



## ***Account of Purley on Thames***

### **Chronicles BC-499**

#### ***55BC***

After Julius Caesar had conquered the Atrebates, a tribe from near Arras in Northern Gaul, he made Comius king. In this year he sent Commius to Britain to visit as many tribes as possible to persuade them to entrust themselves to the protection of Rome and to advise them of Caesar's impending visit. He did not get a good reception in Britain and was delivered back bound to Caesar when he finally arrived in Britain. (ref 170-v-1)

#### ***51BC***

Commius and the Atrebates rebelled against the Romans, and having severely injured the Roman General Volusenus they were beaten by Roman cavalry. Commius sued for peace and agreed to live somewhere where he was unlikely to encounter any Romans. Thus Commius and his followers came to Britain and established a kingdom centered upon Silchester which included the Purley area. This was the last of the Belgic invasions of Britain (ref 170)

#### ***c4AD***

Eppillus supplanted Tincommius as Prince of the Atrebates. However he did not last long as he was soon replaced by Verica (ref 91-1A-56)

#### ***c10AD***

The coins of Epaticcu, brother of king Cunobelinus (Cymbeline) appear in the area and it seems that the Catuvellauni had expanded their influence to take in the northern parts of the Atrebatan territory (ref 91-1A-56)

#### ***43AD***

The Romans began occupying Britain. The Atrebates were reasonably well disposed towards them and accepted Roman rule, carrying on very much as before.

#### ***96AD***

The succession of the Princes of the Atrebates was abolished by the Roman and normal civilian rule pertained.

#### ***197***

The Province of Britain was split into two. Purley was included in the new Province of Britannia Superior.

#### ***286***

Carausius became Emperor of Britain after he had seized control rather than face accusations that he shared booty with pirates. He was assassinated six years later.

#### ***296***

Constantius reunited Britain with the Western Empire. However a great deal of independence was retained.

383

Magnus Clemens Maximus ruled as Emperor of Britain. Purley was by now included in the Province of Maxima Caesariensis. Until the end of the Roman period Britain was governed by a succession of Emperors, locally proclaimed; Military Governors and Vicars.

411

Following a period of rapid inflation and the withdrawal of legions to fight in other parts of the Empire, the Roman administration collapsed and each area was left to fend for itself. The next century was characterised by waves of invasions and raids by the Angles and Saxons and of stout British opposition led by such shadowy figures as Ambrose Aurelianus and Artorius (Arthur)

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