

The Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society 1984-85

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The Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society 130th Annual Report 1984-85

In addition to the Annual General Meeting, which took place on 22 November 1984 eleven General Meetings of the Society were held at which the following papers were read:

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- 11 October *Roman Urbanization in Britain — Success or Failure?* Professor J.S. Wachter, B.Sc., F.S.A., M.I.F.A., Department of Archaeology, Leicester University
- 25 October *The Lunt Roman Fort.* Margaret Rylatt, Field Archaeologist, City of Coventry Museums
- 8 November *The Prisoner-of-War Depot at Norman Cross 1796-1816.* M.D. Howe, B.A., A.M.A., Curator, Museum and Art Gallery, Peterborough.
- 6 December *Roses and Castles: the Origins of a Folk Art Form?* David H. Smith, Leicester Polytechnic.

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- 10 January *Leicester Castle.* Richard Buckley, B.A., Leicestershire Archaeological Unit.
- 24 January *Moira Furnace: The Excavation and Restoration of a Scheduled Industrial Ancient Monument.* Dr Marilyn Palmer, M.A., Department of History, Loughborough University.
- 7 February *Burials, Bones and the Mary Rose.* Ann Stirland, B.Sc., Physical Anthropologist.
- 21 February *Stand to Arms: The Leicester Muster, 1608.* G.A. Chinnery, M.A., F.S.A., Deputy Director, Leicestershire Museums.
- 7 March *The Conservation Con.* Colin Thompson, R.I.B.A., Design and Conservation Officer, Leicester City Council Planning Department.
- 28 March *Pipes, Pumps and Public Health: Victorian Sewerage in Leicester.* Dr G. Bowles, B.A., Assistant Keeper, Industrial History, Leicestershire Museums.
- 11 April *People in Church: Non-Liturgical use of Ecclesiastical Buildings.* David Parsons, B.A., F.S.A., Department of Adult Education, Leicester University.

MEETINGS

The titles of the lectures listed on the previous page attest the wide range of subjects that were brought to the Society's attention during the year. Attendance at these meetings remained at a good level. Miss Jean Mellor, in her last year as Lectures Secretary, is to be congratulated on another successful year in that office.

COMMITTEE AND OFFICERS

We are grateful to our President, Col. R.A.St.G. Martin, for the interest he has continued to take in the Society. His presence at the Annual General Meeting always adds distinction to the most important meeting of our year; and we are sorry that he was not able to take the Chair at this year's meeting.

Changes among the officers and Committee Members are as follows:

Elected Vice Presidents: Mrs E.M. Dickson, Mr C.L. Wykes.

Resigned: Mr G. Brandwood as Editor of the Newsletter; Mrs E.M. Dickson as Committee Member (after 32 years service); Mr R.A. Rutland as Committee Member and Vice Chairman; Mr E. Tura as Committee Member; Dr V. Williams as Committee Member and Field Work Secretary.

HISTORIC BUILDINGS PANEL

The Panel has continued to meet fortnightly throughout the year. Its membership has not changed in this time and Mr R.J. Keene and Mr R.H. Evans have continued to act as co-administrators. More than 200 proposals concerning listed buildings have been referred to the panel by the appropriate Local Authorities; and their consideration has required some 140 visits and inspections of plans. The set of 1 inch Ordnance Survey maps, which were acquired last year as part of the generous donation of Mr F.W. Matthews, have been of considerable value to the Panel.

We are grateful to the Leicestershire County Council for the financial support it has again given us, so enabling us to meet some of the expenses members of the panel have to incur in carrying out their functions.

LIBRARY

Several donations have been received from members and other additions have been made by purchase. Cataloguing of new stock is up-to-date and the stock-check and retrospective cataloguing of older items has continued. A successful open evening was held on the occasion of the last A.G.M. when several members re-discovered the Library.

The Library has continued to be open regularly on the first and third Sundays and the second Tuesday of each month. We are indebted to the conscientious devotion of the Hon. Librarian, Mr Stevenson and of a number of other members, who have made these openings possible.

MEMBERSHIP

The figures for membership are as follows:

Ordinary Members	258
Libraries and Institutions	94
Associates and Students	47
Members who paid less than the full subscription in 1984/85	20
Honorary Life Members	1
Total	420

These figures indicate a decline in numbers to the extent of nine members. This amounts in fact to a fairly stable membership.

We record with regret the deaths of two members who have given particularly long and valuable service to the Society and its Committee: Miss W.A. Herrington and Mr C.L. Wykes. Winifred Herrington was a Vice President and Honorary Life Member; apart from her other services we may note in particular her ten years' work on the Index of the *Transactions* and her most successful organisation of the Society's excursions. Christopher Wykes, also a Vice President, was a valued member of the Committee for more than thirty years and in particular served the Society for many years as Hon. Treasurer with skill and charm.

NEWSLETTER

Three numbers of the Newsletter have appeared during the year. Mr Brandwood, who is giving up the editorship,

has been responsible for it since its introduction. We are grateful for the initiative and labour he has put into an enterprise which has proved to be a valuable agency of liaison and communication within the Society and outside it.

TRANSACTIONS

Volume LVIII was distributed at the Annual General Meeting in November 1984. The Hon. Editor, Dr D.T. Williams, has succeeded, in difficult times, in maintaining the high standard of content and format that we have come to expect from him, while keeping costs within acceptable limits. As far as costs are concerned we are most grateful to the Leicestershire County Council for the contribution it has continued to make to the expenses of the publication.

It seems appropriate to announce that future volumes of the *Transactions* will be dated in a different manner from past practice. According to past practice Volume LIX would be dated 1983-4, although it actually appears in 1985; under the new practice it is to be dated 1984-5. Whilst Volume LX will be dated with the single year of publication, that is, 1986.