

Expeditions and Lectures, Season 1959-60

THE year opened with a winter field meeting, on 6 January, probably a unique event in the history of the Club, when Mr J. Simpson organised a coach party to visit the Whitewater Valley near Hook in the north of the county, in order to view the proposed site of an 'overspill' town to be developed by the L.C.C.—a threat since happily removed. Unfortunately the weather was rainy and misty, but the purpose of the expedition was achieved.

The season proper opened on 23 May, when glorious weather conditions prevailed, for which the summer of 1959 will be ever memorable. The objective was the Wildfowl Trust at Slimbridge, Gloucestershire, which was reached through the lovely scenery of the Wiltshire Downs and the Cotswolds, where a luncheon halt was made at Minchinhampton Common, with its magnificent views. At Slimbridge the party spent an interesting afternoon before proceeding to Berkeley Castle, where tea was taken and parties taken round the building by guides. The castle dates from the reign of Henry II and was the scene of the revolting murder of Edward II in 1327.

On 4 June Waverley Abbey in Surrey was the objective and here the party inspected the grievously neglected ruins under the guidance of Father Robo, a local historian. Lunch was taken at Farnham, after which the party assembled at the Grange, a beautiful Queen Anne house visited by kind permission of Sir George Perceval. The adjoining ruin of the Norman castle was next visited, where excavations in the centre of the keep were being conducted by H.M. Ministry of Works. Here Dr Thompson gave an account of both the keep and the adjacent residential portion of the castle, for many centuries the seat of the Bishops of Winchester. Since the Bishops of Guildford now prefer to live elsewhere the future of the castle is uncertain. Members were conducted all round the residential portion by Dr Thompson, after which the Parish Church was visited and here the Rector, the Rev. H. R. Wilds, described its features. Tea was taken at the Bush Hotel.

On 13 June the Meon Valley was visited and a combined archaeological and geological programme took place. First the 'Fox and Hounds' Inn at Beauworth was visited where the Norman well, still worked by a 'donkey-wheel' operated by the landlord, was inspected. Next Beacon Hill, an eminence of 650 ft. was visited and here Councillor Steavenson of Southampton described the geological features of the Meon Valley, of which a fine view was obtainable. Corhampton Church was next visited where Mr R. L. P. Jowitt (Hon. Sec.) described its Saxon architecture, after which the Norman church of Warnford was visited and here the Rector, the Rev. C. A. Millen, was the guide. He also showed the party the neglected ruin of the Norman hall of the St John family adjoining the church.

Lunch having been taken in Warnford Park, East Meon was visited in the early afternoon, where the party climbed the steep ascent of Park Hill (650 ft.) just above the church. Here Councillor Steavenson again gave an interesting geological discourse on the origin of the Meon Valley. The party then descended to the church where Mr Jowitt was the guide and finally the Court House was visited by kind permission of Mr A. D. Gill, who acted as guide. Tea was taken at Meonstoke.

On 11 July the magnificent mansion of Uppark, high on the Sussex Downs, was visited. Members were conducted round the house, which dates from the reign of William III and

HAMPSHIRE FIELD CLUB PROCEEDINGS

is now National Trust property, but is still occupied by the Fetherstonhaugh family who have owned Uppark for over 200 years. The interesting church at South Harting was also visited, the guide being the Rector, the Rev. F. Hunter, after which tea was taken at the 'Coach and Horses'.

On 14 July a botanical meeting took place at Hatchet Pond, near Beaulieu, under the leadership of Brigadier F. E. W. Venning, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.

On 27 July Mr J. Simpson conducted a tour of various places in order to study aspects of Hanoverian, Saxe-Coburg Gothan and Windsorian Hampshire and to celebrate the bicentenary of the Battle of Minden, in which the Hampshire Regiment played a notable part. Hackpen House near Basingstoke, was first visited, by kind permission of Viscountess Camrose. This was the former residence of the second Duke of Bolton, who played an active part in the Hanoverian succession in 1714. Heckfield Church was next visited, where Mr Simpson pointed out the grave of General Sir William Pitt, who was wounded at Minden. Heckfield Place was also visited, by kind permission of Major A. Stuart-Black. Here King George III was a frequent visitor in the time of General Pitt and here King George VI visited Neville Chamberlain, his former Prime Minister, before his death in 1940.

The next objective was the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst, where the party was welcomed by Lt.-Col. C. B. Appleby, D.S.O., F.S.A., Curator of the Indian Army Museum, who conducted them round the museum.

The party next visited the Prince Consort's Library at Aldershot, where an address was given by General Bramwell-Davies, C.B., D.S.O., G.O.C. Aldershot, and by Major Sheppard the military historian.

The next objective was the equestrian statue of the Duke of Wellington, formerly on the arch at Hyde Park Corner, which had been referred to in the lecture. The route then followed led across heathland, the scene of many military manoeuvres, commanding wide-spreading views, to the final objective, the garden of Itchel Manor near Crondall where Mr Simpson pointed out the 19th century copy of the Townley Urn, now in the British Museum. This is a typical piece of Georgian 'garden furniture', picked up in the course of a 'Grand Tour'. Mr and Mrs Lefroy kindly allowed members to have a picnic tea in the Manor grounds.

On 13 August the party met at Barton-on-Sea and from here Councillor Steavenson conducted an extremely interesting geological walk of about three miles to Milford-on-Sea. Rain threatened, but fortunately held off until the party had arrived at Milford, where tea was taken and the church visited under the guidance of Mr R. L. P. Jowitt.

On 29 August the Selborne district was visited, when Empshott Church was the first objective, its features being described by Mr Jowitt. The party then proceeded to Selborne itself where the Vicar, the Rev. J. Darlington, described the church and members visited the humble grave of Gilbert White. Picnic lunch was then taken on the Plestor (the village green) after which the site of the Priory was visited, where the Rev. G. Knapp, Vicar of Worldham, described the excavations which he and a party of volunteers had been conducting. Finally the party visited the Church of East Worldham, also under his leadership. Picnic tea was taken in the grounds of East Worldham House, by kind invitation of Mrs Ferguson.

On 10 September Montacute House in Somerset was the objective. This is another priceless possession of the National Trust and is a magnificent specimen of Tudor architecture dating from 1580-1600, and was for long the home of the Phelps family. Its architect was John Thorpe, who also designed several similar mansions. The interesting church was also visited.

HAMPSHIRE FIELD CLUB PROCEEDINGS

The last field meeting of the season took place at Southampton, where members were shown the restoration work in progress at God's House Tower, where they were addressed by the Curator, Mr P. S. Peberdy. This old building has since been opened as a Museum of Archaeology. During the afternoon the party enjoyed a cruise up Southampton Water, when Mr E. A. Oscroft, Docks Publicity Manager and Miss Sandell of the Friends of Old Southampton pointed out the many features of interest, the last speaker especially dealing with the associations of Eling and Redbridge. Finally the party witnessed the departure of the liner *Queen Mary*. Thus finished a most successful season of field meetings of almost entirely unbroken perfect weather.

On 1 October the autumn season opened most auspiciously with the celebration of the Millenary of the Accession of King Edgar, the first King of Great Britain. This was a special joint meeting of the Hampshire Field Club and the Winchester Branch of the Historical Association. A large company of members of both societies assembled at 1 p.m. at the Cadena Café in Winchester, where luncheon was taken, after which the Dean of Winchester, the Very Rev. Norman Sykes, F.B.A., D.LITT., proposed the toast to the memory of King Edgar. During the afternoon the company assembled at the Guildhall, where a lecture was given by Mr R. N. Quirk, M.A., F.S.A., on the subject of the Anglo-Saxon Cathedral of Winchester. Tea was afterwards taken, after which Evensong at the Cathedral was attended, special prayers commemorative of the occasion being said and an appropriate anthem sung. In the evening another lecture was held in the Old Wykehamist Room at Winchester College, when Mr A. K. R. Kiralfy, PH.D., LE.M., of Gray's Inn, Barrister-at-Law and Reader in law at King's College, London, spoke on the subject of 'King Edgar and the Unification of English Law'. The special thanks of the Club are due to Mrs Carpenter Turner for the excellent organisation of this most unique and historic occasion.

On 3 October a Fungus Foray was held under the leadership of Dr F. B. Hora, Past-President of the British Mycological Society.

On 15 October Mr W. H. Dowdeswell, M.A., gave a lecture in the Science School at Winchester College, his subject being 'Recent Developments in the Study of Evolution'.

On 5 November a lecture was given at the Guildhall, Winchester, by Mrs Carpenter Turner, B.A., J.P., 'The Winchester Domesday, a Reconsideration' being her subject.

On 23 January 1960 a film 'Island Birds' made by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds was shown, a large audience completely filling the Banqueting Hall of the Winchester Guildhall.

On 25 February, at the same place, a lecture was given by Mr Neil Ker, M.A., of Magdalen College, Oxford, his subject being 'Anglo-Saxon Manuscripts'.

The last lecture of the season was held at St Maurice Hall in Winchester, the lecturer being Mr Alan Rannie, F.S.A. His subject was 'The Winchester Countryside', which was illustrated by some very beautiful coloured slides.

The year 1959 saw the establishment of a regional body known as 'The New Forest and Avon Valley Section', which was formed at a meeting at the New Forest Hall at Brockenhurst, in October. Commander E. C. Wrey, O.B.E., R.N., was elected the first President and Mr E. L. Smith the first Honorary Secretary. Following this meeting a lecture on 'Old Lymington' was given by Mr T. H. Heath, illustrated with his own coloured slides.

Hampshire Field Club Annual Report

1959-60

ON 1 April the paid up membership of the Club was 519, a loss of 3 members since a year ago. During the past year there were 11 field meetings, two of which were botanical and one geological. The summer season concluded, as usual, with a Fungus Foray. On 1 October the Club, together with the Winchester Historical Association, celebrated the millenary of the Accession of King Edgar by a luncheon party and two lectures. During the winter season there were four lectures and a very successful showing of the film 'Island Birds' was given in January.

The New Forest and Avon Valley Section

A local section of the Club has been formed for the S.W. part of the county, under the above name. The inaugural meeting was held at Brockenhurst on 29 September 1959, when a small committee was appointed. Section meetings have been held throughout the winter at monthly intervals in various places within the area of the section and the outline of the summer meetings has been circulated to all members of the Club, together with a summary of the section's objects and information as to joining. It should perhaps be emphasised that only members of the Club can be members of the section, although it is hoped to collaborate with local societies as the occasion arises.

Excavation at Ampress

A small excavation of an earthwork, took place at Ampress, near Lymington, carried out under the direction of Mr Robertson-Mackay, F.S.A. (SCOT.), whose report we hope to receive in due course. The excavation succeeded in establishing the existence of an outer bank and ditch.

Formation of a County Naturalists' Trust

On Saturday 26 March a meeting was called at Southampton University by Mr M. Bryant representing the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society and the Portsmouth Natural History Society. Representatives of 22 societies attended, and several other societies wrote expressing their support.

Commander Wrey, President of the Hampshire Field Club, opened the meeting and introduced the guest speaker, Mr A. E. Smith, general secretary of the Lincolnshire Trust. Mr Smith described the part played by county trusts in other counties, and gave useful advice on the way in which their affairs were run, and their constitution. After his address the meeting passed unanimously a resolution that a County Trust be set up for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight and that a committee be appointed to carry out the wishes of the meeting.

A total of 15 members who had expressed their willingness to serve on the committee were then elected with power to co-opt additional members. At a short committee meeting held after the main meeting Squadron-Leader Orr of the Hampshire Field Club was elected chairman, and Mr Bryant was elected secretary.

ANNUAL REPORT

O. G. S. Crawford Memorial Lecture Room

On 5 April 1960 Southampton Borough Council opened a new Museum of Archaeology in God's House Tower, Town Quay, Southampton. Within the precincts of this new museum the Borough Council have reserved the Gatehouse for use as a lecture room for students of archaeology and for organised parties of schoolchildren. To commemorate the memory of Hampshire's distinguished archaeologist of international repute, the late Dr O. G. S. Crawford, C.B.E., F.B.A., Southampton Borough Council have decided that the room within the Gatehouse shall henceforth be known as the Crawford Memorial Lecture Room and a suitable commemorative plaque has been placed at the Lecture Room entrance. In support of the action taken by Southampton, the Council of the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society have given a sum of £25 towards the purchase for exhibition in God's House Tower Museum of a series of enlarged photographs illustrating archaeological sites in Hampshire and Wessex photographed from the air. Besides being an eminent scholar in all fields of British Archaeology the late Dr Crawford was in fact the pioneer of aerial photography related to the recording of archaeological sites in Great Britain and elsewhere. It is the wish of Southampton Corporation to build up, through its Museums Department, a complete and representative series of photographic records of all known archaeological sites in Great Britain, photographed from the air. Members of the Field Club are invited to join in this commendable idea by giving Southampton Museums aerial photographic records of archaeological sites in Great Britain.

Winchester Preservation Trust

Mrs W. J. Carpenter Turner and the Honorary Secretary are the Society's representatives on the Committee.

R. L. P. JOWITT.

NEW FOREST AND AVON VALLEY SECTION

1959-1960 REPORT

At a Meeting held in the Old Manor House, Fordingbridge, on 26 July 1959, Miss A. M. Best, Mr F. A. Aberg, M.A., Alderman J. W. Beagley, Mr Edwin Cohen, F.Z.S., Mr R. L. P. Jowitt, Mr A. T. Morley Hewitt, Mr A. G. Steavenson, and Commander E. C. Wrey, decided that a New Forest and Avon Valley Section of the Hampshire Field Club and Archaeological Society should be formed to cover the area bounded by Dean Hill on the north, the River Test and Southampton Water on the east, the Solent and English Channel on the south, and the River Avon on the west, including Romsey and part of Hampshire west of the Avon.

At the Inaugural Meeting held in the New Forest Hall, Brockenhurst, on 29 September 1959, the Chairman, Commander Wrey, explained that the section had been formed to serve members living in this district who found it difficult to attend meetings in other parts of the county. The section would collaborate with and not compete against other local Societies, who were cordially invited to become corporate members and join in the Field Club activities.

Commander Wrey was elected Chairman of the new section; Mr. E. L. Smith, Hon. Secretary; Mr Edwin Cohen, Hon. Treasurer; and Miss A. M. Best, Mrs David Cobb, Mr J. W. Beagley and Mr A. T. Morley Hewitt members of the Committee.

HAMPSHIRE FIELD CLUB PROCEEDINGS

A most invigorating winter series of lectures was arranged by the Section, beginning with 'Roman Influence on the Western Area of the New Forest' by Mr A. T. Morley Hewitt, on 19 November in the library of Brockenhurst Grammar School, when he described trade routes, excavations (including those on his Roman Villa at Rockbourne) and kiln sites; while his coloured slides, photographs and, most tangibly, the cases of brooches, coins, and other incidentals (including Mr Andrew Richardson's examples of pottery which the audience were allowed to handle) provided vital and evocative illustrations of life in this area over 1700 years ago.

In a botanical lecture at the Lecture Hall of Lyndhurst Social Centre on 17 December, Mrs H. Goodheart showed and described a magnificent series of coloured slides illustrating 'Wild Flowers of the New Forest', including the rare but inconspicuous *Ludwigia palustri* and the equally rare *Cicendia* which at one time was believed to grow only in Guernsey.

On 21 January in the New Forest Hall, Mr Oliver Hook's verbal agility as a commentator enabled him to keep pace with the tempo of boiling mud, geysers, gannets, whales, and a flight over the erupting crater of Mount Hekla; as he took the Section on a geological, ornithological, geographical and historical tour for the duration of his film 'Iceland Holiday'.

On 19 February at a meeting held in the Hayloft of Lymington Community Centre, Mr J. T. Baring gave a most instructive numismatic and historical lecture (illustrated with actual coins which, again, the audience was privileged to handle) based on the 'Dorchester Hoard' of Roman coins discovered in May 1936.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1960.

1959		INCOME.			£	s	d	£	s	d
MEMBERS' SUBSCRIPTIONS :—										
509	534	539 at 21/-	...	...	565	19	0			
2	2	2 at 15/-	...	...	1	10	0			
8	3	6 at 10/6	...	...	3	3	0			
519	539	547			570	12	0			
42	10	69 Entrance Fees at 5/-	...		17	5	0			
549								587	17	0
3		SUNDRY RECEIPTS	...	...				2	16	6
		EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME								
		carried down	...	...				63	8	0
					<hr/>					
					£552	£654 1 6 <hr/>				
55	SURPLUS brought down				— —					
7	DEFICIENCY FOR THE YEAR TAKEN TO									
	GENERAL FUND				118 7 3					
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62					£118 7 3					

1959	EXPENDITURE.	£	s	d	£	s	d
	SUBSCRIPTIONS TO SOCIETIES :—						
	British Trust for Ornithology ...	2	0	0			
	Council for British Archaeology ...	2	2	0			
	Council for Protection of Ancient Buildings ...	1	1	0			
	Council for Protection of Birds ...	1	1	0			
	Council for Nature ...	1	0	0			
	Council for Promotion of Field Studies ...		10	0			
	Commons Preservation Society ...	1	1	0			
	English Place Names Society ...	1	5	0			
	South-Eastern Scientific Society ...		12	6			
11					10	12	6
	FIELD MEETINGS AND LECTURES :—						
	Printing, Postage and Expenses relating thereto ...	179	6	11			
	Less Receipts and Visitors' Fees ...	82	14	5			
10					96	12	6
	PUBLICATIONS :—						
	<i>Proceedings</i> , Vol. XXI, Pt. III, Provision for Estimated Cost ...	250	0	0			
	Ornithological Report, 1960, Provision for Estimated Sum required in excess of present Reserve ...	20	0	0			
270					270	0	0
	EXCAVATIONS AND GRANTS RESERVE :—						
100	Provision for the year ...				100	0	0
	GENERAL CHARGES :—						
	Printing, Postages, Telephones, Stationery, Insurance and Travelling ...	75	8	1			
59	Services of Assistant ...	12	0	0			
12	General Office Expenses ...	24	14	4			
14	Annual General Meeting, Council and Committee Meetings, Election Expenses ...	64	14	1			
21					176	16	6
55	SURPLUS carried down ...						
£552					£654	1	6
	EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME brought down ...				63	8	0
	Add Special Expenditure :—						
	New List of Members ...	45	2	6			
	New Forest Section, Payments ...	9	16	9			
25	New Rules ...						
25	Grant ...						
12	New Registers ...						
					54	19	3
£62					£118	7	3

Past Presidents

- 1885—1888 F. DE CHAUMONT, M.D., F.R.S.
- 1888—1891 W. WHITAKER, B.A., F.R.S., F.G.S.
- 1891—1893 W. E. DARWIN, B.A., F.G.S., J.P.
- 1893—1895 THE VERY REV. THE DEAN OF WINCHESTER (THE VERY REV. G. W. KITCHEN, D.D., F.S.A.).
- 1895—1896 W. WHITAKER, B.A., F.R.S., F.G.S.
- 1897—1898 B. W. GREENFIELD, M.A., F.S.A.
- 1898—1900 THE RT. HON. THE EARL OF NORTHBROOK, G.C.S.I., D.C.L., F.R.S.
- 1900—1902 WILLIAM W. PORTAL, M.A., F.S.A. (afterwards SIR WM. W. PORTAL, BART.).
- 1902—1904 J. H. OGLANDER, F.S.A.
- 1904—1906 W. F. G. SPRANGER, J.P.
- 1906—1908 THE MOST NOBLE THE MARQUIS OF WINCHESTER.
- 1908—1910 SIR WILLIAM W. PORTAL, BART., M.A., F.S.A., D.L.
- 1910—1912 THE RT. HON. THE EARL OF NORTHBROOK.
- 1912—1914 THE RT. HON. THE LORD MONTAGU OF BEAULIEU.
- 1914—1916 SIR WILLIAM W. PORTAL, BART., M.A., F.S.A., D.L.
- 1916—1918 C. E. KEYSER, M.A., F.S.A., D.L., J.P.
- 1918—1920 DR. DUKINFELD SCOTT, F.R.S., F.L.S., F.G.S., LL.D., D.S.C.
- 1920—1922 THE RT. HON. THE LORD MONTAGU OF BEAULIEU.
- 1922—1924 THE RT. HON. BEATRICE COUNTESS OF PORTSMOUTH.
- 1925—1926 THE RT. HON. THE EARL OF NORMANTON.
- 1926—1929 DR. J. P. WILLIAMS-FREEMAN, M.D., J.P.
- 1929—1932 SIR CHARLES CLOSE, K.B.E., C.B., C.M.G., SC.D., F.R.S.
- 1932—1935 DR. J. P. WILLIAMS-FREEMAN, M.D., J.P.
- 1935—1936 SIR CHARLES ARDEN-CLOSE, K.B.E., C.B., C.M.G., SC.D., F.R.S.
- 1936—1939 LIEUT.-COL. J. B. KARSLAKE, T.D., D.L., J.P., M.A., F.S.A.
- 1940—1943 C. J. P. CAVE, J.P., F.S.A., F.R.P.S.
- 1943—1945 SIR RICHARD HARMAN LUCE, K.C.M.G., C.B., M.A., F.S.A., F.R.C.S.
- 1946—1948 O. G. S. CRAWFORD, F.B.A., F.S.A.
- 1949—1951 THE RT. HON. H. T. BAKER, P.C., M.A.
- 1952—1954 HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON, K.G., F.R.I.B.A., F.S.A.
- 1955—1957 LIEUT.-GEN. F. H. GRIFFITHS, D.L., J.P.
- 1958—1960 COMMANDER E. C. WREY, O.B.E., R.N.