Field Meetings, Summer 1960

HE season opened on 28 April with a meeting at Stanbridge Earls, near Romsey, where members were shown round this most interesting old house, now a school, by Mr D. E. A. Home, by kind permission of the headmaster, Mr R. J. Gould and Mrs Gould. West Wellow Church with its interesting medieval wall-paintings and the churchyard containing the grave of Florence Nightingale was next visited. Here Mr R. L. P. Jowitt (Hon. Sec.) was the guide. Picnic lunch was taken at Beaulieu Abbey and the afternoon was spent at Pylewell Park, near Lymington, by kind invitation of Wm. Whitaker, Esq.

On 2 May began a four-day meeting, the most ambitious of its kind that the Club has ever organised. The object of the meeting was to study the impact of the Stuart Dynasty on the county, Mr John Simpson, M.A., being the Director. The meeting began in Winchester Cathedral, where the members were addressed by Mr and Mrs W. J. Carpenter Turner. They then proceeded by coach to Portsmouth, where they were shown the former King's House Chapel, now the Garrison Church, where Charles II was married to Katherine of Braganza. They also visited Spotted Dog House in the High Street, where the Duke of Buckingham was assassinated by Feltham on 23 August 1628. On their return to Winchester they were shown the site of the unfinished Palace of Charles II, now the Upper Barracks, the history of which was described by Major P. Sawyer.

On 3 May the party travelled by coach to London, pausing at Sutton Scotney to recall the journey made across Hampshire by the Grand Prince Cosimo on his way from Plymouth to London in 1669. Arrived there they visited the Victoria and Albert Museum to study various exhibits connected with him, afterwards proceeding to Chelsea Hospital to see the statue of the founder, Charles II, by Grinling Gibbons.

In the evening a Dinner took place at the House of Commons, kindly arranged by Mr Denzil Freeth, M.P. for Basingstoke, followed by a Conversazione at the National Portrait Gallery, where Mr Kingsley Adams, the Director, addressed the members.

On 4 May the party met at Westminster School and here they were shown over Ashburnham House with its magnificent 17th century staircase, reminiscent of the Vyne, the builder of the house being the brother of Col. Ashburnham, companion of Charles I during his sojourn at Titchfield Abbey during the Civil War. After visiting the scene of the execution of Charles I outside the Banqueting Hall in Whitehall, members proceeded to St. James's Square, the site of Norfolk House, where Prince Cosimo stayed. In the afternoon the Geological Museum in South Kensington was visited and here a discourse was given on Hampshire Geology by Mr A. G. Steavenson. The Royal Mews, visited by gracious permission of H.M. The Queen, was the next objective and here members were shown the magnificent collection of royal vehicles, the outstanding example was the wonderful State Coach, greatest masterpiece of the Rococo style, designed by Chambers and painted by Cipriani in 1761. This was followed by a most interesting walk in the neighbourhood of Buckingham Palace, St. James' Park, Queen Anne's Gate and Whitehall, all the interesting features of which were described most fascinatingly by Mr Simpson.

On 5 May the first place visited was Sir John Soane's Museum in Lincoln's Inn Fields, where members were addressed by Sir John Summerson, the Curator. This was followed by a visit to the British Museum, where aspects in connection with Neo-Classic movements in London and Hampshire were studied. In the afternoon the famous Doric Portico at

FIELD MEETINGS AND LECTURES

Euston, designed by Philip Hardwick the younger, and erected at the entrance to London's first main-line railway station in 1837, was visited. This has since been most wantonly destroyed by British Railways, in spite of protests from architectural, historical, railway and other cultural societies. The contrasting Gothic façade of St. Pancras Station by Sir Gilbert Scott was also visited.

The party then left London, visiting on their way Battersea Parish Church, a fine Georgian example dating from 1777. Kew was the next halt, where the old red-brick Palace dating from 1631 was visited. This was the country home of George III and Queen Charlotte from 1802-18. They also visited the Orangery erected for Augusta, Princess of Wales, in 1761 by Chambers. Tea was taken at Ham House near Richmond, in which charming setting the party said farewell to Mr Simpson and the thanks of the members for his scholarly and energetic leadership for four closely packed but most wonderful days of sightseeing were voiced by Mr R. L. P. Jowitt (Hon. Sec.).

The Annual General Meeting was held on 14 May, when Professor C. F. C. Hawkes, F.B.A., F.S.A., Professor of European Archaeology in the University of Oxford, succeeded Commander Wrey as President and gave a lecture on 'Alfred's Ancestors; Hampshire and the Early Kings of Wessex'.

On 1 June Gloucestershire was visited and this year more time was allowed for members to see Berkeley Castle than had been the case in 1959. Painswick Church was visited during the afternoon, the Vicar, the Rev. H. F. Heal, being the guide. The lovely weather and the beautiful Cotswold scenery traversed made this a memorable day.

On 14 June a Botanical Meeting was held on Pepper Box Hill on the Romsey-Salisbury Road, the Director being Brigadier F. E. W. Venning, C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O.

On 29 June Highclere Castle was visited, by kind permission of the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Carnarvon. In the afternoon Shaw House near Newbury was visited and afterwards Donnington Castle. Mr Kaines-Thomas of the Newbury Field Club was the speaker at both places and described the part that they played during the Civil War. Afterwards the party visited Wickham Church, Berks., where Mr Jowitt was the guide.

On 5 July Dorset was visited, but owing to the adverse weather conditions the visit to Maiden Castle was abandoned. Instead, the Past President, Commander E. C. Wrey, O.B.E., R.N., gave a lecture on the subject at the Dorchester Museum, pointing out the many models, plans and pictures, as well as finds, to be seen there, by way of illustration. The afternoon was fine and members proceeded to Weymouth, where they were the guests of the Weymouth Civic Society, under the leadership of Mr E. Wamsley Lewis, F.R.I.B.A., Hon. Secretary. A most interesting walk was conducted by him round the streets on either side of the Harbour, visiting the former Harbour Master's House (Elizabethan) in North Quay (since demolished), St Mary's, Melcombe Regis (late Geogian) and finishing with a walk along the Esplanade to study the characteristic Georgian terraces of this famous watering place, 'discovered' by George III.

On 12 July a Botanical meeting took place at Keyhaven, near Milford-on-Sea. Hurst Castle was also visited. The Director of this meeting was Brigadier F. B. W. Venning. On 23 July members visited Stratton Park under the leadership of Mr W. J. Carpenter Turner, A.R.I.B.A. The mansion, since demolished, was inspected and in the Park Mr Carpenter Turner pointed out the proposed alterations to the landscape suggested by Repton during the 18th century, illustrating his remarks by showing members one of Repton's original design books dealing with Stratton Park. In the afternoon Mr Carpenter Turner conducted members round the Close at Winchester, pointing out the many old buildings,

notably the Pilgrims' Hall, which had been recently restored.

On 13 August Alice Holt Forest near Farnham was visited, members being conducted round the Forestry Commission's Research Station by Mr J. R. Pearce, Chief Research Officer. After picnic lunch at Frensham Pond, over the Surrey border, members proceeded to Guildford Cathedral, then in an unfinished state. Mr C. S. White, architect, of Farnham, acted as guide, deputising for Sir Edward Maufe, R.A., architect of the Cathedral, who was indisposed.

On 27 August members visited Wiltshire, the intention being to visit excavations being conducted by Professor and Mrs Hawkes on the site of an Iron Age settlement at Cow Down, Longbridge Deverill, near Warminster. Relentless rain, however, prevented this, but a most interesting afternoon was spent at Longleat instead.

On 8 September the Club paid its annual visit to the Isle of Wight. Crossing from South-ampton to Cowes, a short drive brought the party to Osborne, where they were shown round the house. After picnic lunch in the grounds, Whippingham Church was visited, under the guidance of the Rector, the Rev. E. F. King. In the afternoon the party walked over St George's Down, Mr A. G. Steavenson being the guide and explaining the many interesting geological features. Magnificent views were enjoyed in every direction. Tea was taken at Godshill, perfect weather prevailing.

On 17 September Southampton was visited, Mr F. A. Aberg conducting the party round various archaeological sites discovered in the old town as an aftermath of the devastation caused by heavy bombing. In the afternoon the churches of North Stoneham, Farley Chamberlayne and Hursley were visited under the guidance of Mr F. A. Geddes, of Southampton University.

On 24 September Aldershot was visited under the leadership of Mr J. Simpson. A Command Welcome took place in the morning at the Cambridge Hospital, Col. P. L. E. Wood, D.S.O., being the Commandant. In the afternoon the Army School of Physical Training, the Officers' Mess, Buller Barracks; the former Royal Pavilion, now No. 13 Command Workshop, R.E.M.E., and finally the Prince Consort's Library were visited.

On 27 September Hambledon Church was the first objective, Mr Jowitt acting as guide. The party then proceeded to Broadhalfpenny Down, the 'Cradle of Cricket', where, at the Bat and Ball Inn, a lecture on Cricket History was given by Major H. S. Altham, D.S.O., President of the M.C.C. After a picnic lunch, the party proceeded to the Vineyard at Mill Down. Here wine is produced by Major-General Sir Guy and Lady Salisbury-Jones and the Vineyard is unique in England. They showed the members the whole process of winemaking. The party then moved to the lonely little St Hubert's Chapel at Idsworth, near Rowland's Castle. This charming little building, which is very near the border of Sussex, was described by Mr Jowitt.

The final field meeting of the Society took place on 15 October, when a Fungus Foray was held in the neighbourhood of Winchester under the leadership of Dr. F. B. Hora, President of the British Mycological Society, of Reading University.

The series of winter lectures began on 5 October, when the President, Professor C. F. C. Hawkes, F.B.A., F.S.A., delivered a lecture entitled 'The Iron Age—Hampshire Known and Unknown'. This took place at Southampton and was the first O. G. S. Crawford Memorial Lecture, which it is hoped to hold annually.

On 14 November Mr John Stainton delivered a lecture in the Guildhall at Winchester entitled 'A Botanist in Turkey' illustrated by very beautiful coloured slides.

On 6 December Mr W. H. Dowdeswell, M.A., gave a lecture in Winchester entitled 'Wild Gardens', also illustrated by coloured slides.

FIELD MEETINGS AND LECTURES

On 21 January 1961 a joint meeting with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds took place at the Guildhall, Winchester, when a film 'Sea Bird Summer' was shown. This dealt with the island bird-sanctuaries off the Pembrokeshire coast and was of great interest and beauty and attracted a large audience.

On 16 February Mrs W. J. Carpenter Turner, B.A., J.P., Hon. Editor, delivered a lecture in Winchester entitled 'Victorian Architects in Winchester', which was much appreciated.

The last lecture of the winter season took place on 4 March in Winchester, when Squadron-Leader Orr, R.A.F., delivered a lecture entitled 'Birds of Southern Spain'.

On 25 March members of the Club attended the ceremony of the Tichborne Dole at Tichborne Park. Mr Jowitt was the guide for the visit to Tichborne Church, which took place after the ceremony.

On 28 March members attended the Court Leet held at Stockbridge Town Hall. This was an evening meeting, possibly the only one the Club has ever held. Miss Rosalind Hill exhibited and described the Corporation Mace and Seal on this occasion.

The summer season of 1961 opened with a meeting on 25 April under the leadership of Mr John Simpson. Tangier Park near Basingstoke and Warbrook House, Eversley, in the north of the county were visited, as well as the remains of a Tudor Palace at Odiham.

The Annual General Meeting was held at the Castle on 29 April, when the President, Professor C. F. C. Hawkes, F.B.A., F.S.A., delivered a lecture entitled 'British Kings in Hampshire and the Roman Conquest'.

On 1 May Mr Simpson conducted an expedition with the purpose of studying 'Archaeology and the Romantic Classical Revival; Military History and Botany and some Eminent Victorians' at Alton, Aldershot, Sandhurst and Church Crookham.

On 24 May a most successful expedition to Gloucestershire took place, Chipping Campden, Winchcombe and Sudeley Castle being the objectives.

On 27 May a most interesting Field Archaeological Meeting took place in the Froxfield area near Petersfield. The Director was Dr. S. Coffin, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., who had taken infinite pains to investigate the terrain to be covered and had prepared special maps for distribution at the meeting. A line of entrenchments which stretch from Bordean House on the south to Stoner Hill on the north was followed and inspected at various points. Tea was taken at South Harting.

On 6 June the Club paid their annual visit to the Isle of Wight. Crossing from Southampton to Cowes, a coach drive followed to the vanished medieval port of New town, now but a small hamlet. Here Mr J. D Jones, M.A., Curator of Carisbrooke Castle Museum, was the guide. This was followed by a visit to Shalfleet Church, where Mr Jowitt was the guide. The afternoon was devoted to a most interesting geological walk over Headon Hill to Alum Bay, under the leadership of Mr A. G. Steavenson, M.A.

On 13 June a Botanical Meeting took place in the Meon Valley, Brigadier F. E. W. Venning conducting the party.

On 5 July Wiltshire was visited, Lacock Abbey and Great Chalfield Manor being the objectives. The day finished at Bradford-on-Avon, where Mr Jowitt was the guide at the famous little Saxon church.

On 19 July the Club visited the Vyne, where members heard a most interesting lecture by Mrs Cottrill, M.A., County Archivist, who had brought various documents relating to the

house for exhibition. The afternoon was spent at Silchester, where Mr G. C. Boon, B.A., F.S.A., showed members the excavated remains of the Roman Christian Church, now visible again for the first time since 1892. Mr Jowitt also showed the party the present church of Silchester.

On 15 August a Botanical Meeting took place in the New Forest, under the leadership of Brigadier Venning.

On 29 August the Club visited Worthy Park, King's Worthy, to view the excavations being conducted by Mrs Sonia Hawkes, wife of the President, on the Saxon cemetery, where 53 graves and 26 still earlier cremation urns have been discovered.

On 12 September Hayling Island was visited, Major Gordon Thomas being the guide. Both the churches, the dovecote of the Manor House and the Iron Age camp of Tournerbury were inspected.

On 29 September Mr J. Simpson conducted a meeting entitled 'Michaelmas at Basingstoke', St Michael being the Patron Saint of the town. The Parish Church of St Michael, the Willis Museum and an Exhibition of maces, charters, etc., at the Town Hall were the chief activities of the day.

On 7 October a Fungus Foray was held at Denny Wood, the Director being Dr. D. B. Hora, of Reading University, Dr. J. Manners, of Southampton University, and Mr W. W. M. Barron, of Winchester College.

Hampshire Field Club Annual Report

THE paid-up membership of the Club on 31 December 1961 was 624.

Field Meetings

During the past year the Club has held 14 Field Meetings, of which two were botanical and one a Fungus Foray. All these meetings were well attended and most successful, all being favoured with good weather.

Lectures

During the autumn and winter four lectures were given; two were outstanding as regards the numbers attending. One of these was the O. G. S. Crawford Memorial Lecture held in Southampton on 28 October, when Mr C. W. Phillips, F.S.A., spoke on the subject of 'The Archaeology of the Industrial Revolution'. The other was held in Winchester on 8 March when Mr Martin Biddle described the excavations which he conducted on the site of the Cathedral Car Park.

On 20 January the showing of the very beautiful coloured film 'Reserved for Birds', in conjunction with the R.S.P.B. at Winchester, attracted a very large audience.

Power Station at Calshot

The Club, together with various other Societies, has watched with increasing concern the rapid advance of industrialisation along the shores of Southampton Water. A letter was written to the County Council pointing out our objections to the erection of a large Power Station at Calshot.

The Threat to Gins Reach

During the autumn, Mrs Cobb drew the attention of the Club to the threat to Gins Reach on the Beaulieu River. Here it was proposed to erect a clubhouse for the Royal Southampton Yacht Club which would have completely shattered the peace of this charming unspoilt stretch of water. In view of the very large number of protests, the Planning Committee visited the site and decided to revoke their own planning permission.

Andover

The proposed enlargement of Andover as an 'overspill town' by the London County Council has been watched with concern by the Club. The Hon. Secretary paid a visit to Andover, in order to record notable scheduled buildings in possible danger of demolition. On 23 February he and Mr Meakins attended a Public Enquiry at Andover, when the Hon. Secretary pleaded for the retention of certain old buildings, notably the Angel Inn, and received sympathetic replies. It is therefore to be hoped that these buildings will be preserved when the time comes for the centre of the town to be re-developed.

Widow's Cottage, King's Somborne

The Club remains most reluctant to acquiesce in the demolition of this old 'cruck' type cottage, in spite of its present bad state of repair. The Club has tried without avail for a number of years to get this cottage rescued and repaired, and still hopes this may yet be possible: if not, its passing will be viewed with deep regret.*

102 High Street, Winchester

This house was the eastern half of the original Manor of God-begot and contained many interesting features. In March the Club heard with dismay that it was to be demolished. Unfortunately it was by then too late to do anything except protest in the strongest terms to the County Council. It is much to be hoped that the procedure whereby a scheduled building like this can be demolished as easily as this, before anything can be done to stop it, will be so radically altered that such an event cannot happen again.

R. L. P. JOWITT.

* Editor's Note: The cottage has since been bought by a member of the H.F.C., and will be saved.

NEW FOREST SECTION

1960-1961 REPORT

For the sake of brevity it has been decided to shorten our title, omitting the Avon Valley; but this pruning means neither that we are unaware of the beauties and interest of that part of our area nor that our boundaries are to be changed.

We have had a most successful year, having enrolled 54 new members to the Field Club, and raised our sectional membership to 166. Attendance at meetings has risen steadily, and audiences consisting of members of the Society, their friends (possible new members) and members of affiliated societies, now number 20 to 30 at the illustrated monthly lectures. A monthly account, ranging from a brief quarter-column to a fully-illustrated half-page of newsprint, is printed by nine local newspapers; and our meetings are announced by the B.B.C.

Fifteen hitherto unplotted sites of possible archaeological interest have been reported, and either have been or are to be investigated. An Excavation Group has been formed, and their first excavation carried out on the earthwork site reported at Alder Hill Inclosure near Fritham.

We are, so far, still running on the initial grant of £25 made by the Field Club in 1959, and have held 13 Field Meetings, 15 lectures, 2 Annual General Meetings, and 10 committee meetings. We have also printed and issued to every member of the Society copies of our last three programmes as we felt they might like to attend our fixtures; and, in fact, many of them have travelled considerable distances to do so.

TEAN MAIN COBB.

Field Meetings and Lectures 1960-1961

At their meeting on 8 May an ornothological group conducted by Mr Edwin Cohen visited the Ober Heath area of the Forest to watch and listen to gold-crests, black-caps, wheatears, whinchats, buzzards, lapwings, and nightingales, as well as the more usual chorus-members, the willow and wood warblers, great-tits, chaffinches, robins, thrushes and wrens.

NEW FOREST SECTION

On 15 June under the leadership of Miss Hylda Bruce, members toured Hurst Castle; and, aided at times by gum-boots and torches, explored the entire twelve-sided Tudor tower and fortifications, and the additions made when Napoleon planned to invade England.

A most successful additional meeting was arranged at short notice in August, when members took a picnic lunch to Maiden Castle and Commander E. C. Wrey read a paper very kindly supplied by Professor Hawkes, whose previous Field Club meeting had been practically washed out by the English summer.

On 10 September the section visited the Roman kiln sites at Crock Hill and Sloden, where sherds they collected were identified by Mr Andrew Richardson as those made from clay brought from Holwell near Cranbourne, Verwood, and the Isle of Wight, as well as from the local Forest clays.

Through gales and floods which prevented the arrival of many of the members, Mr Morley-Hewitt's Roman villa was visited on 8 October, and the section was enabled to see the results of the season's excavations.

Mr Morley-Hewitt figured again in the first of the winter series of lectures, when, under the heading of 'An Hellenic Cruise', he spoke and showed coloured slides of the excavations and life past and present, in Athens, Crete, and the Islands of the Aegean.

On 25 January the section was priviledged to hear the so far unpublished report on the 'Excavations at Ampress Hole, Lymington, and Other Hampshire Hill Forts' from Mr Reay Robertson-Mackay of the Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments, who was himself in charge of the excavations.

At the Red House Museum on 22 February Mr W. A. Cadman, Deputy Surveyor of the New Forest, delighted members with his beautiful colour slides showing the ecological changes brought about by the planting and growth of forests.

On 24 March, at Lymington Community Centre, Mr S. A. Simmonds spoke most entertainingly on 'Customs and Rights in the New Forest' to an audience many of whom were commoners themselves with their rights of pasture, wood, turbery and estovers.

At Lymington again, on 26 April, Mr John Musty, head of the Excavations Sub-Committee of Salisbury Museum, lectured and showed slides of excavations with which he had been connected, in the Forestarea and beyond our boundaries; at Laverstock, where royal kilns of the late thirteenth century were investigated; at Armsley, where remains dating from Mesolithic to Roman times had been found; he showed 'Celtic Fields' which had been in use from the Iron Age to the Roman era; and Saxon burial grounds and remains of their long-houses at Wye Down and Gomeldon Hill.

On 6 May the first of the summer Field Meetings took place; when, in spite of pouring rain, members of the section visited Saltpetre House near Ashurst, the unidentified rectangular 'church place' of Studley Castle near Bramshaw Telegraph (where they picnicked in cars for lunch), explored the ramparts of Castle Hill Fort, then ploughed through mud to Godmane's Gap (Frankenbury), and finally circumnavigated the earthworks of Burley Castle under the guidance of Commander E. C. Wrey who was describing some of the 'Lesser known Earthworks of the New Forest'.

On 3 June members of the section met at Millersford Plantation near Godshill, where in 1959 a bucket-shaped urn of the Deverel-Rimbury period was discovered by Mr Andrew Richardson. Having examined the site, they changed their locality to Longcross Pond and their subject to limnology, to study plant, insect and animal life under the guidance and microscopes of Mr W. I. Stopher, B.SC.

The visit to Barton Cliffs on 7 July, when Councillor A. G. Steavenson, M.A., conducted a party (equipped with picnic lunches) to the famous geological section, took place in perfect summer weather, and many fossils were collected, especially from the chama beds of subtropical clay laid down between 35 and 30 million years ago.

During the morning of 9 August members of the section were guided round Romsey Abbey by Rev J. B. Bishop, who had first summarised, in a most vigorous and entertaining manner, the history of the Abbey from A.D. 907 to the present day. Before adjourning for lunch Mr Jowitt pointed out King John's house (which, unfortunately, was closed for repairs) and outlined its history and rediscovery. After lunch he conducted the party to Mottisfont Priory, and to the village churches of Mottisfont, King's Somborne, the tiny and beautiful Saxon church of Little Somborne, and the regrettably rebuilt parish church of Stockbridge, where the vicar, Rev K. Houlden, let them examine old parish maps and registers prior to their removal to the county archives at Winchester.

The latest excavations at Rockbourne were again visited on 9 September when Mr Morley-Hewitt showed members some of the 290 coins he has discovered, which have interested the British Museum, and a rare carved stone table. His most recent find is a large stone incised with the name of Tetricus II.

On 7 October Commander Wrey conducted a party round groups of barrows on Setley Plain and Beaulieu Heath, pointing out the various earthwork banks and ditches which were visible in both areas, and explaining their connection with others out of sight Before returning home he showed them an earthwork entrance or gate to an enclosure on Beaulieu Heath, which so far is unmarked on any map.

The last meeting of the year was once again held in the library of Brockenhurst Grammar School, on 17 November, when Mr Oliver Hook lectured vividly on Lapland and Spitzbergen, and the audience was priviledged to hear the voice of the Little Auk, unrecorded even by Ludwig Koch, and was shown a most entertaining film of life in Lapland and herds of the famous reindeer.

THE HAMPSHIRE FIELD CLUB AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1961.

1960		INCOME £	s	s d £ s d 1960 Expenditure						d s	:	s	<u>.</u> d
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	63	Excess of Expenditure over Income			119	16	9	"	Joint Archaeological Committee 10		2	3	6
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		£	403	11	5	£403 11 5
						J. P. M. KAVANAGH,

I certify that I have examined the above Accounts with the Books, Vouchers and Bank Statements of the Society. I have received all information and explanations required by me, and in my opinion these Accounts correctly set out the true position of the Society at the 31st December, 1961.

J. B. MEAKINS, A.C.W.A.,

Honorary Auditor.

Honorary Treasurer.

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