

# Mosaic

## BUILDERS SPONSOR MUSEUM EXCAVATION

VISITORS TO this year's LAMAS Conference will remember the enormous desolation of the 38-acre Bricklayers' Arms site, currently being excavated by the Museum of London's Department of Greater London Archaeology, under the supervision of Helen Jones. This site of former railway depot is large enough to give a picture of the development of the landscape a few miles south-east of the City of London over thousands of years. Excavations on the fringes of the area have yielded evidence of Roman farming and burials, and the topographic and prehistoric interest of the area is great. Trial excavations have already produced neolithic finds.

It is therefore good to record that the excavations and post-excavation work are being generously sponsored by Ideal Homes Holdings, who with others are to build some 1300 homes on the site. While sponsorship of excavation in advance of office developments is now a well-established part of London's archaeology, especially in the City, the extension of sponsorship to a domestic development in a less glamorous part of London is very welcome.

## LONDON ARCHIVE USERS' FORUM

THE FORUM, reported in *Mosaic* in our previous issue, held its first AGM on 2 June at the Institute of Historical Research. It already has more than 60 members, representing archive depositories, special interest groups and individuals with a wide range of interests – academic, family and local historians. A programme of talks and visits is being planned, and the Forum will campaign for the retention and improvement of London archives services, as well as providing opportunities for anyone interested in improving their archive skills.

Membership is open to all interested in London archives. The annual subscription is £5 for individuals (£3 for each additional member at the same address) and £10 for organisations. Subscriptions should be sent to the Membership Secretary, Dr Patricia Croot, Victoria County History, 34 Tavistock Square, London WC1. Cheques should be made payable to the London Archive Users' Forum.

## TRAINING SEMINARS FOR ARCHAEOLOGISTS

CULTURAL Heritage Information Consultants (CHIC) is a new organisation set up to provide consultancy and training for heritage professionals. As well as organising conferences and training seminars in London (see *Diary*), York and Edinburgh, CHIC can provide consultancy and in-house training at low prices for museums and archaeological organisations. The rates are £150 per day, £600 per week or £1750 per month. The contact is Kevin Flude at 145 Goldsmith's Row, London E2 8QR, tel. (01) 739 4853 or 739 2372.

## RELIEF FOR WINTER FIELDWALKERS

A GLOVE WITH its own built-in central heating is the sort of thing archaeologists dream about on winter days in the field. We have recently heard of just such a product –

the *Dunay Heat-a-glove* from the USA. Within its triple insulation the gloves carry a push-button 'reheater' which generates up to 130° F. Between uses the reheater can be restored by removing it from the glove and boiling it for 20 minutes. Their life is said to be 'hundreds of times'. The price is, as one would expect, rather more than that of an ordinary glove, at £39.95 per pair. For a brochure send a sae to:

Contact Direct Limited, 30 Western Road, Hove, Sussex, BN3 1AF, or 'phone 0273 770467.

## CRYSTAL PALACE – NORWOOD HEIGHTS PROJECT

THE CROYDON SOCIETY has announced the impending publication of the book *Crystal Palace – Norwood Heights, A pictorial record* by Audrey Hammond and Brian Dann. It will contain over 50 full-colour paintings of local scenes produced by Audrey Hammond over 30 years, as well as some of her line drawings and personal recollections. Brian Dann contributes a history of the area, poems on local themes and accounts of people connected with the area. Publication date is 15 October 1988 and the price will be £15.95. A further objective of the Croydon Society and the Crystal Palace Triangle Community Association (the joint publishers) is the designation of the Crystal Palace Triangle area as a Conservation Area. For further information contact Mr Len Blomstrand, Secretary CPTCA, 32 Versailles Road, London SE20 8AX, tel. (01) 778 8356.

## LOOKING FOR FRIENDS

ON WHIT WEEKEND 1888, Mr Frederick J Horniman opened his home so that the public could view his extensive collections. He later went on to found the Horniman Museum. In celebration of this centenary, a *Friends of the Horniman* organisation has been launched. It has been formed by users and supporters of the Museum, Library and Gardens, who enjoy the building and grounds and their varied events, and who wish to participate further. The aim is to encourage and promote activities, and assist in raising funds and public interest.

Benefits of membership include private views to special exhibitions, a newsletter, special invitations to lectures, films, etc., social occasions and behind-the-scenes visits. The annual subscription is £5 for individuals. Details can be obtained from the Membership Secretary  
Friends of the Horniman  
Horniman Museum and Library  
London Road  
London SE23 3PQ.

## CONGRATULATIONS

HUGH CHAPMAN has been part of the London archaeological scene for as long as most of us can remember (since the Guildhall Museum days), most recently as Deputy Director of the Museum of London. He takes up a new post as General Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries in July. He leaves a hole that will be very difficult to fill; we wish him every success in the future.