

**LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL
AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

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NEWSLETTER



Number 66

Autumn 2002

Editor Kay Gowland

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Items for the next *Newsletter* should be sent to the Editor by the end of January 2003 who would welcome contributions from members of the Society.

Help required on the committee

In the next year or so we will be looking for people to fill various positions on the committee as a number of officers and committee members have indicated that they wish to stand down. If you feel you would like to help the society and have time to devote to such activities, do please contact the Honorary Secretary. Maybe you would like to join the committee before taking on any particular role as an officer, or even shadow one of the posts. Alternatively, you may be able to think of an activity which we could explore and which we are not currently undertaking, for example, organising trips.

After the AGM

After the formal business at the AGM on Thursday 21st November, we shall hear about the University of Leicester's Special Collection of books held in the library. Dr Andrew Lacey will tell us about some of the rare books and manuscripts which are housed in this Special Collection; many were published before 1851.

Bring a guest

Our first lecture this autumn will be on

Thursday 10th October 2002

The Leicester Mummies:

scientific studies of life, disease and death in ancient Egypt

Professor Rosalie David

Keeper of Egyptology, The Manchester Museum, University of Manchester

To be held in the Victorian Gallery of New Walk Museum

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News and views.....

New dawn for Stonehenge

English Heritage Chairman Sir Neil Cossons promised 'a new dawn' for Stonehenge when he announced on 1 August that a £57m visitor centre would replace the existing facilities (famously described by MPs in 1989 as 'a national disgrace') by 2006. The new 'gateway' to the Stonehenge landscape will be built just off the A303 at the Countess East roundabout, which is outside the World Heritage Site, out of sight of the stones and not on an archaeologically sensitive site. The reception building, designed by the Australian architectural firm of Denton Corker Marshall, will be partially buried below ground and will be roofed in turf so as to blend seamlessly into the landscape. Inside the building a range of interpretative exhibitions will tell the story of Stonehenge, its changing landscape and the people whose lives shaped its world.

Visitors will be able to travel to the site on foot, on hired bicycles or by environmentally friendly shuttle buses, with special buggies provided for the disabled. As part of the scheme, the area around the stones will be converted back to downland by 2008. The Government has set up a stewardship grant scheme, paying £160 an acre, to persuade arable farmers within the boundary of the 7,000-acre Stonehenge and Avebury World Heritage site to restore ploughed land to grass.

Still undecided is the Government's plan for the A303, which runs past the monument. Four tunnel options are now being considered and the Government is expected to announce the result in January 2003.

Offa's Dyke marks a 'genetic barrier'

Scientists working at University College London's Centre for Genetic Anthropology claim to have found significant genetic differences between modern populations living either side of Offa's Dyke, the 150-mile long boundary between early medieval England and Wales. The research team chose seven market towns mentioned in the Domesday Book of 1086 and recruited 313 male volunteers whose paternal grandfather had also lived in the area, studying the Y-chromosome, which is passed almost unchanged from father to son, looking for certain genetic markers.

They then compared the results with samples from populations in Norway and in Friesland, the northernmost province of the Netherlands. The English and Frisians studied had almost identical genetic make-up, but the English and Welsh were very different. It

suggests that the Welsh border was more of a genetic barrier to the Anglo-Saxon Y-chromosome gene flow than the North Sea.

The team's widely reported conclusion that a large-scale Anglo-Saxon invasion wiped out the indigenous population of England but did not reach Wales is bound to be controversial. Archaeologists have argued that there is no evidence for this, and that the arrival of Anglo-Saxon culture could have come from trade or from a small ruling elite of migrants who arrived as Roman army mercenaries.

Neanderthals in Norfolk

Archaeologists working at a commercial quarry site near Thetford, in Norfolk, have found 50,000-year-old flint tools and mammoth remains. The tools consist of eight flint hand axes, and 129 pieces of worked flint, discovered in close proximity to the remains of three, or possibly four, mammoths, teeth from a woolly rhino and a reindeer antler. The site is being interpreted as a series of ponds used as a watering place by both Neanderthals and animals.

David Miles, Chief Archaeologist at English Heritage, said: 'It is extremely rare to find any evidence of Neanderthals and even rarer to find it in association with mammoth remains. We may have discovered a

butchery site or, what would be even more exciting, the first evidence in Britain of a Neanderthal hunting site which would tell us much about their organisational and social abilities. For the first time we may also be able to date the presence of Middle Palaeolithic hominids conclusively in Britain. It is a discovery of such international importance that English Heritage has awarded it our first grant from the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund, which was set up for projects such as this in areas affected by aggregate extraction.'

Roman villa to be built at Butser Ancient Farm

The Directors of Butser Ancient Farm have just signed what is believed to be the first contract for the building of a Romano-British villa to be drawn for some 1,600 years. The project is being funded by the US cable TV company, Discovery. Guy de la Bédoyère will present a series of programmes based on the construction of the villa, which will use the methods and materials that were available at that time. Understanding Romano-British constructional techniques is part of the Butser Ancient Farm's core research programme, and the villa, once completed, will be handed over to the Farm for use in educational work.

Work is about to start with the construction of a lime kiln, and the villa is due to be finished by late October or early

“It is extremely rare to find any evidence of Neanderthals and even rarer to find it in association with mammoth remains.”

.....from further afield

November. The public will be able to visit on the last weekend of every month – starting on the weekend of 27 and 28 July.

Buildings at Risk Register

On the same day that Revive to Regenerate was launched, Simon Thurley, Chief Executive of English Heritage, underlined the scale of the problem by announcing the publication of the latest Buildings at Risk

“1,398 listed buildings considered to be in danger of being lost through neglect and decay.”

Register, which contains details of some 1,398 listed buildings considered to be in danger of being lost through neglect and decay. Published annually, the 2002 list includes Finsbury Town Hall, the charnel house in Spitalfields, Horace Walpole’s Strawberry Hill, St George the Martyr Church in Southwark, All Saints Church, North Keston, in Lincolnshire and Apethorpe Hall, in Northamptonshire.

The Buildings at Risk Register can be viewed on the English Heritage web site.

Two skulls and the origins of mankind

The recent discovery of two fossil skulls has caused great excitement in the world of physical anthropology. The first, an example of *Homo erectus*, was found in Georgia, the former Soviet republic, and dates from 1.75 million years ago. The find site is significant as evidence that *Homo erectus* migrated further out of Africa, and at an earlier date, than had previously been understood.

But this find, announced on 8 July, was eclipsed two days later when the journal *Nature* published details of a fossil skull dating from six to seven million years ago with a chimpanzee-like braincase but with the flat face, prominent brow ridges and small teeth of a hominid. The discovery (along with fragments from at least four other individuals) was made by a team of scientists from the University of Poitiers led by Michel Brunet and Patrick Vignaud.

Perhaps more exciting than the great age of the fossil is its find site: the middle of the Djurab desert in northern Chad. Anthropologists previously thought that early hominid populations were only to be found in the area between modern South Africa and the Great Rift Valley. To find a new hominid species (formally named *Sahelanthropus tchadensis* after its find site) 1,000 miles

further east greatly expands the area for potentially fruitful palaeo-anthropological field work.

There is insufficient evidence to say whether *Sahelanthropus tchadensis* was bipedal, and it is unlikely that we are directly descended from the new species, but the dating of the fossil makes it a million years older than the previous known hominid, the six-million-year-old *Orrorin tugenensis*, and nearly twice as old as the four-million-year-old Australopithecus group of hominids. Genetic scientists have estimated that the split between hominids and apes probably occurred between ten and eight million years ago, so the discovery of *Sahelanthropus tchadensis* takes us very close to the point of human origin.

Images of England controversy

Critics of the *Images of England* project are claiming a partial victory in their campaign to prevent English Heritage from creating a freely accessible photographic database of all 370,000 listed buildings in England. Stirred up by press reports that the database represents a ‘burglar’s charter’, more than 600 homeowners have contacted English Heritage to complain that the pictures could be ‘used by criminals to plan break-ins’. This is despite the fact that the pictures are being taken from public land, so that the image that appears on the internet will match the view that could be seen by any passer-by.

In response to owners’ concerns, English Heritage has agreed that they can opt to delay the publication of the information for at least ten years. Nigel Clubb, the Director of English Heritage’s National Monuments Record in Swindon, which is organizing the Lottery-funded project, said that he had consulted the police and insurance companies and concluded that there was no extra risk of burglaries. He had, however, decided to bow to the concerns of homeowners by granting exemptions. ‘We have listened to homeowners and understood their concerns, even if it is only their perception of risk rather than a real risk,’ Mr Clubb said.

So far, 40,000 photographs have already been posted on the internet at <http://www.imagesofengland.org.uk>

Treasury silver to go to V & A

The Treasury has abandoned its attempts to sell an important collection of seventeenth-century silver, consisting of candlesticks, trays and wick trimmers, made for the Privy Council (the body of senior royal advisers which gradually lost power to the Cabinet system) during the reign of William and Mary. The Treasury was hoping that the collection would be purchased by a UK museum or gallery, but last week it announced that the historic pieces will be lent to the Victoria and Albert Museum in London instead.

News and views continued.....

The change of heart came about after a prolonged campaign by heritage and arts organizations against the sale of important relics of a crucial period in English constitutional history. Announcing the decision, Lord McIntosh of Haringey, a Treasury minister, said: 'The Treasury has agreed to transfer the items concerned to the Department of Culture, Media and Sport. That department will lend them to the Victoria and Albert Museum on condition that they are shared with appropriate regional institutions. The transfer will ensure that the items are available to public view for the first time in many years.'

Minister acts to protect historic shipwreck

On 18 July, Arts Minister, Baroness Blackstone, issued an urgent Designation Order to protect a North Yorkshire shipwreck believed to be the eighteenth-century American warship *Bonhomme Richard*. The ship, lying off Flamborough Head in Filey Bay, has caught the eye of salvagers and there are concerns that it may be stripped within days. The Minister's action prevents interference with the site without DCMS permission.

The *Bonhomme Richard*, commanded by John Paul Jones, was part of a small fleet of ships fighting the British in UK waters during the American Revolution. It was involved in the 1779 Battle of Flamborough Head with the *Serapis* and the *Countess of Scarborough*. After a long engagement, Jones captured the *Serapis* but the *Bonhomme Richard* sank. The engagement led to Jones becoming a national hero in the United States. He is now considered the 'father of the US navy'.

The Order, made under the Protection of Wrecks Act 1973, enables the wreck to be protected while further investigations take place and while wider consultation is held on whether the ship should be permanently designated as a historic wreck.

Ancient Monuments Act anniversary

The 18 August is a significant date for all antiquarians, marking as it does the 120th anniversary of the passing of the 1882 Ancient Monuments Act, the first modern conservation legislation to be passed by a British government, and the Act that introduced the concept of a scheduled ancient monument.

New national archives body

The Public Record Office and the Historical Manuscripts Commission are combining – from 1 April 2003 – to form a new national archives body to embrace both public and private archive networks. The new body, to be known as the National Archives, will report to the Lord Chancellor. Further information from the DCMS website:

<http://www.dcms.gov.uk/heritage/index.html>

New Forum to make archaeological archives more accessible

Twelve leading archaeological bodies are joining forces to create a new Archaeological Archives Forum, which will tackle the job of making archaeological archives easier to access.

The Forum held its inaugural meeting in May, and its Secretary is Kathy Perrin, author of the English Heritage report *Archaeological Archives; Access Documentation and Deposition: A Way Forward*. The Forum Chair is Hedley Swain, Head of the Department of Early London History and Collections at the Museum of London.

The provision of archaeological resource centres, digital access and archiving and training in post-excavation archiving are all high on the Forum's agenda. The Museum of London has provided a blueprint with the opening in February of its London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre in Mortimer Wheeler House.

Announcing the founding of the Forum, Kathy Perrin of English Heritage said that: 'Archaeological archives are amongst our greatest assets but their wealth is too often untapped and their potential unexplored. Stuck away in basements or remote storerooms, they can be inaccessible or even thought of as a nuisance. Once written up in academic publications or client reports the mass of material and information they represent seldom sees the light of day. The Forum hopes to change this by creating new standards of access and deposition. We want the archives to be a source of exciting interactive learning and research for everyone, from schoolchildren to professors.'

Further information can be found on the Forum's

New store for County Museum Collections

A new central store for the county's collections opens officially in October. The Museum Records Centre – a new industrial unit – is located near Barrow on Soar. Collections to be kept there include archaeology, geology, natural history, working life (agriculture and traditional crafts), family and home life, and costume. In due course the county's collection of paintings and drawings will also be included. There is an office available for researchers to come and study the collections on site. Initially this facility will be available of Wednesdays and Thursdays by prior appointment. There are no additional staff to make the collections available, and visits will involve making appointments with the existing curators.

The first Open Day, to which all members of the society are cordially invited, is on Saturday 26 October 2002.

News and views continued.....

web page hosted by the Council for British Archaeology web site at:

<http://www.britarch.ac.uk/archives/index.html>

Fifteenth-century ship found in Newport

Substantial remains of a fifteenth-century ship have been found buried in silt and mud on the banks of the River Usk in Newport, South Wales. The ship was found by the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust during excavations in advance of the building of a theatre pit for a new arts centre.

With echoes of the Rose Theatre discovery in 1989 (which led to the drafting of PPG 16), the local authority in Newport has courted controversy by saying that the discovery must not be allowed to stand in the way of construction work, and that excavation must be complete by mid-August.

Local people have responded by forming the 'Save our Ship' campaign, while archaeologists have expressed astonishment at the authority's failure to appreciate the importance of the find. Dai Morgan Evans, General Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries, was quoted in the Guardian as saying: 'This is the Welsh Mary Rose – it is shameful that a ship of such importance is not going to be preserved, and incomprehensible that the Welsh authorities are showing so little interest in their history'.

Leading maritime archaeologists, including Charles Barker, Director of the Mary Rose Trust, and Sean McGrail, FSA, Professor of Maritime Archaeology at the University of Southampton, have called for thorough excavation under controlled conditions, followed by conservation and display.

Nigel Nayling, of the University of Wales, Lampeter, an expert on ancient boats, said that the find was unique in Britain and it was one of a handful of such ships in Europe. The contents include Portuguese pottery, a stone cannonball, textiles (including the hem of a medieval robe), oak barrels, and rarely found remains of the original rigging, sails and upper deck, which are usually washed away in seabed wrecks. For further details, with pictures, see the BBC website at:

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/wales/2183191.stm>

Latest News

As we go to press we have just heard that on 23 August the Welsh Assembly intervened at the last moment to save the ship from the bulldozers by allocating £3.5 million for the ship's excavations, conservation and display. Full details of this announcement can be found at:

<http://www.newport.gov.uk/news/>

The Vinland Map

Instinctively one has always known that it was a forgery, but only now has historian Kirsten Seaver come up with an explanation for the origins of the Vinland Map, which Fellow Peter Barber, head of map collections at the British Library, has endorsed as 'persuasive'.

Discovered in 1957, the map purports to be the work of Norse explorers who sailed to the Hudson Bay and the Gulf of St Lawrence in 1440, half a century before Columbus reached the West Indies. The parchment on which the map is drawn is genuinely fifteenth-century, and archaeological discoveries have since confirmed that Viking sailors did indeed travel to North America as early as the tenth century, where they established fur-trading settlements.

Set against this evidence is the fact that the Vinland Map ink contains a mineral called anatase, not used before the 1920s. Kirsten Seaver believes the map was, in fact, created by Fr Joseph Fischer, an Austrian Jesuit, after he discovered a blank piece of parchment in a fifteenth-century manuscript of the *Speculum Historiale*, which was acquired between 1931 and 1943 by the Stella Matutina Jesuit College in Feldkirch, Austria. Faint traces remain on the map of the College's faded library stamp. Various other clues point to Fischer as the author, not least the similarity of his handwriting to that on the map, and the fact that Fischer was an authority on fifteenth-century maps.

Why did he do it? According to Seaver, Fischer forged the map, which shows New World settlements with names based on those of Christian saints, in the hope of undermining Nazi propaganda, which was anti-Catholic, and sought to associate the Third Reich with ancient Nordic culture. Had the map been found by the German authorities, it would have appealed to their sense of the superiority of Nordic culture, but it would also have confirmed the greater superiority and authority of the Church.

The origins of European chess

Richard Hodges, of the University of East Anglia, has discovered an ivory chesspiece in Albania which suggests that Europeans started playing the game during the sixth century AD, considerably earlier than previously thought. Dug from the remains of a Byzantine palace at Butrint, the piece has a small cross on top, and could be a king or queen. The game originated in Asia around the fifth century AD.

Most of the above items and those on pages 2-3, have, with permission, been taken from the Society of Antiquaries Online Newsletter.

VICE-ADMIRAL SIR GEOFFREY BIGGS, K.C.B. (died 29 June 2002)

Members may have noted in *THE TIMES* of 12 July the obituary of this distinguished naval officer, a submarine commander, 'who displayed verve and skill in the close-quarters cat and mouse manoeuvres of the Cold War'. If so, they may also have noted the omission of any reference to his family, apart from the fact that his father, Sir Hilary Worthington Biggs, was also a Vice-Admiral. This omission is a pity, from the point of view of students of Leicester's History, since they were direct descendants of the Biggs family which was so prominent in Victorian Leicester. Sir Hilary was the great-grandson of William Biggs, one of the three brothers who had made the hosiery firm of John Biggs and Sons, founded by their father in 1827, into one of the most substantial in Leicester.

William Biggs did not enjoy the popularity of his elder brother John, who is commemorated by the statue erected by public subscription and now standing in Welford Place in Leicester; but he exerted as considerable an influence on the commercial, political and spiritual life of this town. As a young man he had been a leading agitator for parliamentary reform and the reform of civic government. He was elected to the first reformed town council and remained a member for some thirty years. In that period he served three times as mayor of Leicester. He also served as a member of Parliament (not for Leicester, however, as his brother John had precedence there, but for Newport. I. O.W.). In religion William, like his brothers, was a Unitarian and a member of the Great Meeting congregation, which, for much of the century, contained a large element of the town's elite. His religious affiliation was confirmed by his marriage to Mary Worthington. (Their sons all carried the name Worthington as well as Biggs). Mary was herself an educated and literate woman and it is not surprising that she and William took good care of their children's schooling. At least two of their sons finished off with a year at a college in Paris.

When the family hosiery business was sold in 1862 William's sons were well-equipped to succeed in new careers as cotton brokers in Liverpool. Of these the most successful 'in both business and politics was the fourth son, Arthur Worthington Biggs. He married into the notable Cheshire family of Holland, became one of the leading Liberals of Liverpool and received a knighthood after the Liberal electoral success of 1906. Of Sir Arthur's children Charles William is of particular interest as he was the first of the family to adopt a military profession. He rose to the rank of Lt. Col. in the Royal Engineers. Rear Admiral Sir

Hilary was his son, born in 1905; but another of his sons, Michael Worthington Biggs was commissioned in the Royal Engineers and rose to the rank of Brigadier.

For the most part the Biggs family seems to have had little taste for the military professions. Admittedly John Biggs the elder, founder of the family fortunes in Leicester seems at one time to have served with the Leicestershire Yeomanry, but that was probably the result of the special conditions of the Napoleonic period. The Crimean War did not arouse any such active response in Leicester in marked

contrast to the less serious crisis created in 1859 and the years immediately following by fear of the revival of French military power under the Emperor Napoleon III which led to the formation of Volunteer units, particular in the form of Rifle Corps. This brought William Biggs himself into action. Too old himself to volunteer he used his position as Mayor to encourage the formation of a Volunteer Rifle Corps in Leicester and achieved considerable success. Perhaps some of the success of the movement arose out of the social

opportunities offered by the Volunteer camps that were one of its features. Another feature that attracted volunteers was the opportunity afforded for rifle-shooting, a sport that required expensive equipment and careful supervision. Rifle shooting competitions became quite common and shooting matches were a frequent feature of these units. At least two of William's sons became prize shots and one of them even distinguished himself at international competitions.

Rupert Evans

Leisure in the Midlands A Midlands History conference

Midland History is organising a one-day conference entitled **Leisure in the Midlands** in association with Vaughan College on Saturday 16th November 2002 at Vaughan College when papers will be given on:

- Hare-pie scrambling and bottle-kicking in Hallaton
- Hunting in the Midlands during Henry VIII's reign
- Youth leisure in Nottingham and Coventry, 1920-1960
- Industrial welfare and recreation, Boots Co, 1883-1945

The cost is £15 which will include coffee, buffet lunch and tea. Concessions available.

For further details and to book a place, contact Janice Avery, Department of History, University of Nottingham, Nottingham, NG7 2RD

Friends of Charnwood Museum

Visitors are invited to meetings of the Friends of Charnwood Museum which take place in the Charnwood Museum, Granby Street, Loughborough. They start at 7.30pm and finish at about 9.00pm. They include:

Friday 13th September 2002

Hathernware Terracotta

Geoff Hollis of Ibstock Hathernware Ltd

Friday 11th October 2002

Framework knitting and the factory system in Loughborough

Professor Stanley Chapman

Friday 15th November 2002

Children in Victorian Leicestershire

Ian Keil

Friday 10th January 2003

Aeroplanes from Loughborough

Tony Jarrom

Friday 7th February 2003

Leicestershire's Environmental Records Centre

Carolyn Holmes

Friday 14th March 2003

The archaeology of Mountsorrel Hill

Fred Hartley

Vaughan Archaeological & Historical Society

Oct 25	Victorian Vices	Cynthia Brown
Nov 29	The Leicesters at Ladysmith	Robin Jenkins
Jan 17	Ashby Canal	Geoff Pursglove
Feb 14	19th century Enderby	Mark Carne
Mar 14	Victorian Towns	Richard Rodgers
Apr 19	Digging up Leicester	Alan McWhirr

Meetings begin at 7.17pm and are held at Vaughan College, Leicester. Visitors are welcome and invited to contribute £1.

The Leicestershire and Rutland Archaeological Network

The Network was set up in 1996, to improve the flow of information about archaeological discoveries between Leicestershire County Council's Museums, Arts and Records Service (now the Heritage Services section of the Community Services Department) and local communities throughout Leicestershire and Rutland. Volunteers are invited to come forward to take on the role of Parish Archaeological Warden; they can approach either the Archaeology Section of Heritage Services, or the Parish/Town Council or Meeting for the area they wish to serve. The appointment is made by the latter and ratified by Heritage Services.

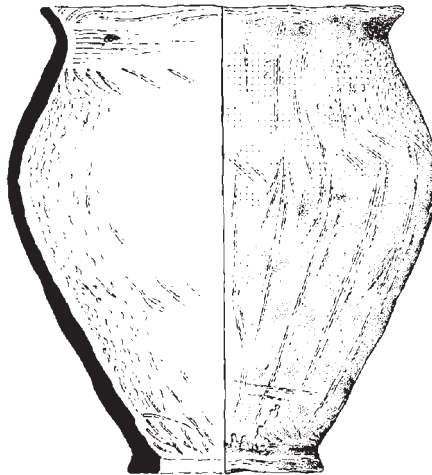
The idea is that wardens act as the 'eyes and ears' of Heritage Services. They are issued with a summary of the archaeological Sites and Monuments Record for their parish, an Information Pack, and some ideas as to how they might find out more about the archaeology of their parish. Many wardens are experienced amateur archaeologists, with a background in fieldwalking, local history studies or metal detector prospecting. Others have no previous experience. Training is offered in the identification of finds, particularly ceramics and flint, and finds from their area can be viewed by appointment at the Services' new Collections Resources Centre near Barrow-upon-Soar.

There are at present a hundred parishes that do not have an Archaeological Warden, and many others where there is an opportunity to take up a joint role with the warden in post. If you would like to become a Parish Archaeological Warden, or represent a Council or Meeting interested in making an appointment, or would simply like more information about the Network or any aspect of the archaeology of Leicestershire or Rutland, please contact the Assistant Keeper Archaeology of Heritage Services, Richard Pollard at:

Leicestershire County Council Heritage Services, Suite 4, Bridge Park Plaza, Bridge Park Road, Thurmaston, Leicester LE4 8BL. You can telephone Richard on 0116 264 5803, or e-mail him at rpollard@leics.gov.uk

Iron Age pottery making and trade in Leicestershire

Archaeologists based at University of Leicester Archaeological Services and Trent and Peak Archaeological Unit have combined forces in an effort to understand more about pottery containing Charnwood igneous rocks in the Iron Age. Granodiorite inclusions of Charnwood origin are well known in Saxon pottery from the East Midlands, but more recent research has located similar inclusions in Bronze Age and Iron Age pottery from sites in Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire and Northamptonshire. These seem likely to have been added as temper and suggest an extensive trade in pottery and possibly raw materials from sites in the Mountsorrel area to later prehistoric settlements distributed over a wide area of the Midlands. Finds made during quarrying at Mountsorrel Hill from the nineteenth century would support the case for substantial later prehistoric activity, although early pottery production sites have yet to be located.



As part of this project David Knight (Trent and Peak Archaeological Unit), Patrick Marsden (University of Leicester Archaeological Services) and John Carney (British Geological Survey) visited the Mountsorrel area recently. The aim of this was to examine potential sources of the granitic rocks added to the pottery. In Buddon Wood rocks were located on the surface at The Coppice and Rowhele Wood (see below). Some of the fragments broke up in the hand and would be very suitable for using as temper in the pottery. Suitable clays were also located

nearby. Geological evidence indicates that the granitic rocks of Mountsorrel do not survive in great quantities any distance away from the outcrops themselves. However, recent excavations by ULAS at Humberstone, Leicester, retrieved pieces of granodiorite from archaeological deposits. Such rocks are not present in the local clays. Their discovery therefore could imply the transportation of rocks to the site from the Mountsorrel area and the addition of granodiorite to locally made pots.

So how far was the pottery traded? It has been found as far away as Northamptonshire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire but is mainly concentrated near Mountsorrel in the Soar Valley of Leicestershire. Bronze Age and Iron Age sites in Leicestershire that have produced this pottery include: Wanlip, Kirby Muxloe, Eye Kettleby, Enderby and Lockington. Such temper may have been added for technological reasons – perhaps to strengthen the pot during firing or to prevent fracturing during cooking – but the reasons for its popularity remain enigmatic. Whatever the answer, the discovery of exotic

temper over a wide area of the East Midlands provides a rare and fascinating glimpse into the complex relationships between later prehistoric settlements in this region.

Patrick Marsden and David Knight

Above: Middle Iron Age pot from excavations at Wanlip, Leicestershire, containing pieces of granodiorite.

Church brasses now tragetted by thieves

A brass has been stolen, this time from Fairford Church, in Gloucestershire, where a depiction of the Holy Trinity was removed from the upper part of the brass to Sir Edmund Tame (died 1534, son of the wool-merchant founder of Fairford church) on 24 August 2002. One of the church's sixteen misericords was also stolen. Depicting scenes from fable, the misericords were donated to the church by Sir Edmund, and may well have come from Cirencester Abbey.

For further information, including a picture of the stolen brass, see the Monumental Brass Society's

website at: www.mbs-brasses.co.uk/latest_news <http://www.mbs-brasses.co.uk/latest_news> .

If anyone sees this brass offered for sale, either in the UK or abroad (stolen brasses may pass quickly through a succession of dealers before being offered for open sale), please alert the MBS, who are in touch with the parish. Contact either: The MBS Secretary, Lowe Hill House, Stratford St Mary, Suffolk CO7 6JX, tel: 01206 337239 or e-mail

Martin.stuchfield@intercitygroup.co.uk

Changes to the Treasure Act

Two legal instruments relating to the Treasure Act of 1996 were passed on Tuesday 16 July by the Sixth Standing Committee on Delegated Legislation in the House of Commons. DCMS Minister Richard Caborn was given approval to introduce two changes to the Act. The first extends the definition of Treasure to include hoards of prehistoric base-metal objects (other than coins) and any object of prehistoric date (other than a coin), any part of which is gold or silver. The aim of this change is to bring within the scope of the Act finds such as the unique hoard of over 600 bronze artefacts (axes, miniature shields, etc) recently looted by two metal-detector users from a site near Salisbury. The objects appeared on the market and the find was only tracked down through the detective work of the curator at the British Museum. Under the terms of the new Order, such a find would be treasure and thus Crown property and its legal status would be clear.

The second amendment was made to introduce a revised Code of Practice, which sets out policy on the payment of rewards, arrangements for the acquisition of objects and the valuation of Treasure by the Treasure Valuation Committee. The Code, which has effect in England and Wales, also provides improved

guidance for finders, museums, coroners and others who are concerned with Treasure. In particular, the new Code contains guidance designed to speed up target times so that finders and landowners are not inconvenienced more than necessary.

Admitting that there had been delays to the administration of Treasure cases in the past because of the volume of finds involved, Richard Caborn announced that two new posts have been created at DCMS (bringing the total to three). In addition, he welcomed the appointment by the British Museum of a Treasure Registrar in October 2001. The job of the Treasure Registrar is to co-ordinate all Treasure cases from England up to inquest; after that responsibility passes to the Treasure team in DCMS. Early indications are that the Treasure Registrar is already having a substantial impact on the administration of Treasure cases up to inquest.

Both amendments to the Treasure Act will now go to the House of Lords, where it is expected that they will be passed at the beginning of the next session of Parliament. Once approved, the new Code of Practice will be disseminated widely and will appear on the DCMS website.

What do you know about this church?



This picture was taken by the Honorary Secretary when the area west of the Soar was being cleared for redevelopment in Leicester during the 1970s(?). Who can provide details of the building for the next *Newsletter*? What was the name of the church, who was the architect, when was it built, what demonination?

Leicester Past and Present: Migration and the Making of the Modern City

**The Society in partnership with Vaughan College, University of Leicester,
is organising a day school at Vaughan College on Saturday 12th October
from 10.00am – 5.30pm**

This day school will examine the issue of migration, and explore the historical context for and the impact of migration on the City of Leicester in the 19th and 20th centuries. Papers will be given by experts in the field and there will be opportunities for discussion and for local people and community groups to share their experiences.

For further information see the Society's web site: <http://www.le.ac.uk/archaeology/lahs/lahs.html>

Special fee: £10 (includes refreshments) and registration via Vaughan College

Provisional list of Speakers and Topics

Cynthia Brown	Recording migration - oral testimony and the historical record
Ms Kathy Burrell	Moving Lives: Migration Stories – Polish, Italian and Greek-Cypriot communities in Leicester
Dr Nessun Danaher	The Irish in Leicester
Ms Jo Herbert	Voices and strategies: experiences of first generation 'Asians' living in Leicester
Dr John Martin	Asian Leicester – the built environment (?)
Prof Aubrey Newman	Jewish community in Leicester
Prof Panikos Panayi	The influence of Asian cuisine
Prof Gurhpal Singh	The making of a multicultural city
Cllr Ross Willmott	Migration, voting patterns, and ethnic minority councillors

Abstracts

Ms Jo Herbert

Voices and strategies: experiences of first generation 'Asians' living in Leicester

Leicester is currently celebrated as a diverse and multi-cultural city, yet in the 1970s it was a focus for racial hostility and racist politics. This paper will explore the perceptions and attitudes of first generation 'Asians' living in the city, specifically their experiences of racism and their responses to this. For example, was racism all pervasive and part of every day life? Was it evident in certain areas? Or, was discrimination simply not a problem? If they have encountered racism did they accept or challenge the situation? Research is based on oral history archives and life history interviews with 'Asians' from different backgrounds. Findings reveal that experiences were influenced by various factors including country of origin, class, gender, timing of arrival, and language ability. Often racism was not the defining problem, but other difficulties such as economic struggles, a decline in their quality of life and perceived materialism and individualism within British society were more important issues. Finally the interviews highlight the importance of social networks as a resource to overcome adversities and exclusion. These include the family, community associations and relations with 'white' individuals as a vital means of solidarity, support, and guidance.

Professor Aubrey Newman

The Jewish Community in Leicester

The Jewish community in Leicester has its origins in the mid-nineteenth century when traders came into the borough to participate in the growing textile trades. It grew slowly until the end of the century when its numbers increased as a result of the arrival of Jewish refugees from persecution in Russia. In the twentieth century, Jews arrived partly from Germany and partly as a result of Government-sponsored evacuation schemes from London. At its height there were possibly 1000 members of the community. Despite its small size it has always played a significant part in the prosperity and life of the wider community. Sir Israel Hart was four times Mayor of Leicester in the nineteenth century, while Cecil Harris and Sir Mark Henig served as Lord Mayor in the years after World War II.

Kathy Burrell

Moving Lives: Migration Stories and the Polish, Italian and Greek-Cypriot communities in Leicester

This paper seeks to put the spotlight on three of the smaller, less obvious migrant communities in Leicester, illustrating both the diversity of Leicester's migrant population, and the wide range of experiences that can be associated with migration. Drawing from over fifty oral history interviews, the paper will consider the differences between the migration routes taken by the three groups, focusing particularly on the Polish experience of forced migration. Furthermore, the paper will stress the significance of the

links maintained with the homeland from Leicester, looking at how these connections are made, and how they have changed over time. All in all, the paper seeks to demonstrate a range of issues: the diversity of migrant experiences, the ongoing connections with the homeland that are not severed by migration, and particularly in light of current asylum debates, the importance of finding sanctuary for refugees.

Professor Gurharpal Singh, University of Hull

The current debate on the development of Britain as a multicultural society has tended to become polarised between two schools of thought: that represented by the report on the Commission on the Future of Multi-Ethnic Britain (2002) and the widespread opposition to the report's recommendations as evident in popular discourse. Seen against the background of urban riots in northern industrial towns last year, the controversy over asylum seekers and, since September the 11th, the rise of Islamophobia, this debate has become more and more detached and attenuated from the need to maintain a balance between the disadvantage and discrimination encountered by ethnic minorities in Britain and their success in achieving a significant degree of adaptation and development.

The City of Leicester once described by a local historian 'as wholly uninteresting', and by J.B. Priestly as 'lacking in character', is now internationally recognised as a model of civic multiculturalism, and describes itself as a 'place of many surprises'. This transformation of a provincial East Midland's market town after the Second World War into a vibrant multicultural city that has received United Nations' recognition has taken several decades. Today Leicester's ethnic minority population is approaching 40 per cent of the total population, and is expected to exceed 50 per cent by 2010. 45 per cent of the current school population in primary and secondary schools is from ethnic minorities, who are increasingly attracted to Leicester not only from other locations in Britain but also the European Union. Moreover, Leicester is synonymous with a thriving Asian business sector, a rich cultural environment, and as the centre of Asian festivals. Leicester is popularly seen as, and officially views itself as, a prosperous city that has developed a relatively successful approach to managing ethnic diversity and promoting tolerance.

What are the lessons to be learnt from the Leicester case-study of civic multiculturalism? Can these be replicated elsewhere? And what are the shortcomings of the Leicester example?

This presentation will seek to address these questions against the wider background of the academic and policy debate about multiculturalism in Britain.

**Remember to register for this
day-school with Vaughan College**

East Midlands Landscape

**A Day Conference on
SATURDAY 26th OCTOBER 2002**

10.00am-5.00pm, School of Archaeology and Ancient
History, University of Leicester

*Organised by The Society for Landscape Studies, in
association with the School of Archaeology and Ancient
History, University of Leicester*



PROGRAMME

Introduction: The East Midlands and the Landscape
Dr Anthony Brown

Prehistoric landscapes of the Derbyshire Peak District
Ken Smith

Current research on Roman landscapes of the East
Midlands *Dr Jeremy Taylor*

Castles in the East Midlands Landscape
Dr Oliver Creighton

The Whittlewood Project
Dr Richard Jones

Battlefield landscapes
Glenn Foard

English Heritage Research Frameworks and the East
Midlands Landscape *Nick Cooper*

Fee: £15 per person. Morning coffee and an afternoon cup of tea are included in the cost of the conference. Facilities will be available on campus at lunch-time for the purchase of hot food, sandwiches and drinks.

To book a place contact:

Dr Jeremy Taylor, School of Archaeology & Ancient
History, University of Leicester, Leicester, LE1 7RH
Email: jt38@le.ac.uk



News from the Librarian

Thus summer has seen a 'first' for the library. Bob Trubshaw, a long-standing friend of the society, has donated his recently produced CD-ROMs which have considerable local interest. *Interactive Little-Known Leicestershire and Rutland* (£14.95 1872883 53 2) has information about 230 villages and towns on such topics as holy wells, standing stones and crosses. It has photographs, essays, indexes and a bibliography. *Interactive Gargoyles and Grottesque Carvings of Leicestershire and Rutland* (£11.75 1872883 57 5) is self-explanatory. All the photographs and text on this CD-ROM are included on the first, but this one will be of use to those interested in such stonework irrespective of location. Both CD-ROMs may be purchased from Heart of Albion Press, 2 Cross Hill Close, Wymeswold, Leics. LE12 6UJ.

A new local journal has just commenced publication and a file has been started in the library. *Ashby-de-la-Zouch Past and Present*: the journal of the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Museum is a miscellany of prose with poetry and local memories with more formal historical research. Sample articles include Origins of Primitive Methodism in Ashby, Ashby local families: the Cutters, Turk's Head and Turk's head Yard: a preliminary inquiry, Rene's Ashby. This well-presented magazine will be essential reading for anyone interested in Ashby. Copies of issue 1 (Dec 2001) and 2 (June 2002) can be purchased for £3 each, plus postage from Past and Present, Ashby Museum, North Street, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, LE65 1HU.

A new book that is proving to be popular and arousing much interest is *Birds Eye Wartime Leicestershire 1939-1945*: a synoptic view of wartime Leicestershire maps and Luftwaffe, U.S.A.A.F. and R.A.F. aerial photographs, by T.C. Cartwright, 2002. A copy has kindly been donated to the library by Mr C. Cartwright. This fascinating, well-illustrated and attractive book is available from TCC Publications, 6 The Woodland, Wigston, LE18 3QE for £9.95 plus £1.00 postage and packing ISBN 0953449718.

Other books recently added to stock of the library include: Bailey, R. ed. *Reflections: Lutterworth and District Age Concern book of millennium memories*. 2002
Brandwood, G.K. *Bringing them to their knees: church-building and restoration in Leicestershire and Rutland 1800-1914*. 2002 This was referred to in the Spring issue of this Newsletter.

Cox, B. *Place-names of Leicestershire*. Pt 2 Framland Hundred. 2002

Cox, M.L. *Story of Higham-on-the-Hill: the centre of England*. 2002

Leicester City Council *Short History of Braunstone Park*.

2001

Leicester City Council *Short History of Evington Park*. 2001
McKenna, A.J. *Looking back at Old Dalby*. 1992

Martin, T.R. *Short guide to the parish church of St Michael and All Angels and parish of Thurmaston*. 3rd ed. 2000

Scott, P. *St Philip's church Leicester: a short illustrated history*. 2001

Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings *Report*. 2001

Warren, H.F. *History of the Hinckley Urban District Council 1895-1974*. 1981

Periodicals

The library has been sent by English Heritage copies of issues 2 (Spring 2002) and 3 (Summer 2002) of a new national journal *CfA News*: the newsletter of the Centre for Archaeology. It is similar in format to the *Conservation Bulletin* and has some interest subject matter. Issue 1 is to be reprinted and sent in due course.

The usual extensive range of titles continues to arrive: a few with articles of particular local interest are listed here:

Ancient Monuments Society Transactions. Vol. 46 Essays for R.W. Brunskill

Birmingham and Warwickshire Archaeological Society Vol. 102. Mancetter village, a first-century fortress.

Community History Newsletter (pub Leicester City Libraries)

Conservation Bulletin March 2002. Open field in the East Midlands.

Down to Earth Leicestershire Archaeological News.

Hinckley Historian (courtesy of Phillip Lindley of Hinckley Library to whom our thanks are due).

Historical Research Aug. 2002 Historians in 'the liberal hour': Lawrence Stone and J.H. Plumb revisited.

Network News (Leicestershire and Rutland Archaeology Network).

Finally a reminder that back copies of *Transactions*, *Leicestershire Historian*, off-prints, and other Society publications can be purchased from the library at the Guildhall during regular opening times.

Aubrey Stevenson
Honorary Librarian

Donations to the Library are always welcome

Letter

Dear Editor

A friend lent me a copy of your Spring Newsletter with its article on the possible Roman road at Hallaton. This raised great interest at our Harborough area meeting and we traced the suggested lines, finding that much of it was on bridleways, footpaths or roads, with breaks at watercourses such as the Welland and Horninghold Brook.

We looked at the northwards line suggested by Chris Royall and thought that, whilst Tugby and perhaps Skeffington were the next 'targets', the track was unlikely to have gone to both Cold Newton and Loseby. From Tugby the route could have either gone to Skeffington and Cold Newton or – just as likely – up to Tilton on the bridleway which is marked on new OS maps as part of the *Midshires Way*. We must not forget that Hallaton was an important medieval market town and Tilton – judging from the number of roads and tracks going to it – was probably almost as important.

Whether the route went through Cold Newton or Tilton, it is likely that it continued NW on the unsurfaced road and bridleway used by the *Midshires Way* and then headed for Barkby Holt and the Ridgemere into Syston, where it would have joined the Fosse Way. So this is probably an ancient Roman 'rat run' between the Fosse and the Gartree Road to avoid Ratae!

Was there a continuation across the Wreake/Soar valley to join the A6 – the apparently ancient Leicester-Derby road? And if our route went northwards on the east side of the Soar it would have met the ancient 'salt road' from Grantham (and beyond) past Belvoir Castle to Barrow-on-Soar – an important medieval manor. This crossed the Soar on 'old' Slash Lane (now a bridleway) to get to Mountsorrel, a linked manor, lying on the Derby road. From there one can trace a route to Rothley's Town Green and through Thurcaston to Anstey with its ancient packhorse bridge, allegedly lying on another ancient road north out of Leicester and, of course, adjacent to Bradgate House and its Park.

Much of this is still in use today. Ancient roads and tracks must be one of the most enduring features of our landscape but are a relatively unrecognised part of our heritage. Those of us who use hooves (or feet) to get around in the antique way, are aware that Leicestershire has a wealth of routes heading generally eastwards, possibly salt roads – Saltersford Bridge carries the A47 over the Humberstone Brook just by the 'Trocadero' junction. Also there are many routes which may be older than Roman. Has anyone traced the Iron Age route from Burrough Hill fort to the Trent? Sandy Lane comes from Burrough to the South side of Melton – what happens next?

We also have a heritage of 'meres' or boundary tracks. A few years ago I was putting together a route to enable horseriders to ride the boundaries of Leicestershire and Rutland. Although there were some difficult stretches, it was amazing how much of the boundary is on roads and tracks (but we don't want to ride down Watling Street nowadays!).

Wymondham is a parish that has – or rather had – a virtually complete set of boundary tracks, apart from a short stretch where the boundary is a brook but with a parallel road. The rot set in when Stapleford Park was enclosed, although the track must have been and may still be there, as one can see from old railway bridges on the parish boundary. Just recently another stretch was lost when a boundary bridleway was diverted. Originally double-hedged, one hedge went as we 'Dug for Victory', the other more recently. Now zig-zagging across a ploughed field, modern 'convenience' moved the bridleway to the field edge. No-one from the parish – or any of the historical groups – objected to this loss of our heritage.

However this heritage – and in particular the lost and now almost invisible parts of it – is now under an even greater threat. The Countryside & Rights of Way (CROW) Act 2000 gave us only 25 years (until early 2026) to research and claim any 'Lost Ways'. After that they are lost for ever. This is in direct conflict with the ancient legal maxim "once a highway, always a highway" and is rather like saying that any parish church not used every Sunday must be demolished. But because ancient routes are flat rather than upstanding and obvious, the magnitude of the threat to our heritage is unrecognised.

As well as looking at their maps for 'in line' roads, rights of way, hedgelines and parish boundaries, would any local historians be willing to help with a systematic search in Record Offices for these 'lost ways' so that we can ensure our heritage is preserved? A plan of action has been put to the Countryside Agency and the Government for doing this work so that is done consistently nation-wide and we are awaiting both a decision and – it is hoped – some financial help. In the meantime, we desperately need to get a team together to do the work, advise on other sources of information and monitor the quality of the results.

If anyone is willing to help, please contact me.

Yours sincerely

Vicky Allen Chairman Leicestershire & Rutland
Bridleways Association.

e-mail: vicky.allen@freeuk.com

[We had another interesting letter from member John Marlow, but it was too long to include. Thank you John.]

Minutes of the 146th Annual General meeting of the Society held at The Guildhall, Leicester, 22nd November 2001

Squire Gerard de Lisle Vice-President, took the chair

Forty-six members of the Society were present.

1. **Apologies:**

Mrs K Gowland, Mrs H McWhirr, Revd H Lockley, Professor M Palmer, Dr D L Wykes.

2. **Minutes of the 145th Annual General Meeting held on 27th November 2000**

With a minor correction relating to item 4, the Minutes of the meeting were approved as a correct record of that meeting and signed by the Vice-President.

3. **The 146th Annual Report by the Chairman of the Committee, Mr R H Evans**

The chairman, Mr R.H.Evans presented a report of the Society's activities during the previous twelve months. The committee had met on five occasions during that period and the average attendance was eleven. During the year the Society had lost one of its senior members and a Vice-President with the death of Professor Jack Simmons. The past year saw the Society's Honorary Treasurer, Mr M Johnson, honoured by the Vatican with his enrolment as a Papal Knight of the Order of Saint Gregory. Although this award was chiefly for services in other areas it was the first time such an honour had been bestowed upon a member of the Society. The chairman was also pleased to report on the continued success of all three publications produced annually by the Society. Reference was also made to the work of the Society's Historic Buildings Panel which continued to meet fortnightly to give opinion on planning applications relating to listed buildings in various parts of Leicestershire and Rutland. The motion to accept the 146th Annual Report was proposed by Dr G.T. Rimmington and seconded by Mr R. Rutland and approved unanimously.

4. **Annual Accounts for the year ended 30th April 2001**

Copies of the audited accounts were available for members on arrival at the meeting. The Honorary Treasurer reviewed the accounts for the year. The adoption of the accounts was proposed by Mrs J. North and seconded by Mr D. H. Smith and unanimously approved.

5. **Honorary Auditor**

The Honorary Treasurer proposed, and Mr S.H. Billson seconded, that Messrs K P M G Peat, Marwick and McLintock in the person of Mr Michael Lane, be invited to continue to serve as the Society's auditors. This was unanimously approved by the meeting.

6. **Election of President of the Society**

It was proposed by the chairman that Mr T G M Brooks be invited to continue to serve as President of the Society. This was unanimously approved.

7. **Election of Vice-Presidents**

It was proposed by the Honorary Secretary that the existing vice-presidents as listed on the agenda paper, with the addition of the name of Dr D. Wykes and the deletion of the late Prof Jack Simmons, be re-elected. The proposal was seconded by Dr G.T. Rimmington and unanimously approved.

8. **Election of Officers**

It was proposed by Mr R Rutland that the existing officers as listed on the agenda paper be re-elected. This was seconded by Mrs J. North and approved by the meeting.

9. **Election of Committee**

The chairman proposed the re-election of all members of the committee as listed on the agenda paper. This was agreed.

10. **Other Business**

None

In bringing the formal part of the meeting to a close the Honorary Secretary recorded members' thanks to those providing refreshments and also to Squire de Lisle for chairing the meeting.

Squire de Lisle responded by drawing members' attention to the initiative to revive work on the Victoria County History of Leicestershire and also to programme of proposed works being undertaken at Grace Dieu Priory ruins.

Mrs Cynthia Brown then gave a presentation on the work of the East Midlands Oral History Archive.

Please bring these minutes and the agenda
with you to the AGM

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 147th Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on Thursday 21st November 2002 at 7.30pm in the Guildhall, Leicester

AGENDA

[Please bring this agenda with you to the AGM]

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the 146th Annual General Meeting held on 22nd November 2001
3. Presentation of the Annual Report for 2001-2002 - The Chairman Mr R.H. Evans
4. Adoption of the Annual Report
5. Presentation of the Accounts for the year 2001-2002 - Honorary Treasurer Mr M. Johnson
6. Adoption of the Accounts
7. Appointment of Auditors
8. Election of President
9. Election of Vice-Presidents
10. Election of Officers
11. Election of Committee
12. Honorary Secretary
13. Any other businesss (to be communicated to the Honorary Secretary by 1st November 2002)

After the formal part of the AGM there will be a presentation by Dr Andrew Lacey who will describe the Special Collections in the University of Leicester library.

Officers of the Society 2001-2		Vice-Presidents of the Society 2001-2	
Honorary Treasurer	Mr M. Johnson	The High Sheriff of Leicestershire	
Honorary Secretary	Dr A.D. McWhirr	The Chairman of Leicestershire County Council	
Honorary Librarian	Mr A.W. Stevenson	The Lord Mayor of Leicester	
Honorary Membership Sec	Mr G. Clark-Monks	Professor P.J. Boylan	Mr L. Fox
Honorary Newsletter Sec	Mrs K.E. Gowland	Mr R.J.B. Keene	Squire G. de Lisle
Honorary Buildings Panel Sec	Mr R.H. Evans	Mr O.D. Lucas	Miss J.E. Mellor
Honorary Lecture Secs	Dr A.K.B.Evans	Mrs W.A. North	Dr K.M. Thompson
	Mrs S. Rutland	Dr D.L. Wykes	
Honorary Minuting Secretary	Mr D.H. Smith		
Honorary Editors Transactions			
- Archaeology	Mr R. Buckley	Members of the Committee 2001-2	
- History	Dr J. Story	Ms J Bourne	Mr R. Clark
Honorary Editor Leics Historian	Mrs H. Edwards	Mr R.F. Hartley	Mr C. Harrison
		Professor M. Palmer	Dr D. Parsons
		Mr D. Ramsey	Dr G.T. Rimmington
		Mr R.T. Schadla-Hall	
		Plus the officers	

Lecture Programme 2002-3

Thursday 10th October 2002 7.30pm

**This lecture is in the Victorian Gallery,
New Walk Museum**

**The Leicester Mummies: scientific studies of life, disease
and death in ancient Egypt**

Rosalie David, B.A., Ph.D., F.R.S.A.

Professor and Keeper of Egyptology, The Manchester
Museum, University of Manchester

Thursday 24th October 2002 7.30pm

Shopping in the Middle Ages

Christopher C. Dyer, B.A., Ph.D., F.B.A., F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S.

Professor and Director, Centre for English Local History,
University of Leicester

Thursday 7th November 2002 7.30pm

**Brian Allison Memorial Lecture
Victorian villas in Leicester**

Grant Pitches M.A., A.R.I.B.A

Lecturer in architectural history,
Institute of Continuing Education,
University of Cambridge

Thursday 21st November 2002 7.30pm

**Annual General Meeting
at the Guildhall, Leicester**

Followed by a presentation by Dr Andrew Lacy on the
Special Collections in the University of Leicester Library

Thursday 5th December 2002 7.30pm

Exploring Leicestershire's churchyards

Alan McWhirr, B.Sc., M.A., Ph.D., F.S.A., M.I.F.A.

Honorary Secretary of the Society

Thursday 9th January 2003 7.30pm

Iron Age Britain and the Celtic myth

Simon James, B.Sc., Ph.D., F.S.A.

School of Archaeology and Ancient History
University of Leicester

Thursday 23rd January 2003 7.30pm

**Treatment of the sick poor in Leicester: the North
Evington Poor Law Infirmary, 1905-30**

Gerald T. Rimmington, B.Sc (Econ.), M.A., M.Ed., Ph.D., F.C.P.

Honorary Visiting Fellow, Centre for the History of Religious
and Political Pluralism, University of Leicester

Thursday 13th February 2003 7.30pm

**Eye Kettleby: excavation of a prehistoric,
Anglo-Saxon and medieval site**

Neil Finn

University of Leicester Archaeological Services

Thursday 6th March 2003 7.30pm

Alan North Memorial Lecture

**Recent archaeological work at Portus, the harbour of
Imperial Rome**

Simon Keay B.A., Ph.D., F.S.A.

Professor of Roman Archaeology
University of Southampton

Thursday 20th March 2003 7.30pm

**Printers and Antiquaries: the papers of John Nichols and
his family with special reference to Leicestershire**

Julian Pooley, B.A., D.A.A., F.S.A.

Archivist, Surrey History Centre
Honorary Visiting Fellow, Centre for English Local History,
University of Leicester

Lectures, unless otherwise stated, take place in the Council
Room, New Walk Museum, entrance from Princess Road West

VISITORS WELCOME

The Society's Publications

The editors of all the Society's publications welcome contributions from members. In particular short articles or news items are always needed for this *Newsletter*. Longer articles of local interest are needed for the *Leicestershire Historian*, and if you have published or written a book or pamphlet on a local theme then, do please arrange for a copy to be sent to the Reviews Editor of the *Leicestershire Historian* whose name and address can be found in a recent copy of that publication. The *Transactions* is the place to publish important local research and if you are planning to submit a paper, it is wise to seek the advice of the editors well in advance.

PLEASE NOTE

As from the end of September, the Honorary Secretary will be retiring from full-time employment at the University of Leicester. In future all communications should be sent to his home address given on the front of this Newsletter.

Email address:

alan@dovedale2.demon.co.uk