

# American baseball started in Surrey

6 October 2024



The latest **BBC Secret Surrey podcast** features Julian Pooley, Public Services and Engagement Manager, who tells the story of a previously unknown William Bray diary. Covering 1754-1755, the diary was found in a garden shed in 2007. It is a fascinating document for many reasons but it is particularly interesting as it is the earliest known manuscript reference to baseball, confirming baseball was played in Surrey more than 20 years before American independence.

[Listen here »](#)

Read more from Surrey History Centre [HERE](#).

Text and image courtesy Surrey History Centre