

Carshalton & District History & Archaeology Society

CADHAS President: John Thornton

Secretary: Richard Fitch (secretary@cadhas.org.uk) 020 8647 5304

Summer 2016 Newsletter

Wednesday 14 September - Greenwich and the Thames Barrier Learning Centre

Pick-up at Wallington, Shotfield at 9-30am or at Carshalton, Ruskin Road at 9-45am.

Places are still available for this outing (booking form on Page 5)



We will first stop in Greenwich for a couple of hours giving an opportunity for lunch, visit to one of the many historic buildings in this Maritime Greenwich World Heritage Site: The Old Royal Naval College, Painted Hall, Chapel, Queens House, National Maritime Museum, or perhaps the Fan Museum. The 'Cutty Sark' and the Old Royal Observatory and Prime Meridian are other nearby attractions.

At 2pm we will re-board the coach for the short drive to the Thames Barrier Learning Centre where a guide will talk about the history of the river, the risk of flooding in London, the construction of the largest moveable flood barrier in the world, the environment and wildlife of the Thames.

We will then be served tea or coffee and cakes before departure at 4-30pm for return to Carshalton/Wallington by around 6pm .

Cost (including coach fare and afternoon tea/coffee and cake) £25. (£26 for non-members and guests)

NB: There is NO access onto the barrier, nor is a river trip around the barrier included.

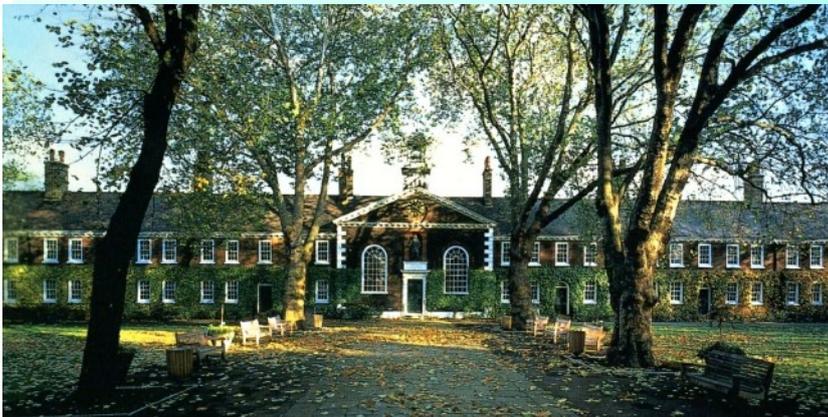


Visit to the Geffrye Museum - Tuesday 4 October 2016

This year the October 'Walk' will be visiting the Geffrye Museum in Hoxton. by public transport. The museum showcases the living room/parlour furniture in homes of the 'middling classes' from the 17th to 20th centuries, casting an interesting insight into changing roles in society. (website: <http://www.geffrye-museum.org.uk>)

The meeting point will be 10-15am on Platform 3 at West Croydon Overground Train Station. We will travel via the Overground to Hoxton, so no charge for Freedom Pass holders. Oyster Card or Contactless Debit Card single fare is £4-70. If you arrive late, just catch the next train to Hoxton (about a 15 minute service, journey time approx 40 minutes) and get off at Hoxton - the Museum is directly adjacent to the station.

The museum suggests a donation of £3 and has restaurant and toilet facilities.



An audio guide is also available to hire at £3-50. The museum has recently launched a free mobile virtual tour accessed at www.geffrye.mobi.

There are also a number of local cafes in the vicinity.

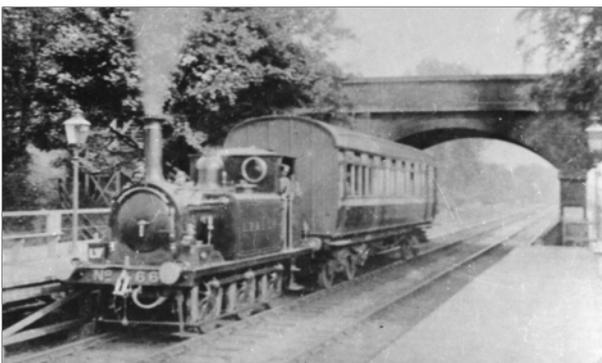
The first meeting of the winter season will be on 5th November 2016

(Traditionally called Hilda Clarke Memorial Lecture)

Judie English will talk to us about Prehistoric Land Organisation.

Judie has given popular talks to CADHAS on previous occasions, on Saxon grave goods, Surrey hill forts and the *Glory of Islam*. She worked in medical research for many years, but has always been interested in archaeology".

Meeting start at 3 p.m. are held in Milton Hall, Cooper Crescent, off Nightingale Road, Carshalton, SM5 2DL

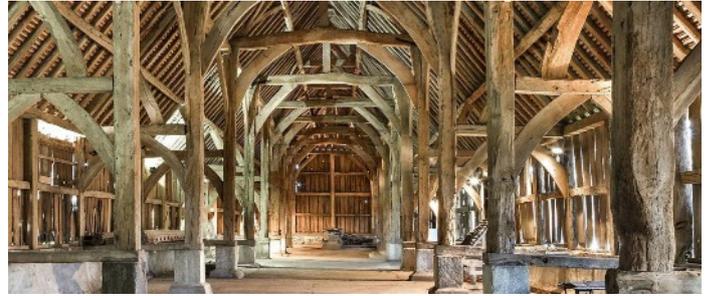


Bandon Halt on the London Brighton and South Coast Railway line between Waddon and Wallington. The halt was opened on 11 June 1906 and closed on 17 June 1914. The three arched bridge still carries Plough Lane just to the south of the Plough public house.

Excavation on the barn site at Carew Manor - by John Phillips

This summer CADHAS continued work on the site north of the Carew Manor dovecote as part of the society's contribution to the Beddington Park project which is supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund. The work continued from last summer's excavations. We dug two new trenches. One was in the gap between the two trenches we dug last year and exposed a 10m section of the foundations of the north wall of the building. The other trench was smaller and uncovered a short section of the south wall. This allowed us to determine the exact width of the building and to fix the position of three of the bays or sub-divisions at the western end of the building.

The building was huge - 11.56m (38ft) wide by about 70m (229ft) long. It is slightly larger than the barn at Harmondsworth near Heathrow airport which is the largest surviving medieval barn in the country.



Last year's excavation left us very uncertain about the date of the building as there was very little evidence. On balance it seemed likely that the building had been medieval but that it had been taken apart and erected on a new site in the early 18th century probably when the park landscape was reorganised to create a vista running westwards from the house. The new excavations were in many ways as uncertain as last years and our thinking about the date went through several twists and turns as work proceeded. The foundations were constructed of a rather distinctive very soft pale yellow-brown mortar. This is quite unlike the pale grey mortar used for most of the Tudor and early 18th century buildings around Carew Manor. Yellow mortar was used on some medieval structures such as the moat island wall and for a while we thought that the barn foundation might be medieval. However, at the very end of the excavation we found a piece of glass wine bottle attached to a lump of mortar in which it had clearly once been embedded. The mortar was the same as that in the barn foundation so it was good dating evidence. The shape of the wine bottle first become current about 1725 although the bottle is very likely to be later. This was a real surprise. We know that the lake in front of the house - the key element of the vista - existed by 1721 so it looks as if the barn was not moved to make this.



The circumstances in which the barn was created or moved are therefore something a mystery. Moved still seems more likely than created: a great many nails are likely to have been used in a new-built 18th century barn but very few were found on site. This suggests that the structure was held together with wooden pegs in the medieval manner. There is a good deal of thinking and some documentary research to do over the winter to try to understand the history of the barn and how it fits into the development of the Carew estate.

Recent Outings

14 June - Boat Trip, Westminster Pier to Hampton Court

32 members and friends set off in the sunshine to Westminster but, unfortunately, this soon changed to showers. As we were able to take cover on the boat this was no problem. The commentary on the boat was good and our attention was drawn to places of interest along the River bank such as The Royal Chelsea Hospital, the Redevelopment of the old Battersea Power Station, Battersea Park, the "affordable" homes at Chelsea Reach, Kew Botanical Gardens, Syon Park and the Boat Race Course. We passed through two locks at Richmond and Teddington, under 15 road bridges and 7 rail bridges. Fortunately, on arrival at Hampton Court the sun came out so we took a walk around the Rose and Vegetable Gardens then on to the Restaurant for tea and cakes.

A short walk over Hampton Court Bridge to the coach, a tour of Chessington, Ewell and Banstead, got us home around 6 o'clock. Apart from the roundabout journey home, all appeared to have had a successful day.

John Nutley



12 July Chichester and Fishbourne

After lunch in Chichester we visited the amazing Fishbourne Roman Palace for a one hour guided tour. It was discovered in 1960 and has some stunning mosaics and hypocaust under floor heating all displayed under cover.



11 August Rochester

After arrival at Rochester we had a guided tour of the Cathedral which highlighted the different architectural styles present in the building we see today. The afternoon was spent exploring the old town, visiting the castle and museum, and the connection that Charles Dickens had with Rochester.

**Booking Form
for Greenwich and the Thames Barrier (14 September)**

To:- Alison Gowans, 27A Ashcombe Road, Carshalton, Surrey SM5 3ET.

My name is Phone No

Please state whether you will be boarding the coach at Shotfield, Wallington or Ruskin Road, Carshalton.

I will be boarding the coach at Shotfield/Ruskin Road.

I will be bringing a guest(s). Please show name(s) of guest(s).

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Please reserve place(s) for me on the Thames Barrier outing:-

14th September (place/s)

I enclose cheque payable to CADHAS and stamped addressed envelope for return of receipt.

NEXT OF KIN: Name Phone No

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