

THE LEICESTERSHIRE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY
THE GUILDHALL · LEICESTER · LE15FQ



NEWSLETTER 97 Autumn 2017

Welcome to the autumn edition of the LAHS Newsletter. We hope you find it interesting and informative. Contributions to future editions are very welcome, and can be sent to the Newsletter editor, Cynthia Brown, at cb@cydfx.net, or by post c/o Honorary Librarian, Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society, The Guildhall, Guildhall Lane, LE1 5FQ.

LAHS NEWS

*** ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ***

Members are reminded that the 162nd Annual General Meeting of LAHS will be held on Wednesday 22 November 2017 at The Guildhall, Guildhall Lane, Leicester, LE1 5FQ. All members are encouraged to attend. Following the AGM, Dr Richard Thomas, School of Archaeology and Ancient History, University of Leicester will give a lecture on 'New Discoveries at Bradgate Park: preliminary results from the third season of excavation'.

Please note the change from a Thursday to Wednesday in order to avoid the Cathedral bell-ringing practice.

LECTURE PROGRAMME

The lecture programme for 2017 – 18 has now been finalised, and details of the dates and topics are below. All lectures take place on Thursday at 7.30 pm at New Walk Museum, Leicester, except the Annual General Meeting which as indicated above will be held at The Guildhall, Guildhall Lane on Wednesday 22 November, and the second lecture this year which will be on Tuesday 24 October at New Walk Museum.

28 September 2017

Scarborough High Middle Ages Lecture

Pots, Pins and Other Possessions: things that people owned in the High Middle Ages

Professor David Hinton, University of Southampton

24 October 2017 (Tuesday)

Equity and Co - Leicester's pioneering 20th century worker co-operatives

Peter Ackers, De Montfort University

7 December 2017

Captain Pouch and the East Midlands Enclosure Riots of 1607

Len Holden, Market Harborough Historical Society

11 January 2018

The Viking Army and the Making of England

Prof. Julian D. Richards, University of York

8 February 2018

The Rise and fall of Cult Worship in the Gwash Valley of Rutland

Jim Brown, Museum of London Archaeology

22 February 2018

Members' Evening

Members' Evening is an opportunity for LAHS members to share the results of their research with fellow members. If you would like further information, or to offer a contribution, please contact the Hon. Lecture Secretary, Yolanda Courtney as far in advance as possible, tel 0116 2120271, yolanda.courtney@ntlworld.com.

8 March 2018

W. Alan North Memorial Lecture

Roman London's First Voices: the Bloomberg Tablets and their archaeological context

Roger Tomlin, Emeritus Fellow of Wolfson College, Oxford and John Pearce, Department of Classics, Kings College, London

12 April 2018

Stibbe's Secrets Revealed: unearthing Roman mosaics, houses and streets in Leicester

Gavin Speed, University of Leicester Archaeological Services

26 April 2018

How to Read a Church: the view from the Middle Ages

Dr Miriam Gill, University of Leicester

24 May 2018

'Let Steeple Bells be Swungen': the history and Archaeology of bells and bell-founding

Chris Pickford

LAHS SPECIAL PROJECTS OFFICER

LAHS has recently appointed a Special Projects Officer, Joe Hall, to assist in promoting the Society and its activities. Joe has studied Archaeology and Ancient History at the University of Leicester, and Ancient History and Classics at the University of Wales, Trinity Saint David. He has also worked at the Richard III Visitor Centre and as Heritage Interpretation Officer on the Charnwood Roots project.

Since starting in post at the beginning of August Joe has been bringing the LAHS website up to date and working towards completing the processing and uploading of our scanned archive of *Transactions* to the website. Joe will also be taking on the organisation of the History Fair at Beaumanor next year. A major part of his role will involve developing our profile on social media in order to reach a wider audience, and he has now taken over the management of our Twitter and Facebook accounts.

These can be accessed at <http://www.facebook.com/pg/leicsarchandhistsoc/about/>, at <http://twitter.com/LAHSoc>, or from the LAHS website at <http://www.lahs.org.uk>. If you have anything you would like brought to the attention of LAHS members by email and/or through Social Media, Joe will be pleased to hear from you. His email is jh694@le.ac.uk.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

ADDITIONS TO STOCK

Books and Pamphlets

BAILEY, C. The secret rooms. 2013 (1st pub. 2012) Belvoir Castle; 8th and 9th Dukes of Rutland

BEAVIN, H. Hinckley & District Hospital: a centenary history. 2000

KNIGHT, D. The Museum Cottages: an illustrated guide. 1996

The above two titles are both published by Hinckley and District Museum, which is well worth a visit. See <http://www.hinckleydistrictmuseum.org.uk/> for details.

BUTT, S. A – Z of Leicester: places – people – history. 2017.

BUTT, S. Leicester history tour. 2017.

The author is a member of LAHS. Both books are published by Amberley at £14.99 and £6.99 respectively, and have been kindly donated by the publisher. LAHS has an acknowledgement in the second book.

FISHER, P. and LEE, J.M. Castle Donington. (The Victoria History of Leicestershire). VCH, £9.99, 2016 [i.e. 2017]. www.victoriacountyhistory.ac.uk/leicestershire This is the first in the Leicestershire VCH series since 1964. It has been donated by Pam Fisher.

HAKEWILL, R. The Angel Hotel of Market Harborough: a brief explanation of known and unknown facts. 2011.

HAKEWILL, R. The Old Grammar School of Market Harborough: a history spanning 400 years. 2008.

KEATES, J. Messiah: the composition and afterlife of Handel's masterpiece. 2016. Includes Charles Jennes of Gopsall. Donated by David Howell.

LEE, G. Men with a vision: some remarkable stories of Baptists in Leicester and county from the 18th century to the present. 2010.

LUBENHAM HERITAGE GROUP Lubenham: a village history. 2012.

MACKRELL, S. and McCORMACK, D. Hinckley's Home Front in the First World War. [c.201-].

MILLER, N. Leicestershire and the First World War. 2016.

PYE, N. ed. Leicester & its region. 1972. Donated by Mrs. Carne.

..... Royal Maundy: the visit of H.M. The Queen to Leicester Cathedral. 2017. Ltd. Ed.

SATO, K. Life story of Mr. Andrejs Ozolins, a Latvian, and his wife Mrs. Dulcie Ozolins. 2014. Donated by Prof. Sato.

SEATON, P. and S. From Earl Shilton to Waterloo. 2015.

SOCIETY FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANCIENT BUILDINGS (SPAB) Annual review 2016.

SUMMERS, B. The Harboro' boys: an account of the experiences of people from the town of Market Harborough and surrounding district during the First World War. 2015.

Periodicals: a selection of those received:

Ashby-de-la-Zouch Past & Present 19 2017 (donated by the Editor) incl. Louch's Commercial School; Rev. Thomas Bate and the Ashby Parish Library.

Derbyshire Archaeological Journal 136 2016 Incl. Landowners of Shardlow and Great Wilne (with ref. to Lockington).

Hinckley Historian 79 Summer 2017 (donated by the publisher) Incl. Inchle of Inckle (Hinckley chemist); Hinckley branch of Ashby and Nuneaton Joint Railway; Hinckley Corps of Salvation Army 1881 – 1931; council housing.

Historical Research 90.248 May 2017 Incl. a surprising article on the British Army mule in World War I.

SPAB Magazine Spring 2017 Celebrates the 140th anniversary of the Society.

DVD

MACE (Media Archive of Central England) has digitised one of the films deposited there by LAHS and given us a copy. This 1953 film of about eight minutes records a 'mystery ramble' by Westcotes Secondary Modern School, Leicester which visited Burton Overy, Illston on the Hill, Rolleston Park, Billesdon, Burrough Hill fort, and Brooksby Hall. It is entitled 'Agriculture and village life in Leicestershire'.

For information

Durham Archaeological Journal has been received as an exchange publication since 1984. This arrangement has now ceased so no further copies will arrive. To my knowledge no copies have ever been used here and so the file has been removed from the bookcase. Marilyn Palmer, member of the Committee, is joint author with Ian West of 'Technology in the Country House', published by Historic England at £60 in 2016. Reviews have appeared in AMS Newsletter, Summer 2017, and SPAB Magazine, Winter 2016. NOTE: the Library does not have a copy.

The quarterly magazine This England (not taken by the Library) published a 4p. well-illustrated article in its Great Britons series: 'Ernest Gimson (1864-1919) Leicester's master architect and craftsman'. You may like to seek out Vol.49 No.3 Autumn 2016.

LIBRARY CLOSURE

A reminder - although at the time of writing it seems a long way off - that the Library will close as usual for winter after Sunday 15 October for November, December and January. It should reopen on Sunday 4 February 2018.

Aubrey Stevenson, Hon. Librarian.

CHANGING LEICESTER PROJECT

The LAHS Changing Leicester project, in partnership with Leicester Arts and Museums, launched its exhibition in July. Davey Ivens, Outreach Officer, sends this update on the exhibition and related programme of events:

'The Changing Leicester exhibition was launched successfully at Newarke Houses Museum on 1 July. Sixty invited guests were present to hear Cllr. Piara Clair, David Stocker from HLF and Yolanda Courtney from LAHS place the exhibition in the wider context of Leicester's development, archaeological discovery, and changing attitudes to heritage. The launch was an opportunity for the audience to get a first look at archaeology discovered during important Leicester digs, as well as objects not previously exhibited. These included a city planners' model of Waterloo Way, and once well-known advertising for Leicester shops. The audio-visual display featured footage of Konrad Smigielski, City Planning Officer, talking about the redevelopment of Leicester Market, along with interviews with planners, architects, campaigners, politicians and Leicester citizens – all giving their different views on how Leicester has developed since World War II, what we've lost and found, and their own sense of place. Twenty five Changing Leicester events have taken place during the summer, including newly commissioned Blue Badge walks, family events at The Guildhall, New Walk Museum and Newarke Houses, Sketching the City and a BBC Leicester Heritage Question Time. A young people's photo exhibition about the changing look of the city, "Greyfriars: then and now", took place at The Guildhall on Sunday 10 September'.

OTHER NEWS

GREEN PLAQUE AWARD SCHEME – AN UPDATE

Leicestershire County Council's Green Plaque Award Scheme marks sites and people of historical significance. Six plaques are selected in each round by a public vote from a shortlist of twelve. The most recent plaque to be unveiled marks the role of Wicklow Lodge, in Burton Road, Melton Mowbray, as a military hospital in World War I. The former hunting lodge treated over 1400 military personnel between January 1915 and April 1919, and was supported by weekly donations from residents and businesses in the town. Over 6000 votes were cast in the latest round to choose the next six Green Plaques. Those selected are:

1. The Drill Hall, Melton Mowbray - headquarters for both the Leicestershire Yeomanry and Territorials during the First World War
2. William Pearson, South Kilworth - a co-founder of the Royal Astronomical Society
3. Ann Ayre Hely, Ravenstone - a nurse during the Crimean War
4. Seaman Tommy Brown, Earl Shilton - awarded the George Medal during the Second World War
5. John Theodore Kenney, Kibworth – illustrator of the Thomas the Tank Engine books
6. Former location of Heathcoat & Boden's Lace Factory, Loughborough - site of a Luddite attack in 1816

WOMEN OF THE CUT – EXHIBITION AT FOXTON LOCKS

A year of research by staff and volunteers has culminated in an exhibition at Foxton Locks museum telling the story of women who worked on the canals: an 'often forgotten workforce'. It features photographs and artefacts as well as a film, *Rosie's Choice*, a fictionalised account of the years leading up to World War II and the role of women in doing men's jobs during the war itself. The film was made for Foxton Inclined Plane Trust by Pudding Bag Productions, a volunteer film-making group specialising in bringing history 'to life'. The museum is located in The Boilerhouse, Middle Lock, Gumley Road, Foxton, LE16 7RA, at the halfway point of Foxton's flight of ten locks. The exhibition runs until 1 October 2017. For further details, visit <http://www.fipt.org.uk/whatson> or telephone 0116 2792657.

RIVER SOAR TRAIL

A new trail leaflet has been published by the River Soar and Grand Union Canal Partnership with walking and cycling routes along 39 miles of the river and canal through Leicester and Leicestershire. This takes in places of interest such as the National Space Centre, Abbey Pumping Station, Abbey Park, the Great Central Railway, Foxton Locks and Wistow. The trail leaflet is available from the Visit Leicester centre in Gallowtree Gate, Leicester, and from libraries and community buildings across the city and county.

BOUNDARY PROJECT UPDATE

The Boundary Project by the Council for British Archaeology East Midlands aims to record the form and condition of parish boundaries in the region to create a 21st century 'Domesday' GIS record with linked drawings and photographs. It is open to anyone in the East Midlands who would like to take part. Data will be recorded in a central database by researchers, who are able to take part at their own pace. Further details are available at <http://boundaryproject.cbaem.org/>.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL REPORTS

RARE ROMAN SPOON DONATED TO LEICESTERSHIRE MUSEUMS

Wendy Scott, Finds Liaison Officer for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland, sends this report of the find of a rare object: 'Back in 2000 a detectorist found a rather nice but incomplete Roman "Swan-necked" spoon in Eaton, near Melton Mowbray. As this was found prior to the existence of the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) in Leicestershire, it was identified at Jewry Wall Museum. After a break from the hobby, he recently re-started metal detecting and asked me if he could have his old finds recorded by the PAS. Of course I said yes, as the museum would not have made a full a record as we now do - although they had a long standing tradition of recording metal detected finds when few other museums were doing so. In addition, our records are available on-line, which allows better access to the information.

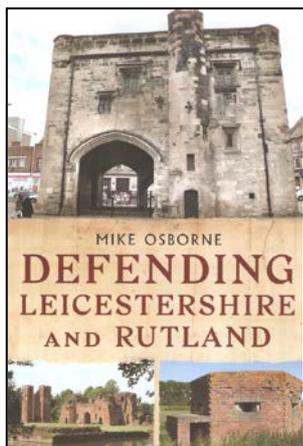


'The PAS has recorded 646 Roman spoons to date. Only five, including this example (LEIC-B9A082), have inscriptions. Unusually, the alignment of the inscription on this spoon suggests it was engraved by the owner themselves, holding it in their left hand, rather than a craftsman. I sent images of the inscription off to colleagues to help me decipher the text. Dr Roger Tomlin, who will be giving next year's Alan North lecture, kindly did this, and has confirmed that it reads TEGERNEMA [...], for Tegernema[glus] or Tegernema[gli]. The name has a Celtic origin and its two elements have a similar meaning – *tegernos and *maglos, both meaning 'king' or 'lord'. This is a name well attested in the post-Roman period, notably by a tombstone in Cornwall which reads Conetoci fili(i) Tegernomali (ref. IBCh 12).

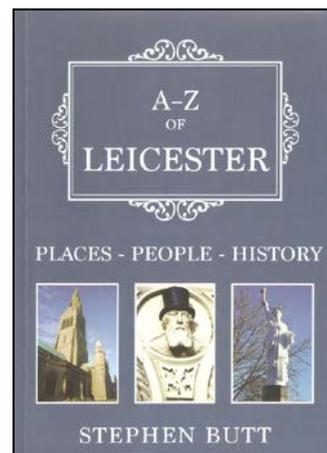
'The spoon dates to the late Roman period, c.350-425AD, so appears to be an early example of a native name which is common later. Because of its rarity the finder has kindly donated the spoon to Leicestershire Museums, and it will be displayed in Melton Carnegie Museum, near its find spot'. Full details of the object can be viewed online here, at www.finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/804341.



NEW PUBLICATIONS



New publications recently received for review in the 2018 edition of the *Leicestershire Historian* include *Defending Leicestershire and Rutland* by Mike Osborne, published by Fonthill Media, (ISBN 9781781555781, £16.99), and the *A-Z of Leicester: Places – People - History* by LAHS member Stephen Butt (Amberley Publishing, ISBN 9781445664781, £14.99). Both will be available in due course in the LAHS Library at The Guildhall.



FORTHCOMING EVENTS

LOST LEGENDS EXHIBITION

29 September – 31 October 2017

Newarke Houses Museum, The Newarke, Leicester, LE2 7BY

This free exhibition is one of several events marking 30th Anniversary of Black History Month (BHM) in the UK. It will celebrate the contributions of Leicester's African and African Caribbean community to the cultural heritage of the UK over the last three decades, focusing on the main social, cultural and political issues that had an impact on Britain's Black community - from the first Black Members of Parliament to local cultural icons such as Lauren Aitkin, Wolde Selassie, and Leicester's first Black telephonist Elaine Hinds. An oral history archive, a publication *30 Years 30 Voices*, and a short film *Lost Legends: BHM Remembered*, will accompany the exhibition. For further details of the exhibition and related events, see <http://www.serendipity-uk.com/events/lost-legends-exhibition/>.

VAUGHAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY (VAHS)

The coming season of talks will be the last for the Vaughan Archaeological and Historical Society, which will close in December after 70 years. The Society was founded in November 1947 by students at Vaughan College, Leicester who were attending a local history class tutored by W.G. Hoskins. He was working in the Economics Department of University College Leicester at the time, but went on to found the first university department devoted to the study of English Local History in the following year. A lecture in his honour has been a feature of the Society's annual programme. Originally the Society was sponsored by the College, and seventy five per cent of its members had to be students there, but membership became open to all in 1955. There is still time to attend the final lecture – details below. Visitors are welcome for a £3 entry fee.

Wyston, a royal prince and Leicestershire saint

Douglas Clinton

St Christopher's Church, Samworth Academy,
Trenant Road, Leicester, LE2 6UA, 7.15 pm

A HISTORICAL FOOTNOTE

LAHS started its existence in 1855 as the Leicestershire Architectural and Archaeological Society. This account of an Annual Meeting held at The Guildhall in Leicester is extracted from the *Leicester Journal*, 11 October 1867.

THE LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY. A meeting of this Society was held in the Town Library, Guildhall, Leicester, on Monday, the 30th ultimo... The field known as the Cherry Orchard, King Richard's-road, Leicester, having recently been sold for building purposes, the proprietor having reserved to himself the ownership of all antiquities found under the surface, permission was kindly given to this Society to make such excavations as the Committee might think desirable, with a view of ascertaining the extent of the Roman pavements which were known to exist there, and which were partially uncovered some years ago, under the auspices of the Leicester Literary and Philosophical Society. The Secretary at once communicated with the Council of the last-named Society, and a joint committee was appointed to confer as to the course to be pursued. Grants of equal amounts have been made by both societies towards the expense to be incurred, and the work of excavating has now been commenced...

The following drawings, antiquities, &c, were exhibited:— By Mr. Francis Drake, F.S.A.: Photographs of the following buildings, of which Mr. Drake is the architect: —Esplanade Hotel, Ryde; Private Residence, Humberstone-road, Leicester; ditto (proposed), Hinckley; Design for Gothic Presbyterian Chapel, with spire; also Roman coins of Maximianus, Claudius, and Constantinus, with several English coins, all found in Leicester. By the Rev. J. H. Hill: Photographic designs for furniture, after antique examples. By Mr. Ellis: A dish (or the cover of vessel) of Roman pottery, found at Barrow-on-Soar, near the spot where the very fine glass vessels were found a short time since, and which are now placed in the Leicester Museum. By Mr. Goddard: A mediaeval jug of coarse pottery, single-handled, fifteen inches high and ten inches in the greatest diameter, found six feet below the surface in Slater-street, Frog Island, Leicester, August, 1866... By Mr. Joseph Goddard: A very fine specimen of modern glass mosaic by Salviati, of London and Venice, the artist and maker of the beautiful reredos lately erected in Westminster Abbey. Salviati is the reviver of the ancient art of embellishment by means of glass mosaics, which bids fair to assert a high position in ecclesiastical mural decoration....

Mr. Towers also sent for exhibition a square mediaeval encaustic tile bearing within a circle a shield with a cross engrailed. Mr. Towers informed the secretary that a few days previous to the meeting he discovered a skeleton a little to the south-west of the centre of Elmsthorpe church this county, which church is now being rebuilt. It was quite perfect save that the right arm was broken off between the shoulder and elbow: it was lying on its back with the face looking south, and the right cheek resting on the tile now exhibited. The skeleton was apparently that of a young man about [] years of age and is 5 feet inches in length. The position of the tile is curious: it seemed to be designed, but the probability is that the tile fell into the grave at the time the interment took place because it has cement upon one of its sides, thus showing that it was broken up from the floor. The mortar looks fresh and the tile is without marks of wear.

This newsletter is edited by Cynthia Brown and published by Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society. Further information about the Society, its publications and other activities can be found on its website at www.le.ac.uk/lahs/.