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FARNHAM GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

October 19th 1971.

Hello-,

This will be my last letter to you as Secretary ( big sighs of relief all round from you all - I do hope the next Secretary spells better than I do). I shall be circulating a new constitution to you all drawn up on the advice of our Solicitor - this will follow before the A.G.M. and also a copy of the accounts when I have managed to cook them! Please note the following dates:-

Friday December 3rd Dr.Hawkes Lecture.

Friday January 21st Mr.Roberts Lecture.

Friday January 28th A.G.M. plus members slides etc:

Also my last moan as Treasurer - please please will you pay your subscriptions I would like to hand over to my successor so that they can start with a clean sheet. There is a sum of Seven Pounds Fifty pence outstanding and as you must realise this means a vast sum of money to a small society such as ours, also there is the principle involved so please forward those cheques.

Our evening at Farnham Boys' Grammar School on 7th October is well covered by a report by Julian Bentick below. Mr.Allan did recommend two books well worth reading: Pearls & Men by Lewis Korneitzer

The Bridge of Gems by Lewis Korneitzer. I was very pleased to see such a good support from members and their friends.

Thank you all for the help and fun we have had this past year, I'm sorry I have not been able to fulfill the post as well as I would have wished but maybe in the very distant future you will let me have another try.

Thank you,

Audrey Hewins.

Report by Julian Bentick.

What is it about Society formal evenings to which we invite a speaker and organize a Lecture Room, that guarantees that something unforeseen will occur which will make a quite impossible for the visiting speaker to attend or the film to be incarcerated in some warehouse. For those not totally familiar with this cry from the heart let us just say that, not only could Mr.J.Solomons of the Jewellery firm of Alexanders not attend, neither could the standby speaker Mr. Van Mopp of the Winchester firm of Gemologists, - Wessex Gems. However, undaunted, your hardworking(!!) Secretary and some other helpful members of the Society did not give up but produced for the occasion Mr.J.L.Allan who has recently retired from running his own firm of Jewellery Designers and Manufacturers. He chose as his basic theme the principles involved in the Lost Wax Method of casting - not only small pieces of Jewellery but also such mighty things as statues of enormous proportions. Mr.Allan's enthusiasm shone through the whole of his presentation and the twenty or more members were delighted by what amounted to an introduction to the mysteries of the mass production of well designed pieces of gold and other materials used in the jewellery trade for the purpose of ring blanks, pins, ear ring fittings and many other varieties of intricate design.

Mr.Allan also allowed himself to be drawn on such diverse and unrelated subjects as the art of the Lapidary, the meaning of the Carat content of gold, the right things to buy if you are looking for an investment. The ancient art of stone carving particularly in relation to Seals and Ring stones with references to collections held in the British Museum, even Purchase Tax got a mention. Clearly this talk was not advertised but in the circumstances of two previously arranged speakers being unable to attend then it must be accepted that Mr.Allan did us proud with his presentation and we are indebted to him for coming at such short notice.

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