



society

NEWS

The Bulletin of the ENFIELD ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

June 2002 No 165

CONTENTS

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

EAS MEETINGS

The winter lecture programme will commence on 20 September.
Details will appear in the September edition of Society News.

OTHER SOCIETIES

MEETING REPORTS

Crimea: Melting Pot of People
The History and Operation of the New River
The Annual General Meeting

THE LAMAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

INTERIM REPORT ON EXCAVATIONS AT 102 LEIGHTON ROAD

OBITUARY

Arthur Hall

Society News is published quarterly in March, June, September and December
The Editor is Jon Tanner, 24 Padstow Road, Enfield, Middlesex EN2 8BU,
tel: 020 8367 8000 (day); 020 8350 0493 (home); email: jontanner_enfield@hotmail.com

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Meetings of the Enfield Archaeological Society are held at Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage Lane, Enfield (near Chase Side) at 8.00pm. Tea and coffee are served and the sales and information table is open from 7.30pm. Visitors, who are asked to pay a small entrance fee of £1.00, are very welcome.

There is a break in the lecture programme for the summer, and we resume on 20 September with a lecture by Brian Hewitt entitled "E. Augustus Bowles of Myddelton House". Details will appear in the September edition of Society News.

MEETINGS OF OTHER SOCIETIES

EDMONTON HUNDRED HISTORICAL SOCIETY

7.45 for 8.00 p.m. in Jubilee Hall, Parsonage Lane, Enfield unless otherwise stated. Visitors £1.00

Wednesday 26 June 2002

Bruce Castle 7.00pm

William Hone: Dickens Publisher and Radical Journalist

Oona Kelly

Wednesday 24 July 2002

Forty Hall: Garden and Archaeology

Geoffrey Gillam

Enquiries to the Local History Section, Town Hall, Green Lanes, Palmers Green London N13
Tel: 020 8379 2724

HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION – NORTH LONDON BRANCH

All meetings are held at 8.00 p.m. in Jubilee Hall, Parsonage Lane, Enfield.

Tuesday 11 June 2002

The Enfield Comprehensive Education Dispute of 1967

Graham Dalling

(Local History Officer, L B Enfield)

For details, contact Robin Blades, 020 8368 5328

Exhibitions

ENFIELD, EDMONTON, SOUTHGATE: THEIR STORY IN PICTURES

An exhibition at Forty Hall, June-July 2002
presented by the EDMONTON HUNDRED
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The pictures have been selected to cover all parts of the London Borough of Enfield, many of them taken by patient people with large cameras using glass-plate negatives.

The exhibition, entry to which is free, will be open on Saturdays and Sundays between 1.00pm and 4.00pm, on 15/16 June, 22/23 June, 29/30 June, 6/7 July and 13/14 July.

On each day of the exhibition our own Geoffrey Gillam will give short illustrated talks beginning at 1.30pm except on 15 June when they will begin at 2.30pm. They will last about 30 minutes, and will be repeated throughout the afternoons, covering the following subjects:

15/16 June: Forty Hall

22/23 June: Cinema Entertainment in Edmonton, Enfield and Southgate from 1899 to the Present Day

29/30 June: Broomfield House

6/7 July: Millfield House

13/14 July: The Bits and Pieces of History to be Seen Around Us

ROMANS TO REGENERATION: THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF SOUTHWARK

The Cuning Museum in Southwark

01 May – 14 September

Tel: 020 7701 1342

This new exhibition will focus on the archaeology of Southwark and will explore how archaeological evidence has helped to piece together the history of an area and its people. There will be a discovery zone, and exhibits will

include the statue of a Roman hunter god unearthed below Southwark Cathedral, skulls of dogs and horses from the bear baiting arenas on Bankside, and London delftware, together with the cremated remains of the Romano-British woman that was widely and somewhat optimistically reported in the press at the time as being a female gladiator.

MEETING REPORTS

Crimea: Melting Pot of People

Friday 15 February 2002: Ian Jones

Crimea is a Black Sea peninsula where Europe meets Asia, and it used to be part of the Soviet Union. In the last 2500 years, its occupiers have included Cimmerians, Scythians, Romans, Jews, Italians, Mongolians, Armenians, Tartars and Russians. These diverse influences created a rich history, and the area has numerous fascinating sights, many of which are sadly neglected.

Ian Jones, the Society's treasurer, began his illustrated talk on this region at the Greek settlement of Kerch. He had slides of large, Greek-style burial chambers, with tall and narrow entrances, and ceilings built of rising stone circles. In the second century B.C., Mithridates, King of Pontus, took over Kerch and the rest of the Bosphoran kingdom. His long reign ended when his son forced him to commit suicide in 69 B.C.

Ian also had slides of the city of Chersonesus. He showed us its Roman walls, and mosaics from the 5th and 6th century A.D., which featured birds surrounded by rope patterns.

The Italian city state of Genoa built the great, mediaeval castle of Sudak at one end of the overland trade route to Central Asia. Ian's slide showed no wall at the back of the castle, just a sheer cliff. The Genoans had confidence in their command of the sea, and thought an attack up the cliff very unlikely.

The Crimean city of Kaffa was the first place in Europe to fall victim to the great plague, in 1347. Mongols, who were besieging the city, deliberately spread the plague there by cutting the heads off people who had died from it, and catapulting them over the walls. This city later became home to many refugees from Armenia, and some of their monasteries survive. There was also a strong Armenian presence in Chufut-Kale. Here, the Armenians built their houses in the poorest parts of town by carving them out of the soft limestone. These are the only homes from that period, which still survive, and Ian had pictures of some of them.

The Khan's palace at Bakhchisaray was first built in the 16th century and then rebuilt twice in the 19th century. Ian's slides showed

impressive 16th to 18th century wall-paintings and stained glass in the Palace's divan, which was where the Khan had private audiences. They also showed the restored 19th century harem, but Ian did not offer clues about what would happen there. Catherine the Great of Russia took power away from the Khan in 1783.

The region does not receive many tourists. When Ian's party visited the museum at Simferopol, he discovered that the staff had heard that they were on their way and, 10 minutes before they arrived, had attached labels in English to all the exhibits. When he visited the strategic naval town of Sebastopol, he discovered that his party were the only foreigners in the town.

This area is obviously famous for the Crimean War. Ian had slides of the sites of the battles of Balaclava and Alma. Balaclava Bay was a difficult place to land because it was so narrow, as Ian's 19th century picture showed, with wooden boats crammed together. He described the charge of the Light Brigade, but he also told us about the less well-known charge of the Heavy Brigade. The troops realised how blunt their swords were only when in battle against the Russian soldiers, with their thick winter coats. Their leader, General Scarlet, saved the day by leading a charge through the ranks of the enemy.

In the 19th century, Yalta was the favourite seaside resort of Russia's elite. Ian had slides of many palaces and houses there, some impressive, such as the Alexandra Nevsky Cathedral, with its stunning glazed tile exterior, and some quirky. In the late 19th century, a Russian petrol baron built the "Swallows Nest" on the edge of a cliff. Unfortunately, the cliff is gradually disappearing from beneath it. In 1911, the Tsar, Nicholas II, replaced his 1860 Palace with the new Livadia, built from Crimean granite. Ian called its style pseudo-Moorish. He had a slide of its great hall, scene of the 1945 conference, which divided up Europe. Ian described the style of another palace as a mixture of Moorish and Scots baronial.

He finished with some evidence of decline in the Crimea. One slide showed rusting ships from the former Soviet Black Sea fleet - no one can afford to maintain them now. Another showed a disused steel plant. Crimea is not rich in minerals - Stalin's policy of forced industrialisation gave it factories, even though materials had to be transported hundreds of miles. Many of these uneconomic factories and plants have now closed.

The meeting ended with questions, and warm applause. Our chairman, Dennis Hill, took pride in having a treasurer with historical expertise who can deliver an entertaining and informative lecture as well as balancing the Society's books.

Mick Breheny

The History and Operation of the New River

Friday 15 March 2002: John Cunningham

John Cunningham, a retired Metropolitan Water Board chartered civil engineer, gave an excellent talk on the New River with particular reference to the Forty Hall/Whitewebbs loop of its old course.

Prior to the arrival of the New River, growing London suffered increasing water shortages, its supply coming from conduits such as that from Tyburn, shallow and easily contaminated wells and brackish water from the River Thames.

Construction of the New River from Chadwell Springs near Hertford started in April 1609 following the one hundred foot contour to London with a drop of only 5½" (140mm) per mile (1.6km). It was about 21 feet (6.4m) wide and 6 feet (1.8m) deep and drew 2½ million gallons (11.4 million litres) per day from the springs. Additional demand led to the building of a metered sluice to draw off additional water from the nearby River Lea.

The River was unable when it was built to cross the valleys of a number of streams such as Maidens Brook running through the grounds of Forty Hall. In this case it had to make an 8km (5 mile) long loop up to the present Crews Hill pumping station before returning to a point near the bottom of Clay Hill. It passed under Cuffley Brook, which was carried, on a wooden aqueduct known as a flash since a trapdoor in it could be opened to draw water from the brook.

John described conditions down a deep supply well similar to that at the Crews Hill pumping station, and how a 20 foot (6.1m) drop gravity fed its output to the part of the Loop lying in front of Myddelton House.

The rest of the talk encompassed the original wooden Bush Hill frame, numerous pumping stations - some being architectural gems - filter beds and tunnels and the New River Head at Clerkenwell from whence under gravity water was fed to the City by elm pipes.

John concluded with a fascinating account of the maintenance of the New River, clearly drawing on his own experience. This included renewing the original puddle clay lining, repairing sudden breaks in the banks and dealing summer weed growth.

His audience responded with a series of lively questions. It is all too easy to take our supply of clean drinking water for granted, but John drew attention to the history and

continuing work "behind the scenes"

Dennis Hill

The Annual General Meeting

Friday 19 April 2002

Society Chairman Dennis Hill opened the 46th Annual General Meeting of the Enfield Archaeological Society by welcoming all present, with a special welcome to John and Gwen Ivens who had travelled from South Wales. The formal part of the meeting then commenced with Item 1 on the Agenda, the Minutes of the 45th AGM held on 20 April 2001 and published in *Society News* 161, June 2001. The Minutes were approved by those present.

The next item on the Agenda was the report of the Executive Committee, which has appeared in *Society News* 164, March 2002: the meeting duly approved the report.

The Financial Statement had been distributed at the meeting, and was proposed, seconded and accepted. The deficit shown in the report is something of an illusion, as a large proportion of subscriptions were not paid in to the bank account until January. Stephen Gilbert asked from the floor whether the Society might benefit from asking tax-paying members to complete Gift Aid Declaration forms with their subscriptions: Ian Jones will look into the matter. Dennis Hill expressed the thanks of the Society to the Auditors and to the Treasurer, Ian Jones.

Item 4 on the Agenda was Subscriptions for the Year 2003, and Ian Jones rose to explain that the Committee recommended an increase in subscription rates due to increased costs, including the insurance premium which has doubled, and the increasing level of activities undertaken by the Society. In addition, *Society News* is now posted to all members. The subscription rates proposed for 2003 are £7.00 for Ordinary Members, £10.00 Joint Members and £3.50 for Junior Members. The definition of Joint Members is to be amended to include any number of named persons residing at a single address. The new rates were proposed by Ian Jones, seconded by Leonard Hemming, and carried unanimously.

The fifth item on the Agenda was the election of the Executive Committee. The committee stood for re-election with the exception of Peter Warby, who was standing down due to other commitments. On behalf of the Society, Dennis Hill thanked Peter for his work in sorting and cataloguing the Society's library. During the course of the year, Dr Martin

Dearne had been co-opted to the Committee.

The Executive Committee was then re-elected unopposed, as follows:

President:	Harvey Sheldon BSc FSA FRSA
Vice Presidents:	Dr Iliid Anthony Ivy Drayton Geoffrey Gillam
Chairman:	Prof. Dennis Hill
Vice Chairman:	Ian Jones
Hon. Treasurer:	Ian Jones
Hon. Secretary:	Jon Tanner
Hon. Meetings Secretary:	vacant
Hon. Membership Secretary:	Jon Tanner*
Hon. Social Secretary	vacant
Hon. Editor:	Jon Tanner
Auditor:	Michael Ranson
Committee:	Roger Eddington Les Whitmore Caroline McKenna Mike Dewbrey Dr Martin Dearne**

* denotes "Acting" capacity.

** co-opted during 2001

Geoffrey Gillam then addressed the meeting to pay tribute to the late Arthur Hall who had died recently, in his 101st year. An obituary appears elsewhere in this edition of *Society News*.

The Reports of Fieldwork and Excavations then commenced, and Les Whitmore rose to describe the continuing excavation at 102 Leighton Road. An Interim Report on this work appears below.

This intriguing report was followed by Dennis Hill's update of work at the Tudor Bowling Green House, which is believed to lie below the lawn at Myddelton House. Our neighbouring society HADAS has assisted by

carrying out a resistivity survey of the lawn, which identified a large anomaly. Permission has been given for the Society to open some small evaluation trenches to ascertain whether this anomaly is indeed the remains of Bowling Green House.

On behalf of the Society Dennis has also recently attended the opening of the newly restored animal pound at Fox Lane, where a hitherto unsuspected brick paved floor had been revealed by members of the Society (*Society News* 163, December 2001, 12).

Dennis remained on his feet to describe how the brickwork of Elsyng Palace continues to suffer from tree root damage. A survey of the area of the formal and water gardens has been proposed. Consent has been obtained for HADAS to carry out a resistivity survey of the area of the gatehouse.

Geoffrey Gillam then gave an update on Cheshunt Park. Romano-British roadside settlements on Ermine Street were part of the Imperial post system and existed at Enfield, Ware and Cheshunt Park. Geoffrey has recently revisited the excavation of the 1950's and 60's at the latter (*Society News* 161, June 2001 and 162, September 2001). This fieldwork was not carried out directly by the Society but by a group of local amateurs, although senior Society members did visit the site and offer advice. More recently, a researcher for the "Time Team" television programme visited Geoffrey, seeking background information in advance of the programme's brief excavation of the site. Geoffrey was also able to describe the Society's excavation that attempted to locate Ermine Street in the locality, but this was not used in the transmitted programme.

The major features of the site included a sinuous horizontal flue with chimneys at intervals, and evidence of a hypocaust floor. The Time Team programme concluded that the flue was associated with metalworking, and that the hypocaust room was used for malting barley. By extension, this was then used to suggest that the structures comprised the equivalent of a roadside tavern and associated shops. No mention was made of the fragments of box tile recovered from the site, however, and there was no mention of the frequent visits to the original excavation by Dr Iliid Anthony and the late Dr John Kent.

The story serves as a salutary warning

not only of the perils of uncontrolled excavation by untrained amateurs, but also of the dangers of professional work with imposed time limits and the expectation to provide glib answers.

Mike Dewbrey then rose to give an account of the Society's Fieldwork and Excavation Group, known as the Enfield Pastfinders. There are around fifty members who have registered an interest, and many have assisted with the work at Leighton Road. Two Newsletters have been issued, and two meetings held at Salisbury House. Possible future work includes a small evaluation trench at a Grade II listed property in Turkey Street that is believed to date to around 1690.

A number of trips are planned for the summer, including visits to Waltham Abbey, the site of the battle of Barnet, Theobalds and the Iron Age hillfort at Amesbury Banks, and Mike showed slides of the sites.

Thanking all present for attending, Dennis Hill then drew the 46th Annual General meeting of the Enfield Archaeological Society to a close.

Jon Tanner

London and Middlesex Archaeological Society Annual Conference Saturday 17 March 2002

On Saturday 17 March 2002 the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society (LAMAS) held its Annual conference at the Museum of London. Harvey Sheldon, president of the Enfield Archaeological Society, was in the Chair, and did his usual excellent job of keeping the long programme to time, and the various speakers provided a comprehensive overview of the results of excavations from sites in and around London.

Tim Carew of Pre-Construct Archaeology opened with descriptions of Neolithic, Bronze and Iron Age sites within the grounds of Ashford Prison, near Staines. These included a Neolithic henge, Bronze Age pottery and Iron Age roundhouses. There was also evidence of a Roman field system confirming occupation of this floodplain site near the River Ash from the first nomadic hunter-gatherers to settled farming communities.

Ken Whittaker of Gifford and Partners followed with a talk of settlements on the edge of the gravel terraces and the Thames floodplain found during construction work on the A13 road in East London. The complex stratigraphy of clays, silts and gravels showed the effects of the various floodings of the Thames throughout the ages. Continuous occupation has occurred from the late Neolithic to Romano-British times.

Jacqueline McKinley of Wessex Archaeology gave a lively account of an excavation of a Saxon cemetery overlaying previous Romano-British burials on a slope above Croydon. There were 43 Saxon inhumation graves and one cremation of a horse. Grave goods included four iron swords, nine spear heads, twelve buckles, two sets of amber or glass beads and the remains of cloth.

Julian Ayre of MOLAS outlined the results of an extensive excavation of a Roman site at 10 Gresham Street in the City. These included a Roman gravel road 2m thick due to re-surfacing with its ditches on either side, a double cesspit, the stone and mudbrick foundations of buildings, a post-hole timber building, the remains of a mosaic floor and beautiful wall paintings on plaster. Some of the buildings had burned down.

The final paper before lunch fell to Bruce Watson of MOLAS on excavations at Blossom's Inn, Gresham Street in the City. The finds included late Neolithic pottery and the forearm of a bronze statue. An exciting find was a timber-lined well complete with a water-lifting system comprising a series of wooden containers on a double chain of iron links driven by a treadwheel. There was also a medieval mikveh – a ritual Jewish bath. The house belonged to the family of a Jewish banker. Jews were only allowed to reside in London from 1090 to 1290.

The afternoon session covered the development of LAARC – the new London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre for London archaeologists, the research interests available in the wide range of Roman artefacts stored in LAARC, the medieval human bones from the excavations at Spitalfields Market and plans for the publication of London's Tudor and Stuart pottery.

Dennis Hill

Interim Report on Excavations at 102 Leighton Road

Members will have seen from the last *Society News* that since last autumn we have been carrying out a series of excavations in the back garden of 102 Leighton Road. This article is an interim report on the work to date. An overview of how this site relates to others in the area of the Roman-British settlement will follow in the next issue.

Greenhouses, Air-raid Shelters and Amphora Handles

Number 102 is situated on the west side of Leighton Road, (TQ34129575) not far from the north (Main Avenue) end of the road. The garden is quite large, approximately 16m by 10m, and slopes upwards slightly towards the west, where it backs on to the rear gardens of Landseer Road. In the summer of last year, the new owner, Mr Jim Costello, started to clear the overgrown garden of his recently purchased house and to demolish the remains of a greenhouse. In the process of removing the fairly substantial brick foundations, he came across some large pieces of unglazed pottery, and being aware that a Roman road passed nearby, thought he might have stumbled across some Roman artefacts. He contacted the society and we confirmed that his conclusion was correct. The initial find contained several types of Roman pottery, including two amphora handles and part of a flagon.

The initial phase of the excavation was carried out by Mike Dewbrey, who assisted Mr Costello by investigating the archaeological features, which partially survived in the vicinity of the greenhouse and a nearby air-raid shelter (Trenches A and B, not shown on the plan). It was then agreed that the Society could excavate further trenches in a systematic manner, at the same time removing any unwanted 20th c. foundations and rubbish. Trench H straddled another air raid shelter of "slit trench" type, which had been backfilled with an amazing variety of rubbish. A zinc plant tag dated the backfilling to no earlier than 1952!

Over the course of the subsequent months, members of the Society have opened five trenches, (C, D, E, H and J), plus Trench F, which recorded finds made by the owner during the removal of rubbish from a part of the garden thought to be completely disturbed.

The sequence of trenches started to reveal signs of several phases of Romano-British occupation and a concentration of features, which suggests that the area was quite intensively used. To date our resources have been concentrated on the excavation itself, and little work has been done on dating, except for samian pottery and coins. Due to the small sizes of the individual trenches, it would be better to describe the excavated area as one, rather than try to describe each trench individually. I shall attempt to put the observed features into broad phases, although this must be viewed as an interim interpretation.

Prehistoric Activity

The earliest features found were two shallow, oval pits, cut into the natural brickearth in Trench H, and filled with a very clean soil almost indistinguishable from it. One of these produced a finely shaped flint blade, with reworked, serrated cutting edges. The similar fill of the other pit included a few small sherds of prehistoric pottery. Both these features contained pieces of burnt flint, but no Roman pottery. It is likely the blade may prove to be Mesolithic, in which case it would be much earlier than the pits or pottery, which are more likely to date from the Neolithic or Bronze Ages. More burnt flint has been found scattered throughout the Roman levels. Although a very small amount of prehistoric pottery has been found on other sites in the Lincoln Road area in the past, these pits appear to be the first features contemporary with them.

The Roman Period

The earliest phase of Romano-British occupation was a light coloured clay soil, retaining much of the colouring of the natural brickearth, surviving only towards the southern end of the site, and which appeared to have been used only for cultivation or light domestic use. This area contained a large number of small stake holes, arranged in irregular patterns. At present we are unable to work out their function (filled solid black on the plan).

In the north end of Trench H, and just visible in the end of Trench E was a regular, parallel sided slot cut into the natural, aligned east to west (shown as broken lines on the

plan). This did not have the eroded appearance of an open gully, and would appear to be a slot for the ground beam of a building. Unfortunately, only this short length of the structure lies within the area available to us. Also in Trench E were some fairly substantial postholes, also on a generally east-west

alignment, but not sufficiently parallel to the beam slot to suggest they formed part of the same structure. These could be part of a fence rather than a building.

Sealing these structural features over most of the excavated area was a layer of flint cobbling put down directly onto the brickearth, any overlying soil being removed. This surface would have been slightly lower than the surrounding ground, and possibly because of this a small irregular gully meandered along near the edge of this gravel through trenches C and D. Two further postholes were associated with this feature. The cobbling was very eroded in places, and had a significant amount of animal bone, amphora fragments and other pottery embedded in its surface. Although this may have been a track, it seems more likely to have been a domestic back yard, or perhaps a farmyard. This surface eventually fell into disuse and a layer of dark soil accumulated, covering most of the area excavated, but thinning at the south ends of trenches C, D, F and H. This reached a maximum thickness of 0.45m in Trench H and contained a large amount of domestic rubbish, including extensive animal bone (mostly very decayed), plus assorted ironwork and broken tiles. Large quantities of pottery were recovered from this layer, and although a great deal of work has still to be done on washing and dating, the general impression is of a relatively late date (3rd and 4th c.) Black burnished forms are present, as are Oxfordshire wares and possibly Much Hadham products. Highgate and Verulamium region pottery, found on most sites in the vicinity, appear to be present only in very small quantities. A number of mortarium rim sherds have been found, in a wide variety of shapes and fabrics. These should prove to be useful in dating this layer. There was a significant amount of samian pottery, albeit mostly very small sherds. This will be described separately in a later paragraph. The metal objects found included some unusual items, included a complete hipposandal (a type of tie-on shoe, probably used for oxen rather than horses), an iron fibula brooch and a rare iron candlestick. An iron hammerhead incorporating a small axe blade has been tentatively identified as a stonemason's tool. A lead steelyard weight was also found, suggesting some form of trade taking place in the vicinity. Many hobnails were recovered, including several groups rusted together so as to retain the shape of part of the original shoes. The highest concentration of these finds was in the westernmost trench (Trench H). Building rubble contained within this

layer included roof and floor tile fragments, and a few pieces of box flue tile, indicating that a substantial building must have existed somewhere in the area.

In Trenches C and J the gravel surface was cut through by what appeared at first to be large east-west ditch, containing a dark organic fill, rich in animal bone. When this was sectioned it showed a more complex profile, which varied along its length. Work in this trench is incomplete at present and the sequence of events is not yet clear. Contained within the fill of this were several coins, two of which date to the AD330's. An iron writing stylus was also found, slightly bent, but otherwise almost intact.

Following the end of the Roman period, occupation of the site seems to have ceased and a layer of light coloured ploughsoil accumulated, cut into in the 19th c. by "V" shaped land drains. A certain amount of residual Romano-British material was found in this layer, including a copper alloy fungiform (i.e. mushroom shaped) military belt stud, dating to the 3rd c. No medieval artefacts or features have been identified. A small amount of 18th-19th c. pottery and a few fragments of clay tobacco pipe were recovered from the topsoil and ploughsoil.

The Samian Pottery

This site has produced an impressive total of over 150 sherds of imported samian pottery, although not all are from stratified deposits, having been found in modern rubbish pits. Many of the sherds are very small, but Dr Martin Dearne, who has been studying the material as it emerges, has succeeded in provisionally identifying parts of 37 plain and 25 decorated vessels. The most common forms are the decorated bowl, form Drag. 37 (14 vessels) and undecorated cup Drag. 33 (6 vessels). Many other standard forms are represented, but the assemblage also contains parts of some less common vessels, including mortaria and a rare form 67 jar.

In his analysis, Martin has found that South and East Gaulish wares are well represented. Central Gaulish is less frequent, although pieces of a form 37 bowl, by the potter CINNAMUS were found in the fill of the "beam slot" in trench H. This was identified by the decorative motifs, as no maker's stamps have been found. The emphasis on South and East Gaulish manufacturing sites suggests that samian was being used in some quantity from the last quarter of the 1st c. to about AD110, and again after about AD140 through to at least the

late 2nd c. The presence of samian mortaria suggests it could have continued to arrive in the area in small quantities up to the mid 3rd c.

Future Work

The excavation at 102 Leighton Road is now almost complete, but a vast amount of work will now have to be done on washing, marking and identifying the finds. We have been offered an excellent location to do this by Mike Dewbrey, and we will shortly be organising regular sessions, probably on a weekday evening. For those who were unable to come along and dig, this will be an ideal opportunity to learn about Roman artefacts. Finally, I must say thank you to all those members who gave up their time to dig, and of course to say a big thank you to Jim and Cathy Costello for their permission, assistance and hospitality.

Les Whitmore

NOTE: members are welcome to assist with the finds processing and pot washing, which takes place from 7.30 on Wednesday evenings at Mike Dewbrey's office premises in Bush Hill Park, opposite the library. For details, please telephone Mike on 020 8364 2244 (day) or 020 8360 8916 (home).

Ed.

SMALL FINDS

4000 YEAR OLD ARCHER WITH GOLDEN EARRINGS

The richest Early Bronze Age burial in Britain has been found by Wessex Archaeology near Amesbury, Wilts. The grave, that of a mature man identified as an archer on the basis of stone arrow heads and stone wristguards, contains far more objects than any other burial of this date, about 2300BC. There were also stone tool kits for butchering carcasses, and for making more arrowheads if needed.

Project Manager Dr Andrew Fitzparick believes that the discovery is unique due to the quantity and quality of the finds. "As well as the archery equipment, the man had three copper knives and a pair of gold earrings. We think that the earrings were wrapped around the ear rather than hanging from the ear lobe. These are some of the earliest kinds of metal object

found in Britain. They were very rare and the metals they were made from may have been imported. The fact that so many valuable objects have been found together is unique. This association is the most important thing about the find."

OBITUARY

ARTHUR HALL FSA FIA

Arthur Hall, who died on 16 March 2002 in his 101st year, had been a member of the Enfield Archaeological Society from its earliest days. His professional career was spent with the City of London Guildhall Library, which he joined as a junior assistant in 1918 and eventually became librarian, curator of the museum and director of the art gallery. He was also a Fellow of the Library Association, a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries and a Freeman of the City of London.

Following his retirement in 1966 he became an active member of the Society and served at different times as General Secretary, Vice-Chairman, trustee and representative on a conservation committee. For many years he was also our Auditor. We now learn that Arthur left the Society a small legacy, details of which have yet to be communicated to us.

Arthur was a quiet man; I never knew him become angry and he never had harsh words to say about anyone. He had a great sense of humour and possessed a fund of amusing stories. When I was gathering material for "Enfield at War 1914-18" he recalled an occasion when he was at school in the City and he and his fellow pupils were trying to come to terms with French irregular verbs. The warning of a raid by a German airship was sounded and they were ordered to sit on the floor under their desks. However, in spite of the discomfort, the master insisted that the lesson should continue!

Arthur, like most of us, was a creature of habit and always left his house at the same time each day to catch the same train to the City. On his way to the station he passed a house where the owner, himself long since retired, was passionately devoted to his roses and was always in the garden. Arthur would be greeted with "Good morning" to which he responded in kind. Because of his age Arthur was late in being conscripted during the Second World War. Nevertheless, the call came and off to war went Arthur. He returned about two years later,

donned his civilian clothes and resumed his walk to the station. The same man was there and without hesitation or any other remark greeted Arthur with "Good morning". There was never any other conversation between them. One can only say, "How English!"

Geoffrey Gillam