THE

LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL
AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

1969 - 1970

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P. A. Stevens, Esq., M.A., F.M.A.

Representative on Society's Committee

The Reverend R. T. H. Pearce, A.K.C.

Representative on Lectures and Excursions Sub-Committee

J. A. Willett, Esq.
Eight General Meetings of the Society were held, at which the following papers were read:

1969


23 October Professor A. C. Thomas, M.A., F.S.A.: Who was King Arthur? In the Guildhall.


1970


20 February Directed by A. D. McWhirr, M.A.; Archaological Finds and Exhibits.


Meetings were held in the Museum unless otherwise stated.

Meetings

The Annual General Meeting of the Society this year was held in the Guildhall and was followed by a Wine and Cheese Party, which seems to have become part of the Society’s Annual Programme. The attendance at the Annual General Meeting seems to be dropping; it was hoped that the enticement of wine and cheese to follow might have increased the attendance, but this hope was to be disappointed. It will be a pity if the affairs of the Society cease to be of general concern. Lectures have been well supported.

Committee and Officers

The Committee met six times last year. This is one less than usual because the meeting scheduled for 4 March had to be abandoned because of a blizzard. Its membership now stands at twenty-five. Mrs. E. M. Dickson is Chairman of the Committee, but in order to ease her burden Mr. R. J. B. Keene has been appointed as Deputy Chairman. Mr. C. L. Wykes has been ill since the end of 1969, and unable to take his usual part in the Committee’s activities. The Society wishes him a speedy recovery. Mr. J. A. Willett was elected to the Committee on 7 May, having, with his wife, been an active supporter of most of the Society’s activities for some time. Mr. D. H. Smith was elected to the Committee on 22 October. Mr. Smith has done and continues to do much work.
I 15TH ANNUAL REPORT

for the Historic Building Advisory Panel. Mr. J. F. L. Norwood resigned from the Committee on 7 May before leaving the county for a new position in Winchester. The Society congratulates him on his new post but regrets that it will no longer have his valuable assistance. He has for some years done the "Archaeological Notes" for Transactions.

Transactions

Volume XLIV (1968 - 1969) appeared on 30 April 1970. It is hoped that Volume XLV will not have quite such an over-due birth. Volume XLIV contained two papers originally read to the Society. Volume XLV will also contain Mr. R. J. B. Keene's paper on "Restorations of St. Martin's".

Membership

The total membership on 30 April 1970 was:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Type</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ordinary Members</td>
<td>508</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honorary Members</td>
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<td>Associate Members</td>
<td>74</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associated Societies</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Members</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Libraries &amp; Museums</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>661</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During the year 64 new members were elected, 56 resigned and 11 died.

The Society regrets to report the death of eleven members: Mr. R. A. Barnes, Mr. C. D. B. Ellis, Mr. C. H. Gee, Mr. H. H. Gimson, Mr. W. T. Herrick, Mr. J. Hill, Mrs. K. L. Simmons, Mr. J. W. Waudby, Miss M. V. Wilshere, Miss H. N. Whittaker, Miss V. Wykes.

Messrs. Barnes, Gee and Gimson, and Misses V. Wykes and M. V. Wilshere were members of long standing, and so was the President's mother, Mrs. K. L. Simmons, who until she became inactive was a most enthusiastic member of the Society. The death of the Emeritus President, C. D. B. Ellis, was a matter of great regret. Professor Jack Simmons spoke at the Annual General Meeting of his long and distinguished record as a local historian and of the work he had done for the Archaeological Society. A memoir will be printed in Transactions.

It is depressing to record for the first time in some years that the total membership of the Society has declined. It is true that three is only a small number, and that there has been an unusually high mortality, but there is no doubt that we can no longer postpone the increase on the Society's subscription in the hope that by attaining a higher goal of ordinary members, we can keep pace with the rising costs of both postage and the printing of notices for lectures and excursions, and, of course, of Transactions. Volume XLIV cost almost one hundred and sixty pounds more than the £500 set aside for it.

It will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting that the Society Subscription be increased to £2.

The revised list of members of the Society which was duplicated last year is still available, price 2s. 6d. (plus 4d. postage) from the Guildhall.

Historic Buildings

Last year we acclaimed the decision to restore 18 Highcross Street. This year we must record our disappointment that nothing has yet been done, and the building continues to languish. It will indeed be a great tragedy if, as a result of neglect and vandalism, we are to lose the building completely. The experience of Burleigh Fields House in Loughborough, for the preservation of which the Society felt bound to fight, is a sad and cautionary tale. It has been standing
empty for a very long time, enabling vandals to destroy much and eventually to cause a fire, which makes restoration a very hard task. Buildings of merit should not really be left empty for long without a caretaker. Happily the Ministry of Housing and Local Government have accepted the report of one of their Inspectors recommending that the building be retained and restored. The Society was represented at the inquiry in Loughborough about the fate of this building.

This last year has seen an enormous increase in the work of the Historic Building Advisory Panel. It has been called upon to write more than 80 reports of one sort or another, both for grants, alterations to scheduled buildings, and also applications to put the buildings on the County Definitive List. The architect members of the Society have had placed upon them an enormous burden, which they have shouldered willingly. A great deal of professional advice is given, voluntarily, to both the County and the City. Only those who deal with the reports can see exactly how much heavy work falls upon that small body of enthusiasts who tackle this burden. The Society legitimately considers that this is a work well worth doing. Attention in the forthcoming years will certainly be directed to the Conservation Areas and also to working in co-operation with the County Authorities in the plan for a Greater Leicester. It is encouraging that the County are most anxious to enlist the Society's help on these matters.

Library

For reasons of economy, we are not printing the usual list of library accessions this year. A copy may be inspected in the library at the Guildhall.

The number of items borrowed has shown a welcome increase during the year but the proportion of members using the library is still very small. Although the library is open for only four hours per week, books may usually be borrowed for lengthy periods unless, of course, they are required by another member.

Excursions 1969 - 70

Eleven excursions were arranged this year and were enjoyed by a large number of members and friends.


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I I 5TH ANNUAL REPORT


Thanks are due to all leaders of excursions who gave generously of their time. Donations from the Excursion Fund were given where appropriate to churches and buildings visited.

Melton Mowbray and District Branch

The following meetings of the Branch were held during the year in the Grove School:

1969
12 December Social Evening.

1970
9 January Members’ Evening:
   2. M. G. Thomas, Esq.: Military Badges.
13 March R. Jeavons, Esq.: Pre-Reformation Monastic Architecture.
10 April J. E. Brownlow, Esq.: Latimer and Melton Mowbray.
1 May Annual General Meeting.

Excursions 1969 - 70

Six well-supported excursions were organised from Melton Mowbray:


Thanks are due to all excursion leaders for their hard work which contributed to such a successful summer programme.

The Melton Branch continues to flourish. Attendance at lectures was most gratifying.
### THE LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the Year ended 30 April 1970

#### GENERAL ACCOUNT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>£ s. d.</th>
<th>£ s. d.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Council for British Archaeology</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings</td>
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<tr>
<td>C.B.A. Group VI</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leicestershire Trust for Nature Conservation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leicestershire Local History Society</td>
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<tr>
<td>Midlands Federation of Museums and Art Galleries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Provision for the net cost of printing and issue Transactions, Vol. XLV</td>
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<tr>
<td>Add Underprovision for Vol. XLIV, per contra</td>
<td>116 8 6</td>
<td>716 8 6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Library Expenses, Binding and Honorarium</td>
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<td>33 18 6</td>
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<td>Lecturers' Expenses</td>
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<td>Administrative Expenses:</td>
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<td>Printing, Stationery and Postage</td>
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<td>Bank Charges</td>
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<td>Melton Mowbray Branch</td>
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<td>Sundries</td>
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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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**Subscriptions**  
**Income tax to be repaid on covenanted subscriptions**  
**Income from Investments:**  
- Interest on £101 5s. 4d. Leicester Corporation 3% Mortgage Loan (gross) 3 0 10  
- Interest on £150 3½% Conversion Stock 1961 (gross) 5 5 0  
**Grant from Leicestershire Education Committee**  
**Profit on wine and cheese party**  
**Interest : Leicester Trustee Savings Bank**  
**Bank Deposit Account**  
**Profit on wine and cheese party**  
**Interest : Leicester Trustee Savings Bank**  
**Bank Deposit Account**  
**Cost of printing and issue, including binding**  
Less : Charges for bound copies 15 11 6  
Advertisements 27 0 0  
Less : Provision made 500 0 0  
Underprovision to contra 116 8 6  
**Excess of expenditure over income for the year**  
**Income and Expenditure Account for the Year ended 30 April 1970**  
**£1,087 19 5**
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<th></th>
<th>£</th>
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<th>d.</th>
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<td><strong>THE S. H. SKILLINGTON MEMORIAL FUND</strong></td>
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### THE LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY
### BALANCE SHEET—30 April 1970

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>£</th>
<th>s</th>
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<tr>
<td>Accumulated Funds</td>
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<td>The S. H. Skillington Memorial Fund</td>
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<td>General Account:</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Less excess of expenditure over income for the year</td>
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<td>Current Liabilities</td>
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<td>Sundry Creditors</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>6</td>
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<th>d</th>
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<td>£101 5s. 4d. Leicester Corporation 3%</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mortgage Loan (Value £101)</td>
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<td>Sundry Debtors</td>
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<td>Leicester Trustee Savings Bank</td>
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<td>8</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash at bank: Current account</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deposit account</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash in hand</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2,343</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>9</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£2,566</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TRUSTEES OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

J. E. Brownlow, Esq.,
Michael A. Chamberlain, Esq., A.C.A.
James Crompton, Esq., M.A., B.LITT., F.R.HIST.S., F.S.A.
J. N. Pickard, Esq., J.P.
J. R. Webster, Esq.
C. L. Wykes, Esq., F.C.A.

**REPORT OF THE HONORARY AUDITOR**

In my opinion the accounts set out on pages xiv to xvi give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of The Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society at 30 April 1970, and its results for the year ended on that date.

G. L. ASPELL, Chartered Accountant

Leicester
THE LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH FUND
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the Year ended 30 April 1970

Fees for courses:
- Archaeology in Leicestershire: £45 0 0
Net income for the year: £69 4 4

Income from investments — gross:
- Interest on £1,750 3½% War Loan: £61 5 0
- Interest on £284 19s. 9d. 4% Consols: £11 7 10
- Interest on Bank Deposit Account: £41 11 6

Net income for the year: £114 4 4

BALANCE SHEET—30 April 1970

Capital Account
Balance at 30 April 1970: £1,314 19 4
Income Account
Balance at 1 May 1969: £1,616 14 9
Add net income for the year: £69 4 4
Due to the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society: £39 6 1
Total Capital Account: £1,685 19 1

Income Account
Balance at 1 May 1969: £1,616 14 9
Add net income for the year: £69 4 4
Due to the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society: £39 6 1
Total Income Account: £1,725 5 2

TRUSTEES OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH FUND
The Reverend O. S. Bennett, B.A.
Michael A. Chamberlain, Esq., A.C.A.
James Crompton, Esq., M.A., B.LITT., F.R.HIST.S., F.S.A.
Miss M. P. Rippin, B.A.
Professor J. Simmons, M.A., F.R.HIST.S., F.R.S.L.
C. L. Wykes, Esq., F.C.A.

Investments on Capital Account
- £1,029 4s. 8d. 3½% War Loan (Value £386): £1,064 19 4
- £284 19s. 9d. 4% Consolidated Stock (Value £125): £250 0 0

Investment on Income Account
- £720 15s. 4d. 3½% War Loan (Value £270): £752 9 1

Balance at Bank:
- Deposit account: £888 1 10
- Current account: £84 14 3
Total Balance at Bank: £1,725 5 2

Total Capital: £3,040 4 6
Total Income: £3,040 4 6

REPORT OF THE HONORARY AUDITOR
In my opinion the above accounts give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of The Leicestershire Archaeological Research Fund at 30 April 1970, and its results for the year ended on that date.

G. L. ASPELL, Chartered Accountant
Leicester