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The 'new housing estate' site is now known as Crookhams (Rook 1968a) and was excavated on and off during 1962. In April 1962 the team returned to Dicket Mead, but they also helped out elsewhere, working, for example, with Miss Irene Traill in Stevenage during June and July.²

6 August 1962: Exhibition in Lockleys. Painted 'Welwyn Archaeological Group' to put along the mantelpiece.

This is the first mention of a name for the informal group that had coalesced around Tony and Merle. What Merle fails to mention is that at this point she was more than eight months pregnant.

5 September 1962: Wheeled pram (and baby) to Lockleys, had tea with Mrs Godsmark and looked at the exhibition. Tony, Keith and Andy at DM in evening.

During the winter of 1962/3 much work was undertaken on the assemblage of late Iron Age grog-tempered pottery from Crookhams. Site visits continued:

10 March 1963: Tony cycled to Crookhams in the morning and entertained Mr Moodey [from the EHAS], a young coin collector and a woman from the Record Office.

Despite the long winter – it snowed again on 11 April – work at Dicket Mead resumed in the spring of 1963. Tony, who had been working as a building technologist, was offered the post of Science Master for Sherrardswood School on 7 May. By the end of the year his position in the school was beginning to be felt:

3 December 1963: Tony went to Dicket Mead and four boys got permission to help him instead of doing cross-country.

In 1964, however, the pace of work at Crookhams stepped up, with site visits taking place regularly from mid-February through to the end of June 1964:

19 April 1964: John Moss [-Eccardt], five helpers and Julian came to dig. It rained. Also Hertford enthusiast with three children called to see pots. We stuck some fine grey decorated ware together.

25 April 1964: Tony cycled to join new digger at 11.0 and home at 3.30 to ask Graham for help in transporting pottery. All drove to Crookhams with Mary,

Christopher and Kate and Tony photographed his oven-kiln, a fine site, or sight!

18 May 1964: Crookhams – Tony, Julian, and Mr and Mrs Golesworthy. Julian drove us to look and Mrs G. had dug up a delightful little straining pot, whole apart from a broken base where the hole was. Tony bought it home to wash and Mrs G. took the rest.

29 May 1964: Sylvia born in the study.

21 June 1964: Jim and Barbara Golesworthy took Tony to Crookhams. Jim returned at 6.30 and took us all to see the flint-lined stokehole/furnace Tony found on the other side of the kiln. A perfect bronze brooch and some fine pieces of Samian turned up today. Barbara found the brooch. Tony was hoping to find the base of the Samian bowl. The grey flint-lined furnace was 4' x 4'. The brooch looks quite modern despite the greenish tinge. Tony delighted.

1 July 1964: No more digging at Crookhams unless the mechanical diggers turn up something when the sewers are dug.

At the completion of Crookhams, work resumed at Dicket Mead through the summer of 1964. One innovation was an attempt at some early geophysics:

24 August 1964: Tony made his proton-magnetometer, went out into the middle of the cricket pitch and got the Home Service broadcasting 'Lark in the Clear Air'.

In 1965 the first of the LAS/WAS winter lectures was held:

17 January 1965: Tony gave his first archaeological talk in the pavilion [of Sherrardswood School] – alternate Fridays. He had about 20 children, the Golesworthys and two of the Holder-Vales, John and Edwin. Made coffees.

The winter lecture season continues to this day and is still held on alternate Fridays, accompanied by tea and coffee.

In March, an exciting find came to light:

29 March 1965: Disturbing letter from Gordon Moodey ... about a pottery find between Welwyn and Panshanger. It was accompanied by a sketch of an amphora ... It was written by a man called Mr Robertson in Stevenage. He had seen the amphora in the garage of a Gas Board employee called Mr Day who'd dug it up while laying pipes in a new estate not far from WGC High School.

2 April 1965: In evening Jim called and he and Tony drove to Stevenage to meet Mr Robertson. He gave them coffee and directions to find Mr Day. They found

two amphorae in his garage which he wanted for his garden, to grow plants in – or he might sell it for £10. They returned puzzled at what to do.

3 April 1965: They decided to photograph the pot and other pieces and Tony rang Gordon Davis. 8.30am Jim phoned and ... arranged to look at the site suggested in a rough map drawn by Mr Day ... 10.30 Tony and the Golesworthys off to find the site. 11.0 Mr Cheer arrived to photograph our robin's nest in a kettle, stayed for coffee and talked about moles. He writes the nature page in the Welwyn Times. 11.30 T and G's returned from site with bits of pot picked up from edge of new road. All the trenches had been filled in. Refreshments. 3.0 Golesworthys and Gordon arrived simultaneously. All piled in Jim's car, leaving boys with me, and off to Mr Day who remembered 'other bits of pottery on the other side of the road.' They returned to the site. 5.0pm Party returned with more pottery and $\frac{2}{3}$ of a silver cup, rather crumpled – the same period as the Welwyn burial ones c. AD 50. It has little decorative borders and weighs 6 oz. Also the bottom of an amphora. Tony contacted the police because of Treasure Trove and coroner's inquest and an inspector arrived during supper, took a statement and insisted that Tony should come out to the site. He phoned Gordon Moodey later in the evening. The silver bowl was taken by the Inspector.

This site is now known as the 'Welwyn Garden City Chieftain burial' (Stead 1967) and is on display in the British Museum. Over the next few days, phone calls and meetings were had with the Development Corporation, the British Museum and other interested parties, and a metal detector was borrowed to help locate finds. The Ministry of Works initially offered the Society a grant of £100 to excavate the site, but this plan soon fell through:

7 April 1965: Ilid called with a Mr Stead and they looked at the maps and went on to the site.

9 April 1965: After breakfast Tony rang Mr MacKay [from the Ministry of Public Buildings and Works] who was out. Ian Stead told him that the excavation was his and he was starting next Monday with 12 diggers. Tony rang Gordon and Ilid (who'd gone on holiday), asking him who was in charge. Gordon rang, after 20 minutes discussion with Stead, and Stead rang to arrange a meeting for tomorrow.

10 April 1965: At 2.0 Mr and Mrs Stead and a bearded lecturer from Leicester arrived. Provided tea and they left with Tony for the site.

12 April 1965: Tony cycled to Panshanger at 2.0 but no diggers till 3.0 when the huts arrived. He surveyed a new road and returned before a terrific storm. All the scale plans, site records and aerial photos and contour maps now taken by