DERBYSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER 70 July 2010

A LITTLE BIT MORE ABOUT THE COVER PHOTOGRAPH

The cover photograph shows a group of South Derbyshire miners apparently working on a "freelance" colliery on Gresley Common during the 1912 Miners Strike and is one of a collection of photographs on the impact of the strike, held at the Magic Attic at Sharpes Pottery in Swadlincote.

Whilst this national strike started in Alfreton, it followed years of unrest particularly in Wales over complicated and unfair local piece rates that "made it impossible for a collier, however skilled, to earn a fair day's wage." After the infamous Toneypandy riots and more strikes and lockouts, the Miners Federation of

Great Britain eventually balloted its members in January 1912 with the question: Are you in favour of giving notice to establish the principle of a minimum wage for every man and boy working underground in the mines of Great Britain?"The answer was yes but the strike only lasted about 20 days – strike pay not being universally available and penury widespread. The principle of a national minimum wage was nevertheless agreed but the owners succeeded in securing district rather than local settlements.

(Culled from; -http://dialspace.dial.pipex.com/town/parade/.../national_coal_strike.andother related and quite interesting web sites)

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Programme Secretary's Newsletter Report

Winter Programme 2009-10

The talk at the Society Social in December was given by Michael McGuire and titled 'A Survivor's Guide to Vesuvius' and left a few very thoughtful comments by people thinking of visiting that area. This was followed by the inevitable Christmas cake, various nibbles and refreshments provided by the usual team of Marler & Marler.

I would like to remind all members that the **Christmas Social** event should be seen as not just a single section event but is <u>for ALL</u> members of the Society.

The Society lecture in January was on The Origins of Forensic Investigation & Its Development Through the Ages and given by Jonathan Wright, Senior Lecturer in Forensic Science, University of Derby. It was a very entertaining lecture with a costume change halfway through when he 'became' Sherlock Holmes!

The WEA lecture in March was The Castle in

England: where did it come from and into what did it develop and given by Stephen A Moorhouse, BA, FSA, MIFA. Both lectures were well attended.

Winter Programme 2010-11

We start the Programme on October 1st at the University with a talk on the Staffordshire Hoard by Kevin Leahy.

On November 5, the DAS/WEA. lecture will be given by Dr Jenny Alexander on 'Looking for architecture in flowerbeds, reconstructing the Augustinian priories in Nottinghamshire'.

The Society lecture on January 14 2011 will be by the Society's President, Michael Mallender, entitled "The Gift of Bishop Exsuperius - the travels of a large silver dish" about the Risley Lanx. The March lecture we hope will be about the Stonehenge Project.

MaliseMcGuire

An event, not to do with the Society, which takes place every year is that run by the Council for British Archaeology. This Event was formerly known as National Archaeology Week. This has been renamed the 'Festival of British Archaeology' and runs from Saturday 17th July to Sunday 1nd August and takes place around the country.

More details and other events on http://festival.britarch.ac.uk/

Some Local Events

Where	When	Times	What	Address	Comments
Ticknall	28th July & 1st August`	10-4pm	Excavation of c16/17 pot kilns	22 Main St	Park at Village Hall
Buxton Museum	Romans in the Peak 24th July	10—4 pm	Exhibition and activities		
Fin Cop	Daily tours 19 th Jul – 3 rd Aug	9 – 5pm	Live excavation	Meet Monsal Dale front car park	1 mile walk uphill
Magpie Mine	July 31st	10.30 –3 pm	Tours/activities	SK172677	
Gt Hucklow	25 th July	10.30 - 4.30	Guided walk	High Rake & Silence mines	Car park between village & Windmill
Winster	23 rd July	10.30 - 4	Walk	Meet at Miners Standard, BankTop	That's at the top of the hill.
Bakewell	21 st & 28 th July	12.30 - 1700	Industrial heritage walk	Old House Museum	Park in town – 5hr ticket
Mellor	17 th &18 th July	10 - 3pm (lasttour)	Oldknow's 1790 mill tour	Roman Lakes Parks. Marple	
Staveley Hall	10,11,July 1, 27, 28 Aug		Fieldwork in action		

TICKNALL ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH GROUP

Ticknall pottery is by now well known to members, thanks to the years and vears of fascinating research done bv redoubtable Janet Spavold and Sue Brown. On March 4th their project, to put Ticknall firmly on the national map of important medieval potteries, took a major step forward. Armed with a major HLF grant they embarked on a three year community project with professional archaeologists Archaeological Project Services. excavate known sites and to identify others and to involve the village in all aspects of the work

Thanks to the generosity and enthusiasm of Mr & Mrs Soar, the preliminary excavation resulted not only in an extraordinarily large hole in their garden but the discovery of

not just one 17th century kiln but a second late 15th century kiln partially below it. Whilst the infill of the upper kiln filled umpteen bags with large shards of purple and vellow domestic ware which kept the pot washers going for days, the lower kiln revealed several more or less intact saggers (some with their contents) which have been dated to c 1490. This has resulted in a great deal of academic excitement and some gleeful volunteers. Consequently, a further dig is to be done on the site to clarify the extent of the pottery. Documentary fieldwalking and magnetometry surveys have identified more possible kiln sites for investigation in the next couple of vears.

The project is also supported by the National Trust and by the DAS Pilling Award.



Saggar circa 1490

PRESUMED BRONZE AGE BARROW AT CALLOW TOP: OS grid SK 1695 4741

In April 2010, the Derbyshire Archaeological Society was asked by the owner Mr Alan Palmer, to advise on whether a mound at Callow Top Caravan and Camping Park was indeed a tumulus as had been suggested to the owner by a camper. Consequently on April 20th we arrived to do some resistivity survey pseudo sections hoping to identify any suggestion of a surrounding ditch or ditches. We also did a section across the top of barrow. We returned on April 26th to do a further resistivity survey of 20m² grids around the barrow hoping to confirm a possible ditch at approximately 12 m from the centre of the mound.

The mound had until last year been overgrown heap of vegetation with the remains of a collapsed ancient tree, said to be "about 200 years old", on the top. As, in this state, it was attracting an increasing amount of litter and detritus from the campers it had been decided to clear it with a view to planting grass and wildflowers which would be easier to manage if not actually to raze it to ground level!

Although never quite pinpointed in more recent gazetteers it would appear that the barrow was one featured in Bateman's book "Ten Years Digging" with an account of the exploration of three mounds on Callow Field in Mapleton in 1849;-

"1st September, we opened the centre mound, which had not so much been reduced by the plough; it is 20 yards across and 3½ feet high in the middle where is a large tree. The occupier of the land told us he had some years dug down by the roots of the tree and found what he considered human ashes and Charcoal spread all over the floor of the mound in the midst of which he discovered a piece of iron about four inches long since lost. We examined the natural surface at the same point without detecting the least particle of bone but noticed a thin layer of light coloured sandy clay spread on the natural surface. By undercutting the tree a few calcined bones were found and in another direction were

some pieces of an urn, a few more bones and chippings of flint"

The correlation between the above description and the mound in question must be significant given its recently measured diameter (19 metres), its height (1m) and the recent demise of the ancient tree. The discovery of a "piece of iron" may suggest a later date for the barrow or possible reuse. We did have a look for other barrows but none were even minimally obvious – but now we know where to look!

The surveys

<u>April 20th – pseudosections – see appended</u> diagrams

The only feature of possible significance was a series of relatively low resistance dips at approximately 12m from the central points and about 2m from the edge of the mound soil. These may be last remnants of an enclosing ditch. (NB - a similarly profiled ditch was excavated at Swarkestone in 1955 some 17m from the centre and 6m from edge of the soil mound)

There was evidence on the mound of soil disturbance possible due to the recent clearance.

April 26th – resistivity grids

No definitive evidence for a ditch was found but there was evidence of field drains which appear to radiate from around the barrow.

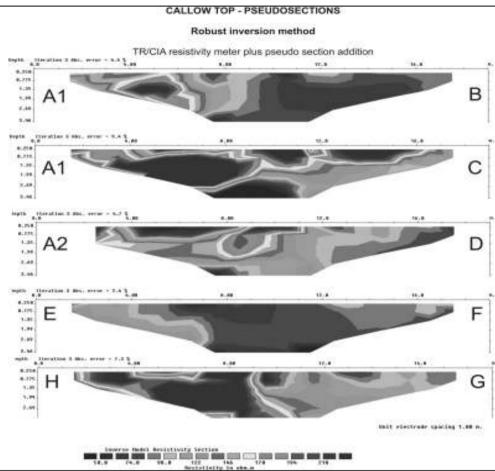
Conclusion

The documentary evidence suggests that this is indeed the barrow that was "excavated" by Bateman in the mid 19th century. The resistivity surveys are essentially inconclusive but the feature found at intervals at 12 metres from centre of the mound may be significant.

References

T Bateman "Ten Years' Digging in Celtic and Saxon Grave Hills" – from Google Books

Bronze Age Round Barrow at Swarkestone", Merrick Posnansky, DAJ Vol 75 1955



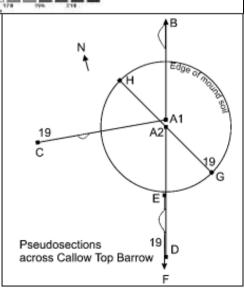
Sections

<u>A1 to B</u> – relatively low resistance "basin" between 11.2m and 15m. Depth 0.75m <u>A1 to C</u> – relatively low resistance "basin between 11.2 and 12.5m. Depth 0.75m 10° deviation to SW from point A1. Very hard stony surface.

<u>A2 to D</u> – relatively low resistance "basin" between 12.5 to 15.2m. Depth 0.75 <u>E to F</u> – relatively low resistance basin correlating with above

<u>H to G</u> – over the top of mound. Area of high resistivity in western quadrant of the slope. Possibly something to do with the tree root removal.

Barbara Foster



ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH GROUP

Excavations in the City of Worcester

The Section AGM was held on 26 March and was followed by a talk by Paul Hudson on a recent community excavation at Worcester. This was at a large site near the City centre, where a new Library and Archive complex was to be erected. The site was previously used as a builders' vard, which had been cleared prior to the dig. It lay just outside the line of the medieval city walls and was known as the Butts. The interesting finds were from the Roman period, including several ovens about a metre in diameter. A large aisled hall was found which was dated to the 4th century by a Constantine II coin, and it was inferred that it was never finished since the line of postholes one side was much

shorter than on the other. Another find was a pottery jug with the base sawn off: this has been interpreted as a beehive. The presumed line of a Roman road had to be left unexcavated because it was too near a railway viaduct. Later finds included a number of bell pits and a Charles II coin in a shallow ditch.

Cresswell Crags

The day for our visit to Creswell Crags on 22 May was sunny and warm. Some 30 members found their way to the recently renovated visitor centre there, where the party was divided into three groups. A visit to the Church Hole cave had been prearranged, where the prehistoric cave art is to be seen. The tour of this cave takes about three quarters of an hour. Three relief drawings are shown to visitors, starting with the deer that was the first cave art found in the British Isles. The



Cresswell Crags—Where's that bird?

storv of its discovery was related. Apparently, a party of cave art experts visited all the caves in the valley, looking for painted designs as, for example, at Lascaux in France. In spite of using bright lights they failed to find anything. One member, wanting a photo of himself in Church Hole cave, climbed up a wall and found himself looking into the face of the deer at short range: the bright lights had flattened the drawing which should be lit obliquely to be easily seen. We were also shown a horned animal and a bird with a long bill, rather like an ibis. A further group of three items is just visible at the back of the cave: these are either birds or female humans depending on which way up they are viewed! The new visitor centre includes many finds from the many excavations over the last two centuries. including fossil animal bones and flint artifacts. There are large, projected scenes throughout of the site the ages, amusements for children and a cafe with panoramic views and a terrace. Outside. there are some artworks, a picnic area, and a walk round the artificial lake which is very pleasant now the B-road has been diverted away from the valley and from which all the cave entrances can be seen.

John & Joan D'Arcy

ARCHITECTURAL SECTION

Tatham Sudbury - Ilkeston's Architect

On 29 January Alan Edwards, the Chairman of Ilkeston and District Local History Society came to talk to us about Tatham Sudbury. the Ilkeston architect. Alan said he became interested in the

local buildings as he passed them on the way to school.

H. Tatham Sudbury was born in 1877 to a fairly wealthy Ilkeston family. After schooling at first locally, later at Spalding Grammar School and then at Nottingham University College, he was articled to an Ilkeston architect's firm and then another in Nottingham. By 1902 however, he had set up on his own. He became a Freemason and secretary of the local Golf Club so. together with his family connections, he was soon able to employ two assistants. We were shown examples of his work and the recognisable features he regularly employed. An early large designed building he was Congregational Church in Ilkeston, a large brick structure for some 400 worshippers with schoolrooms for 300 children underneath. It had stone banding and decorative brickwork on the 60 foot tower. Features that characterised his work included flat door lintels supported by iron straps, extravagant gutter brackets, tall chimneys with tall pots, upstairs rendering and large windows. As well as many large houses (most seemed to belong to his relations!), he designed schools and several pubs. Other work shown was smaller municipal housing and War Memorials, including a lych-gate at Little Hallam and a Lutyenesque cenotaph at Ilkeston. A notable late design for a sports club-house was so different from the usual style, with a single-storey, flatroofed, all round glazing, with a semicircular end, that it may have been designed by his son who was working for him until he retired in 1942. Tatham Sudbury spent all his working life in Ilkeston at his office Rutland Chambers which he eventually bought from the Duke of Rutland's Estates. He died in 1959.

John D'Arcy

A Walk down Sadler Gate

In February, Anne Haywood and Kath Marvill gave an illustrated lecture on Sadler Gate, one of Derby's oldest streets. Anne and Kath are members of the 10 strong Derby Research Group who have been making a study of Sadler Gate since 2005 using all available source material ranging from medieval deeds to oral memories. Their research will be published in the forthcoming *Sadler Gate*, *Derby - An Ancient Street*. (see page 20)

The still narrow street has pre-Norman origins and runs from the Market Place to Cheapside. Until the 19thC travellers would have had to cross Markeaton Brook on the Sadler Gate Bridge to reach Cheapside and St Werburgh's church. Although part of the street lies in St Werburgh's parish, the eastern end lies in All Saints parish. Property on the street is still laid out on their medieval burgage plots: those on the north side had considerable back lands which allowed the development of gardens, courts workshops, the back lands of those on the south side were restricted by the site of St James's Priory, later an orchard after the Reformation.

The street was developed and re-developed over the years. Shops are mentioned in the Darley Cartulary from the early 13thC. New houses were being built in the 16thC and 17thC, some by wealthier burghers. At one time there were 13 inns and pubs located on the street ranging from the large coaching inns, the George and the Bell, at the Market Place end to less salubrious ones at the lower end. Workshops were squeezed in behind the buildings at the lower end but in the 19thC some high class shops were to be found. Of the pubs, only the Shakespeare and the Bell Inn still remain. The workshops also have disappeared and Sadler Gate is primarily a shopping street.

But the original layout of the street can still be seen today and today's buildings formed the background of Anne and Kath's lecture as they led us on a photographic walk up and down Sadler Gate explaining, with the help of contemporary advertisements, its history over the past 200 years.

Jane Steer

Shipley Hall

Following the Architectural Section AGM in March, Malcolm Burrows gave a well illustrated talk about Shipley Hall and the stories he had recorded of the people that had worked there.

Malcolm recounted that as a Boy Scout he went to the Scout hut in Shipley Hall and became interested in the people that worked there. It was this early association that led him to record the memories and stories of the people that had worked in the Hall. Out of this came information about the usage and structure of the buildings and the landscape.

Malcolm showed many photographs and maps of the Hall at various times during its occupancy and how the domestic buildings of Shipley village seem to have disappeared during the alterations of the lanes and landscaping. There was a group of photographs that showed the Hall after demolition that showed excavations of the cellars and the line of the external wall of the earlier building which was incorporated into the later Hall.

The earliest reference to a 'part stone' building was in 1620 with landscaping and filling of the Holloway (north of Hall) in 1772. There was a refurbishment programme in 1788 and a stone facing was put up in 1895. Malcolm explained the location of where the earlier building was extended and faced. A glass walk-way which connected the Hall to a glass 'lily house' was shown and an internal photograph showed the extent of the fernery contained within the walk-way. Apparently the pond in the lily house was stocked with fish and cleaned out annually. Further photographs showed the Ballroom, Kitchen and the Farm buildings.

The Mundy (Miller-Mundy) family lived in the Hall and made much of its wealth from coal extraction but there was not any evidence or extent of this activity within the estate (a pillar of coal was left beneath the Hall whilst the family lived there). In 1922 the site was sold to the Shipley Colliery Co.; the Hall was demolished in 1943 and by 1976 the site had been purchased by Derbyshire County Council.

There was a poignant photograph showing a marquee, on the lawns outside the Hall, on the day of the sale of the contents.

Malcolm's talk was effectively brought to life with stories of life at the Hall for both the family and the workers, and was all to soon completed.

PS: Malcolm had a story about a character called Chatterley from Eastwood - but - well - you never know what you will find out at a DAS meeting.

John Hunt

Polesworth Abbey: Guide: Bob Meeson

On Saturday 8th May our members ventured outside the safety of our home county to visit Polesworth Abbey and the gatehouse which is currently being made into holiday homes. The Abbey Church of St Editha is located on the High Street of Polesworth village. to the east Tamworth, adjacent to the river Anker, in the county of Warwickshire. When the Coventry canal built through was Polesworth in 1770s the village developed a coal mining and clay industry but these have disappeared since the Second World War

We were warmly greeted by Father Phillip and directed through the Church to the refectory where Bob Meeson gave a slide presentation about the history of the site followed by a comprehensive explanation of what was discovered during his survey and the current work being carried out on the gatehouse. There were several photographs of similar gatehouses in



The Gateway at Polesworth Abbey

France to emphasize the importance of this gatehouse.

Bob said that the first record of a mainly wooden church was in 827 (founded by King Edbert of Mercia). The Abbey was then rebuilt in stone after the Norman Conquest (connections with Tamworth Castle) and was granted a market in 1242. By 1536 it was valued as £110 6s 2p and comprised 13 nuns, 1 Abbess, 1 Anchoress and 38 dependents, of which one was described as a creative cook, but in 1539 the Abbess surrendered the site.

After the dissolution, an Elizabethan manor house was built to replace the cloister and the Abbess's house. The current church comprises a single aisled nave, a 14th century tower and the attached refectory which contains a Tudor fireplace and timber framing. Outside the church is a sensory garden that leads to the remains of the cloisters. A lawn now covers this site, where the manor house stood, with land that drops away to the river. There has been no sign of an enclosure wall around the Abbey lands, other than the gatehouse, so Bob surmised that there may have been a soil or turf enclosure.

The gatehouse, which was the main reason for the visit, was surveyed by Bob when it was in bad state of repair and he was enthusiastic in his explanation interpretation of the building. We were granted access to the building in its part completed state by the building contractors (Crofts). The gatehouse has two entrances. one for carts and one for pedestrians. A porter's lodge is adjacent to the pedestrian access with a squint to check people entering or exiting the Abbey grounds (looking from outside the Abbey grounds the cart entrance was on the right with the porters room on the left). Both entrances were arched but the cart entrance has lost this feature, however, the original door hinges are still visible. Access to the upper floor was by a single, internal flight of stairs. The upper floor was a single aisle timber frame with a crown post roof comprising a two bay room with a Tudor fireplace and a single bay room with what Bob interpreted as a latrine in the end wall. The felling date for the timbers in the frames was 1341 with the building dated as 1342.

To the right hand side of the gatehouse (viewed from outside the Abbey grounds) was a timber framed 'extension' dated as 1582 which replaced an earlier building. The external stonework of the gatehouse could be clearly seen from inside the upper floor which had, at an earlier time, a passageway with rooms overlooking the street. One room had a window with a large stone lintel covering half of the window. It was originally a chimney that had been converted. This building had three further bays (now demolished). A spiral stairway is thought to have been incorporated into the rear of the building but this area has been subject to extensive rebuilding at various times. It is also thought that part of this area may have been used as a jail/lockup.

Bob said that the gatehouse and extension sit on relatively shallow footings on the heavy clay of the area. At this point a 'local' who was taking a short cut through the site complained to Bob as to why the reconstructed windows were not done in 'old looking' timber - I withdrew at this point.

After consulting the free leaflet about the Abbey and its important features we broke up to individually view the church, sensory garden, and cloisters at our own pace. The village also contained several cruck frame buildings, a school for Poor Scholars, a Tithe barn and what looked like a dovecote. For further information see: www.polesworthabbey@heralded.org.uk

John Hunt

St. Helen's House

On Friday 18 June, a party of forty assembled outside St. Helen's House in Derby to be shown progress on the repair of this Grade 1 listed building. The house was designed by Joseph Pickford as the town house for the Gisborne family in 1767, it is undoubtedly the most important architectural building in the City. It later belonged to the Strutt family but became Derby School in 1860 and then an adult education centre. A few years ago, the City Council decided that they could not afford to maintain the building and eventually accepted Richard Blunt's proposal to turn it into a 'Bijou' Hotel.

After greeting our party, Mr. Blunt conducted it round the outside. Although the Council had replaced the large urns on the corners of the roof (a whisper of Health & Safety!), they had not made the roof watertight, and this was the first repair completed. Another water problem was the system of rain pipes inside the building - all very well until they leak, which they

did. These have also been fixed, with the added refinement of an overflow should they get blocked again. Deteriorating stonework is in the process of being replaced where time, acid rain and damp have taken their toll. Wrestling with the paperwork has been one of Mr. Blunt's greatest endeavours at the cost of some £200,000 and causing considerable delay before work could start.

We were then conducted inside the building, where on being asked, the vast majority of the party said they had been inside on previous occasions. The only work on the inside has been the removal of educational paraphernalia, blackboards and so on. This has had little effect in the entrance hall, which is a magnificent room with a coffered ceiling, but the question is, should the missing Hopton stone flagstones be replaced where concrete has been laid? Next, we moved into the fine room to the north with another decorated ceiling that was the dining room, later a library. After this, the group tended to wander off to see the other rooms in the



Entrance Hall at St. Helen's House

Pickford building.

We were shown the plans for the conversion to a hotel, which included a glass passage and lift to the adjoining later school building which is where the hotel bedrooms would be, and also the crescent of private dwellings that would be the 'enabling development' to provide funds for the repairs. Not everyone was happy with the demolition of the School Chapel which is in the way of this development, although Mr. Blunt considered it "One of the worst chapels he had ever seen!"

Altogether, we were impressed with Richard Blunt's continuing enthusiasm for the restoration, in spite of the difficulties, including the economic downturn as well as with the quality of the work so far completed. There is, however an awful lot still to be done.

John D'Arcy

NB – Richard Blunt has since confirmed that the Hopton Wood floor will be repaired and the concrete sections replaced with Hopton Wood stone.

LOCAL HISTORY SECTION

"Goinge in the Manner of Rogyshe Egyptians"

The aim of this fascinating talk by David Smith, was to establish the historical presence of "Egyptians" i.e. gypsies, from the 17th to 19th centuries, particularly in the East Midlands.

Any research into gypsy life hits the major problem that almost all accounts are written by non-gypsies and their adversaries. All too often we see them through parish records, constables' accounts and court records, where gypsies appear as vagrants and law-breakers.

people to be "moved on" and punished. But what were gypsies doing when they were not standing before the magistrates? It is now clear that many of our beliefs about gypsies need to be questioned. Were they restless wanderers? Before the 19th century gypsies hardly moved at all. The census reveals that Derby had resident groups by the 1860s. There are references to winter quarters from which they would only move for the purposes of work and itinerant trading. It was only after the formation of the police force that they were continually moved on from place to place. Why the reference to "Egyptians"? In 1581 the Loughborough Parish Register has a reference to a Margaret Bannister "Goinge after the manner of rogyshe Egyptians". The offence was taken to be so serious or bizarre that a finger points to the reference. Subsequent groups of gypsies made claims to have come from "Little Egypt", the town of Modon on the Gulf of Corinth in Greece

In Paris in 1427 a group of men requested entry. They explained that their home was in "Little Egypt" but that they were overrun by the Saracens. They said that their leaders were sent to Rome where the Pope gave them a penance – to travel for seven years "without roof". Thus the host society should see them as victims of encroachment who were allowed to travel, and as pilgrims who could seek alms. Similar stories were used by gypsies in England. These stories received short shrift

Gypsies made a living by fortune-telling, high-wire acts, dancing and as such they were seen as conjurors and wizards, employing forms of witchcraft.

Others were metal-workers, menders of pottery and makers of wooden objects. They were seen to take work from tradesmen as they undercut them and were despised by the guilds with their lengthy apprenticeships.

Their dark skins and often exotic dress - women wore turbans, men had long hair, ear-rings and long cloaks – made then seem dangerous and subversive. The result was a series of anti-Egyptian pieces of legislation. A 1530 Act sought to abolish all Egyptians from England. They were given 21 days to quit and some groups were sent to Northern Europe. A 1544 Act made being an Egyptian a capital felony and ships' captains could be fined £200 for bringing them in.

Egyptians' children born in England were not subject to the Acts. This resulted in the baptism of many gypsy children who were often given English place names as forenames, to better escape deportation eg Mansfield Hero, Hayfield Price.

It is quite clear from infrequent references in parish and court records that gypsies remained in England and there are several Derbyshire references:

- John Kirk, of Littleover, who died in 1612, worked as a petty chapman and came before the courts for selling cheaply and therefore undercutting established chapmen;
- in the 1650s, at the Devil's Arse (Peak Cavern), a King of the Gypsies was elected;
- the Repton Parish Constable's Records record that in 1652, 8d was given to a company of gypsies, 1s2d to a group of 14 in 1653 and 9d in 1666; in 1656, 2s6d was given to a group of gypsies and the men who were to watch them.

It seems that parishes were prepared to pay quite large sums to remove gypsies to other parishes.

More glimpses of parish life appear in newspapers. At the 1807 Leicester Assizes, John Heanan was sentenced to 7 years transportation to Australia for stealing a harness from a lady. On being released and receiving the customary land grant, he got 15 acres of land. His ancestors now farm 3.200 acres.

John Elliott, a gypsy chimney-sweep, tinker and chair-bottomer was given 28 days' hard labour in 1815 as he "slept in the open" in a tent with his children.

It was not until 1856 that the draconian legislation of the 16th century was repealed, making it no longer a felony to be a gypsy.

This was a superb talk on a fascinating subject enlivened by some splendid examples extracted from the speaker's research into parish and court records.

Mick Appleby

Grace and Favour? The History and Architecture of Almshouses

A large group of members attended for this interesting talk on a subject that has been researched in great depth by Anna Hallett.

We heard that there are around 2,000 groups of Almshouses in this country providing upwards of 32,000 places. The speaker had identified the locations of Almshouses in Derby, Etwall and Duffield as well as having slide photographs of establishments around the country and in Europe, too.

Some of the Almshouses mentioned could trace their origins back to the early Middle Ages with religious institutions being amongst the first to offer shelter to needy elderly people. However, some foundations date to the death of the founder — who left money for the building of sometimes very splendid buildings. In such circumstances the beneficiaries were required to pray for the soul of the Founder. Dick Whittington founded an Almshouse with a Grammar School attached!

The "space" allocated to the elderly residents in the early years consisted of a bed space only. In time - curtains were put around the top of the bed; a later development saw the beds within cubicles.

At the Royal Hospital, Chelsea the Pensioners have an enclosed space of 6 ft. by 9 ft. for the bed with an easy chair in a corridor! Electric lighting came to Chelsea in the mid 20th century!

Almshouses are known by a variety of names – Bede Houses; College; House of Pity; Hospital = hospitality. In Lichfield the Pilgrim's Hospital was established for late-comers visiting the shrine of St. Chad. Now-a-days many of these names have dropped out of use.

Those benefiting from the accommodation often have unique names - as at Tamworth where they are known as "Hamleteers" – former residents of the hamlets around Tamworth.

Many of the earlier almshouses had chapels at the end of the residential area. The monastic almshouses at Cluny in France had an Infirmary Hall for 40 beds. St. Nicholas' at Salisbury had two separate Infirmary halls with Chapels and is said to be the location for Anthony Trollope's "The Warden".

The beneficiaries were involved in the operation of their estate and tasks such as bell ringing and sweeping were required. Inmates had to abide by the Rules. There was, in some cases, the chance of a stipend or a new gown every two years. At Castle Rising there is a uniform of red cloaks with Welsh style hats (very heavy) – so they are not worn too often!

The architecture of the buildings is very varied from stone, through brick to modern buildings such as the newest Almshouse in Bath with five roof gardens; hobby rooms and computer points.

Many in the audience were anxious to put their names down for the waiting list of this particular one!

A thoroughly entertaining talk enjoyed by all.

Ms Hallett is the author of "Almshouses" and "Markets and Market Places" – Shire Publications.

Norma Consterdine

West Hallam

On 27th May fifteen members accompanied local historians Dr John Disney and Charles Hodgkinson around West Hallam, first mentioned in Domesday; the land being given to William the Conqueror's nephew, Gilbert de Grant, Earl of Flanders. The majority of the village was owned by the lord of the manor and his successors (including the Cromwells, the Powtrells and the Newdigates) up to the early 20th century when it was both an agricultural and a mining village. About twenty farms existed: the Punch Bowl public house used to be a dairy farm and the now closed White Hart was once a farm. Opencast mining continued until the closure of the site in 1959 and this also led to the demise of the railway station, now converted into a house where garden ornaments are made. West Bank House on Station Road was built by the colliery owner.

In the Main Street a certain unity of style and design of building can be detected. Particular features are the steeply pitched roofs, deep eaves, prominent barge boards and sentry box-like porches.

St Wilfred's Church, built in the 13th century but much restored, has memorials to the Powtrells some of whom were recusants. Painted glass in a clerestory window above the nave depicts St James the Less being martyred. The churchyard gives fine views over the site of the former moated manor house where a tunnel reputedly ran to Dale Abbey.

Chris Francis

Aston on Trent

It was a fine warm evening on Wednesday 16th June for our visit to Aston on Trent and more than thirty members met our guides from the Aston on Trent Local History Group at the church lych gate.



West Hallam - the Powtrell monument 1598

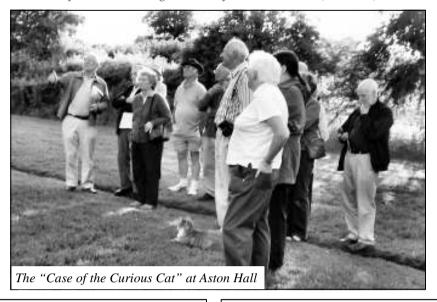
We first heard about the earliest history of the village revealed by aerial photography in the 1960s when crop marks showed Neolithic occupation in fields to the east of the village and a cursus running for more than a mile towards a henge monument to the north.

The walk round the village looked at buildings and sites of Aston's more recent history. A large house, Aston Lodge, once stood across the road from the church, its site now marked by the road - Lodge Estate. It was built in the 1730s by Joseph Greaves of Ingleby. Our guide showed us an early photograph of the house and its gardens. extensive The Lodge demolished in 1935 but its ornate gates possibly made by Robert Bakewell were bought by Long Eaton Borough Council and still stand at the entrance to West Park. The last family to own the Lodge were the Bodens, lace manufacturers in

Derby, the stable block and water tower which they built still stand by the road and are now private apartments.

Walking towards the crossroads we saw the original village hall and the site of the market cross. There are eighteenth century cottages on The Green and the Methodist Church built in 1969 to replace the original Wesleyan Methodist Church built in 1829. Number 16. The Green is known as The Yeoman's House. It has a date stone of 1690 and the initials CMW are thought to be those of Christopher Wright who may have raised the height of the original single storey medieval timber framed cottage. Attractive diaper brickwork decorates the front of the building. The nearby eighteenth century Malt Shovel Inn was once a farmhouse.

The School House on Derby Road was built in 1845 by the Holden Family of Aston Hall, their crest is above the door.



It was converted to a private house after the present school was built in 1983 on Long Croft further down Derby Road. The White Hart Inn on the other side of Derby Road has documentary evidence going back to 1771. Cottages round the corner in Weston Road were once the coach house and stables belonging to the Rectory, a large mostly nineteenth century building which became very important to the village in the twentieth century when social events were held in part of the Rectory and its cellars were used as air raid shelters in the Second World War. It was demolished in 1969.

We walked through the churchyard to look at Aston Hall, built in 1735 for the Holden Family. It was their home until 1898 when it was sold to Colonel Winterbottom who enlarged the Hall in 1907 and lived there until his death in 1924 after which the whole sold and estate was Corporation Nottingham bought the Hall and grounds and converted it for use as a

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mentally

handicapped. After the closure of the hospital in the 1990s the Hall was converted into apartments by a private developer.

Our tour ended with welcome refreshments at the church. All Saints Church has a Norman tower, doorway and windows; the nave and chancel are thirteenth century. A Saxon stone set in the outside wall of the church was probably once part of a preaching cross.

We had an excellent tour of the village with two very enthusiastic and knowledgeable guides. More detailed information is given in the guide book produced by the Aston on Trent Local

History Group. The attractive sign to the village was erected in 1998 to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Derbyshire Federation of Women's Institutes and depicts symbolically nine aspects of the village history.

Joan Davies

The Yeomans House - Date stone

INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY SECTION

Midland Railway - Butterley

As a result of the indisposition of the advertised speaker, the February meeting was addressed by Dudley Fowkes who gave an overview of the current position of the Midland Railway - Butterley (previously known as the Midland Railway Centre).

Dudley began by giving a resume of the founding of the Midland Railway in 1844, traced its origins to the coal industry, how passengers came to form an important backbone to its services, and explained its constancy to the "small-engine" policy.

He then went on to talk about the origins of the Midland Railway Centre, starting as a Derby Museum project in 1969/1970, and then as local government changed and their funding dried up, it became an independent museum running the line from Ironville to Hammersmith. He stressed though that it was still a museum whose first object was represent all that it should things "Midland" and Dudley illustrated with slides how the museum had gradually diversified away from that main aim. There were still many things connected with the Midland Railway on show, but the difficulty in running a mainly volunteer body was how to energise people into preserving things which they didn't consider 'worthy', such as coaches, rather than the diesels which had been brought These were the objects onto the site. which younger volunteers wanted to play with and restore, even though they had no connection with the M.R.

Thanks to Dudley for stepping in and providing members with an insight into the Centre as it is, and how it might have looked if the original aims had been kept to rigidly.

David Mellors

Industrial Archaeology Section AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Industrial Section on 19 March 2010 proved uneventful. The Chairman's and Treasurer's reports were accepted; the serving officers and members of committee were all re-elected.

The meeting was followed by an excellent presentation, full of detail and generously illustrated, by Alan Gifford on the history and the restoration of the Heage windmill. The mill, it seems, was first built in 1797 with four common sails and boat-shaped cap. In 1894, by then with patent sails, it was tailwinded, leaving a scene of utter devastation which was photographed at the time. It was however quickly rebuilt, now with six patent sails and a round ogee cap. It then worked until 1919, by which time local small-scale milling had become uneconomic.

Forty-five years later, the mill was saved imminent dereliction Derbyshire County Council's preservation order of 1965. This was followed by a cosmetic (non-functional) repair by the County Council in 1970/72. There the matter rested for a further twenty years, until in 1992 the Midland Mills Group became involved, initially to assist the Council with the occasional opening of the mill to the public. This disclosed (to the volunteers and the Council) the then dire state of the mill, internally with decay and dirt, externally with deteriorating cap and stonework and an invasive growth of Four years of valuable vegetation. cleaning and clearing by volunteer effort followed. until in 1996 the Heage Windmill Society was formed and a feasibility study prepared for the mill's full reinstatement. Quite quickly funding was obtained (it may not have seemed quick at the time) so that work could begin in earnest in the year 2000. Alan described, and illustrated in detail, the ensuing activity undertaken not only to restore the mill itself and all its machinery, but to provide a new access road and car park, bring in an electricity supply, build a visitor centre on the footprint of the earlier drying kiln, and rebuild many yards of drystone walling. This was completed by May 2002 when the restored mill was formally opened. Further work allowed the first milling of flour since 1919 to take place on 4 July 2003 – a tremendous overall achievement.

As the physical work neared completion, attention was given to the provision of interpretation material, the training of presenters (to be dressed in appropriate 1900 costume) and, not least, the training and certification of competent millers. The mill now opens on weekends and bank holidays and arranges special events to increase visitor numbers. It mills its own flour when wind permits. Alan finally invited audience members to visit or revisit to see for themselves.

Alastair Gilchrist

OBITUARY BRYAN BLAKE

A native of Reading, Bryan Blake came to Derby as Head of Museums as successor to Arthur Thorpe in the early 1970s following a series of posts in the south and east of England including Buckinghamshire and Colchester. He was a relatively late convert to archaeology beginning his working life as a telecommunications engineer and it was enthusiasm for the physical digging that eventually led him to qualify for a career as a museum professional. During his time at Derby Museum, he was a member of the DAS Council and had a three year term as Chairman of Council. He also oversaw the opening of the Silk Mill Museum during his period in charge

of Derby Museums. Latterly, ill health hampered his direct involvement in Society events

Dudley Fowkes

THE LIBRARY NOTES

Well one could say that it has been a quiet few months in the Society's Library except for the requests for information from the website and the routine accession of periodical journals, but there has been one excitement at least. The long awaited second volume of the VCH. Hardwick a great house and estate. by the well known team of Riden and Fowkes. subscriptions have come to some fruition. We have also added to our stock Harry Butterton's large format book on Victorian (purchased) and Dudlev's Somercotes before 1851 (presented by the publisher). Robert Cope has given us his latest study on Littleover before the twentieth century and also presented was Lost gentry of Willington and Findern by Alan Gifford. By review we added Archaeology of a Great estate. Chatsworth (Barnatt and Bannister) and Our Great Endeavour, about 100 years of the Derbyshire Red Cross by one Pat Marjoram and finally we purchased a history published by the Aston on Trent Local History Group during the Society's recent visit. So it has not been so quiet after all.

Just a tale of today. Our journal box stacks are floor to ceiling and for the last forty years we have used the wooden steps in the building to get to the top shelves. But in their wisdom Derby C C discarded them leaving us to balance on chairs or climb the stacks. Not good practice. But now I have purchased a sparkling new set of aluminium steps which now have to be inspected and tested every six months. Progress!

If you have and Library problems or want to borrow a fiche reader then please 'phone of e-mail me.

Ray Marjoram

DERBY LOCAL STUDIES LIBRARY - NEW OPENING TIMES

The new times arise from feedback from library users and will operate from 5 July -31 December at which time they will again be reviewed

Monday 9am - 7pm Tuesday & Wednesday closed Thursday 9am - 12.30 pm Friday 9am - 12.30 pm Saturday 9.30am - 4 pm.

So far over 10,300 items from their store have been placed on the main Derby City Libraries computer catalogue. Over 1,000 of these are rare volumes from the 18th and 19th centuries, part of the Devonshire and Bemrose Collections. Anyone interested in volunteering some time, please contact the DLSL 01332 255381 or Email.

localstudies.library@derby.gov.uk.

NEW MEMBERS

Mr. M. Birdsall & Ms P. Trueman of Draycott-in-the-Clay, Ashbourne Mr. Malcolm & Mrs. Anne Philippe of Ashbourne Dr Nigel & Mrs. Penny Downes of Ilkeston Derby Miss H. Snell of Brackenfield Dr P. & Mrs. L. Horden of Littleover Mr. L.S. Foddy of Quarndon Miss E. Beech of Totley, Sheffield Mr. Charles & Mrs. Patricia Gilbert of Belper

BOOK REVIEWS

TROUBLE AT T'PIT GATES, The South Derbyshire Miners Lock-out 1867 1868 by Janet Atkins. Elaine McCulloch and Ann Woolgrove. The Magic Attic 2010. 94pp A4 softback. £10.25 + £2.00 p&p.

The years 1867 - 68 marked a momentous period for miners employed in the south Derbyshire collieries. In February 1867 the miners attempted to set up a local union to negotiate an improvement in their working conditions. Although the union was allowed by law, the local colliery owners and managers agreed amongst themselves that no union man would work in their pits. The fierce struggle that followed lasted for more than a year, during which time up to 900 miners were 'locked-out' of work, families endured untold hardships, and collieries were brought to a virtual stand-still, adversely affecting those local industries that relied on the coal they supplied.

The south Derbyshire cause was brought to national attention because the miners obtained the support of influential trade unionists from other parts of the country and the Royal Commission chose to examine in detail what happened in south Derbyshire.

The book, based on an original collection of letters written by local colliery managers at the time of this lock-out, contemporary newspapers (all stored in the Magic Attic) together with the Royal Commission Report, allowed a detailed account of the events of 1867 - 1868 to be pieced together, along with some insights into the motives and tactics of both sides to the dispute.

This fascinating and well researched book tells the story of what happened. A must for any mining history enthusiast.

Available only from The Magic Attic, c/o Sharpes Pottery Museum, West St., Swadlincote, Derbyshire. DE11 9DG Tel: 01283 819020 or via email: magicatticarch@googlemail.com

Keith Foster

Chapel-en-le Frith - Through Time, Mike Smith,

Amberley Publishing PLC 2010, ISBN 978 -1-84868-684-7, 96pp softback £14.99

Belper – Through Time, Adrian Farmer, Amberley Publishing PLC 2010, ISBN ISBN 978-1-84868-583-3, 96pp softback £14.99

These two recent publications catalogue the continuities and changes of Chapel and Belper by way of a series of "then and now" photographs. I must say that the quality of the photographs, old and new, is excellent throughout and the captions usefully describe the history and outline the changes.

Though much has survived through the years one can weep at the demolition of some fine looking 18th and 19th century buildings in both towns and their replacement by the bland and the brutal and the blighting of others by wide plastic (but no doubt practical) windows in place of some rather nice sash ones. neighbour who hails from Chapel wallowed nostalgically - it featured his grandparent's shop and his cousin's wife's sister. So – a title to remember for the Christmas stocking list at least.

Barbara Foster

FORTHCOMING BOOK

An Ancient Street: a History of Sadler Gate, Derby, the product of four years of research by a group of ten local historians, is due to be published in October 2010. The book will set Sadler Gate in the

context of the development of Derby and show how people responded to new ideas and to national events. The text has been researched from as comprehensive a range of sources that could be found, from medieval charters and deeds to 19th century census and newspapers and will include oral memories from the present day. It will be c330 pages in length, divided into 24 chapters which will cover all aspects of the street: its buildings, shops, inns, coaching trade, the *Derby* Mercury, social conditions and religious life, stories of its inhabitants and many more. It will be well illustrated with maps and diagrams, old and new photographs and many advertisements. A Source CD is also being produced to accompany the book, which will also include source references and bibliography. The estimated cost is c£22.

Could members who are interesting in purchasing a copy and would like to be informed when and where the book will be on sale, contact Joan D'Arcy on jdarcy@qcinternet.co.uk or 01332 363354.

SMALL ADS

Part set of journals for sale

Gladwyn Turbutt has kindly made available to the Society a part set of DAJs consisting of 112 volumes including the first (1879) and recent issues. Anyone interested should contact Dudley Fowkes with a written offer.

Dudley Fowkes

LINDUM HERITAGE

If you're looking for a couple of days away, this company offers tours of The East Riding, the Stamford area and -believe it or not - a chance to experience

life in a Lancaster bomber in WWII with hands on experience of the real thing!

For further details/brochure: www.lindumheritage.co.uk or telephone 01522 845060

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The summer school consists of six individual, higher education five-credit modules that you can take individually or combine to give you two 15 credit modules:

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Exploring Enlightenment Literature

Film and Television Studies (16-17 July) British Television Drama: Region and Heritage.

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Cost: £83 per module or £450 for all six.

Get in touch

Teresa Barnard T: 01332 59 2266 / 1161 www.derby.ac.uk/humanities/english/courses

PS

Selbourne 1783

In a letter to a friend, Daines Barrington, Gilbert White observes and records a very similar phenomenon to that affecting our airspace this year

"The summer of the year 1783 was an amazing and portentous one, and full of horrible phenomena: for besides the alarming meteors and tremendous thunder storms that affrighted and distressed the different counties of this kingdom, the peculiar haze, or smoky fog that prevailed for many weeks in this island, and in every part of Europe, and even beyond its limits, was a most extraordinary appearance, unlike anything known within the memory of man. By my journal I find that I had noticed this strange occurrence from June 23rd to July 20th inclusive, during which period the wind varied to every quarter without making any alteration in the air. The sun at noon, looked as blank as a clouded moon, and shed a rust-coloured ferruginous light on the ground, and floors of rooms; but was particularly lurid and blood-coloured at rising and setting ..."

On 8th June 1783 the Skaptar Jokull Volcano in Iceland erupted.



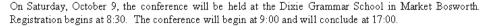
Save the date! Join us for a special event!

The Richard III Foundation, Inc.

Wars of the Roses: Triumphs and Defeats October 8 and 9, 2010

Our events will begin on Friday afternoon at the Bosworth Battlefield Centre.

- A private tour of the new exhibition will begin at 2 pm.
- Longbow demonstration at 3 pm.



Our speakers and topics for the day are:

- ♣ Professor Ralph Griffiths: 'Richard, Duke of York: The Man Who Would Be King.'
- Mick Manns (Mick the Fletcher): 'The Role of a Fletcher'.
- Richard Knox, Keeper of Donnington and Bosworth: 'Bosworth 1485: A Battle Lost and Found.'
- ♣ John Sadler: 'Towton: England's Bloodiest Day.'
- Michael Miller: 'The Medieval Soldier'.
- Dr. Helen Castor: ""Margaret of Anjou: She Wolf of England".
- 🖊 Special Performance by the dynamic medieval music group The Ambion Troubadours

Special Guest Speaker Robert Hardy, CBE, honorary patron of the Foundation

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	Number of Tickets			
Conference (conference package includes Friday events and Saturday's conference) and Membership Fee to the Foundation		£43.00		
Conference (this does not include Friday events or membership)		£35.00		
Conference (ticket sold on the day of the conference)		£40.00		
I enclose a cheque for full amount		£		

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To reserve your seat, please mail your registration form along with your check payable to "The Richard III Foundation, Inc." to The Richard III Foundation, Ms. Dorothy Davies, Half Moon House, 32 Church Lane, Ryde. Isle of Wight PO33 2NB. For further questions, please email us at Richard3Foundation@yahoo.com. Website: www.richard111.com.



CONFERENCE

- 0900 Setting up bookstalls and displays
- 0930 REGISTRATION and coffee
- 0950 WELCOME
- 1000 THE CHANGING SCENE IN AGRICULTURE Alan Steuner
- 1050 FENLAND FARM MACHINERY Stuart Gibbard
- 1140 Break
- 1200 PENLAND FARMING TODAY Gary Nevler
- 1240 QUESTIONS
- 1245 EMIAC BUSINESS MEETING
- 1300 LUNCH and outside exhibits
- 1400 PROCESS DEMONSTRATION Mike Diabridge
- 1445 FILM "FARMING IN THE FENS IN THE 1950s"
- 1545 TEA

FOOD AND FARMING

This conference explores aspects of farming and food production in the Fens of South Lincolnshire, an activity which has earned for the area the title of the Larder of England. The conference venue is the National Centre for Food Manufacturing at the Holbeach campus of the University of Lincoln. The Centre's facilities include a complete factory process area where we will have the opportunity to see how produce is processed and packed. Man Stemant is a broadcaster and writer specialising in agriculture. Born on a farm in the county, he has produced and presented BBC Radio Lincolnshire's 'Lincolnshire Farming' programme since the founding of the station in 980.

Smart Glibbard. With several books and DVD scripts to his name, Stuart is an author and journalist specialising in tractors and machinery. He is currently editor of Vintage Tractor & Cowurzyside Heritage magazine.

Gazy Nayfor is a director of Worth Farms Ltd., which he joined in 1984, farming 4,500 acres with between 600 and 700 acres of potatoes in any one year. In 1989 he was awarded a Nuffield scholarship to study Precision Farming. Mike Dudbvidge is Principal Lecturer in Food Manufacture at the Holbeach campus having previously worked in the food manufacturing industry. He specialises in Lean Manufacturing Techniques and Automation.

HORKSBYS IMPROVED RIDGING PLOUGHS.



Richard Hornsby Plough, 1890s.



Skekstone Potato Spirmer, 1930s



Orading Potatoes, Worth Farms Ltd., 2009

SOCIETY FOR LINCOLNSHIRE HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY



A HERITAGE DAY (EMIAC 80)

A TASTE OF LINCOLNSHIRE

Food and Farming in the Fens Saturday 16th October 2010



University of Lincoln Holbeach Campus Holbeach, Spalding

Industrial Heritage Days, formerly East Midlands Industrial Archaeology Conference

These events are hold every six months and they are appen to anyone with an interest in the subject. The first conference was held in 1970 with the iden of enabling industrial archaeologists in the East Midlands to meet in differing because in the East oppose of montal interest. There is no formal organisation; the sponsoring bodies are Derbyshiv Archaeological Society, the East Midlands Group of the Railway & Canal Historical Society of the Railway & Canal History Society, the Society for Lincolnshire Industrial Fistory Society, the Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology and the Northempronshire Industrial Archaeology and the Northempronshire Industrial Archaeology of Orcup.

The Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology

The SLEA is the principal county society addressing the inveres. of Industrial Archaeology, Local History, Aerhenology, Transport History, Folkhor and Oustons, Vernacular Architecture, Church Architecture and so on.

SLHA, Jews Court, Stoop Hill, Lincoln LN2 11.5. Tel 01522 521337

OVFOODS

WWW.qvfsxib.com/mdex.html

Admission to the conference is by advance booking only. Please complete this booking slip and send it to the Booking Secretary by 10° September, enclosing the correct remittance and a stamped, self-addressed envelope. An acknowledgement and location information will be sent to you. The price is £17.50 per head; cheques should be made payable to The Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology.

Send to: NR Wright, EMIAC 80, 32 Yarborough Road, Lincoln LNI 1HS

Nume

Address

Society (if appropriate)......

I have the following special dietary requirements:

I wish to have display space for

Arryone withing to sell material other than on behalf of an affiliated society will be expected to compribute towards the expenses of the conference.