

## Happy anniversaries

Two important anniversaries for London's archaeology will be celebrated this year and next. This year the Surrey Archaeological Society celebrates its 150th anniversary, followed by the London & Middlesex Archaeological Society in 2005. We congratulate them both on reaching such a ripe age in such good shape. They have seen enormous changes in every aspect of their names. Geographically, the administrative county of Surrey has lost its north-eastern part to the urban sprawl of London, which has spread from the City to the old LCC area to today's Greater London boroughs, while Middlesex has disappeared into London except for the Staines area, which is now part of Surrey. Archaeology, too, has changed beyond recognition, from an antiquarian pursuit to a modern scientific profession. Even 'Society' has changed, in the sense that the membership of the Societies must bear little resemblance to their founders. One can only wonder what the next 150 years will bring.

## Subscription rates

Nearly six years ago, in the Autumn of 1998, we announced that we intended to keep the cover price of the *London Archaeologist* at £2.50 (£10 annual subscription) for the next four years. Despite increasing printing and postage costs, including the introduction of colour, we have been true to our word. But the *London Archaeologist* now costs more to produce and distribute than its current subscription and sales income. It is our duty as charity trustees to ensure that the magazine both covers its costs and has

the capacity to grow and develop. With the next four years in mind, the Publication Committee has agreed that the cover price should be raised to £4 (£16 annual subscription), as from the Summer 2004 issue. Subscribers will continue to benefit at no extra cost from the receipt of the annual round-up and volume indexes.

Our intention remains to produce a quality topical quarterly magazine carrying all the latest archaeological discoveries and research from the London region. The new arrangements will not only help us to cover the current and predicted costs of production and distribution over the next four years, but also to plan and build for the future. We believe that £16 is an acceptable price to pay to see the *London Archaeologist* develop over the next four years. Please continue to support the only regular magazine devoted to the archaeology and history of London.

## Apology

We apologise for the following errors in Fig. 1 of 'Saxo-Norman occupation at Beckenham, Kent?' in the previous issue:

St George's Church is called St Mary's Church, part of the High Street is called Southend Road, and the eastern part of Copers Cope Road is now known as The Avenue.

## Index

The Index to Volume 9 is being circulated with this issue. Please contact the Subscriptions Secretary if you have not received one. Our apologies to readers for the delay in production.

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## Annual Lecture and Meeting

The Annual Lecture and Meeting of the *London Archaeologist* will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday 24 May in Room 612 of the Institute of Archaeology, 31–34 Gordon Square, London WC1. Tim Carew will speak on 'A platform and trackway in the Bronze Age Wetlands at Beckton, east London'. Before the talk, the annual reports and accounts will be presented. The proceedings

will include the election of Officers and the election of the Publication Committee of six Ordinary Members (there will be three vacancies to be filled), whose nominations should be made to the Secretary, c/o 8 Woodview Crescent, Hildenborough, Tonbridge, TN11 9HD. All are welcome to attend; subscribers are entitled to vote. Refreshments will be available from 6.30 p.m.