



**DERBYSHIRE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER**

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Even more Ticknall Pots!

DERBYSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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Hon. Secretary	Mrs B. A. Foster, 2, The Watermeadows, Swarkestone, Derbyshire, DE73 7FX Tel 01332 704148 e-mail; barbarafoster@talk21.com
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Membership Secretary	Mr K.A. Reedman, 107, Curzon St, Long Eaton, Derbyshire, NG10 4FH Tel 0115 9732150 e-mail; das@reedman.org.uk
Hon. Editors (Journal)	Dr. D.V. Fowkes, 11 Sidings Way, Westhouses, Alfreton, Derby DE55 5AS Tel 01773 546626 e-mail; dudleyfowkes@dfowkes.fsbusiness.co.uk Miss P. Beswick, 4, Chapel Row, Froggatt, Calver, Hope Valley, S32 3ZA Tel 01433 631256 e-mail; paulinebwick@aol.com
Newsletter Editor	Mrs B. A. Foster, 2, The Watermeadows, Swarkestone, Derbyshire, DE73 7FX Tel 01332 704148 e-mail; barbarafoster@talk21.com
Hon Assistant Librarian	Mr. J.R. Marjoram, Southfield House, Portway, Coxbench, Derby, DE21 5BE Tel 01332 880600 e-mail; raymarjoram@tiscali.co.uk
Publications	Dr. D.V. Fowkes, (address etc above)

COVER STORY

A recent excavation by TARG and Mercian Archaeological Services CIC at Heath End near Ticknall uncovered the remains an 18th century eight-flued updraft kiln very similar to those in use in Stoke at the time. The oven floor had a diameter of 6ft. Although the range of wares was more limited they were virtually indistinguishable from those made in Stoke and as such tell us a great deal about the state of the later Ticknall pottery industry. It is an important discovery. Documentary evidence suggests that this particular kiln finally closed around the 1790s when the Tetley family business appears to have ended after at least a century in operation.

The cover photo shows 18th century jars, kiln furniture and the base of a saggar from Mr. Tetley's kiln. The jar in the centre is 10 inches (25.5cm) tall, the batt (bottom right) 11½ inches (29 cm) in diameter. Batts are kiln furniture, used as shelves or to bridge spaces between pots when loading the kiln. The saggar (bottom left) was used to protect delicate mottled ware vessels during firing.

A full report is forthcoming.

*Text – Barbara Foster and David Budge.
Cover photo - David Budge / Mercian
Archaeological Services CIC.*



Pottery training.

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A TOWERING ENGINEER

The accounts of Society activities in the Newsletter are always of interest, and that of the visit to North Wales (Issue 75, January 2013) started promisingly with comments on the Pontcysyllte aqueduct, a marvellous structure I have had the pleasure of boating across several times. I did, however, look askance at the statement that it was the *“first major engineering work of Thomas Telford”* since my memory gave pre-eminence to an engineer and business man who made his home in our Society’s shire – William Jessop. Since there was a Derbyshire connection to this story it seemed appropriate to try to put the record straight.

Telford’s claim has been accepted from build date to the present so the visit report was not to be scoffed at. The best regarded cruising guide to the canal system says - *“Pontcysyllte Aqueduct [Pont-ker-sulth-tee]is ranked among Telford’s most outstanding achievements”* (J M Pearson & Son Ltd – Canal Companion - Welsh Waters p50) but then proceeds to hedge its bets with a vengeance - *“On 25th November, 2005 a crowd in excess of two thousand braved a Welsh downpour to mark the aqueduct’s 200th year with sixteen cannon salute and the passage over the bridge of the restored Shropshire Union fly boat Saturn. Mr Telford even returned for the day to address the crowd, as quite possibly he had done two hundred years earlier; though there were some present who have begun to believe that he stole the limelight from William Jessop!”*

So who was William Jessop, and why should he be given credit for one of the great engineering achievements of that era? His father Josias Jessop, a

foreman shipwright in the Devonport dockyard, was for 20 years responsible for the maintenance of Rudeyard’s wooden lighthouse on the Eddystone rock, until its fiery destruction in 1755. Although a foreman shipwright at the Dockyard he then worked for Smeaton on the stone replacement light, and his children were left under the guardianship of that engineer when Josias died in 1761. William was then 16 and he remained in the pupillage of Smeaton for the next ten years, working on navigation schemes in Ireland and Yorkshire. Starting out as an engineer in his own right he became the first resident engineer for the new Trent navigation improvements, and in 1787 settled in Newark, which was to be his base for much of his life until he finally took up residence in Derbyshire.

His connections with Derbyshire were strong and commenced within a few years of taking up the Trent position. Firstly he was appointed, in 1789, principal engineer of the proposed Cromford Canal, and then, in 1791, became one of the four partners in the Butterley Company. One of the other partners and its driving force for the first 15 years, Benjamin Outram, was Jessop’s assistant for the Cromford Canal but Jessop took no active part in the Company, although his work as an engineer certainly had indirect benefits. Jessop was still a young engineer, making his way in the profession, and could not have become a partner without a loan from John Wright, another partner, which was repaid by 1805. That same year Outram died and it took some years to sort a complex tangle of mismanaged finances but there

is no doubt that the Company was an important Jessop family asset, and 4 of William's 7 sons played roles in its future.

William continued an increasingly important engineering practice including the Ashby, Nottingham, Grantham, Barnsley and Caledonian canals. He worked on the West India Docks and the Bristol Docks, and his last major work was as principal engineer to the first railway company in this country – the Croydon Merstham & Godstone Iron Railway. There is no doubt, however, that his greatest achievement was the 93½ miles of the Grand Junction Canal, now the major part of the Grand Union, from the Oxford Canal at Braunston to the Thames at Brentford, and including two of the major tunnels on the British waterway system, at Braunston and Blisworth. From 1805 ill-health forced a semi-retirement which was lived out at Butterley Hall, and where he died in 1814 and is buried in Pentrich (much of the preceding three paragraphs is drawn from *The Butterley Company*, Philip Riden, Chesterfield 1973 especially pp6-15 – and generally *British Canals*, Charles Hadfield, Newton Abbot 1969).

With that long introduction we return to Welsh waters and the Pontcysyllte aqueduct. Speaking of Jessop, a leading authority (*The Canal Builders - Anthony Burton - Cleobury Mortimer* 1993 p108) says “*He was, it is now clear, the leading figure in canal engineering after Brindley's death. In his biographer's words 'Then came Jessop – alone – to tower over this period from 1785-1805'.*” Jessop was the principal engineer of the project; Thomas Telford, at that stage in his career, a relatively unknown assistant. Telford in his own autobiography says that the canal

company committee accepted his proposals but by then he was an old man and somewhat vain. The original plan was for locks down each side of the Dee valley and a three arch aqueduct over the river but on 14th July 1795 Jessop proposed to the committee an iron trough aqueduct be built at a higher level. Telford may well have influenced this change but Jessop was already aware of the possibility of such a solution. In fact his business partner and assistant Outram designed an iron aqueduct for the Derby Canal and there were other examples he could well have known about. Burton cogently points out that it was Jessop's reputation that got the approval of the committee and if the aqueduct had failed it is his reputation that would have suffered (Burton pp115-116).

I believe that in civil engineering terms the case for the primacy of Jessop in this mighty work of engineering is clear. So why it is that Jessop's name is relatively unknown outside specialist circles? The answer seems to be that he had no interest in self-publicity and allowed others to shine while he got on with his job. The final word goes to Anthony Burton (p105), one of William Jessop's few champions in recent years – “*William Jessop's speciality was quietly, methodically and self-effacingly to organize a major canal project with the minimum of trouble to anyone else. He was many people's idea of the ideal chief engineer. He was a calm, modest and immensely sensible man – an attitude reflected in his work. Unfortunately this admirable, and, among engineers of that time, rare quality, misled many into underestimating his ability.*”

William Featherstone

ANOTHER TOWERING GIANT

Sir Nigel Gresley 1876 -1941

It seems appropriate, in the light of recent 75th anniversary celebrations of the record breaking run of the elegant and aerodynamic Mallard steam engine to give honourable mention to Sir Nigel Gresley of Netherseal. The designer of the Mallard and The Flying Scotsman and other railway engines and improvements too numerous to mention, he too must feature in the list of ingenious and indefatigable engineers with Derbyshire connections – and it should be added his connections go back further than most! 1086 and all that! So three cheers for Sir Nigel!



PROGRAMME SECRETARY'S NOTES

Winter Programme 2013-14

The Winter programme is nearing its completion in with many interesting lectures and this year we have 4 main lectures already booked.

- 27 September - 'Resolving Repton? Untangling Viking Age Identities through Combined Isotope Analyses' by Catrine Jarman, Bristol University.
- 1 November - WEA lecture on 'New Evidence for Roman County Durham'

by Dr David Mason, Durham County Archaeologist.

- 10 January - Society lecture on 'Greyfriars, Leicester and the Search for the grave of Richard III' by Richard Buckley, ULAS.
- 7 March WEA lecture - 20 Years of Geofizz on Time Team: What have we learnt? by Dr John Gater.

All four lectures will be in Room OL1 at the University of Derby on Kedleston Road at 7.30pm.

And you may have heard the rumours that the McGuires have moved house again. This time its permanent and we moved to Haltwhistle in Northumberland at the beginning of May.

NB. Malise will however remain Programme Secretary. Email is a wonderful thing.

We are very grateful

Winter Programme 2012-13 Review

On 11th January 2013 James Towe, the Archivist and Librarian at Chatsworth House gave us cause both to envy him and sympathise with him. Imagine having available the papers of Thomas Hobbs, tutor to the 2nd Earl of Devonshire living out his days at Chatsworth: the only surviving notebook of the discoverer of hydrogen, scientist Henry Cavendish, the 3rd son of the 2nd Duke of Devonshire: the letters and journals of Georgiana ("The Duchess"): estate

maps of the Cavendish estates, including an early 17th century survey by William Senior of the Chatsworth estate: even the mining records for the Soke and Wapentake of Wirksworth though these belong to the Duchy of Lancaster. The sympathy comes when you are told that the archives are measured in kilometres of shelving, and that much is just listed, and a lot unsorted, one wonders when poor James is going to have time to enjoy his position.

Not content with having these magnificent archives, the library with its collection of over 30,000 books also comes under his jurisdiction. Strangely it was the titles of the books in the fake bookcases concealing the library doors that stick in the memory, "Macadam's Views on Rhodes", "Boyle, on steam" and "Percy Vere" (in 15 large volumes).

It was a fascinating and enjoyable talk.

Anne Jones

The WEA lecture in March was given by Maxwell Craven on 'The Life and Works of Edward Saunders' a local architect and Society member who revived the national reputation of Robert Bakewell the maker of all those fantastic wrought iron gates that grace the County and, amongst other works of art, the Melbourne Hall giant "Birdcage".

THE LIBRARY NOTES

There seems now to be an even more reluctance by the depleted staff on the Reception Desk in the Central Library in Derby to get items from our Library for members. Try telephoning in advance with a clear request, it depends who is on duty. If you have problems then please

contact me by e-mail, phone or letter with your request and I will try to help.

We have had a bumper lot of books donated to us this year. Max Craven has contributed his recent books on the history of local firms. These include the great tome on Stanton and the Thornhills, Smiths of Derby and Gordon Ellis & Co. Margery Tranter offered us our selection of her extensive library and from that I selected about a dozen varied items from Derby and the Forty-Five to Trent Valley landscapes, from Almshouses to Anglo-Saxon Churches. Thank you both, and the reviewers.

Now a personal note. I have been the Assistant Librarian for the Society (A Derby City Council person is the Librarian) for many, many years. Age is advancing and I would very much like to find a younger person to join the team with a view or taking on the job at the next AGM or so. Even partly full journal boxes, for instance, are quite heavy to lift up and down so perhaps a man or would be preferred. But whoever they are they need to have that passion for books and the ordered approach that is needed in library work. So will any member who is interested in this very pleasant occupation please get in touch with me or Joan D'Arcy (see front cover) and we can arrange a meeting to explore the position.. Please consider this seriously. *Ray Marjoram*

THE SOCIETY AGM

The AGM was held at Derby Museum on May 7th. and was followed by an interesting and diverting talk on the Butterley Gangroad Project by

Trevor Griffith. Further research had resulted in the discovery of an abandoned line in a nearby disused quarry and confirmation that the track to the tunnel had been realigned in the 1840s. Wessex Archaeology had just presented its interim report which concluded that the tunnel had been constructed in two phases with the later phase coinciding with this realignment. Their excavation had revealed an in situ stone sleeper and an adjacent path. This is important because the Butterley Gangroad may well have been the first railway on which stone sleeper blocks were used and this block dates from that early period.

Barbara Foster

ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH GROUP

Dr Ffiona Gilmore-Eaves **Thracian Treasures from Bulgaria** **25th January.**

Fiona began her talk showing a map outlining, 'The Thrace', a congress of tribes, called Thracians, who settled in the region, with the Balkan mountains to the north and the Rhodope Mountains and the Aegean Sea to the south. It is an easily accessible area from the Black Sea, comprising south eastern Bulgaria, north east Greece and the European part of Turkey. Homer was the first person to mention the Thracian people, who spoke in their own tongue but didn't have a written language.

The Thracians left mounds, the equivalent of our barrows, but very

much larger. The large amounts of rich treasures discovered in the mounds were very much in the Greek and Persian style. There was also evidence that feasting and ceremonial drinking, had taken place with big stemmed bowls for wine and water.

At Starosel, a 251 metres mound covered a Thracian cult temple dated around the end of the 4th century BC. The entrance was approached through a large forecourt, then through an ante-chamber, which previously held a door. Inside, very much Greek influenced, are ochre coloured columns built into the walls. Above the ground are Doric pedestals.

At Svetista, what looked at first sight like a modest burial chamber until the buried treasures were discovered. Crushed human bones were found, along with broken objects - a Thracian custom to release the spirit.

At Kazanlac is a brick built tomb with possibly the first ever fired bricks. The authorities who are very worried about the deterioration of the paintings, have built a replica, with beautiful painted ceilings decorated with frescos. One painting includes a pomegranate, a metaphor representing eternal life.

One mound that had not been looted is Golyama Kosmatkea near the town of Shipka and excavated in 2006. Herodotus related stories of sacrificed horses and slain dogs, with channels built to carry the slaughtered animals blood. There is a story about a favourite wife being sacrificed and buried along with her husband leaving other wives jealous. It was usual to feast and then celebrate with funeral games. Stone doors still in situ were found, adorned

with a replica head of Helios or Apollo, and a head of a gorgon, hung on huge stone hinges. This was made to shut from the inside! In an inner circular chamber, beautifully cut, bronze pieces were discovered along with alabaster pots for perfume. Gold headdresses were also found weighing at least a kilo. With traces of leather representing a symbolic burial, it is thought that this is not just a temple but more like a cenotaph.

The silver bridle mounts from Golyama Kosmatka and Ostrushka. Were more Celtic than Greek. A burial chamber was carved out of one enormous piece of stone - possibly moved by ice. Also found were griffin heath plaques, sewn on to clothes, possibly indicating a King.

In time, Celtic tribes started to enter the province. The Thrace tried to keep isolated but eventually lost power and wealth. The burial chambers were filled up with earth but a quantity of datable coins were found.

Janette Jackson

ASHBY DE LA ZOUCH

Saturday 15th June was a rather grey drizzly day for our visit to the small town of Ashby de la Zouch, just over the border in Leicestershire. The name Ashby means 'Ash Tree Farm' or 'Ash Tree Settlement' and derives from the Danes who settled in the area from the mid 8th century. The rest of the town's name is derived from the Breton nobleman, Alain de Parrhoet la Souche, who acquired the manor by marriage in about 1160. We were taken on a town

tour by guide Robert Jones and his three assistants.

The Zouch family were responsible for this planned town surrounding Market Street and its prosperity as a successful trading centre. After the last of the Zouch family died in 1399 the manor passed to the Earl of Ormond who was killed at the battle of Towton. The manor then reverted to the king who granted it to William Hastings in friendship and for services rendered. A later Lord Hastings became a favourite of Henry VIII and was created the Earl of Huntingdon.

On our walk we admired the Gilbert Scott designed 70 feet high cross to the memory of Lady Loudon, a member of the Hastings family, who died in 1879. Her house built in the 19th century near the Castle is now part of an independent school. Many buildings in the long and wide Market Street were re-fronted in the Georgian style hiding the timber framed structures but which are still visible behind when peering through the shop windows.

We were told about the discovery of a copious saline spring with curative powers when mining coal at Moira Colliery nearby. As a consequence Moira Baths were built together with a large hotel. After a few years it was decided to convey the water to Ashby where the Ivanhoe Baths were built with money raised by public subscription. The Baths were of a neo-Grecian design built in 1822 with a Doric columned facade 200 feet long. The Royal Hotel was built in 1826 together with a railway station and terraces of stylish houses to

accommodate the expected influx of 'persons of quality' to this new spa town. However, the spa was never able to compete with Harrogate or Buxton and by 1900 it was finished. The Baths gradually became derelict and were demolished in 1962.

Ashby opened an electric tramway in 1906 connecting to Burton-upon-Trent with a branch line to Swadlincote and Church Gresley. The tramcars were open-topped and operated until 1927.



A Burton-on-Trent to Ashby Light Railway tram in Detroit

We passed the site of the huge Bullion Centre where gold and treasures belonging to London banks were stored during the Second World War. The site has now been developed for housing.

Although we did not visit the church, St. Helen's, due to an imminent wedding, we were told that it has the only known survival of a finger pillory which was fastened with a lock on the hands of those who had misbehaved in church. The church, originally built in 1474, also contains ancient heraldic glass taken from the ruined castle chapel and the Hastings Chapel with the magnificent alabaster tomb of Francis 2nd Earl of Huntingdon (1513-61) and his wife Katharine.

At the end of the tour we visited the very interesting small Museum and, after an introduction by Dr. Wendy Freer, we watched a film of the excavations made two years ago in a garden near the Church which revealed the foundations of a medieval vicarage, barn, drains and remains of a Civil War ditch. The dig, led by Lee Elliott of Trent & Peak Archaeology was declared by him as 'the most exciting excavation he had worked on'. Volunteers removed the many tons of soil before the dig began. The many finds included pottery, floor tiles, bones and a ridge tile with a point to prevent witches from landing. A church hall is to be built on the site.

After lunch, some members visited the ruins of Ashby Castle. The remains comprise the tower, the solar, parts of the walls and various domestic buildings including the huge kitchen dating from about 1350. Mary Queen of Scots was held prisoner there in 1569 and 1586. During the Civil War the town was one of the major Royalist strongholds under the control of Henry Hastings. After a long siege the garrison and town surrendered in March 1646 and the castle was slighted so it could not be used by any forces.

Members enjoyed the visit and many are keen to return and explore further.

Anne Haywood

The AGM

The AGM on the 5th March was followed by an Archaeological Picture Quiz presented by Geoff Petch.

Geoff began his presentation very briskly by instructing everyone to re-arrange the furniture and handed out paper and writing implements, and a list

of instructions to adhere to.

Matters were impeded slightly when the stacked slides became detached from the projector and cascaded over the room.

Geoff quickly took control of the situation, and before very long we were scrutinising the pictures on the screen, and then with confiding whispers to our team members, picking out features on the landscape, only to be asked when the picture had disappeared, "where exactly was the person standing to take this picture"?

During the evening we virtually travelled many areas of Derby and Derbyshire and Geoff managed to include all the sections with questions on Architecture, Archaeology, local History and Industrial Archaeological sites. A car park was also included, could there be a slim possibility of a King being buried beneath!

Thank you Geoff for a very pleasant evening, and for entertaining us with a very cleverly devised quiz. The winners were given tubes of 'smarties', the losers were also given 'smarties', to make them smarter!

It made for a good final meeting to our Winter talks programme, 2012-13.

Anne Haywood

ARG Fieldwork at Little Chester

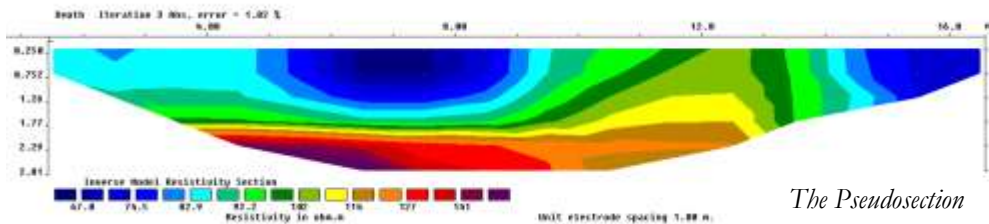
Over the last couple of months Oxford North Archaeology have dug

several large evaluation trenches across Parkers Piece and Darley Playing fields, in connection with proposed flood defences along the River Derwent. Whilst little was found in Parkers Piece (apart from some human bones!), the Playing Fields unearthed remains of walls from what is thought to be the *vicus*, a number of millstones in various stages of preparation, a segment of Ryknield Street and some nice Roman sherds of pottery.

You may remember that the Society undertook some resistivity surveys in the area in 2010 and 11 in the area of the old Bowling Green. It found nothing definitive, but in the wake of the excavations (it was planned well before) we decided to complete the survey as we hadn't done the eastern part. We had little expectation of finding anything as the excavations had proved that most deposits were a good 3 ft below the ground, beyond the range of the resistivity meter. This turned out to be case but the two trenches so recently dug, showed up splendidly and a good time was had by all, on one of the better days of "summer."

Better luck was had in a local garden where a pseudosection showed up what could be a robbed out wall consistent with the presumed site of the western wall of the fort. More on this in the next Newsletter.

Barbara Foster



The Pseudosection

ARCHITECTURAL SECTION

Lecture on 1 February 2013 - Osmaston Manor House

When this lecture was arranged Miss Jane Walker-Okeover and her sister Mrs Anne Clowes were booked to present a joint lecture. Sadly, Miss Walker-Okeover was taken ill and subsequently died in the autumn of 2012. The Committee were extremely pleased when Mrs Clowes agreed to go ahead and do the lecture on her own. She was rewarded by a large audience of 72 members and some guests.

Francis Wright the owner of the Butterley Iron Works well known locally (whose work included St Pancras Station in London) bought the Estate in 1846. He started building on the site of a farmhouse called Osmaston in the Field. The architect was Henry Isaac Stevens of Derby and the house was completed in 1856. 350 tons of Butterley cast iron went into the construction of the flat roof, slate, lead and cement on concrete on brick. It was almost fireproof.

The extensive cellars had a 300 foot railway with curves and turntables to carry coke and coal for the fires. A hydraulic lift carried this to each floor. No chimneys were built, the idea being that the smoke was carried by an underground tunnel to the 150 foot smoke tower in the kitchen garden. This failed to work so chimneys were added.

Water came from a reservoir above the house pumped by 20 foot overshot wheels with a 20 foot head of water from the three lakes below the

house. Drinking water came from a spoke in Shirley woods and was carried in an iron pipe across the valley to a smaller reservoir.

An 80 foot arcade ran from the house to the conservatory with its elegant ironwork, and above the arcade were rooms and a swimming pool, 17 feet by 14 feet 6 inches. The arcade ended in the four faced 7 foot diameter clock tower. Each face had an inscription; "Work while it's day", "Redeem the time", "Watch and pray" and "Arise, shine, for thy light is come".

These policies extended to 40 acres, of which 4 acres were the walled kitchen garden. The cavity walls contained cast iron heating pipes and the walls were topped with 20 inches of cast iron.

The A52 originally turned left at the lodge at the bottom of Osmaston Hollow and went up Madge Lane to the village. Mr Wright had the turnpike diverted to its present route.

A philanthropist and a religious man, Mr Wright built St Martin's church and the school in Osmaston and also St John's Church in Ashbourne. He died in 1873.

In 1883 the manor and estate were put up for sale and bought by Sir Andrew Walker. Originally from Ayr, he moved to Liverpool in 1846 to set up the family brewery of Peter Walker and Son in Warrington. Twice mayor of Liverpool, he founded the Walker Art Gallery. He died in 1893, and his eldest son, Peter and his wife, a Miss Okeover, settled at Osmaston.

World War I saw part of the manor used as a Red Cross convalescent hospital, but apart from a

certificate, no records remain. Sir Peter died in 1918 and his son, Sir Ian, inherited.

During the Second World War the house was again used as a Red Cross convalescent hospital and over 4 years catered for 1,175 patients. The 5th field regiment of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps was stationed at Osmaston with some 800 horses on the estate.

As mentioned above, the second Baronet married a Miss Okeover who was a co-heiress of Haughton Ealdred Okeover. Through her the Okeover house and estate came into the Walker family and the Third Baronet assumed by Royal Licence the additional surname of Okeover in 1956. He served as Lord Lieutenant of Derbyshire from 1951 to 1977.

After World War II the house was too large and far too difficult to maintain. The family moved to Okeover Hall which Sir Ian had inherited. Unable to find any organisation as tenants the family reluctantly decided to demolish Osmaston Manor in 1964. All the terraces remained and the site now hosts wedding receptions and charity events and still gives pleasure to many.

Our speaker is the remaining child of Sir Ian, and described the house as she remembered it up to when it was pulled down. Her brother was the baronet who died in 2003 and the current baronet, another Sir Andrew, is her nephew. It is thanks to her nephew that Mrs Clowes has agreed to also offer the Society a guided tour round the grounds of the house. I understand that he and his wife had their wedding in the grounds which led to their current hospitality venture. The visit to the

house, grounds and village church is to be on 26 June 2013.

Alison Haslam

Norwegian Historic Architecture. Farmsteads and Stave Churches.

After the Section AGM, an interesting talk on the history and development of the vernacular architecture of Norway was given Malcolm Birdsall, an architect himself and member of the Vernacular Architecture Group

Farmstead layouts were described for each of four Norwegian regions. They varied with the topography, with the vast eastern region being the focus of the talk. The landscape is diverse, fragmented, and with scarce amounts of tillable soil. Much is mountainous or hilly. This led to settlement patterns of single farmsteads in small groups of buildings much as happened in the highland zone of Britain. The “tun”, familiar as an element in English place names as “a farmstead” has an extra dimension in Norway. It specifically meant the open unbuilt central area of the farmstead and was associated with celebrations and special days. Potential sites would be assessed for the angle of sunlight, exposure to wind, slope of the land, and irrigation. Also important in determining their placing was the availability of land for Infields (close to the buildings) and Outfields (for over wintering); the Old Farm of Heidal is situated high up on the hillside, facing the sun and not at the top of the mountain (because of the wind). They

were never at the bottom because of the lack of sun and good grazing pastures. The wealthy lived on the sunny side whilst the poor on the dark side!

All the buildings are wooden and raised off the ground. They are highly decorated with carved animals e.g. lions and green men. There is also some trellis work.

As the house designs evolved from the basic and ancient “stuer” - a single room with an open hearth - to longer and larger houses, log construction techniques improved too. Two storey buildings appeared around the farmstead with a wide variety of specialist uses. These could include *loft* or *stabbur* which was often the most impressive building on the farm - two-storeyed and jettied.



Loft House (courtesy Malcolm Birdsall)

General and food storage was on the ground floor, and above the family kept chests with their best clothes, silver, money, etc. The lofts would also be used for extra sleeping space, for older children and servant girls.

These were made with a combination of stave (vertical thin

timber members) and log construction techniques. Roofs covered with grass sods (wild flowers sometimes growing) underlain with birch bark were a common feature on early farm buildings providing insulation. Gaps between the logs were often filled with moss or oakum, or sometimes with a woollen material stained red or blue. An excellent array of slides illustrated the many and various examples

Stave churches were also wooden, and date from the 11th century to the mid 14th century; terminating with the advent of the bubonic plague.



Borgund Church (courtesy Malcolm Birdsall)

Stave Churches are so named, by virtue of the extensive use of thin vertical timbers (“staves”) used in the wall construction cladding. Only 12 now remain from this period. Comparisons were made with Greenstead Church in Essex considered to be the oldest church in the western world formerly having earth fast posts.

Later churches like Borgund in the 12th century became quite fantastical as they were enlarged and adorned. The meeting was shown a selection of roofs

with scissor braces, dragons head decorations (in juxtaposition with carvings of Viking boats) and guardian lions- to keep away evil spirits. Many churches had fish 'scale' timber tiles to roofs.

From the 17th century, styles and decoration were influenced by the Danes following the advent of their Lutheran rule. New churches with transepts, and enlarged naves with seating were adopted – the old churches were thought to be too dark and cold

Clearly this was a fascinating lecture. We had several enthusiastic and knowledgeable members of the audience who were able to add to the lecture.

Alison Haslam

Ellys Manor

It was a grey and windy occasion when 29 members assembled in Great Ponton near Grantham on June 8 for a visit to Ellys Manor House. We were greeted there by the owner, Mr. Clive Taylor, who suggested that we go to the Village Hall where he would give us an introductory talk.



The Manor was rebuilt by Anthony and Thomas Ellys who were

wool merchants of Swineshead near Boston. They bought the Manor c. 1480, wishing to become landed gentry. The existing house of around 1380, on a north-south axis, was removed except for the kitchens. The new building was erected in the Flemish style lying east-west to catch the sun, the driving force was believed to be Thomas Ellys. They had strong connections with the Hanseatic League and hence the crow-stepped gable. At that time the transport connections were good, with both the Great North Road and Ermine Street nearby as well as the River Witham and east west routes through Grantham. The Ellys family left around 1540, and the house became a second home, then gradually deteriorating. By the time it was bought by Mr. and Mrs. Taylor in 1980 from the Church of England the only maintenance seems to have been putting buckets out to catch the drips through the ceiling.

Half our party went to view the house while the rest visited the Church, the guide there being Roger Sherlock. This had a large western tower built by the Ellys family in 1519. It was decorated by several stone details, including the motto 'Thynke and thanke God of all' on three sides; one gargoyle is in the form of a bespectacled man, believed to be the earliest representation of spectacles in the country and there is also a drunkard carved in one corner. Inside, the Church is a rather plain but lofty building with few memorials, although there is a group of armorial shields (Ellys; Ellys halved with Marshall for Thomas and his wife; the Calais Staple) probably from a table tomb. A rood stair is still open in the

south side column of the chancel arch. The 14c. chancel was shortened in a Victorian restoration, leaving one arch blocked and truncated.



The house is entered from the north, where a small part of the 1380 house can be identified. Inside, a passage runs along the north side, passing the staircase, the dining room and study and leading to the parlour. Like the other downstairs rooms, this has a large stone fireplace and a beamed ceiling. All the joists are decorated with stopped chamfers and the main beams with mouldings picked out in black. All the windows are stone mullioned, mostly with four lights. Two low stone arches on the north wall are part of the original house, standing only about four feet high because the floor level has been raised. The original hall was divided in the 18th century into a dining room and a study. The dining room has the huge fireplace while both rooms have a mullioned window and a ceiling similar to that of the parlour. Upstairs, the room over the parlour has all four walls painted from about 1600, to give the effect of a loggia with flowers and

animals visible between the columns. They were discovered in 1930, having been covered in coats of limewash, so that the scenes are still quite hard to see. A six-figure sum is required for a full restoration. More similar paintings are visible on the north wall of the passage.

John D'Arcy

LOCAL HISTORY SECTION

New House Grange Leicestershire – A History

On 15th February members enjoyed an engaging talk by Rita Poulson who described her research into the origins of her residence of New House Grange near Sheepy Magna in Leicestershire. She indicated that key features of the Grange site are remnants of a rectangular moat, a farmhouse largely of eighteenth century origin, a dovecote from the same period and most especially a spectacular barn measuring 144ft by 39ft. The barn's oak frame comprises massive timbers which have been dated to 1506 while the barn itself continues as a functional farm building. Clearly this was, and indeed still is, a building of some status. New House Grange was originally occupied and worked by lay brothers to provide food etc for its parent house of Merevale Abbey. This was a small Cistercian foundation of 1148 located some nine miles to the southwest. The lands were originally in the Forest of Arden and were given to the Cistercians by Robert de Ferrers. At the

Dissolution in 1538 the Grange had 95 acres of plough with crops valued at £26/9/4 and livestock at £14/8/-, while over recent decades the area farmed has comprised 345 acres.

Rita Poulson explained that at Merevale only traces of the abbey buildings remain but the surviving Gate House Chapel, which is used as a parish church, is noteworthy in two respects in that the chancel is bigger than the nave and it incorporates a medieval stained glass window of national importance. Seemingly the window glass had been buried at the Dissolution only to be discovered and restored during the nineteenth century. Merevale Hall, rebuilt in 1840, remains in the hands of the Dugdale family.

Rita Poulson concluded by outlining the various families which have been associated with New House Grange since the Dissolution. These included Thomas Rivett of the Cockpit Hill Potworks in Derby whose widow had insured the barn for £500 in 1786. A number of other families had Quaker connections.

The strength of Rita Poulson's talk was the way it illustrated how a wide range of research questions, touching on local and national issues, can flow from the seemingly straightforward start point of seeking to understand the origins of a barn.

Roger Dalton

The AGM

The Local History Section AGM and "The Derbyshire Oral History Recordings" which should have taken

place on 22nd March was postponed because of bad weather. The AGM then took place on 7th May when Stephen Bounds was elected Chairman and Dudley Fowkes Vice Chairman.

St Michael and All Angels Church, Church Broughton 22nd May 2013

The vicar, The Reverend Michael Bishop, gave an introductory talk on the history of the church which was mostly built in the early 14th century. The church was founded in in the 12th century and might have been built by the Priory of Tutbury to whom the manor of Church Broughton was given by a grandson of Henry de Ferrers. Some Norman work can be seen in the pillars at the east end of the nave and the font is Norman, decorated with interlaced circles and triangles, possibly representing eternity and the trinity.



The Norman Font

The main early 14th century features of the church are the east window, five of the chancel windows,

the lower windows of the tower and the south doorway. Late in the 14th century the roof of the nave was raised to allow for a clerestory; the line of the original roof can be seen on the external east wall of the tower. The 14th century tower which many members climbed, has a low recessed spire. In the chancel is a small trefoil shaped window in a recess on the outer south wall probably a sepulchral recess. On the most westerly pillars of the nave are two carved heads; to the north, a woman holding up her hair and opposite on the south side a man clutching his head. It has been suggested that the heads represent suffering in the plague.



The Royal Arms of George IV are displayed on the south wall of the nave; they were set up in 1827 at a cost of £8-12-7d to show loyalty to the crown. Originally they would have been placed above the chancel arch. W H Auden's uncle and cousin were vicars here in the late 19th and early 20th century and he is known to have stayed at the vicarage as a child.

Generous refreshments were provided at the end of the visit and the weather stayed fine for the whole evening,

Joan Davies

The Church Bassoon at Church Broughton



*An 18th.
century
Bassoon*

Another feature that was brought to our attention during the visit to the church, was the display of an old bassoon. The instrument had been brought out of store and safekeeping specially for us by the vicar and church officers. The instrument is a Baroque period church bassoon, possibly dating from the late 1700s. What we call church bassoons were no different from other ones of the period, used say in orchestras; but these were instruments used specifically in churches during the services.

A few village churches did have early organs, but much was lost following the depredations of the Puritans, who considered such things as stained glass, rood screens, sculpted figures, painted walls and organs as Popish objects and swept them away

By the 18th century there was an increasing use of music in churches including hymns, and singers really needed musical instruments to provide and maintain the musical pitch. Thus wind instruments such as an oboe, a bassoon, and a flute, - sometimes with say also a fiddle or a cello, if available, would have been added. An individual group would have been small, maybe four to six players. Oboes and bassoons had been newly invented and only started to come into common use in the early 1700s.

Bassoons being larger and more complex to make, and thus more expensive, seem frequently to have been bought directly out of church funds, and then kept in safe keeping in their capacious wooden church chests. This appears so at Church Broughton. Unfortunately, the bottom section of this bassoon - called the Butt Joint - has been severely damaged in past years by woodworm. But as church bassoons with provenance are rare survivors, and obviously important objects of church history, this one deserves repair and conservation. The Society is investigating the possibility of getting it restored and conserved. Some members may recall, on a visit to All Saints Church, Aston on Trent three years ago, a bassoon had been restored and conserved by the church, and is now on display on the church wall.

Peter Billson

Merevale Saturday 15th June 2013

This visit was a follow-up to the talk by Rita Poulson to the Local History Section in February about her home, New House Grange, Leicestershire which was a grange of Cistercian Merevale Abbey in Warwickshire before the Dissolution.

The visit began at the Gate House Chapel of the abbey, now the parish church of Our Lady, where we were met by the vicar, The Reverend Janet Gasper who gave us a short talk about the history of the chapel. It is one of the few remaining Gate House Chapels in the

country and the only one still in regular use as a parish church.



19th century carvings on the Gate House

The abbey was founded in 1148, the earliest part of the nave in the chapel dates from 1240. The chancel is larger than the nave with two side aisles. The medieval stained glass in the east window which depicts the tree of Jesse, showing the ancestors of Christ, came from the abbey church and is said to have been previously buried and then restored to this window in the 19th century. The bottom row of figures are Victorian replacements but the remaining rows above are all early 15th century. At the west end of the nave is a 15th century wooden screen, once the rood screen. The organ was made in 1777 by Johannes Snetzler, signed and dated by the maker. In the Middle Ages the chapel contained a statue of the Virgin Mary and became a place of pilgrimage, particularly at the time of the Black Death.

John Arnold gave a short talk pointing out the differences in plan between Benedictine and Cistercian abbeys, particularly the position of the refectory. It is usually built parallel to the Benedictine church but aligned north- south, i.e. at right angles to the church in a Cistercian Abbey.

John Arnold stated that the tombs now in the chapel, but originally in the abbey church commemorate members of the Ferrers family. In the nave is a stone effigy of a knight in chainmail, cross legged but headless. This was almost certainly from the tomb of Robert de Ferrers 2nd Earl of Derby who died in 1159 and was the founder of Merevale Abbey.



The brass on the floor of the chancel commemorates Robert, Fourth Lord de Ferrers of Chartley who died in 1413 and his wife Margaret who died in 1415. The alabaster tomb is possibly that of Lord William Ferrers of Chartley who died in 1450 and his wife Elizabeth who died in 1471. The tomb has four angels holding shields, a Chellaston alabaster pattern.



We then went down to Abbey Farm, just below the chapel, to see the remains of the abbey among the farm buildings. A substantial north wall of the refectory survives with rows of attached rounded shafts dating it to the early 13th century. The south wall has the remains of the reading pulpit and its small staircase. An excavation was carried out in 1839 by William Dugdale, the owner of the estate and Henry Clutton an architect. The site and dimensions of the Abbey Church and the Abbey buildings were recorded on a plan at the time and a model made from this plan is in the chapel. At the time of the excavation Henry Clutton was commissioned to build the Gate House and archway to the chapel. The site was well supplied with water; there is still a large lake and remains of embankments for fishponds





After some time walking round the ruins we drove north into Leicestershire to New House Grange Farm near Sheepy Magna where Mrs Poulson had refreshments waiting for us. The farm is a moated site and Saxon and medieval pottery has been found. Hinckley Archaeological Group were doing an excavation near the farmhouse and gave us a short talk about their discoveries so far. The abbey lands were extensive and New House Grange would have been worked by lay brothers from the abbey Mrs Poulson's research has discovered that an inventory made in October 1538 at the time of the Dissoluton recorded that barley, wheat, rye, peas and fifty loads of hay were in storage at New House Grange; there were also cattle, oxen, horses and swine on the farm. The

great timbered barn was built in 1506 (confirmed by tree ring dating) which was soon after Henry VII, who was victorious at the Battle of Bosworth, visited the abbey and paid compensation to the monks of Merevale for the damage to crops on monastic lands by his army on the way to the battle. The barn is huge, 44m long and 11.5m wide with magnificent timbers. It is still in use and our visit had to be in June when the barn is empty.

We are very grateful to Rita Poulson, the vicar of The Gate House Chapel and the tenants of Abbey Farm who all made this visit possible.

Joan Davies.

INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY SECTION

COAL MINING AT BELPER

This was a fascinating talk on a little-known aspect of coal-mining in Derbyshire. Mike Allen explained that normally coal-measures are thought of as being to the east of Belper, but in fact he has been investigating the remains of a coalfield in the Dalley, which is just to the west of the town.

He had found first reference to this mining in 1686 when a fatality had occurred at a mine on Bridge Hill - most probably a bell-pit. By the mid 19th-century all extraction of coal had ceased. The coal seams were isolated, dipping from west to east underneath the height of Bridge Hill and Mount Pleasant. They were exposed on the western side up the Dalley and that is where all the evidence of pits is found. The seams were very thin, no more than 2 to 3 feet thick, and were of very poor quality, high in sulphur. The coals were used domestically in the nearby town and were not worth enough for them to be transported any further.

From old maps Mike had found that there were a number of shafts in the coalfield, but when Mike went to the Coal Authority to see what information they held on the coalfield they denied that there had ever been any mining in this particular area. However in the 1960's the NCB had to come and cap one particular 70' shaft which suddenly opened up over-night. Mike had plotted the positions of the pits to the present

day on the ground, but the remains were fairly minimal. Some of the shafts had been capped by John Strutt when he had bought the Dalley in the early 19th century, though not before the Strutt estate had made a profit of £198 from the coal over 6 years from 5 acres of land.

Mike was also interested in how the mines had been drained and he thought that there must have been a sough of some kind. Having walked the area extensively, he had found no physical evidence of this drain, but in 1814 the pits had been leased to German Ryde of Belper in which a sough for drainage was mentioned.

David Mellors

EMIAAC 85 REPORT “Manufacturing: Past, Present and Future” Leicester University, April 2013

The Spring EMIAAC of 2013 was organised by the Leicestershire Industrial History Society with the help of the University of Leicester. This had the advantage that the conference was free to participants and ensured a good attendance.

In the morning the scene was set on the ‘Industrial development in Leicester during the 19th century’ by Marilyn Palmer, Emeritus Professor of Industrial Archaeology at the University and very well known to all industrial archaeologists in the East Midlands. Her enthralling and well-illustrated lecture was an overview of the manufacturing in Leicester during the century where at first framework knitting predominated,

then hosiery flourished and then glove-making grew in the 1830's. She explained that all this industry took place in small-scale factories, or as home-working right through the period, with steam engines only being installed in the 1850's. In the 1890's there were still framework knitters in the city, despite the mechanisation of a good many of the other industries. At the end of the century more industries were trying to gain sway in the city with footwear being the most notable incomer.

The second lecture of the morning was given by Simon Gunn, Colin Hyde and Rebecca Madgin of the Centre for Urban History at the University who spoke on 'Industrial Decline and economic regeneration: Leicester, 1945-2000'. This was illustrated with pieces from the East Midland Oral History Archive housed at the Centre which enabled the speakers to chart the decline of such industries as the hosiery and boot & shoe manufacturing which were still pre-eminent in the city up until the 1980's. However from this time the factories have been closing down, many being subdivided, others being demolished but also a number having been put to residential, cultural or office use.

After lunch there was a talk on the resources of the city for doing research on this diverse manufacturing past. Terese Bird and Tania Rowlett from the University Library and from the Leicestershire Record Office talked of the tremendous efforts being made to digitise archive material from all eras. They are tasked with creating learning resources for the use of all and making materials more visible and accessible.

They particularly encouraged conference participants to look at these particular websites -

www.le.ac.uk/manufacturingpasts;
www.myleicestershire.org.uk

The day was rounded off by the Mayor of Leicester, Sir Peter Soulsby, who had been present for the whole of the conference, talking about 'The future of manufacturing in Leicester'. He indicated where he saw development taking place and how there was much entrepreneurial spirit still in the city.

David Mellors

2013 AGM and the Clay Cross Tunnel

The Annual General Meeting of the Industrial Section on 15 March 2013 was chaired by Dudley Fowkes as the final act of his 2-year chairmanship. He particularly thanked Peter Robinson, his Vice-chairman, for deputising on many occasions over the past winter season. At the election of officers, Peter stepped up as Chairman with Jane Heginbotham succeeding him as Vice-chairman. The other Section officers continued in post. Tom Farnsworth announced an interesting summer programme of visits.

The talk following the meeting was by Philip Cousins on the building of the Clay Cross Tunnel for the North Midland Railway. He first reminded us that the North Midland was the last of the three Derby-terminating railways to be authorised, the last to be completed, and, due to its more difficult terrain, the most expensive per track mile. Joint Principal Engineers were George and

Robert Stephenson, with Frederick Swanwick, a pupil of George Stephenson, as Resident Engineer. The line was to run from Derby to Leeds via Chesterfield, but avoiding Sheffield.

The contract drawings for the Clay Cross tunnel fortunately survive at the National Archives; they formed the core of Philip's talk and provided many attractive illustrations. Beautifully drawn with colourwash shading, the drawings specify the required design in extraordinary detail. Shown passing through steeply sloping strata with one "dislocation", the mile-long tunnel is specified with 6 working shafts (each with its associated pumping shaft), and one very large central ventilation shaft. The tunnel cross section is 29ft wide and unusually tall (26ft from rail level). An elaborate design is specified for the north portal, with four circular towers connected by castellated wing walls.

Tenders were invited in December 1836, the contract being awarded in early 1837 to Messrs Harding and Cropper at a price of £105,400 and with a contract completion date of 1 May 1839. (Interestingly, Harding, in spite of the scale of his undertaking, could only sign the contract with "his mark".) Work no doubt got under way immediately. It would have required a substantial workforce (numbers are not recorded) and major arrangements for the supply of materials. Housing was purchased for offices and built for workers. However, there were evidently difficulties – 11 fatalities are known and a partial collapse is reported in 1838 – and by then the completion date is deemed "impossible". The Company reacted vigorously, bringing in Edward

Price, with experience of the Kilsby Tunnel on the London to Birmingham line, to take over the southern section of the tunnel, and engaging a mason Waring to construct the ornamental north portal. These steps involved some design changes: more working shafts were sunk (9 now survive), the major ventilation shaft was abandoned, and the design of the north portal was simplified. They resulted in completion on 18 December 1839, the delay having been limited to 7½ months.

The mineral discoveries made in the process of tunnelling would have important consequences for George Stephenson and for Clay Cross. This was touched on very briefly.

Philip closed an interesting evening by showing a filmed cab-ride from the 1970s running northbound through the tunnel and on past Chesterfield.

Alastair Gilchrist

Caudwell's Mill

Twenty-two Society members assembled on the distinctly chilly evening of 23 May 2013 for the Industrial Section's visit to Caudwell's Mill in Rowsley. The party was welcomed by Graeme Walker, the Trust's Operations Director, who briefly outlined the mill's history. The present building was erected by John Caudwell in 1874 on a long-established 2-mill site, the new building housing both a flour mill and a provender mill. The mill race runs under the building somewhat off-centre, serving the larger flour mill to its north and the smaller

provender mill to its south. The flour mill originally had the larger water-wheel driving eight pairs of stones, the smaller provender wheel driving three. However the Caudwells were a progressive family and soon converted to the more modern roller milling (in 1885), replacing the water-wheels by turbines from 1887. The flour mill was several times updated, notably with German machinery, which included a new turbine, in 1914. (The German craftsmen were allowed – or required – to complete their work and were then interned for the duration of the war.) The historic significance of the mill centres on the very complete survival of this early 20th century equipment.

The group then divided into two parties for the tour inside the flour mill, one party led by Lance Oldham, the mill manager, and one by Graeme himself. On the tour we were able to view both turbines, the smaller (provender) turbine submerged and working, the larger (flour mill) turbine exposed and partially dismantled in preparation for its planned role of electricity generation. (The smaller turbine already generates.) We also saw and had explained: examples of Archimedean screw and belt-and-bucket elevator used to move grain around the building; the dozen or so roller stands of graduated fineness; various sifters, purifiers and dust extractors; the immensely deep storage bins passing through several storeys of the building; and one of the two sack hoists. All this machinery was powered by an elaborate pulley and belt system from the single turbine. Equally notable is the all-pervasive system of ducting responsible for the transport of grain (or partly

processed flour) from machine to machine and finally to the bagging station. Indeed it might be valid to view the whole assemblage as a single, immensely complex, machine for the conversion of grain to flour and occupying an entire building – basement, three main floors and attic.

Graeme (I was in Graeme's party) was able to interleave his technical description of the equipment with first-hand anecdote of the milling activity undertaken for some years by the Trust after it took responsibility for the mill and its machinery in 1980. It made for a very rewarding evening.

Alastair Gilchrist

NEW MEMBERS

- Miss C. Holbrook of Littleover
- Mr M. Peberdy of Littleover
- Mrs B. Freeman of Belper
- Mrs. A.R. Harman of Swanwick
- Miss N.J. Manning of Matlock
- Mr & Mrs A. Sims of Stapenhill
- Dr, Mrs & Miss Thompson of Thailand
- Mr D. Clarke of Keyworth

OBITUARY

Alwyn Davies

We are very sad to report the death of Alwyn Davies who was a long standing and active member of the Society together with his wife Joan. He was a member of our Council for many years, a knowledgeable member of the Derbyshire Buildings Survey team and was, until relatively recently “a regular” on the Society's walks, talks and visits. He was very active in the renaissance of the canals

and waterways movement in the 60s and 70s and beyond and indeed, was a founder member of the Swarkestone Boat Club on the Trent and Mersey. We will miss him.

DERBYSHIRE MISCELLANY

Vol 20, Part 1, Spring 2013

- *Thomas Smith of Derby 1721-1767 Pioneer of English Landscape Art* by Trevor Brighton.
- *The Harrisons of Bridge Gate, Derby, Whitesmiths and Engineers. Part I: William Harrison 1735-1819* by Joan D'Arcy.

Thomas Smith was a landscape artist of some renown in the 18thC who lived in Bridge Gate, Derby. As a result of his painting tours he popularised the landscapes of the Peak District, the Yorkshire Dales and the Lake District and began to divert the attention of the grand tourists away from the Roman campagna to the English countryside. His topographical views of the natural, unspoilt features of these landscapes - rocks and rivers, cataracts and caves - also influenced the growth of landscape gardening in country houses such as Newstead Abbey and Hagley Park. By contrast, he also recorded industrial scenes such as his famous view of Coalbrookdale executed for Abraham Darby III and,



The Upper Works at Coalbrooke Dale.
By T. Smith 1758

from the 1750s, equine portraits set in landscapes. The article is illustrated with 13 of Smith's paintings including several Derbyshire scenes.

William Harrison, a whitesmith and ironmonger, also lived in Bridge Gate in the 18thC. Described later by Alfred Wallis as '*an engineer and boiler-maker in Bridge-gate upon a large scale of business*', his work was previously unknown, unlike that of his son John. His known clients ranged from Derby Corporation for whom he carried out a wide variety of work including irons for prisoners in the Gaol, chains to secure the bull in the New Pasture, seals for the Mayors and lamp irons for street lights, St Mary's Bridge Commissioners and the Derby Canal Company to Derby Crown China,



Kedleston Hall and Erasmus Darwin for whom he made a 'bow' designed by Darwin which aimed to cure curvature of the spine in young women (illustrated in Darwin's '*Zoonamia*'). Some of the mileposts he made for the Turnpike Trust can still be seen in situ today. In addition he was a founding member of the True Blue Club and served in various capacities in St Alkmund's parish.

If you don't subscribe to Miscellany, copies of this issue are available from Dr Dudley Fowkes, 11 Sidings Way, Westhouses, Alfreton, DE55 5AS (£4 incl p&p).

Alternatively an annual subscription for Miscellany, which is printed twice a year, is £6. *Jane Steer*

BOOK REVIEWS

CHELLASTON WORKING LIVES

An Oral History Then and Now 1930 - 2012 by Mick and Carol Appleby, Chellaston History Group 2012, ISBN 978-0-9533410-3-0, 127pp with b&w illustrations. £8 + p&p from chellastonhistorygroup@googlemail.com or via the Newsletter Editor for further info.

Another excellent foray into the latter day history of Chellaston, comparing the lives of policemen old (bicycle clips and clips round the ear) and new (debriefing, “engagement” and bicycle clips), farmers (mud and horses) and (mud and DEFRA), two hairdressers, two Rolls Royce workers together with the indomitable Post Office lady and a pharmacist with a long memory! The vicissitudes of those involved with Crockers (the marquee hire company) are quite something: everything from beeswax repairs in the old days to the newish “Spanish machine” that washes and dries acres of tents in a trice. Should you ever meet them, don’t talk about weddings!

Quite a riveting read that offers a wealth of insights, information and unexpected revelations - the National Service experience of one man is particularly startling! The changes - both good and bad - wrought on local working lives over the years are recorded in their own words and the responses and reactions are both illuminating and instructive to say the least.

Best (or worst) joke – “the winter of our discount tents” – I laughed anyway! Recommended.

Barbara Foster

PILLING AWARD

Applications are invited from members of the Society who are involved in research projects relating to the history, archaeology, architecture or industrial archaeology of Derbyshire. Grants of up to £1000 can be awarded. Full details of the conditions and application forms can be obtained from Barbara Foster (details on cover).

SMALL ADS

HELP 01!

Does anyone know anything about the following long lost buildings in the Morledge area of Derby ;-

- The Tower Dining Rooms,
- The Exchange Dining Rooms
- The Telegraph Dining Rooms.

Contact Chris Francis on 07710 410611

HELP 02!

A letter came:

I am researching Coxbench Quarry just north of Derby (c.1880) and have found via various online sources that it was run by the Derby firm of WH & J Slater. I'm keen to find out more about this company and the quarry and any documents / photos that may exist (there are one or two limited online resources) and to this end wonder if you know of any DAS members who have looked into this aspect of the company. I'm particularly interested as I believe that stone for Birmingham School of Art was sourced from this quarry - so if I could find account books (c.1884) that would be especially good!

If anyone has any info or ideas please let me (the Editor) know and I will pass it on.

HELP 03!**OAKWELL BRICKWORKS**

The Society, in conjunction with the Ilkeston & District Local History Society would like to hear from anyone who was, or knows anyone who was employed at the Oakwell Brickworks in Ilkeston before it closed in 1965 or has knowledge of the site before the demolition of much of the site in 1985.

An oral history project is proposed along with a publication of a general history of the Stanton Ironworks (owners of Oakwell Brickworks). Anyone with information is asked to contact Keith Reedman - contact details inside front cover.

RICHARD III FOUNDATION

Their annual conference will be held at the Dixie Grammar School in Market Bosworth.

Saturday, October 12 – 8.30 am for registration then 9 a.m to 5 p.m.

- White Rose: Scottish Thistle – *The Legacy of King Richard III+King James IV*
- Richard Buckley, BA FSA MIFA - *Leicester's Greyfriars and the Search for the Resting Place of Richard III*
- Diana Dunn, Senior Lecturer - *Queens in Late Medieval Politics and War*
- Professor Peter Hancock – *Speculations on the Asserted Legal Foundation of Richard III's Assumption of the Throne*
- Robert Hardy, CBE, FSA – *Two Battles Scotland Should Have Won: Halidon Hill and Flodden*
- Gervase Philips, Principal Lecturer - *England; Scotland and the European Revolution – 1480-1560*
- John Sadler, Historian – *The Last Yorkists*

– *the English army at Flodden 1513*

- Chris Skidmore, MP and Historian - *The Military Manoeuvres of the Battle of Bosworth*
- Professor Matthew Strickland – *Snatching Defeat from the Jaws of Victory: James IV and the Scottish army at Flodden*

Pre booking - £40 for the day including lunch or £50 on the day. Cheques payable to The Richard III Foundation Inc should be sent to Ms. Dorothy Davies, Half Moon House, 32 Church Lane, Ryde, Isle of Wight, PO33 2NB

**FESTIVAL OF BRITISH
ARCHAEOLOGY
Summer Programme 2013**

The Festival of British Archaeology which is hosted by the Council for British Archaeology runs from Saturday 13th July to Sunday 28th July and takes place around the country.

This year there are 80 events taking place around the East Midlands - more than last year!

You can contact the CBA at St Mary's House, 66 Bootham, York. YO30 7BZ or telephone +(44) (0) 1904 671417

Website: <http://festival.britarch.ac.uk/> for Events Guide which lists well over 600 heritage events.

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01332 345224 or office@wwwinter.co.uk
45, Midland Rd. Derby DE12SP

EMIAC— Oil's Well that Ends Well - 26th October 2013

EMIAC, East Midlands Industrial Archaeology Conference, comprises five societies from across the East Midlands region. In addition to NIAG, the other members are (see the [Links](#) page for contact details):

- Derbyshire Archaeology Society
- Leicestershire Industrial History Society
- North-East Derbyshire Industrial Archaeology Society
- Railway & Canal Historical Society – East Midlands Group
- Society for Lincolnshire History & Archaeology

Each of the five societies takes it in turn to organise a Heritage Day in their locality.

Heritage Days are held twice a year and are open to anyone with an interest in IA or related historical subjects. The first meeting was held in 1970 with the idea of enabling industrial archaeologists in the East Midlands to get together in different locations to consider topics of mutual interest. No formal organisation exists; the secretaries from each of the organisations meet on a regular basis.

The next **Heritage Day** is being organised by the Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology and will be held on **Saturday 26th October in Winthorpe**.

This conference explores aspects of East Midlands oil production from the first significant find in 1919 to the present day and how refined product was distributed via the River Trent. It includes a visit to Duke's Wood, the site of wartime oil production.

The conference programme is:

- 09:00 Registration with tea/coffee
 - 09:30 Welcome and Introduction
 - 09:40 The Derbyshire Oil Strike of 1919
 - 10:25 Oil - The Secret of Sherwood Forest
 - 11:10 Coffee break
 - 11:25 East Midlands Oil Fields Past, Present and Future
 - 12:10 Emiac Business Meeting
 - 12:30 Lunch
 - 13:30 Visit to Duke's Wood Oil Museum
- Note: there will be an opportunity for all delegates to attend both the visit and the lecture.*
- 13:30 The Development of Oil Traffic on the River Trent
 - 16:00 Tea and departure

Cost of event: £19.50. Booking form over.



Images courtesy of the Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology



Booking Form **EMIAc 86**

from NIAG website

Attendance at the Heritage Day is by advance booking only. The cost is £19.50 and includes morning refreshments, lunch and coach tour. Tea will be available at the end of the afternoon session.

Please book by 30th September 2013.

Print this form and send it, with your remittance, to the address below.

To: The Society Secretary, SLHA, Jews' Court, Steep Hill, Lincoln, LN2 1LS.

Tel:

Name (s) Address

.....

.....

..... Post Code

Society (if appropriate)

I enclose a cheque payable to **SLHA** for £ (£19.50 per head)

Please enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope for map, directions and receipt.

Please indicate here if you have any special dietary requirements:

.....

.....

I wish to present a report on behalf of:

.....

I wish the following item to be included within the agenda for the reports meeting:

.....

.....

I wish to have display space for:

.....

Anyone wishing to display material for sale other than on behalf of an EMIAc affiliated society or participating organisation will be expected to make a contribution to conference expenses.

Have you seen our
Website ?

Do we have your valid
email address ?

www.derbyshireas.org.uk

DERBYSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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