

Mosaic

Two new museums

LONG-STANDING plans for museums in two south London boroughs appear to be coming to fruition at last. The Borough of Sutton will be opening a Heritage Centre at Honeywood, Carshalton, in April. The conversion of this mainly 19th century building, which contains traces of earlier buildings, was delayed by the discovery and treatment of dry rot, but it is still hoped to open on the planned date. Initially, only Phase 1 (the ground floor) will be open, with free admission to the information and tea rooms, and ticket admission (50p, 25p concessions) to the permanent and temporary display areas; Phase 2 (conversion of the rest of the building) will require Listed Building Consent.

The neighbouring Borough of Croydon has announced long-awaited plans for a new complex, of which a new Museum and Art Gallery will form part. The Court Rooms of the old Town Hall in Katherine Street will be refurbished, and designed and equipped to house a new Museum and Art Gallery, meetings and special display areas, in addition to ancillary services. Completion of the project is expected by 1993.

Catalogue of Roman military equipment from London

IN 1986 the Museum of London organised a one-day display of the Roman military equipment in its collections, including recently excavated material from both the City and Greater London. A number of specialists were invited to view these artefacts. After this display the idea evolved of producing a catalogue of all the Roman military equipment from the London area. This project is now under way with leading specialist M C Bishop as editor. To ensure that the catalogue is as complete a record as possible of London's Roman military equipment, the Museum of London invites local museums, societies, excavation groups and individuals who hold or have found military artefacts to participate in this project. Further information may be obtained from Christine Jones, Prehistoric & Roman Dept, Museum of London, London Wall, EC2Y 5HN (01 600 3699); Nicholas Fuentes, 7 Coalecroft Road, SW15 6LW (01 788 0015). To ensure inclusion in the catalogue, first contact should be made before Autumn 1990.

Crisis at the Museum in Docklands

THE PROJECT started in 1982 to collect and record Docklands material, to find a permanent home for an interactive museum in the Docklands and to provide community museums service. Since then a team from the Museum of London, led by Chris Ellmers, has built up a collection of 100,000 objects (the biggest collection of port material in the world), currently housed in buildings in the Royal Victoria Docks, but only open for special visits.

However, in February it was announced that the Museum had lost a crucial £3.5m grant from the London Docklands Development Corporation because it had failed to sign a contract with the developers, Olympia and York, by the deadline laid down by LDDC. The future of the collection is now in doubt.

British Archaeological Awards 1990

TEN AWARDS have been announced for 1990. They include: The *Pitt-Rivers Award* (sponsored by the Robert Kiln Trust) for the best project by a voluntary group or individual. The *Virgin Group Award* (sponsored by the Virgin Group) for the best presentation of an archaeological project to the public. The *Heritage in Britain Award* (sponsored by English Heritage, Historic Buildings and Monuments – Scotland and CADW – Wales) for the best project which secures the long-term preservation of a site or monument.

The *Ironbridge Award* (sponsored by the Ironbridge Gorge Museum Trust) for the best project involving the adaptive re-use of any historic or industrial building or structure.

The *BP Award* (sponsored by British Petroleum plc) for the best non-archaeologist who, in the course of non-archaeological employment, makes a find and reports it properly.

The *Legal & General "Silver Trowel" Award* (sponsored by Legal & General Insurance) for initiative and originality in archaeology. All entrants for the other awards and also direct entrants are considered.

For general enquiries contact Victor Marchant, Hon. Secretary, British Archaeological Awards, 317 Norbury Avenue, London SW16 3RW (01-764 8222).

Excavations & Post-Excavation Work

City, by Museum of London, Department of Urban Archaeology. A series of long term excavations. Enquiries to DUA, Museum of London, London Wall, EC2Y 5HN (01-600 3699).

Croydon & District, processing and cataloguing of excavated and museum collections every Tuesday throughout the year. Archaeological reference collection of fabric types, domestic animal bones, clay tobacco pipes and glass ware also available for comparative work. Enquiries to Mrs Muriel Shaw, 28 Lismore Road, South Croydon, CR2 7QA (01-688 2720).

Greater London (except north-east and south-east London), by Museum of London, Department of Greater London Archaeology. Excavations and processing in all areas. General enquiries to DGLA, Museum of London (01-600 3699 ext. 241).

Local enquiries to:

North London: 3-7 Ray Street, London EC1R 3DJ (01-837 8363).

South-west London: St. Luke's House, Sandycombe Road, Kew, Surrey (01-940 5989).

Southwark and Lambeth: 6-8 Cole Street, London SE1 4YH (01-407 1989 or 403 2920 – office – and 928 0778/9 – finds).

West London: Town Mission Hall, Mission Square, Pottery Road, Brentford, Middlesex (01-560 3880).

Hammersmith & Fulham, by Fulham Archaeological Rescue Group. Processing of material from Fulham Palace. Tuesdays, 7.45

p.m.-10 p.m. at Fulham Palace, Bishop's Avenue, Fulham Palace Road, SW6. Contact Keith Whitehouse, 86 Clancarty Road, SW6 (01-731 4498).

Kingston, by Kingston upon Thames Archaeological Society. Rescue sites in the town centre. Enquiries to Marion Shipley, Kingston Heritage Centre, Fairfield Road, Kingston (01-546 5386).

North-east London, by Passmore Edwards Museum. Enquiries to Pat Wilkinson, Passmore Edwards Museum, Romford Road, E15 4LW (01-534 4545).

Surrey, by Surrey Archaeological Unit. Enquiries to David Bird, County Archaeological Officer, Planning Department, County Hall, Kingston, Surrey (01-541 8911).

Vauxhall Pottery, by Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Society. Processing of excavated material continues three nights a week. Enquiries to S.L.A.S., c/o Cuming Museum, 155 Walworth Road, SE17 (01-703 3324).

The Council for British Archaeology produces the British Archaeological News (6 issues a year). It gives details of conferences, extra-mural courses, summer schools, training excavations and sites where volunteers are needed. The annual subscription of £7.50 includes postage, and should be made payable to C.B.A., 112 Kennington Road, SE11 6RE (01-582 0494).