when she was aged twenty-six and staying with Samuel Crisp at Chessington. It was written in the form of correspondence and is perhaps the most difficult of her novels for a modern reader to enjoy. It was published anonymously and in great secret, her stepmother having warned her that to be known as a 'scribbler' would count against her eligibility in marriage. The book was an enormous success, everyone trying to guess who might have written it, no-one identifying Fanny as the author, or even that it was by a woman. Eventually the truth came out and she was hailed as a real authoress and achieved considerable fame and celebrity, though alas not a deal of money, owing to the terms of her contract.

In 1782 her second novel, 'Cecilia' was published. again selling well and again making more money for the publisher than for Fanny. She was particularly good at writing of events and people and their dialogues, but rarely gave visual descriptions of places or people, maybe due to her poor eyesight. Jane Austen always gave due acknowledgment to the debt she owed to Fanny for her character writing. In 1786 Fanny, now thirty-four, was offered a position at Court as second keeper of the Robes to Queen Charlotte, wife of George III. She took the post mainly to please her father, realising that it would curtail her writing. She left the Court in 1791 with a pension of £100 per annum for life.

Meanwhile the French Revolution had created havoc and a group of emigrés known as Constitutionals, came and settled in Juniper Hall at Mickleham. Fanny was appraised of this by her sister Susan who was living at Mickleham. Susan and her husband, Captain Phillips were great friends of William Lock and his wife of Norbury. They all visited the emigrés at Juniper Hall and they in turn were welcome guests of the Locks. Fanny came to visit her sister in late January 1793 to find the emigrés in a state of distress following the execution of their

king, Louis XVI. At Juniper Hall she met General Comte Alexandre d'Arblay who had been adjutant to Lafayette but was now penniless in a foreign country. Fanny wrote to her father that she was staying on with her sister to teach d'Arblay English while he would teach her French. She could already read French but was diffident in speaking it.

Dr Burney, a staunch royalist, was unhappy, looking on all French emigrés as potential revolutionaries. Although Fanny was by now forty her father forbade her to accept an invitation to stay at Juniper Hall. She reluctantly acquiesced, largely for fear of upsetting Queen Charlotte and jeopardising her pension which was her sole source of income. d'Arblay, within two months of meeting Fanny, proposed marriage, but he had neither money or position, his estates had been confiscated, he was a Catholic and England was at war with France. Dr Burney was dismayed and Fanny realised the potential social ostracism that she would face if she married d'Arblay and was worried that their financial impecuniosity might ultimately cause him regrets, for they would only have Fanny's £100 pension to live on.

They decided to marry anyway and the ceremony took place at Mickleham church on 28th July 1793, six months after they had met. They started life in rented rooms at Phoenix Farm in Dorking Road at the foot of Blagdon Hill. By November they moved to the house now known as 'The Hermitage' in Lower Road, Bookham, opposite the church. Dr Burney became reconciled to the marriage and corresponded regularly with Fanny. In December 1794, when Fanny was forty-one, their only child was born. He was christened Alexandre in St. Nicholas church by the Reverend Samuel Cooke, Jane Austen's godfather. Fanny revised a play, 'Edwy and Edwiga' which was read by Sheridan and performed in London in March 1795. It was under-rehearsed and poorly produced and was taken off after one performance.

Fanny now published her third novel, 'Camilla' or 'A Picture of Youth', which was written almost entirely at Bookham in less than six months. It is in five volumes, reaching over 600 pages in today's paperback edition. It had mixed reviews but sold well, 3,500 copies being bought in the first three months. Fanny was delighted as it turned out a financial success for her. With the money from

Camilla the d'Arblays built a cottage on a plot of land given them by William Lock, which was called Camilla Lacey. Unfortunately they did not own the land and when William Lock's son in due course sold Norbury Park the cottage too had to be sold. In 1801 d'Arblay was free once more to return to France, which he did with his family. Unfortunately war once again broke out and it was not until after Waterloo that Fanny was able to return to England. She subsequently said that her years in Surrey were the happiest of her life.

To conclude her most informative and interesting lecture Linda read extracts from Fanny Burney's work and showed some excellent slides of the area in which Fanny and her husband lived in Surrey.

Gordon Knowles

REPORT OF THE DECEMBER MEETING OF THE SOCIETY

Jubilees in the past were the topical theme of our Christmas Miscellany meeting which was attended by the Rev Dr Stephen Sheppard from Hereford, who had joined the Society at its foundation.

In 1977, Jack Barker had been responsible for the loyal address from the Greater London Council to Her Majesty and had ridden on one of the two silver-painted Routemaster buses which carried the presentation deputation into the courtyard of Buckingham Palace.

Gordon Knowles, who had organized the evening, described the streamlining of the mainline railway locomotives of the 'Thirties', including those named the 'Silver Jubilee' (of King George V) and the 'Mallard', which still held the world speed record for steam trains.

Linda Heath read extracts from the Leatherhead parish magazine giving an account of the children's parties held to celebrate Queen Victoria's jubilees. She also told us of the Rev Sidney Sedgwick, curate of Leatherhead 1897 - 1905, author of the 'Leatherhead Legends' and also composer of the words and music

of many operettas in the style of Gilbert and Sullivan which had been staged here. Graham Evans had found copies of the librettos and Linda, ably partnered by John Wetter, gave us extracts from 'The Heart of the Griffin'. King Trilobite, out walking with his shrewish wife, meets a dinosaur and flees. His wife disappears and the king declares that no-one should marry until he had taken his pick, much to the dismay of various other couples. Fortunately, the queen reappears and discomfits her husband.

Peter Tarplee gave a wide-ranging talk on the history of water supplies, from private wells with the water raised in buckets by horse-powered winding gear (as at Bocketts and Highlands farms) or by wind pumps or waterwheels (Painshill, Cobham Park). Many local villages had public wells on their greens, supplemented or replaced by troughs and drinking fountains erected by local worthies in commemoration of important events. In 1738, a Quaker had created a public supply in Dorking, over a century and a half before the Leatherhead Company's borehole of 1884 and the later piping from the springs at Fetcham.

Derek Renn spoke of the introduction of the pillar box into the British Isles in 1852, following the explosion of letter writing due to the introduction of the penny post. He showed pictures of boxes of the 1850's still in use and appealed for details of the audience's local boxes, as part of a survey it was hoped to publish soon.

Our next meeting will be on Friday 17th January at 7.30 pm for 8.00 pm in the main hall of the Letherhead Institute in the High Street, when John Hampton will tell us about the work of his Air Photographic Unit of the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments. Visitors are most welcome at all our meetings.

Derek Renn

"THE BEGINNING OF OUR SOCIETY"

Member the Rev Dr Stephen Sheppard now living in Hereford contributes the following.

He believes he was the Society's first junior member at the age of nine.

In the closing years of WWII he was a pupil at two former local schools; The Lindens day Preparatory School, Park Rise, and Dorking County Grammar School. As a result of his parents inviting a group of tweed clad walkers who were passing the family home (6 Lower Road, Fetcham) in for tea, the Rev Dr Sheppard became involved in local history and archaeology. He remembers the gentleman's ancient tweed cap and hand carved ash walking stick and recalls his mother hunting out the prized family blue tea set. This gentleman was keen to set up a Fetcham history group or society. A week later a group of about five people met near what later became the junction of The Mount and Guildford Road. In those days the road was high banked with an outer ditch south of the footpath. It was sinuous until one reached the chalk pits with no residences nearby. The flat-roofed 408 buses laboured up this hill with their noisy engines and crash gearboxes. Under the direction of a Mr Carruthers (who arrived on an ancient black bicycle) the group's first task was to excavate "The Mounts" in the parish of Patchesham. A Captain Lowther came in his heavily laden car (a Wolsley?) its boot crammed with picks and shovels, measuring tapes, plus anti midge ointment and Elastoplast in metal tins from Boots in Leatherhead High Street. Following this, the young Mr Sheppard would take the 78 bus to Juniper Hall where he used a machine to copy old six inch Ordnance Survey maps needed for the newly formed Society's work on the Ashted Common Roman Villa site and other locations.

Stephen Sheppard

SENHORA RIDES AGAIN

Viewers of Channel 4 Television may have seen the series 'Salvage Squad' in which a resident team, aided by specialists, restore a large piece of machinery to working order. The programme screened on 13th January 2003 was devoted to a steam-driven 'galloper', that is, a fairground 'ride' on which the wooden horses and cockerels go up and down as well as round and round.

Local interest was established by the previous owner's son, who had a photograph (reproduced in Mr Fortescue's 1975 book at page 90) of the Duke of

York (later King George VII) riding on it on the afternoon of 19th June 1922 during the Great Bookham country fair. It was even possible to identify the actual horse ridden by the Duke, from a broken tooth and the name 'Senhora' under layers of paint.

References:

S E D Fortescue, 1971 The Gigantic Fete, Bazaar and Country Fair, Great Bookham.

S E D Fortescue, 1975 The Story of Two Villages, Great and Little Bookham.

Derek Renn

NEWS FROM THE FRIENDS

I think most people have heard of the very sad news of the sudden death of David Robinson. He was a very active member of the Friends, working mainly on publicity. My favourite memory of him is remembering him dressed as a Victorian gentleman standing by the horse drawn bus last year during our birthday celebrations.

He was also involved in the educational work we are hoping to do with schools and youth groups. He had a very outgoing relationship with children and already he was well known to Woodville School, so we have a sound foundation to build on.

Stewards Unfortunately the number of stewards has decreased somewhat, so once again I am appealing for some more people to come forward to take on this task. It is not too big a commitment as the shifts are only three hours long, once a month and you meet some very interesting people. Is there nobody from the History Society who would be prepared to help? The opening of the museum is dependent on having enough stewards to cover the opening hours of the museum which we would like to increase, but unless more people come forward there is a real danger that we shall not be able to open as frequently as we do at present. It is particularly sad that our Sunday opening proved impractical.

Stewards are required to do some training and various dates have been arranged in March, so now is the ideal time to volunteer.

So the Friends have three great needs:

1) More museum stewards. 2) Someone to take on the publicity work which David did and, 3) Someone to prepare and maintain the Stewards' rota.

Surely between the Friends and the History Society and local residents we can fill the gaps. *Thelma Lucas' telephone number is 01372 844345 ED.*

Thelma Lucas

LECTURE PROGRAMME

Lecture meetings are held in the Dixon Hall of the Letherhead Institute, High Street, normally at 8.0 p.m., with coffee beforehand at 7.30.

Friday 21st March. ' *Merton Priory*', by Lionel Green, Chairman of the Merton Historical Society, which he helped found fifty-two years ago. He has studied every aspect of the Priory's history.

Situated close to London, Merton Priory was convenient for kings to enjoy the peace of the countryside, but it also provided a place of sanctuary, of learning, for meetings of Parliament, for convocations and ordinations. Lionel will tell of the Priory's foundation, the layout of the precincts, and the daughter houses of Merton. We hope to learn something of its possessions which included the manors of Little Ashted, Pachesham, Polesden and a mill at Fetcham.

Friday 25th April. The **Annual General Meeting of the Society**, followed by a talk — ' *The Story behind the Story of the Old & New Atlas*

Works at Bookham' by Peter Tarplee.

Peter has researched the history of the two works and the involvement of the Burney Brothers and Gillett Stephen in the Blackburne engine business. His paper will be printed in the forthcoming issue of the *Proceedings of the Society*

and he will tell us of some of his investigations and interviews that lie behind his published work.

Friday 16th May. *'The Story of Woodfield Farm, Ashtead'*
by Gwen Hoad our librarian.

Last Autumn, Gwen gave an excellent talk to members of the Leatherhead Community Association on former farms in Ashtead. In the course of her researches she gathered so much information about Woodfield Farm that she feels it merits a talk on its own, though she will, of course refer to other farms in Ashtead too.

WALKS AND VISITS

Saturday 26th April at 11.00 am. Morning visit by cars to Southside House, Wimbledon. *(NB. Numbers are limited, so book early.)* This is a house with a fascinating history, still lived in by the descendants of Robert Pennington who built it for his family in 1665 to escape the Plague in London. His great-granddaughter married Alex Munthe, who wrote *'The Story of San Michele'* while living there. In 1750 the Prince of Wales stayed there and, later on, William and Emma Hamilton and Nelson were frequent visitors. Good pubs nearby for lunch afterwards! *Cost £5.00 (No concessions). Please send your application to Linda Heath (tel. 372603) on the enclosed form with cheque and s.a.e. for directions.*

Saturday 17th May at 2.30 pm. Visit by cars to Reigate Priory. If possible, we hope to include the Museum there also, but it is undergoing extensive renovations and may still not be open by then. However, the Priory itself has a most interesting history - it was founded in the 12th century and converted to a mansion in Tudor times. It was occupied by various people of note at different times, including Mrs Greville of Polesden Lacey who rented it for several years before buying Polesden. The visit includes a video film about the history of the house. *Cost £2.00. Please send your application to Linda Heath (tel. 372603) on the enclosed form with cheque and s.a.e. for directions.*

Sunday 8th June at 2.30 pm. Visit by cars to Horsley Towers, former home of the Earl of Lovelace. Further details in the May Newsletter. *Cost £3.00. Please*

send your application to Jack Barker (tel. 458569) on the enclosed form with cheque and s.a.e. if directions needed.

FUTURE EVENTS

A guided walk round Westcott village has been arranged for the evening of **Thursday 10th July**, and we may have a walk round Ripley village in August or September. Details and booking slips will be in the May Newsletter.

Gordon Knowles

COFFEE ROTA

NO VOLUNTEERS - NO COFFEE! If you can help to serve coffee on just one evening in March, April or May, please contact Linda Heath (372603) as soon as possible.

SUBSCRIPTIONS 2003

Thank you to all those members who have already paid their subscriptions for the current year whether by standing order or direct to me. If you have already paid, your 2003 membership card will be enclosed with this *Newsletter*. If you have not received a card please let me have your subscription as soon as possible.

If you pay by standing order and wish to help the Society's finances by way of the Gift Aid scheme please note that, unless you have previously completed a Gift Aid declaration, you will need to fill in the declaration which was enclosed with the November 2002 *Newsletter*. (Thank you to those 'SO' members who have already sent me their declaration).

Jack Barker, Membership Secretary

