

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP.

Notice of Annual General Meeting to be held at Maidstone Museum at 7.15 p.m. on Wednesday, April 26th 1971 [*should be 1972 - Ed*].

AGENDA

1. Minutes.
2. Hon. Secretarys Report.
3. Financial Statement.
4. Election of Officers.
5. Reports of Representatives.
6. Election of Representatives.
7. Discussion of future activities.
8. Any other Business.

Nominations and matters to be placed on the Agenda should reach me by April 19th.

Members are reminded that the annual subscription of fifty new pence (members undergoing full-time education twenty-five new pence) is due on April 1st, and should be paid to the Membership Secretary, Molly Proctor, The Dairy House, Kirkdale, Loose, Maidstone. Under Rule 6, members may not vote at meetings if their subscription for the year is unpaid.

Acting Secretary.

15 Hermitage Lane
Barming
MAIDSTONE.

Note. At the meeting on March 29th. Mr. Peter Woollett of Chatham will give a talk on 'Roman Coinage'.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Newsletter June 1972

Development of the Group:

The Group's research effort can be divided into three sections:-

- 1) Rescue work ahead of development, such as the East Station villa site and the King Street development site.
- 2) Regional surveys, either by individuals or in Group Schemes, to study particular areas, such as Barming, Teston and Tovil. These surveys help to give early warnings of item (1).
- 3) Study of particular subjects, such as industrial archaeology, buildings and roads.

To develop the resources to expand our research effort the Group must:-

- 1) Recruit, train and encourage new members.
- 2) Acquire equipment, such as tools, surveying equipment, maps and books.
- 3) Obtain a building for use as a Group work centre.

I repeat these policy guidelines so that newer members can appreciate how particular projects or activities fit into Group research objectives.

East Station Villa, Maidstone:

If trial trenching confirms the existence of a Roman building on the Barracks land, David Kelly will direct a full excavation as the site is threatened by a road scheme. Details will be included in the next newsletter, but up to two weeks of excavation in July or September may be organised.

Roman Road:

A section will be dug across a suspected Roman road in the Tenterden area on Saturday and Sunday 24 June and 25 June. Volunteers should contact Don Jackson for details - 588 Tonbridge Road, Maidstone, Tel. 26558.

The Hermitage, Barming:

A survey of the Hermitage area, which has yielded several interesting discoveries in the past, is tentatively planned for Sunday 9 July and Saturday and Sunday 15 and 16 July. Meet at 10 a.m. at 15 Hermitage Lane, Barming. Arrangements will be confirmed at the June Group meeting or telephone me. Maidstone 26973. All members welcome.

Industrial Archaeology:

This section is working on the brewing industry and the extractive industries of fullers earth and glass sand. Interested members should contact Bob Spain 'Trevarno', Roseacre Lane, Bearstead, Maidstone.

Pot Washing:

The washing and processing of Roman pottery from Cooling continues in the shed inside the gate of 'Snowfield' in Yeomans Lane, Bearstead, starting at 7 p.m. Starting from Friday 30 June, these pottery processing sessions will continue at fortnightly intervals.

Group Centre:

It is hoped that the Group will be able to occupy 773 London Road, Larkfield, a property owned by the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings which is part of a medieval timber framed hall house. This could be a major breakthrough for the Group, but the equipment and maintenance of this Centre will be a big commitment for us.

Group Meeting:

The meeting on 28 June at 7.15 p.m. in Maidstone Museum will include a Report on the C.B.A. Roman Pottery Conference in Oxford attended by Alec Miles and a report on the Teston project, which it is hoped will be continued in a couple of months, as well as discussions of the plans for the Larkfield Centre, East Station Villa and Hermitage projects.

Paul E. Oldham
Hon. Secretary

15 Hermitage Lane
Barming
Maidstone

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Newsletter July 1973

Proposed Larkfield Open Week.

You will have received a programme for this planned function, but I regret to announce that it is necessary to postpone the formal opening, exhibition and some other events until later in the year. A motor accident has led to an unavoidable delay in preparations, and there is now insufficient time to ensure the high standard of achievement that was sought. The programme now is:-

Sunday July 29th.

Centre at 773, London Road, Larkfield will be open between 2.30 and 5 p.m. for visits by members and friends.

Tuesday July 31st.

Talk at Larkfield at 7.30 p.m. on 'Kent Coin Hoards.'

Wednesday August 1st.

Group Meeting at Maidstone Museum at 7.15 p.m.

Thursday August 2nd.

'Rescue' slides at Larkfield, at 7.30 p.m.

Friday August 3rd.

Pottery washing at Larkfield at 7.00 p.m.

Saturday August 4th.

Perambulation of Maidstone, start at Museum at 2.30 p.m.

Larkfield Centre.

Open to members every Friday evening from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Group Meeting.

The next Group meeting on August 1st will include a talk by Michael Ocock on the recent work at Court Lodge Farm, Teston.

St. Blaises Chapel, Offham.

Subject to permission from the Department of the Environment, work on this site will recommence within a few weeks. If you would like details when available please let me know.

Roman Building on Barracks Land.

David Kelly will continue the excavations on this site for up to two weeks, starting on Monday July 30th. Meet at 10 a.m. at back gate of Museum. As before, the Army requires prior notice of people attending and so if you wish to participate, you must inform David Kelly at Maidstone Museum by Thursday July 26th.

Paul E. Oldham

Hon. Secretary.

15, Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Newsletter 1.

Newsletters:

Henceforth we hope to send out a newsletter each month - material for newsletters should be sent to me by the first day of each month for publication by the middle of that month. A volunteer is required to collate the information, and post the newsletter.

Group Meeting:

The Group meeting on Wednesday, 26th September, at 7.15 p.m., in Maidstone Museum will include a talk by Mr. D.B. Kelly on the excavation of the Roman building site at the Barracks.

Exhibition:

Preparations for the postponed exhibition of Group work at Larkfield are going ahead and members able to help or to provide exhibits should contact Bernard Cooker, 55 King Edward Road, Maidstone. The form of the exhibition will be discussed at the next Group meeting.

Raffle:

A large box of chocolates donated for the Open Week events will be raffled at the Larkfield Centre on Friday, 28th September.

Brishing:

Plans to continue the joint Oldborough Manor School/MAAG investigation at Brishing have been made - the tentative dates being the last week in September and the first week in October. Members interested should contact Mr. A.P. Loweth, 35 Ash Grove, Maidstone.

Development of Maidstone:

Members will be pleased to hear that the Group has been asked to supply a list of areas likely to be of archaeological interest so that the Planning Department of the Borough Council can take the interests of archaeologists into account when assessing planning applications.

Other Events:

Members will be most welcome to attend:

September: Tuesday, 18th. 7.30 p.m. Committee Room of Borough Library, Faith Street, Maidstone. Short talks by member of the Kent Archaeological Society, including 'History of Oast-houses' by Mr. J.J. Pearson, and 'Some Aspects of the Roman - British Industrial site at Cooling' by Mr. A. Miles.

September: Friday and Saturday, 22nd and 23rd. 2 - 10 p.m., Local History Exhibition at Boughton Monchelsea Primary School.

October: Saturday, 13th. 2.30 p.m., Maidstone Museum. Three talks on building recording, organised by Building Section of Kent Archaeological Society.

Group Funds:

'Watermills on the East Malling Stream'.

There are about twenty copies of this work for sale at £1.50 per copy. All profits arising from the sale of these twenty copies will be donated to the Group. The book will contain about one hundred pages of text and twenty pages of maps and illustrations. Of the one hundred copies that will be printed eighty are already sold. The remaining twenty copies will be allocated on a 'first-come, first-served' basis.

If you would like to buy a book and help the Group at the same time contact the author, Michael Fuller at 25 Lunsford Lane, Larkfield, Maidstone, Kent, ME20 6HN, or at the September or October MAAG meetings.

Paul E. Oldham.
Hon. Secretary.

15 Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone,
Kent.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

NEWSLETTER TWO.

Group meeting:

The next Group Meeting will be held on Wednesday, 31st October, at 7.15 p.m. Maidstone Museum. Reports will be given on the Offham and Church Street, Maidstone, projects, and the format of future meetings and the Larkfield Exhibition will be discussed.

Christmas cards:

The Group will again be producing a Christmas card, based on a drawing by Mr. R.J. Spain, at a cost of approximately 5p. each. Orders should be sent to me by post or at Group meetings.

CBA 11A Conference:

The theme of the 1973 conference to be held at The Skinners School, St. Johns Road, Tunbridge Wells, on Saturday, 17th November, at 11.15 p.m., will be 'Industrial History of South East England'. There will be talks on Firestone Mining in Surrey, Wealden Iron, Medieval Pottery in Sussex, Shipbuilding, and the Chart Gunpowder Mills at Faversham. Details from Mrs. M.P. Smith, 5 Cedar Road, Weybridge, Surrey.

Evening Class:

A course on 'How to Study Local History' will be held at Maidstone Adult Education Centre on Mondays at 7.15. Further details from Miss Scalley of the County Archives Office.

Offham:

A preliminary inspection of the mystery earthwork in the wood near St. Blaise's Chapel is planned for the morning of Sunday, 4th November. Meet at the Quintain on Offham Green at 10 a.m.

Wrotham Pottery:

Subject to landowners consent, Mr. A. Miles plans a preliminary inspection of a possible site of the Wrotham Pottery Kilns in the afternoon of Sunday, 28th October. Meet at the Larkfield Centre at 2 p.m.

Larkfield Centre:

The Centre is open to members every Friday evening from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., and will also be open on the morning of Sunday, 28th October, from 10 a.m. and the afternoon of Sunday, 4th November, from 2 p.m.

Next Newsletter:

Material for the next newsletter should reach me by 1st November.

15 Hermitage Lane, Barming, Maidstone.

Paul E. Oldham

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

NEWSLETTER THREE

Group Meeting

The next Group Meeting will be held on Wednesday November 28 at 7.15 pm in Maidstone Museum, when Mr S R Harker will give a lecture illustrated by slides on 'The Roman Town at Springhead, near Gravesend'. This is a joint meeting with the Maidstone Branch of the Kent Archaeological Society and friends of members will be welcome.

Christmas Cards

The Group Christmas cards will feature a drawing of Bearsted Green by Mr R J Spain and will cost 5 p each, including envelopes. Orders should be sent to me by post or cards will be available for sale at the November meeting.

Christmas Party

The Group Christmas party will be held at the Larkfield Centre on Saturday December 1, starting at 7.30 pm. Tickets costing 20 p can be obtained from Mr B Cooker, 55 King Edward Road, Maidstone or purchased at the door. Alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks will be available but please bring your own glass.

Field Studies Meeting

The Kent Archaeological Society is organising a series of talks on field studies on Saturday December 1 at 2.30 pm at Maidstone Museum. Group members and friends will be very welcome. The three lectures will be 'Recognising Earthworks' by Mr J Bradshaw; 'Elementary Surveying' by Mr J E L Caiger; and 'How to Conduct Regional Surveys' by Mr M A Ocock. The talk by Mr Ocock will be mainly concerned with the field survey programme of the Group which is supported by a Carnegie Trust grant and is probably the most comprehensive scheme in Kent.

Larkfield Centre

The Centre will be open on Sunday December 16 from 10 am to 5 pm. The morning will be spent on clearing and tidying the Centre and, in the afternoon starting at 2.30 pm, there will be a discussion of plans for future field survey projects.

Next Newsletter

Material for the next Newsletter should reach me by 1 January 1974.

Paul E Oldham, 15 Hermitage Lane, Barming, Maidstone.

November 1973

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

NEWSLETTER FOUR

Group Meeting

The next Group Meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 30th at 7.15 p.m. in Maidstone Museum, when the 1974 programme of activities will be discussed, including a survey of Maidstone under the leadership of John Edwards, a survey of the M.20 route and other interesting possibilities.

Maidstone Survey

The first step in the survey will be small groups of members walking around the town to examine the area and assess the opportunities for further work, either by recording or digging. We meet on Sunday, January 20th at 10 a.m. in the car park adjoining the River Medway and at the bottom of Faith Street. The results of this preliminary look will be discussed at Larkfield in the afternoon and at the Group Meeting on January 30th.

Larkfield Centre

The evening sessions at Larkfield will start again on Friday, February 1st at 7 p.m. and will be held every Friday evening from then.

If any member has a redundant gate that could be fitted to the entrance to the Centre, please let me know.

Kent Archaeological Society

The Annual General Meeting and Lecture of the Society will be held on Saturday, May 18th in Canterbury if members would like to note the date. Volume 88 of Archaeologia Cantiana is expected to include 'The Excavations at Boxley Abbey' by Peter Tester and the second part of Bob Spain's article on 'The Loose Watermills.'

World Wildlife Fund

The World Wildlife Fund Maidstone Group is showing the film 'A Future for the Past', made by the Civic Trust, along with some wildlife films at 7.15 p.m. on Saturday, 12th January at the Annexe of the Adult Education Centre, (next to the Junior Library), Faith Street. Entrance fee is 25p including coffee and biscuits. The film includes some fleeting glimpses of buildings in Maidstone.

Next Newsletter

Material for the next Newsletter should reach me by 1st February.

Paul E. Oldham, 15 Hermitage Lane, Barming, Maidstone.

January 1974.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

NEWSLETTER FIVE

Group Meeting

The next group meeting will be held on Wednesday February 27th at 7.15 pm in Maidstone Museum, when short talks will be given on 'Section Drawing' and 'Finds Recording on Sites'.

Maidstone Survey

A meeting will be held at the Larkfield Centre on Saturday February 23rd at 2.30 pm to plan the next project – all members are welcome. Members able to help with contacts for gaining access to areas of open land (however small) that could be investigated, or older buildings, in the centre of the town should contact Mr J W F Edwards, 31 Maple Avenue, Maidstone.

Holy Trinity Church, Maidstone

Subject to permission, it is proposed to record the tombstones in the closed churchyard of Holy Trinity, possibly in the summer evenings. Members interested should contact Mr J L Short, 13 Salts Avenue, Loose.

Offham

A survey of the mystery earthwork at Offham, not far from St Blaise's Chapel, will be started by Mr M J Jessup on Sunday February 24th – members wishing to participate should contact me for further details.

Group Card Index

The card index of archaeological sites has been updated by Mr M A Ocock and he will be sending a request to members for details of work carried out, reports of chance finds and suspected sites to be included in the index. Until the card index is returned to Larkfield, cards may be consulted by writing to Mr Ocock, 34 Newborough Green, Grayham Road, New Malden, Surrey.

Emergency Work List

Would members willing and able to dig at short notice in the event of an archaeological emergency please inform me so that I can compile a list and the Group will be prepared for work at short notice.

Kent Archaeological Society

The Maidstone Branch will hold a meeting on Thursday March 21st at 7.30 pm in the Borough Library, Faith Street when Mr D B Kelly will speak on 'The Iron Age in Kent'. Group members will be welcome.

Maidstone Society

A public meeting will be held on Tuesday March 8th at 7.30 pm in the Borough Library, Faith Street when Mr L R A Grove will speak on 'The Development of Maidstone'.

Photographic Enlarger

Mr B C Cooker wishes to buy a photographic enlarger. Any member able to help should contact him at 55 King Edward Road, Maidstone.

Next Newsletter

Material for the next Newsletter should reach me by March 10th.

Paul E Oldham, 15 Hermitage Lane, Barming, Maidstone.

February 1974

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

NEWSLETTER SIX

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Group will be held in Maidstone Museum on Wednesday March 27th at 7.15 pm. Miss Margaret Scally will speak on 'How to use the Facilities of the Kent Archives Office' and the talk will be illustrated by documents from the Archives Office.

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The fifth Annual General Meeting of the Group will be held in Maidstone Museum on Wednesday April 24th at 7.15 pm.

Agenda

- 1 Minutes
- 2 Matters Arising
- 3 Secretary's Report
- 4 Accounts
- 5 Election of Officers
- 6 Election of Representatives
- 7 Future Activities

Nominations and additional items for the Agenda should reach me by April 17th.

Subscriptions

Annual subscriptions of £1 (Junior Members 50 p) are due on April 1st and should be paid to Mrs Molly Proctor at a meeting or by post to The Dairy House, Kirkdale, Loose.

K.A.S. Maidstone Branch

Members are welcome to attend the meeting on Thursday March 21st at 7.30 pm in the Borough Library, Faith Street when Mr David Kelly will speak on 'The Iron Age in Kent'.

Future Projects

Landowners permissions are being sought for surveys to be conducted in Maidstone Town Centre, the M20 Motorway route, the possible site of the Motorway Service Station at Thurnham, and in East Farleigh.

Next Newsletter

Material for the next newsletter should reach the Hon Secretary by May 1st.

P E Oldham
15 Hermitage Lane
Barming
Maidstone Kent

March 1974

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Newsletter Seven

Group Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 29th at 7.15 p.m. at Maidstone Museum. Matters left over from the A.G.M., including future excavation plans, will be discussed and Mr. Miles will talk about the recording and marking of pottery from excavations.

Annual General Meeting Report

A summary of the Annual Report is enclosed. Plans include the revival of a buildings section and the local agents' scheme, participation in a local photographic survey, and the study of moated sites and the paper industry. A list of members is enclosed to aid the recruitment of new members.

Buildings Section

The Buildings section will carry on from the successful start achieved by Mr. Cleggett and others. Members interested should contact Mrs. Rattenbury or Mr. Ocock - no special knowledge of buildings is necessary. Initially, work will be concentrated on checking the statutory lists and priority in recording will be given to buildings not yet 'listed' as these may be more vulnerable. The overall aim is to identify, record and study the vernacular architecture of our area and thus fill the gap left by other local bodies concerned with buildings and conservation. Anyone who hears of an old building which may be threatened with demolition or alteration should inform the Buildings section or the Hon. Secretary. Offers of access to buildings, whether threatened or not, would be welcomed.

Maidstone Survey

An excavation is planned at the Broadway, Maidstone on Sunday, June 2nd. Meet at 10 a.m. on the corner of the Broadway and Hart Street,

Kent Archaeological Society

Volunteers are required for the excavations at Leeds Priory for the week beginning May 27th. Further details may be obtained from Mr. Daniels.

Books

Two books by Mr. Philp, 'Faversham Abbey' (£2) and 'Excavations in West Kent 1960-70' (£5) may be obtained through the Group. Orders should be sent to Mr. Cooker.

Paul E. Oldham

15 Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone,
Kent.

May 1974.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Newsletter Eight

Group Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 26th at 7.15 p.m. at Maidstone Museum. Business will include a report on the investigation of the earthwork on Hermitage Farm and the selection of the drawing by Mr. Spain to form the design for the Group Christmas card.

July Meeting

A joint meeting with the Kent Archaeological Society will be held on Wednesday, July 31st at 7.15 p.m. at Maidstone Museum to hear a talk by Mr. J.A. Newman on 'Buildings of Kent', Mr. Newman is the author of the Penguin volumes on Kent Buildings. Members may invite guests to this meeting.

Meeting Arrangements

Members are asked to note that the door at Maidstone Museum is closed at 7.20 p.m. and that it is sometimes difficult to hear the bell from the meeting room.

Correction to List of Members

Additions W.F. Martin and Mrs. Wayside, St. Helens Lane, East Farleigh, Maidstone.

Maidstone Survey

Subject to confirmation at the meeting or by contacting me, it is hoped to complete the building recording project and conduct a trial excavation at the Broadway, Maidstone on Sunday, June 30th. Meet at 10 a.m. on the corner of the Broadway and Hart Street.

Moated Sites Section

The formation of a section to study moated sites was announced at the A.G.M. and members interested should contact me. A preliminary inspection of a site in Bearsted has been made.

Larkfield Centre

The Group Centre at 773 London Road, Larkfield will be open on Sunday, July 14th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Recommended Reading

Sources for English Local History, W.B. Stephens, Manchester University Press 1973.

Subscription Reminder

If there is a cross in the margin against this item your subscription for 1974/5 is unpaid and should be sent at the earliest opportunity to Mrs. M.G. Proctor, The Dairy House, Kirkdale, Loose. The subscription is one pound (junior members fifty pence).

Next Newsletter

Material for the next newsletter should reach me by July 6th.

15, Hermitage Lane,
Barming, Maidstone.

Paul E. Oldham
June 1974.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Newsletter Nine

Group Meeting

A joint meeting with the Kent Archaeological Society will be held on Wednesday, July 31st at 7.15 p.m. at Maidstone Museum to hear a talk by Mr J.A. Newman, M.A., F.S.A., on 'Buildings of Kent', Mr. Newman is the author of the Kent volumes in the Penguin series on Buildings of England. Guests and prospective members may be invited to this meeting.

August Meeting

There will be no Group meeting in August, but we hope to arrange another walk around Maidstone, under the leadership of Mr. Grove. Details will be announced at the July meeting, or by contacting me.

Group Christmas Card

At the last meeting members chose a drawing of Thurnham Mill by Mr. Spain to form the design for the Group Christmas card this year.

Holy Trinity Churchyard

It is planned to record the tombstones in the now closed churchyard of Holy Trinity, Maidstone during some summer evenings. Members wishing to help should contact Mr. Short, 13 Salts Avenue, Loose.

Bearsted Moated Site

A survey, and trial trenching, in the area of the possible moated site in Bearsted is planned for Sundays July 26th, August 4th and August 11th. Meet at 10 a.m. outside "The Royal Oak" on Bearsted Green. If you wish to participate please inform me before the date.

Building Recording

Photographs taken of the Broadway buildings will be displayed at the September meeting, and the pilot scheme for the recording of vernacular architecture will be reviewed then too.

Kent Archaeological Society

The excavation at Leeds priory will continue during the week beginning August 5th. Details may be obtained from Mr. Daniels, 10 Melville Road, Maidstone.

Next Newsletter

Material for the next newsletter should reach me by August 24th.

Paul E. Oldham
July 1974.

15 Hermitage Lane
Barming,
Maidstone

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Newsletter Ten.

Group Meeting

The next Group meeting will be held at Maidstone Museum on Wednesday September 25th at 7.15 p.m. The first half hour will be devoted to a display of photographs and drawings from the building section, and of aerial photographs resulting from the recent flights by Don Jackson over the area. There will also be an opportunity for members to view the exhibition of Bob Spain's drawings, now on display in the Museum. Formal business will start at about 7.45 p.m.

Perambulation of Maidstone

The perambulation of Maidstone led by Mr. Grove will take place on Saturday, October 12th, meeting at 2.15 p.m. in the Great Hall, Maidstone Museum.

Larkfield Centre

The Centre at 773, London Road, Larkfield is open every Friday evening from 7 to 9.15 p.m. and Alec Miles would welcome assistance in processing the Roman pottery from Cooling. No experience is necessary.

Building Section

Members of the building section are making good progress on correcting the 'statutory lists', testing the suitability for our area of Manchester University's standard procedures for recording vernacular buildings, and making drawings, notes and taking photographs of particular buildings, such as Hart Street, Masons Farm, Boughton and Stone Cottages, Willington. All members doing work on buildings are asked to bring any photographs, notes or documents to September meeting. The agenda will include a short discussion on the Manchester form for recording buildings and on the arrangements for outside bodies to receive copies of our reports. Members interested should contact Michael Ocock.

Kent Archaeological Society

Members are welcome to attend the meeting of Building Recorders on Saturday, October 5th at 2.15 p.m. in Maidstone Museum.

Decoy Farm, High Halstow

Michael Ocock is arranging an excavation at the above for the Lower Medway Archaeological Research Group and any M.A.A.G. members who are interested should contact him.

Recommended Reading

I am sometimes asked to recommend books for people starting archaeology and I suggest Field Archaeology in Britain by John Coles (Published by Methuen), Collins Field Guide to Archaeology in Britain by Eric S. Wood, Practical Archaeology by Graham Webster (A.C. Black), South-East England by Ronald Jessup (Thames and Hudson).

Next Newsletter

Material for the next newsletter should reach me by September 28th.

15 Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone.

Paul Oldham
Hon. Secretary
September 1974

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Newsletter Eleven

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Group will be held in Maidstone Museum on Wednesday November 27th at 7.15 pm to hear a talk by our member Mr. V.J. Newbury on 'Local Tokens of the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Century'. This meeting will be joint with the Maidstone Branch of the Kent Archaeological Society and visitors will be welcome.

Christmas Card Scheme

The Group Christmas card this year features a drawing of Thurnham Mill by Bob Spain and will again cost five pence. Profits will go to the Group. Cards may be purchased at the Group meeting or from R.J. Spain, Trevano, Roseacre Lane, Bearsted.

Larkfield Centre

The centre at 773, London Road, Larkfield. will be open on Sunday November 24th from 10a.m. to 4.30 p.m. for cleaning work, pottery processing etc.

The Friday evening sessions at Larkfield will end on December 6th and recommence on January 10th.

Buildings Section

A series of notes on the recording of Buildings have been distributed to members who have expressed interest in this subject. Other members who are interested should contact Michael Ocock.

Regional Survey Section

Arrangements have not yet been made for our winter activities, but if you would like details when available, please let me know.

Kent Archaeological Society

All members are invited to the Field Studies Meeting of the Kent Archaeological Society on Saturday November 23rd at 2 p.m. in Maidstone District Library, Faith Street. There will be talks on the recognition and identification of surface finds, the publication of archaeological discoveries and the dating of hedgerows. There will be an exhibition of recent work.

Recommended Reading

'The Preparation of Archaeological Reports' by Grinsell, Rahtz and Williams (John Baker) and 'Illustrated Handbook of Vernacular Architecture' by Brunskill (Faber and Faber)

15, Hermitage Lane,
Barming, Maidstone.

Paul E. Oldham
Hon. Secretary.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP.

Newsletter January 1975.

Group Meeting

The next meeting of the Group will be held on Wednesday January 29th at 7.15p.m. in Maidstone Museum. A full programme of activities for 1975 will be discussed including excavations at Mott Hall, Bearsted, and the Barracks Roman villa site.

March Meeting

An open public meeting is planned for March 26th in the Public Library, Faith Street, to publicise the work of the Group. Publicity for this meeting would be welcome, and friends should be invited. The meeting will include a lecture on 'The Archaeology of Maidstone', and a small exhibition of work by Group members. Members willing to help prepare an exhibition are invited to a meeting at the Larkfield Centre on Sunday January 19th at 2.30p.m.

Larkfield Centre

The Larkfield Centre at 773, London Road, Larkfield will be open each Friday evening from January 10th from 7p.m. to 9p.m. for work on Roman pottery. The contributions box has considerably helped our financial position and members are reminded that a donation of 5p (Junior Members 2½p) is suggested on each visit to the Centre.

Building Section

Michael Ocock has arranged a meeting at Larkfield on Sunday January 19th at 3 p.m. to review work being undertaken. All interested in building recording are invited to attend.

East Farleigh

Alec Miles has arranged a preliminary visit to East Farleigh for field walking on Sunday January 19th. Meet at 10a.m. outside East Farleigh Church. Field walking will take place in the morning, and then we go on to Larkfield for lunch, and work on pottery in the afternoon.

Honyhills, Thurnham

We will walk through the wood on Sunday, Jan. 26th, for about an hour to look for signs of the Roman building in the vicinity. Meet at 10 a.m. outside Bearsted Station.

1975

The year ahead looks a busy one for the Group, and so I wish you an enjoyable and successful year.

Next Newsletter

Material for the next newsletter should reach me by January 29th.

15, Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone.

Paul E. Oldham
Hon. Secretary.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Newsletter - February 1975

Group Meeting

The next meeting of the Group will be held on Wednesday February 26th at 7.15 pm in Maidstone Museum. The agenda will include a talk by David Kelly on the Excavation of the Barracks Roman Building site and a report by Michael Ocock on the work of the Building Section.

March Meeting

The March meeting will be a public lecture meeting on Wednesday March 26th at 7.30pm in the Public Library, Faith Street, Maidstone. I will speak on the Archaeology of Maidstone, and there will be an exhibition of work by Group members. Friends should be invited, and publicity will be welcome.

Mott Hall, Bearsted

The Group will conduct an excavation of a medieval manor house site at Bearsted, starting on Sunday March 23rd and continuing on each Saturday and Sunday for approximately two months (except April 12th and 13th). We meet at Bearsted Station at 10 am. each morning and all help will be welcome. Please contact me for details of the site, if you cannot arrive by 10am.

Barracks Roman Building

David Kelly will continue his excavation of this site from Monday April 7th to Sunday April 13th. We meet at 10 am outside the back gate of Maidstone Museum. For security reasons, the Army require a list of participants and so if you wish to dig, please inform David Kelly, Museum and Art Gallery, Faith Street, Maidstone by April 2nd.

Dairy Farm, Chainhurst

A survey of the fields and buildings of this farm will take place on Sunday, February 23rd. Meet outside Hunton Church at 10 am. If. you require transport, please contact me.

Larkfield

The Larkfield Centre will be open from 10am to 4.30pm on Sunday March 2nd for tidying the house and garden, pottery processing etc.

Recommended Reading

'Your House. The Outside View', by John Prizeman. Hutchinson.

Next Newsletter

Material for the next newsletter should reach me by March 7th.

15, Hermitage Lane,
Barming, Maidstone.

Paul E. Oldham
Hon. Secretary.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Newsletter March 1975

Notices of Annual General Meeting to be held at Maidstone Museum at 7.15 pm on Wednesday, April 30th 1975.

Agenda

1. Minutes
2. Hon. Secretary's Report
3. Financial Statement
4. Possible Amendment of Rule 9
5. Election of Officers
6. Election of Representatives
7. Discussion of Future Activities.

Nominations and matters to be placed on the agenda should reach me by April 23rd.

Rule 9 at present reads 'Any member who has held office for two years or more will not be eligible for election to any office until one year has passed'.

Annual Subscriptions. Members are reminded that the annual subscription of one pound (members undergoing full time education, fifty pence) is due on April 1st and should be paid to the Membership Secretary, Molly Proctor, The Dairy House, Kirkdale, Loose, Maidstone. If anyone wishes to resign as a member, please inform Mrs. Proctor.

Book Auction. Following our last successful book auction, it is proposed to hold an auction of books to raise money for the running of the Larkfield Centre after the AGM on Wednesday April 30th. Books, either on archaeology or other topics, should be brought to the meeting, where they will be sold.

Excavation at Mott Hall, Bearsted. This excavation will take place on each Saturday and Sunday in April (except April 12th and 13th) and all members are welcome. Meet at 10 am outside Bearsted Station.

Excavation at the Barracks Roman Building Site. will take place in the week beginning Monday April 7th. Members wishing to participate should inform David Kelly.

Kent Archaeological Society. The excavation at Leeds Priory will start on April 1st and details may be obtained from Peter Tester, 2, Willow Close, Bexley.

The AGM of the Kent Archaeological Society will be held in Maidstone on Saturday May 17th, and the afternoon lecturer will be Professor Everitt of the University of Leicester.

15, Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone.

Paul Oldham
Hon Secretary.

P.t.o. for a late item which may be of general interest: -

This is a copy of one of the letters printed in the Daily Mail on 12th March 1975.

Forgotten genius

In the wave of enthusiasm for conservation, one area of great relevance to Britain's history has been ignored. I refer to that spin-off from our Industrial Revolution, the development of domestic and industrial machines and mechanical tools.

Important advances in early technology and mechanised production are preserved in many old workshop tools, metalworking machines and even typewriters and sewing machines. Daily, superb examples of British inventive genius are being smashed up or thrown out through ignorance of their importance or lack of an alternative destination.

So, in the absence of official or financial backing, we are compiling a register of 'veteran' machines and hopefully looking for premises to display the available examples. Perhaps some stately-home owner would find the National Veteran Machine Collection an added attraction for tourists?

Brian Jewell,
Editor, Veteran Machines,
Sheldon Way,
Larkfield,
Maidstone, Kent.

If anyone has, or knows of, any items that could be of interest to Mr. Jewell and would prefer me to contact him on their behalf, then I will be only too pleased to do this.

Michael J. Fuller,
25, Lunsford Lane,
Larkfield,
Maidstone,
Kent.
ME20 6HN

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Newsletter April 1975

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Group will be held on Wednesday May 28th at 7.15pm in Maidstone Museum. This will be a business meeting but the agenda will include a report on the excavations at Mott Hall, Bearsted.

June Meeting

The Group meeting on Wednesday June 25th at 7.15pm in Maidstone Museum will include a talk by Mr. R.J. Spain on 'A Map of Maidstone in 1650'.

Mott Hall, Bearsted.

The excavation on this site will continue on Saturday May 3rd, and then on each Sunday in May. Meet at 10a.m. outside Bearsted station. Good progress has been made on the site so far with the identification of several features of a moated house site and the excavations have revealed the walls of a building, possibly a hall house.

Building Recording

Study of buildings in certain areas is being undertaken and any members who are interested should contact Mr. Ocock, 34 Newborough Green, Grayham Road, New Malden, Surrey.

Annual Subscriptions

Any member who has not yet paid their subscription for 1975/6, is requested to send one pound (junior members fifty pence) to Mrs. Proctor, The Dairy House, Kirkdale, Loose, Maidstone as soon as possible.

Kent Archaeological Society

The lecture following the AGM on Saturday May 17th will start at 2.15pm in Maidstone Museum. Professor A.M. Everitt, M.A., Ph. D., F.R. Hist. S, of the Department of English Local History at the University of Leicester will speak on 'The Making of the Landscape'. Group Members will be welcome.

Next Newsletter

The next newsletter will be distributed at the June Group meeting and material should reach me by June 10th.

15, Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone.

Paul Oldham
Hon. Secretary.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

July Newsletter

Group Meetings

There will be a lecture meeting, joint with the Maidstone Branch of the Kent Archaeological Society, on Wednesday July 30th at 7.15 p.m. in Maidstone Museum. Dr. P.H.G. Draper will speak on 'Kentish Books'. Friends may be invited to the meeting.

Mott Hall, Bearsted.

Following the finding of the foundations of at least one building the excavation of this site will continue on each Sunday in July. The pottery found seems to date from the fourteenth century but a base metal spoon of the seventeenth century has also been found. We meet at 10 a.m. outside Bearsted station and all Group members are welcome.

Roman Building site on Barracks Land.

David Kelly continues to work on this site on selected week days and anyone willing to help should contact him at The Museum and Art Gallery, Faith Street, Maidstone. Work may continue until the end of August.

Buildings Section

Michael Ocock has moved to 2, Woodley Road, Orpington.

Larkfield

The Group Centre at 773 London Road, Larkfield continues to be open every Friday evening between 7p.m. and 9p.m. for members willing to work on finds.

Local History Journal.

Following the closure of Cantium, the County Local History Committee plans to produce a quarterly newsletter, which will be duplicated and cost ten pence. To cut expenses the newsletter will not be posted but will be distributed at meetings of affiliated societies, starting in September. Members interested should give me their order.

Recommended Books

'Industrial Archaeology in Britain' by R.A. Buchanan and 'Landscape Archaeology' by M. Aston and T. Rowley.

Annual Subscription

If there is a cross in the margin against this item, your subscription for 1975/6 has not been paid. Please send £1.00 to Molly Proctor, The Dairy House, Kirkdale, Loose, Maidstone as soon as possible.

Next Newsletter

Material for the next newsletter should reach me by August 20th.

15, Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone.

Paul Oldham
Hon. Secretary

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

September Newsletter

Next Meeting

There will be a meeting of the Group on Wednesday September 24th at 7.15p.m. in Maidstone Museum. There will be a discussion on the development of the centre of Maidstone arising from the talk by Mr. Spain at the June meeting.

October Meeting

There will be a meeting on Wednesday October 29th at 7.15p.m. in Maidstone Museum and business will include a report on the work of the Building Section.

Mott Hall, Bearsted

The first phase of the excavation of this fourteenth century building has been completed, but we plan a limited programme of work on Sundays, starting on Sunday September 21st and continuing to the end of October. We are meeting at 10a.m. outside Bearsted station and all Group members are welcome.

Larkfield Centre

The drawing of pottery is now being undertaken at 773, London Road, Larkfield every Friday evening between 7p.m. and 9p.m. Tuition is provided.

Building Section

A survey of the vernacular buildings of Bearsted has started. Several interesting houses are already known but not recorded and other discoveries may be expected. Members who are interested should write to Michael Ocock, 2, Woodley Road, Orpington.

Sets of photographs of nearly a dozen buildings investigated by the Group have been sent to the National Monument Record Office and the results of the Barming survey have been sent to Manchester University. An opinion has been obtained on St. Cuthbert's Cottage, Barming. It may originally have been a hall house of three bays with a fourth bay at the low end used as a shop, dating back to the first half of the fourteenth century.

Christmas Card

The Group Christmas card will feature an attractive drawing of Boxley Church by Bob Spain. The cards, costing 7p each, will be available at the October and November meetings.

Recommended Books

'Fieldwork in Medieval Archaeology' by C. Taylor (Batsford) and 'Physics and Archaeology' by M.J. Aitken (Oxford University Press). Some back numbers of Archaeologia Cantiana are for sale from Mr. K.J. Collins at Maidstone Museum.

Next Newsletter

Material for the next newsletter should reach me by October 18th.
15, Hermitage Lane,
Barming, Maidstone.

Paul Oldham
Hon. Secretary

Allen Grove

As Allen Grove will shortly be retiring as Curator of Maidstone Museum it is proposed to make a presentation at our November meeting as a token of our appreciation of his services to the Group. Contributions may be given to Mike Clark, Molly Proctor or myself.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

November Newsletter

November Meeting

There will be a meeting of the Group on Wednesday November 26th at 7.30pm in the District Library, Faith Street, Maidstone. There will be a presentation to Allen Grove, on his retirement as Curator of Maidstone Museum, as a mark of appreciation of his services to the Group. Then Peter Tester, F.S.A. will speak on The Recent Excavations at Leeds Priory. This will be a public meeting and members may invite friends.

Larkfield Centre

Our Centre at 773, London Road, Larkfield will be open on Sunday November 30th from 10 am to 4.30pm. The house will be cleaned during the morning and at 2.30pm Michael Ocock will speak about some features noted in the recent investigation of the structure of the building.

Group Christmas Cards

Our Christmas card, featuring a drawing of Boxley Church by Bob Spain will be on sale at the November meeting, price 7p, or can be obtained from Bob Spain, Trevarno, Roseacre Lane, Bearsted.

Field walking

A field survey of part of Wateringbury this winter is planned but landowners permission has not yet been obtained. Anyone interested in details when available should contact me.

Building Exhibition

There will be a display of the work of the Building Section in the window of The Hastings and Thanet Building Society, 20/22, King Street, Maidstone for the first three weeks in November.

K A S Field Studies Conference

This Conference will be held in the District Library, Faith Street, Maidstone on Saturday November 15th from 2pm to 4.30pm. There will be an exhibition of work and three lectures 'Recognising Archaeological Sites in the Ashford Area' by J Bradshaw, 'The Use of Documentary Sources' by Miss E Melling and 'A Survey of Hermitage Farm, Aylesford' by P E Oldham. The latter talk results from the interest expressed in the field survey programme of the Group. All Group members are welcome.

K A S Lectures on Buildings

There will be two lectures by Mr K W E Gravett at the Public Library, Church Road, Ashford at 6.30pm on Saturday November 1st and Saturday January 10th 1976. The lectures will be 'Smaller Houses under the Tudors' and 'Stuart and Georgian Smaller Houses' Admission is 25p per lecture.

Next Newsletter

Material for the next newsletter should reach me by January 1st 1976.

15, Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone,
Kent.

Paul Oldham
Hon. Secretary.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

Newsletter - January 1976

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Group will be on Wednesday January 28th at 7.15pm in the District Library, Faith Street, Maidstone. Please note the change of venue. This will be a business meeting including planning projects and activities for 1976 as well as a review of source of the continuing projects of the Group.

February Meeting

This meeting of the Group will be on Wednesday February 25th at 7.15pm in the District Library, Faith Street, Maidstone.

Curator of Maidstone Museum

Following the retirement of Allen Grove, Graham Hunter, D.F.C., M.A., F.M.A., has been appointed Curator of Maidstone Museum after being Curator of Epsom and Ewell Museum. He is keen to help active local societies and has agreed that our meetings in Maidstone Museum should recommence on Wednesday April 28th, with our A.G.M.

Field Surveys

Work is planned in Chainhurst, East Farleigh and Wateringbury over the next few months. Some details will be given at the January meeting and will be available from me by telephone (Maidstone 26973).

Excavation

Excavation of the site of a Roman building within the grounds of Maidstone Barracks continues on certain weekdays under the direction of David Kelly. Members willing to help should contact David at Maidstone Museum (Te. 54497), The excavations have revealed the walls of a substantial Roman building.

Larkfield Centre

Our Centre at 773, London Road, Larkfield will be open each Friday evening between 7pm and 9pm from January 23rd. The processing of the Roman Pottery is progressing well and help with drawing would be particularly appreciated by Alec Miles. No experience is required as instruction will be given. We look forward to seeing any members who would like to come along.

Recent Books

The Council for British Archaeology plans to increase its publication of research reports, and the following have now become available 1) Aerial Reconnaissance for Archaeology (Editor D R Wilson) Price £8.00. 2) The Topography of Medieval Towns in England and Wales (Editor M W Barley) Price £4.00, 3) Iron Age Sites in Central Southern England by B W Cunliffe Price £3.00, A Report on the Archaeological Study of Churches is due shortly, price £3.00.

Next Newsletter

Material for the next newsletter should reach me by February 7th.

15, Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone.

Paul E Oldham
Hon. Secretary

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

March Newsletter

March Meeting

The next meeting will be a public meeting on Wednesday March 31st at 7.30pm in Maidstone District Library, Faith Street, Maidstone at which Miss Elizabeth Melling, B A, will give a lecture on 'Kentish Manuscript Estate Maps'. The lecture will be illustrated by slides. Miss Melling is the Deputy County Archivist of the Kent County Council. Members may like to invite friends to this meeting.

Larkfield

It is proposed to dig a trial trench in the garden at the Larkfield Centre on Sundays March 7th and 14th, starting at 10 am, to seek the remains of a timber framed building shown on a map of 1684. Michael Ocojek would welcome volunteers. On the same days, the house will be open for cleaning and work, and a talk will be given on Sunday March 7th at 2.30pm on the building itself. The Centre is at 773, London Road, Larkfield.

Map of Maidstone in 1650

Many people have expressed interest in the map produced by Allen Grove and Bob Spain from a written survey of Maidstone in 1650, and so printing arrangements are now being investigated. Details of this Group project should be available shortly.

Leeds Excavation

A possible site of a Roman watermill in Leeds will be investigated by trial trenching, under the direction of Mr V J Newbury, in March and April. The site is quite small, but diggers should contact Mr Newbury, The Old Forge, Pilgrims Way, Hollingbourne, for further details.

Books

Copies of 'A systematic Procedure for Recording English Vernacular Architecture' by R W Brunskill may be obtained from The Vernacular Architecture Group, 22, Clifton Green, York. Price 65pence, post free.

Next Newsletter

Material for the next newsletter should reach me by March 10th.

15, Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone,
Kent.

Paul E Oldham
Hon. Secretary

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

April Newsletter

Notice of Annual General Meeting to be held at Maidstone Museum at 7.15pm on Wednesday April 28th 1976.

Agenda

1. Minutes
2. Matters Arising
3. Hon.Secretary's Report
4. Accounts
5. Election of Officers
6. Election of Representatives
7. A O B

Nominations and resolutions should reach me by April 21st.

Subscriptions

The annual subscriptions for 1976/77 are now due and should be paid at the AGM or sent to the Membership Secretary, Mrs Molly Proctor, The Dairy House, Kirkdale, Loose, Maidstone. The annual subscription is one pound (junior members fifty pence).

Larkfield Excavations

Trial trenching in the garden of the Larkfield Centre has revealed the remains of a previously unsuspected building, and further excavations will be conducted on some Sundays in April. The dates will be announced at the meeting on March 31st or if you cannot attend that meeting, please telephone me.

Kent Archaeological Society

The Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held in Maidstone on the morning of Saturday, May 15th and the lecture in the afternoon will be 'The Conservation and Preservation of Buildings' by Mr J Earl of the Greater London Council.

15, Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone, Kent.

Paul E Oldham
Hon.Secretary.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

May Newsletter

Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday May 26th at 7.15pm in Maidstone Museum, when there will be reports on current activities.

June Meeting

There will be a public meeting on Wednesday June 30th at 7.30pm in the District Library, Faith Street, Maidstone to hear a lecture on 'The Defences of Kent' by Victor Smith. Mr Smith is President of the Gravesend Historical Society and Leader of the Kent Defence Research Group of the Kent Archaeological Society. His lecture will include a section on his excavation of a Tudor blockhouse in Gravesend. Members may invite friends to this meeting.

Mott Hall, Bearsted

The second season of excavations on the site of this moated medieval manor house will start on Sunday May 23rd, and will continue on each Sunday in June and July. We meet at 10am at Bearsted station and go on to the site from there. If anyone cannot arrive by 10am please contact me. All members and friends will be most welcome. Further investigation of the stone building discovered last year on the site is planned.

Roman Building on Barracks Property, Maidstone

Excavation on this site is continuing on selected week days and members interested in participating should contact David Kelly at Maidstone Museum.

Recommended Reading

'Pottery in Roman Britain' by Vivian G Swan. Shire Archaeology, Price £1.

Annual Subscription

If there is a tick in the margin against this item, it appears that your annual subscription for 1976/77 is due. Please send £1 (junior members 50p) to Molly Proctor, The Dairy House, Kirkdale, Loose at your earliest convenience. If you do not wish to remain a member of the Group, please inform Mrs Proctor.

Next Newsletter

Material for the next newsletter should reach the Hon. Secretary by June 15th.

15, Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone.

Paul E Oldham
Hon. Secretary

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

July Newsletter

Next Meeting

The next Group meeting will be held on Wednesday 28th July at 7.15 p.m. in Maidstone Museum. The business meeting will include a report on the excavations at Mott Hall, Bearsted.

August

There will be no Group meeting in August.

Excavation

The excavation of the site of the moated manor house at Mott Hall, Bearsted, will continue on each Sunday in July and August. The walls and possible hearth of a stone building have been found. Whilst good progress has been made so far, more assistance from Group members and friends would be welcome. We meet at 10.00 a.m. in the car park of Bearsted Station.

Building Group

The survey of the buildings of Bearsted, using forms supplied by the Vernacular Architecture Group, will start on Sunday 11th July. This survey, organised by Michael Ocock, will form the basis of our contribution to the proposed History of Bearsted. We meet at 10.15 a.m. in the car park of Bearsted Station.

Visit to Bradbourne House, East Malling

By kind permission of the Director of the East Malling Research Station, there will be guided tours of Bradbourne House under the direction of John Newman, M.A., F.S.A., on Saturday 31st July, commencing at 2.30 p.m. The house is a quarter of a mile south of Larkfield on the road to East Malling. Entry is by the park gates and drive. Volunteers are required to act as stewards - if you can help, please contact Michael Ocock, 2 Woodley Road, Orpington.

Map of Maidstone in 1650

This map, produced by Allen Grove and Bob Spain, is now being printed, and copies will be available for sale shortly, price £1.

15 Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone

Paul E. Oldham
Hon. Secretary

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

October Newsletter

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Group will be held on Wednesday, October 27th, at 7.15 p.m. in Maidstone Museum. The business will include a discussion on activities next year in the Field.

NOVEMBER MEETING

There will be a public lecture meeting on Wednesday, November 24th at 7.30 p.m. in the Maidstone District Library. The lectures will be 'The works of a Victorian manufacturing chemist in the centre of Maidstone' by Ron Bristow; 'A medieval shop in the High Street' by Michael Ocock; and 'Excavation of a moated manor house site in Bearsted' by Paul Oldham. There will also be a small exhibition of Group projects. As the meeting has been arranged to publicise the activities of the Group and attract new members, please invite your friends.

MAP OF MAIDSTONE

The Map of Maidstone in 1650 prepared by Allen Grove and Bob Spain is now available for sale, price £1. The maps will be on sale at the October and November meetings, or may be collected from 15 Hermitage Lane, Harming. Sales of this map will provide a useful source of revenue for us.

BUILDING SECTION

Work at Bradbourne House will continue on the first Sunday morning of each month, starting at 10.00 a.m. and at Millgate on the afternoon of the second Saturday. However, as Millgate is a private residence, these arrangements may have to be changed and so members wishing to attend are asked to check with Michael Ocock, 2 Woodley Road, Orpington.

BARMING CENTRE

Our new Centre in Tonbridge Road, Barming, will be open for members on the first and third Friday evenings in November and the first Friday evening in December from 7.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m.

TESTON

Our member, Joan Severn, has produced a book 'The Teston Story - Kent village life thro the ages', and copies may be obtained from her, price £1.75, at 4 Woodlands Close, Teston.

FIELD STUDIES MEETING

This annual meeting, organised by Edward Connell of the Kent Archaeological Society, will be held at Maidstone District Library on Saturday, November 27th, from 2.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. The talks will include the 'Identification of Flint Implements', by Peter Tester and 'A Survey of Maidstone as it was in 1650', by Allen Grove and Bob Spain. All Group members are welcome to attend.

NEXT NEWSLETTER

Material for the next newsletter should reach me by January 1st.

15 Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone.

PAUL E. OLDHAM
Hon. Secretary

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

February Newsletter

March Meeting

There will be a lecture by Arthur Harrison, B.A., F.S.A., on 'The Bridges and Castles of Rochester' on Wednesday March 30th at 7.30 p.m. in Maidstone District Library, Faith Street, Maidstone. In the summer, a guided walk around Rochester is planned.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday April 27th at 7.15 p.m. in Maidstone Museum. The agenda will include Minutes, Hon. Secretary's Report, Financial Statement, Election of Officers and Representatives, and a proposal to raise the annual subscription to £1.50 from April 1978. Nominations and other items for the agenda should reach the Hon. Secretary by April 20th.

Field walk

A field survey in the area around the Coldrum Stones will take place on Sunday February 27th. Meet at 10 a.m. outside Birling Church. Telephone Alec Miles (Biddenden 291 708) with any queries.

Teston Excavation

A trial trench will be dug on the Roman site on Court Lodge Farm, Teston (TQ 69835024) on Sunday March 6th and all other Sundays in March, starting at 10 a.m. We meet at 9.45 a.m. outside the Barming Centre to pick up equipment. The Centre is housed in a slate-roofed, red and yellow brick building on Tonbridge Road, Barming, about 100 yards west of the Bull Inn, and adjoining a layby. Please bring a few paper or plastic bags for finds if possible. This promises to be an interesting site, and all members will be welcome.

Building Section

There will be no work at Milgate or Bradbourne in March, but details of work in April will be sent to those who have participated before. Other members interested are invited to contact Michael Ocock, 2 Woodley Road, Orpington.

Barns

The County Local History Committee wishes to compile a register of old barns. Any member who would like to do the work for their area should contact me.

Subscription

The annual subscription of £1 (junior members 50p) is due on April 1st and should be paid to Mrs. Molly Proctor, The Dairy House, Kirkdale, Loose.

15 Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone.

Paul E. Oldham
Hon. Secretary

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

April 1977 Newsletter

Next Meeting

There will be a meeting on Wednesday May 25th at 7.15 p.m. at our Centre in Tonbridge Road, Barming. After the business meeting there will be a talk by Ted Connell on the recent excavations and other activities of the Fawkham Archaeological Group. Mr. Connell is the Director of the Fawkham Group and organiser of the K.A.S. Field Studies Conference.

June Visit

In place of our June meeting, there will be an evening walk around the historic parts of Rochester on Wednesday, June 29th. Our guide will be Mr. Arthur Harrison, General Secretary of the Kent Archaeological Society. We meet at 7.30 p.m. outside Eastgate House (Rochester Museum) in the High Street. Members may invite friends.

Mott Hall, Bearsted

Excavation will restart this year at this moated manor house site on Sunday May 22nd, and will continue on each Sunday for several months. We plan to complete the investigation of the site this year and so the help of all members is invited. We meet at 10 a.m. in the car park of Bearsted Station, but members who may arrive later should telephone me for details of the site. The remaining possible building sites will be checked, and rubbish areas sought.

Building Section

Work has been resumed at Bradbourne and Milgate. Details may be obtained from Michael Qcock, 2 Woodlev Road, Orpington.

Industrial Section

On March 9th a small group of members met to review the Industrial Section. It was decided to found a Register of Industrial Sites for the Maidstone area based on NRIM cards. From this, future field work can be planned, and the Register can be used for reference. Concern was also expressed about the future of machinery at Honnors Mill, and so plans were made for further investigation and photography. All members interested in Industrial Archaeology are invited to contact David Brown, 36 Campbell Road, Maidstone, and are urged to recruit friends of similar interest.

Subscriptions

If there is a cross in the margin against this item, your 1977/78 subscription of £1 (junior members 50p) is due. Please pay at your earliest convenience to Molly Proctor, The Dairy House, Kirkdale, Loose.

Kent Archaeological Society

There will be a lecture after the A.G.M. of the Society on Saturday May 21st at 2.15 p.m. by Mr. Brian Philp on "The Discovery of the Classis Britannica Fort at Dover" at Maidstone Grammar School.

15 Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone

Paul E Oldham
Hon. Secretary

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

July Newsletter 1977

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday July 27th at 7.15 p.m. at the Group Centre in Tonbridge Road, Barming. After the business meeting and a talk by Michael Ocock on the cottages forming the hall house in London Road, Larkfield, there should be time to do some tidying up around the Centre and so suitable clothes should be worn.

August

There will be no Group meeting in August.

Mott Hall

Excavation of the mediaeval moated site at Mott Hall, Bearsted, will continue each Sunday in July and August. Signs of a second building on the mound have been seen, and the causeway on to the island has been located. We meet at 10 a.m. in the car park of Bearsted Station and go on to the site from there.

Kent Archaeological Society

Although most of the books in the Library of the Society were saved during the recent serious fire at Maidstone Museum, the Society's room will be closed for repairs. In the meantime the County Council has provided storage facilities.

Paul E. Oldham

Hon. Secretary

15 Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone,
Kent.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

October 1977 Newsletter

November Meeting

There will be a public lecture meeting on Wednesday November 30th at 7.15 p.m. in Maidstone Public Library. Mr. Cliff Ward, the Chairman of the Otford Archaeological Group will give a lecture, illustrated by slides on 'Otford Palace and Other Archaeological sites in the Sevenoaks Area'. As the Kent Archaeological Society will not publish a calendar this autumn, members are asked to publicise the meeting and to invite friends.

December

There will be no Group meeting in December.

Field Surveys

Survey efforts this winter will be concentrated on moated manor sites and I will send details, when available, to interested members who send their names to me. We hope to visit as many sites as possible, observe the features of the sites and start recording work.

Building Recording

Work continues at Bradbourne House and members interested in participating should contact Michael Ocock, 2 Woodley Road, Orpington. The next visit will be on the morning of Sunday November 6th, starting at 10 a.m.

Industrial Archaeology

The industrial section has started work on a comprehensive gazetteer of industrial sites in mid Kent and interested members should contact David Brown, 36 Campbell Road, Maidstone.

Field Conference

Group members will be most welcome to attend the Field Studies Conference of the Kent Archaeological Society on Saturday December 3rd at 2 p.m. in Maidstone Public Library. There will be talks on Moated Manor sites, the documentary background to the Parsonage Barn moated site in Ashford and on two particular sites recorded by Nesta Caiger and Alec Miles. The Conference should be an excellent introduction to the study of medieval moated manor sites.

Next Newsletter

Material for the next newsletter should reach me by January 1st 1978.

Paul E. Oldham
Hon. Secretary

13 Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone,
Kent.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

January 1978 Newsletter

Meetings

There will be business meetings of the Group in Maidstone Museum on Wednesday January 25th and February 22nd starting at 7.15 p.m. Reports on current and future activities will be on the agenda.

March Meeting

On Wednesday March 29th in Maidstone District Library there will be a lecture meeting, starting at 7.15 p.m. Mr. Roger Walsh, the Director of the Dartford Archaeological Group, will give a talk on 'The Finding of the Wilmington Roman Villa'.

Moated Sites

There will be a visit to two moated sites in Staplehurst on the morning of Sunday February 5th. We meet at 10 a.m. in 'The Square' at Staplehurst (TQ 785 433), which is on the A.229, almost halfway between the Railway Station and the Church. This is likely to be the start of a comprehensive study of the medieval moated sites in Staplehurst Parish. As the visit will require walking over fields, appropriate clothes and boots should be worn.

Industrial Archaeology

The industrial section is conducting a survey of industrial remains by compiling index cards, and members are invited to note anything relevant to the industrial past of the area and inform David Brown, 36 Campbell Road, Maidstone, from whom cards may also be obtained.

Barming Centre

Pottery processing at The Centre in Tonbridge Road, Barming, will recommence on Friday February 3rd from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and will continue on the first and third Friday of each month. All members are welcome and anyone with queries should contact Alec Miles, 66 Headcorn Road, Biddenden.

Local History

The annual conference of the County Local History Committee will be held on Saturday June 3rd at Otford, starting at 10.30 a.m. In the morning there will be lectures by Professor Du Boulay on 'The Social Structure of a Manor' and by Mr. R.D. Clarke on 'The Medieval Palace at Otford'. During the afternoon there will be guided tours of the village. Tickets, price £1.40, may be obtained from Mrs. P.M. Winzar, 15 Manor Road, Folkestone, Kent.

Subscriptions

At the September meeting it was resolved that the annual subscription for 1978/79 should be raised to £1.50 for individual members and £2 for family membership. The junior subscription remains at 50p.

Next Newsletter

Material for the next newsletter should reach me by Saturday February 4th.

15 Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone, Kent.

Paul Oldham
Hon. Secretary

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

February 1978 Newsletter

March Meeting

Mr Roger Walsh, the Director of the Dartford Archaeological Group, will give a talk on 'The Finding of the Wilmington Roman Villa' at the meeting on Wednesday March 29th in Maidstone District Library, starting at 7.15 p.m.

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held at Maidstone Museum on Wednesday April 26th at 7.15 p.m.

Agenda

1. Minutes
2. Secretary's Report
3. Financial Report
4. Future Organisation of the Group
5. Election of Officers and Representatives
6. Technical Rule Changes suggested by Charity Commission.

Nominations and other items for the Agenda should reach the Hon. Secretary by April 19th,

Archaeologia Cantiana

There will be an auction of the volumes of Archaeologia Cantiana (Vols 72 to 83, except 76), recently donated to the Group, after the A.G.M. Any member who would like to bid for any of the volumes but cannot attend the meeting should send a bid to the Hon. Secretary by post.

Staplehurst

Work on recording the moated site Castle Bank at Staplehurst will start on the morning of Sunday March 12th. We meet at 10 a.m. in 'The Square' at Staplehurst (TQ 785 433), which is on the A.229 almost halfway between the Railway Station and the Church.

Building Recording

Work continues at Bradbourne House, East Malling on one Sunday each month. Further details may be obtained from Michael Ocock, 2 Woodley Road, Orpington.

Subscriptions

Annual subscriptions are due on March 31st and should be sent to Mrs R K Proctor, The Dairy House, Kirkdale, Loose, Maidstone. The subscription rate is £1.50 for individual members, £2 for family membership and 50p for junior members.

Paul Oldham
Hon. Secretary

15 Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone, Kent.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

May 1978 - Newsletter

Annual General Meeting

At the last A.G.M. it was decided to have Group business meetings once a quarter in future, namely in January, April, July and October. The two public lecture meetings a year would be held to discuss particular Group projects. These project meetings would be held at the Barming Centre (4 Tonbridge Road, Barming) and an informal group of members has been appointed to recommend a programme to the July business meeting.

Future Meetings

THERE WILL BE NO GROUP MEETING IN MAY. There will be a project meeting on Wednesday June 28th at 7.15 p.m. in the Barming Centre and the excavations on the Mott Hall, Bearsted, moated site will be the main subject for discussion.

There will be a business meeting of the Group on Wednesday July 26th at 7.15 p.m. in Maidstone Museum. The agenda will include progress reports on group activities.

Excavation

The excavation at the moated manor site at Mott Hall, Bearsted will recommence on Sunday June 4th and will continue on each Sunday for about two months. We hope to complete the excavation as soon as possible by digging into the sides of the mound, where the more interesting finds may be found. All members and friends will be most welcome. No digging experience is required as training is provided on the site. We meet at 10 a.m. in the Car Park of Bearsted Station.

Building Recording

Work on recording Bradbourne House, East Malling continues on one Sunday each month. Any interested member should contact Michael Ocock, 2 Woodley Road, Orpington, for details. No experience of building recording is required for participation in the work.

Staplehurst

Work has started on surveying the moated sites of Staplehurst and details may be obtained from the Project Leader, Michael Jessup, 13 Reeves Close, Marden Road, Staplehurst, Tonbridge, Kent.

Paul Oldham
Hon. Secretary

15 Hermitage Lane,
Barming, Maidstone,
Kent.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

September 1978 Newsletter

Project Meeting

The next project meeting will be held at the Banning Centre on Wednesday September 27th at 7.15 p.m. Michael Ocock will speak about the problems involved in the recording and interpretation of The Lines, adjoining Bearsted Green. All members are welcome. The Banning Centre is on the Tonbridge Road about 100 yards west of The Bull Inn and is a brick built hall with a slate roof.

Business Meeting

The next business meeting will be held at Maidstone Museum on Wednesday October 25th at 7.15 p.m. The agenda will include brief reports on activities and plans of each activity section.

Lecture Meeting

Mrs. M.C. Lebon, M.A., will give a talk on 'Researches into the Guldeford Family' in Maidstone Public Library on Wednesday November 29th at 7.15 p.m. Members are invited to bring guests to this meeting. The Guldeford family had many connections and possessions in Kent and Mrs. Lebon will describe how she tackled the research as well as the results.

Staplehurst

It is hoped to start the survey of the moated site of Lovehurst, Staplehurst, on Sunday September 17th, meeting at 10 a.m. in 'The Square' on the A.229 between Staplehurst Station and the Church. Further details, and confirmation may be obtained from Michael Jessup, Tel. Staplehurst 891 876.

Building Recording

The next visit to Bradbourne will take place on Sunday September 24th, meeting at 10 a.m. at Bradbourne House, East Malling Research Station. No experience of old buildings is required. Queries should be addressed to Michael Ocock 2 Woodley Road, Orpington. Michael will supply dates of other visits on request.

Iron Making Survey

The Industrial Group is preparing for a survey of iron making in the area, but as this will include field walking and probably excavation, other members of the Group will be interested. If you would like to receive details of activities as soon as they are arranged, please send your name to David Brown, 36 Campbell Road, Maidstone.

Excavation

The Lower Medway Group are organising an excavation of an interesting pre-Roman site near Cliffe in the latter part of September. Group members will be welcome to participate, but details are not yet to hand. Contact me if you are interested.

Barming Centre

We will be working on the Barming Centre, clearing it and tidying the garden, in the morning of Sunday October 1st, starting at 10 a.m. Please come along and help.

Next Newsletter

Material for the next newsletter should reach me by October 25th.

Paul E. Oldham
Hon. Secretary

15 Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone,
Kent.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

November 1978 Newsletter

Lecture Meeting

Mrs. M.C. Lebon, M.A., will speak on 'The Guldeford Family' on Wednesday, November 29th at 7.15 p.m. in Maidstone District Library, Faith Street. The Guldeford family had several houses in Kent, as well as many possessions and connections, including Benenden. Members may invite guests to the meeting.

Group Meetings

There will be no meeting in December, but there will be a business meeting on Wednesday, January 31st at 7.15 p.m. in Maidstone Museum. A programme of activities for 1979 will be discussed then.

Barming Centre

The Friday evening pottery sessions have now ended, but will re-start on the first Friday evening in February and will continue on the first and third Friday evenings of each month, starting at 7 p.m. Work will be undertaken on tidying the Centre and garden on the morning of Sunday, January 7th, starting at 10 a.m., and assistance from members is requested.

Field Studies Conference

Members are invited to attend the Field Studies Conference of the Kent Archaeological Society on Saturday, November 25th from 2.30 to 5 p.m. in the Meeting Hall, Rock House, London Road (on the corner of Terrace Road, and London Road). Mr. John Hedges the County Archaeologist for Essex, will speak on archaeological records, whilst two group members, namely Michael Jessup and myself, will contribute to the section of the meeting on moated and manorial sites.

Publications

Copies of the Journal of Local History (10p each), Michael Ocock's article on St. Cuthbert's Cottage, Barming (20p) and the Map of Maidstone in 1650 (£1) will be on sale at the November Lecture meeting.

Fieldwork

The measurement and plans of three Staplehurst moated sites, namely Castle Bank, Lovehurst and Brattle Farm, have been completed. Further work now depends on permission for access to other sites, but Michael Jessup will inform any members interested of dates when arranged, if they write to him at 13 Reeves Close, Marden Road, Staplehurst, Tonbridge.

There will be another visit to suspected earthworks in Offham in the near future. Any members interested should contact me for details.

Next Newsletter

Material for the next newsletter should reach me by January 7th.

15 Hermitage Lane,
Barming,
Maidstone, Kent.

Paul Oldham
Hon. Secretary.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

January 1979 Newsletter

Meetings

There will be a business meeting of the Group on Wednesday, January 31st at 7.15 p.m., in Maidstone Museum. All members may attend and the Agenda will include a discussion on activities for the year. There will be no meeting in February, but the Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 25th.

Lecture Meeting

Mrs. Molly Proctor will speak on the 'History of Drapery Shops' on Wednesday, March 28th at 7.15 p.m. in Maidstone District Library in Faith Street. The talk will be illustrated by slides. Members are asked to bring guests.

Staplehurst

As Michael Jessup has moved from the area, the survey of moated sites in Staplehurst has been suspended for the time being.

Barming Centre

Alec Miles will be starting work on the Roman pottery at the Barming Centre on Friday, February 2nd at 7 p.m. and anyone will be welcome to help. The Centre will be open in the evenings of the first and third Friday of each month. The Centre is in Tonbridge Road, Barming, about 100 yards west of The Bull Inn. Michael Ocock will be working on building plans and drawings at the Centre later in the year.

Martins Quarry, Longfield

Members are invited to participate in the rescue excavation organised by the Fawkham Archaeological Group and directed by Ted Connell at Martins Quarry, Longfield. The excavation will take place every Sunday until the end of March from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The previous excavation revealed remains from the late Iron Age to the Roman second century, including ditches, four posted structures and storage pits. Much pottery was found. The entrance to the site is TQ 595 695 on the B.260 road from Longfield to Dartford. The site is ten minutes walk from Longfield Station. Please contact Ted Connell, 29 Penenden, New Ash Green, Dartford. Tel. 047 487 2763.

Archaeological Society Evening

The Kent Archaeological Society is organising an Easter Social Evening on Saturday, April 14th in Corpus Christi Hall in Earl Street, starting at 7.30 p.m. There will be a cold buffet, a cash bar and about five short talks on finds brought to the meeting. Tickets, price £2, may be purchased from me as all Group members are invited.

Next Newsletter

Material for the next newsletter should reach me by March 31st.

15 Hermitage Lane,
Barming, Maidstone.

Paul Oldham
Hon. Secretary.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

March 1979 Newsletter

March Meeting

There will be a lecture meeting in Maidstone Divisional Library on Wednesday, March 28th at 7 p.m. when Mrs. Molly Proctor will speak on 'The History of Drapers Shops'. The talk will be illustrated by slides. Members are invited to bring guests to the meeting.

Notice of Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting will be held in Maidstone Museum on Wednesday, April 25th at 7.15 p.m.

Agenda

1. Minutes.
2. Secretary's Report.
3. Financial Statement.
4. Election of Officers.
5. Election of Auditor.
6. Election of Representatives.
7. Review of Meeting Arrangements.
8. Future Activities.
9. Any other business.

Nominations and other items of business should reach me by Wednesday, April 18th.

Subscriptions

The annual subscription of £1.50 (50p for juniors and £2 for family membership) is now due and should be sent to the Membership Secretary, Mrs. M.G. Proctor, The Dairy House, Kirkdale, Loose, Maidstone.

Kent Archaeological Society

The A.G.M. of the Society will be held on Saturday, May 19th, and in the afternoon there will be a lecture at Maidstone Grammar School at 2.15 p.m. by Professor Frere on 'Town Planning in the Western Provinces'.

M.A.A.G. members are also invited to the Easter Social Evening on Saturday, April 14th at 7.30 p.m. in Corpus Christi Hall, Earl Street. Tickets, price £2, may be obtained from me.

Buildings

Any member wishing to participate in the vernacular buildings survey of Bearsted Parish should send their names to Michael Ocock, 2 Woodley Road, Orpington.

Excavation

The Lower Medway Group and the British Museum will organise an excavation in August and September on an important Bronze Age site near Higham. M.A.A.G. members have been invited to attend.

Next Newsletter

Material for the next newsletter should reach me by Tuesday, May 1st.

Paul Oldham
Hon. Secretary.

15 Hermitage Lane,
Barming, Maidstone,
Kent.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

May Newsletter

Meetings

The Annual General Meeting agreed that a Group meeting would be held in the evening of the last Wednesday of each month (except August and December) at 7.15 p.m. at the Barming Centre. The Centre, a brick hall with a slate roof, is 100 yards west of the Bull Inn on Tonbridge Road, Barming.

This month, after a short business meeting, work will be undertaken on tidying the garden and Centre. Old clothes should be worn.

Parish Survey

It has been agreed that the Group should start a survey of a parish near Maidstone. If you have any suggestions, please contact Paul Oldham, 15, Hermitage Lane, Barming.

Subscriptions

If a cross appears against this item, your annual subscription is due and should be sent as soon as possible to Molly Proctor, The Dairy House, Kirkdale, Loose. The subscription is £1.50. (Family membership £2, and junior membership 50p).

Officers

At the A.G.M., Ron Bristow was re-elected Chairman, Paul Oldham was elected Vice-Chairman and Celia Beckham, 56B, Brook House, Malling Road, Snodland was elected Secretary.

Celia Beckham,
Hon. Secretary.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

MEETINGS:

The next meeting of the Group will be held on Wednesday September 26th at 7.15 pm at the Group Centre, Tonbridge Road, Barming. The attendance at recent meetings has been very disappointing and I hope that you will be able to attend or we may seriously have to reconsider future plans for the Group.

The main business of the meeting will be the selection of the parish for our survey and to allocate the research work amongst interested members. No experience is necessary.

CLIFFE EXCAVATIONS 1979

These are planned for September and October on the site of a large Bronze Age and Iron Age settlement and cemetery south of Cliffe, near Rochester. The Directors will be: Dr. Ian Kinnes of the British Museum and David Thomson of the K.A.S.

OFFHAM

Members of the Offham Society have invited us to join them in a perambulation of Offham village in Mid-October.

SEABOROUGH COURT

Please let me know if you are interested in making up a party to spend a weekend at a country house near Crewkerne in Dorset, where we could study the local archaeology. Approximate cost : £30.

YALDING

K.A.S. member, Mr. T. Kremer of 2, Downs Road, Yalding has published a local history booklet entitled "The Parish and People of Yalding". Price by post : £1.10.

/Contd.

KENT UNIVERSITY, CANTERBURY

There will be a day school on Saturday 22nd September entitled "Kent's Defences : Napoleon to Hitler" by Victor Smith, Secretary of the Kent Defence Research Group.

BROADSTAIRS

There will be a symposium at Kingsgate College on the second weekend of November on the "Archaeology of Kent". The speakers include : J.J. Wymer, B. Cunliffe, S.E.C. Hawks and S.E. Rigold.

Further details on any of the above items can be obtained from me : Hon. Secretary

Celia Beckham,
56B, Malling Road,
Snodland, Kent.

Phone: Snodland 241382.

MAIDSTONE AREA ARCHAEOLOGICAL GROUP

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

MAP OF MAIDSTONE 1650

The group has now under 100 copies of this map in stock after the sale of nearly 900 copies. Group members are reminded that the maps may be purchased from the museum (£1.25) or from Paul Oldham (£1); maps cannot be sent through the post.

BOOKS

The Council for British Archaeology has produced a book on field-work techniques, 'Peopling Past Landscapes' price £3.00. Copies may be ordered through the book sale service of the K.A.S. by giving orders to me.

KAS LIBRARY

Work has started on returning the books to the KAS Library in Maidstone Museum and anyone willing to help should contact Peter Draper, 71 Brent Lane, Dartford.

PARISH SURVEY

At the last Group meeting the following villages were suggested as a choice for a parish survey: East and west Malling, East and west Farleigh, Hollingbourne, Boxley or Offham. I would be pleased to hear from anyone who has contacts with land-owners in any of these areas as this is of major importance when selecting our parish.

MEETINGS

The Group will meet at 7.15 pm at Barming on October 31st and November 28th. There is no meeting in December.

Celia Beckham,
Hon. Secretary.
56b Malling Road,
Snodland, Kent.