



# DERBYSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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Jul 2017



SCRATCH DIAL AT MACKWORTH CURCH

# DERBYSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

2017-2018

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# DERBYSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER 84 JUL 2017

### The Cover Story

Scratch or mass dials are of medieval origin usually found near the south door or chancel wall of a church. A type of sundial, they are usually regarded as markers for the 'variable' time of liturgical services in the medieval world. The gnomon, almost always missing pointed out horizontally and cast a shadow on the dial: consequently the times of mass would appear to vary depending on the time of year. Early scratch dials were about eight or nine inches in diameter with four or five markers on the lower semicircle with later ones gradually taking on the appearance of a "proper" timepiece. They are thought to date from 1100 to 1600 and with the increasing use of mechanical clocks and more scientific sundials they went out of use.

Examples of early dials can be found in Derbyshire at Mackworth, Muggington, Radbourne and Brailsford. Perhaps there is some significance in this

bunching? There is a veritable feast of dials and other graffiti at Mackworth in particular. Sometimes these dials would be used as replacement stone in damaged or newly built walls and there are dials recorded on north and west walls, in the porch and even in the nave or chancel where the sun never shone.

Should you find yourself rambling round a churchyard do look out for a scratch dial and let us know.

A story recently heard recounts the tale of a priest in Bedfordshire who would stand in wait until the sun was exactly at the appointed hour then go into the church and lock the door. It is not known whether he considered punctuality as next to godliness or whether his parishioners had a predisposition to cut and run at the first opportunity. Or indeed, whether it is apocryphal or not.

*Adrian Farnsworth, Paula Whirrity,  
Barbara Foster.*

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## THE SOCIETY AGM

The Society has seen many changes this year with the retirement of several council members and officers.

Firstly Ray Marjoram has retired as Librarian after 50 – yes 50! - years of service during which he has overseen the growth of our collection and in particular the addition of many outstanding ancient and modern books on the history of Derbyshire. We gave him hearty thanks for his work and welcomed Mrs Anne Allcock as his successor.

We also bade a fond farewell to Mike Butler, Dave Barrett, Max Craven, Alan Palfryman all long standing members of the Council and welcomed Mrs Denise Grace, Mrs Janette Jackson, Dr. Rosemary Annable, Mrs Susan Peberdy and Mr Geoff Petch who were elected as new members.

Elsewhere the Society was, thanks to bequests, in a healthy state although it was agreed that such bequests should not normally be used to subsidise the annual running costs of the Society. Given ever increasing postal, printing and other costs, an increase in subscriptions could not be ruled out in the future.

Many thanks to Pat Tinkler for her three years stint as Chairman of the Council. Chris Wardle is the new Chairman.

After the AGM, Peter Steer gave us a quite riveting talk on the campaigning group Kedleston Voice who had fought for years to prevent the building of 400 homes near to Kedleston Hall. They had eventually won the right to have a judicial review against a previous decision by a planning inspector that hinged on the principle that “if you can’t see it you can build it”. It was argued that that this was a misinterpretation of the law as it applied to Listed Buildings and against government guidelines. We now know that Kedleston won and furthermore the developers were refused the right to appeal! Well done and congratulations to all involved in what was a long and arduous fight. An inspiration!!

*Barbara Foster*

## Visit to Nottingham Castle Dig Friday 4th August 2017

Trent and Peak Archaeology are planning their annual training dig at Nottingham Castle during July and August. We have organised a visit to the site which will include a tour of this year’s archaeology, information on past excavations and an opportunity to see some of this year’s finds. It has been arranged for Friday 4th August at 2.30 pm. The meeting place will be the gatehouse, outside the main entrance to the Castle.

## Pentrich Roman Site - Exploratory Survey Sat. and Sun. 23 - 24 September 2017

We are organising a survey of Ryknield Street as it runs by Pentrich Roman fortlet, a military staging post along the road which ran from Derby (Derwentio) to Chesterfield. There will be an opportunity for a small number of members to assist in this survey on the above dates.

If you wish to take part in either of these field work events you need to book in advance as numbers are limited. Please fill in and return the form below or email request to Joan D’Arcy, Stone House Prebend,

Old Chester Road, Derby -  
darcy@qcinternet.co.uk

### Number

I/we would like to take part in

- The Visit to Nottingham Castle Dig
- Pentrich Exploratory Survey

Name(s) .....

Address .....

.....

Tel .....

E-mail .....

## PROGRAMME SECRETARY'S REPORT

Three lectures so far have been arranged for the winter programme at the University, the first on September 29<sup>th</sup> by Matthew Symonds, the editor of *Current Archaeology*, on "Protecting the Roman Empire : understanding Roman forts and fortlets". An international look at the subject including the gritty details!

This will be followed by a memorial lecture for Peter Billson by Maxwell Craven on Oct 27<sup>th</sup> and on 5<sup>th</sup> January David Breeze will talk on "Painting Hadrians Wall". Not literally of course but rather an exploration of artist's depictions and what can be learned from them. Full details in September Programme notes.

Last January Jenny Alexander gave us another of her most illuminating and interesting lectures, this time about stonemasons in the Early Modern period and how they coped. This was in honour of Barbara Hutton and Michael Mallender. In March, Dr Trudi Buck talked on Aspects of Archaeology and Anthropology.

## LIBRARY NOTES

The future of the library is still in a state of uncertainty for at the date of this newsletter we have not yet had any firm answer from Derby City Council concerning the closure of the Main Library in the Wardwick. I write this as the incoming librarian, taking over from Ray Marjoram who has retired after 50 years of service to the DAS library. I thank Ray for his enthusiasm and work for the library and for his support in the change-over of librarian. Over the years Ray has built up the library to its present strong position with journals from all round the country, books, pamphlets and literature. The

breadth of this material gives us all a sense of the rich and wide-ranging heritage of our county and to lose this would be a great sadness. However, the finding of new premises is proving difficult. Joan D'Arcy continues to spend a lot of effort in the finding of a suitable space, as yet without success but she has come up with some more avenues to explore which she is taking forward. I would reiterate Ray's plea in the last newsletter to ask if anyone has any knowledge of suitable premises then to contact either myself or Joan. Because of the lack of ease of access to the library, it is unfortunately underused. We would like to think that if we are lucky enough to find new premises, that members of the society will repay the work which Ray and Joan have put into the library over the years by using the resources which the library offers.

The catalogue continues to expand with additions including a new edition of Maxwell Craven's book on John Whitehurst and a biography of Gladwyn Maurice Revell Turbutt 1883 -1914 by Sheppard and Roberts. Ray is still selling surplus stock and has raised a considerable amount of money for the society. Thanks must go to Ray for this time consuming task. Anyone willing help with this should contact myself or Ray.

If any member wishes to access any of the books we hold, please contact either myself or Joan D'Arcy. By the next newsletter we hope to be able to give members some definite information on the library.

*Anne Allcock*

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH GROUP

**Lenton Priory**  
**27<sup>th</sup> January 2017**

Gareth Davies of Trent & Peak Archaeology (TPA) told us of the £60,000: project to discover more about the demolished Lenton Priory. Little was known about the state of preservation of the Priory until TPA began archaeological excavations in 2012 in advance of the new tram network development in Nottingham. Lenton Priory was a Cluniac priory dating from 1103-1126 and was one of the biggest establishments in the country with a massive religious building the size of Southwell minster with associated cloisters, domestic buildings and fishponds. The only visual evidence was one pillar on the ground. TPA were invited to hold a watching brief over the site and involve the community in the excavations. There had been earlier small excavations in the 1940s/50s when walls near the Boat Inn public house had been discovered. Lenton Priory was renowned in medieval England for the Lenton Fair, a market held annually over Martinmas (November 11<sup>th</sup>) to celebrate the beginning of winter. Rental rolls for the fair stalls survive and it was hoped to find below-ground evidence of the stalls quaintly named 'fishers row' and 'skinners row'.

Early evaluation trenches found dense intercutting features within the grounds of the Priory revealing intact buried masonry complete with architectural details and a fascinating sequence of activity dating from the late 11<sup>th</sup> century through to the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The Gregory Street track bed revealed the site of the market or fair with some items of interest including a gold noble of Edward III, European coins, probably pointing to the international draw of the Lenton Fair, and a scale pan with the seal mark 'Andrew of Gloucester' in the centre, so good evidence of trade

and exchange. In the 14<sup>th</sup> century it appears that the stalls start to become permanent, almost like little houses. Two 11<sup>th</sup> century defensive boundary ditches were discovered containing preserved leather shoes and pottery. The abbey precincts were located and pits filled with fossilised remains of corn bran, eel, herring and pig were found. Further finds included lead weights, a jet pendant off a rosary and a medieval well. Unusual was the burial of a cow, three broken iron knives and some pits filled to the brim with oyster shells. Re-routing of a cable allowed TPA to look at the cloister and transept of the priory church which was previously thought to have been destroyed. Further excavations revealed a stoned lined cess pit and stone lined drains of the 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> century. The present church of St. Anthony is to the north of the Priory and it was hoped to find a gatehouse chapel site there and indeed scalloped capitals were found. Looking for cloisters in the south, 'alphabet' tiles were found and under a further layer of soil some Anglo-Saxon pottery.

The excavations caused great interest with the local people and councillors alike and Nottingham City Council funded a geophysical survey in five areas surrounding the Priory and the chapel of St. Anthony which was completed by TPA with volunteers from the University of Nottingham and Lenton Local History Society. Walls of the Priory were found but the floor had been robbed. Near the Boat Inn pub garden, walls, not formerly excavated, were found. The *in-situ* column base was architectural stone from the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Adjacent buttresses were found together with more Anglo-Saxon pottery. To the north, in the Priory park, there were more pits, ditches and gulleys and the market site revealed metal surfaces, tokens and German stoneware. The Fair carried on after the Dissolution and trading had to stop for eight days in Nottingham when it was the Martinmas Fair.

This Fair was re-established in 2014-15 with the help of Lottery funding and involvement of the local schoolchildren and people. The stalls were mainly food stalls and attracted a good crowd. In the future it is hoped to have a museum in a nearby church and an interpretation board at the tram stop. The project enhanced the knowledge of the Priory and is certainly a site for further research.

*Anne Haywood.*

## Local Government Archaeologists

After the AGM of the Archaeological Research Section 17<sup>th</sup> March 2017, our newly elected chairman Chris Wardle gave us a talk, not on Leicester revisited as advertised, as Chris explained, Richard Buckley had already talked to us on Richard III. Chris was reluctant to repeat what we had heard and so decided to tell us of some of his experiences as a local Government Archaeologist.

Chris began by saying he would like to give us a personal view on how archaeology fits in to the planning system, what amateur archaeologists should be aware of and what local government archaeologists do: for example, Dave Barratt, the County archaeologist for Derbyshire and just about to retire began his working life when there was very minimal protection for archaeological sites as that in place today. This protection is important to follow as buildings rapidly appear and disappear.

Statutory protection of Listed Buildings began in 1947, and Conservation Areas were first designated in 1967. However fifteen years ago there was only 2% significant archaeology being recorded. Chris described how development changed over the last 30 years, English Heritage now Historic England has established a network of County archaeology that produced records, firstly the Sites and Monument records (SMR), now replaced by the Historic Environment records (HER). Despite all this, the government were forced to introduce, Planning

Policy Guidance 16, ( PPG16) after a public outcry of a number of high profile scandals such as the threatened destruction of the Rose Theatre in London.

What local government archaeologists do is work with different groups of archaeologists, amateur, University researchers and museum archivists. Not only has Chris been teaching, he has also worked in an advisory capacity, making decisions within the planning system as to whether the finds should be dug up or left in the ground, maintaining records of heritage assets and checking to see if the development of a site might be affected by the finds.

Chris's experience began in 1988 in Staffordshire where he began computing the SMR's of this area and then going on to maintain and update records until 2000. Then advising on developments until 2004 when he began working in Leicester.

During his 12 years in Leicester he advised and maintained several projects, one, Included the High Cross project near the river Soar. This is where the Romans in 50AD built a set of defences, several centuries later the Normans arrived and built a settlement, then in the 13th century an Augustinian and Franciscan Friary was built. This was all discovered when the present High Cross shopping centre decided to extend its area. In High Cross Street itself, Roman by origin and later Saxon, extensive excavations were carried out. In the middle plot a series of stone ovens associated with brewing and a malting kiln were discovered, closer investigation of the rubble beneath, revealed Saxon features and the collapsed wall of a large Roman building. Further investigations discovered a medieval graveyard and church of St. Peter, which was one of four, 'lost churches' of Leicester. Chris continued to give us details of further discoveries including a Roman hypocaust, which was a huge project, and not yet written up.

Chris concluded that in spite of 40 years of lobbying, mandatory archaeological pro-

tection of all aspects is not complete. County archaeologists are disappearing in many Counties but happily Steve Baker is the new Derbyshire county archaeologist but the Development Control Officer is now a part time post. Joan D'Arcy sits on the advisory committee for heritage and tries to raise the profile of archaeology, but City Councils are failing in forcing builders to pay for any research, therefore several layers of archaeology lay undisturbed beneath urban areas.

Unfortunately, this is why many building firms are now tending to go for rural land which is easier.

Janette Jackson.

## **Visit to Kedleston Church. 24<sup>th</sup> May**

In the early evening, 25 of us wended our way towards the secluded, All Saints Church of Kedleston. Many of us paused at the South entrance to admire the Romanesque archway, decorated with zig zag moulding, enclosing a tympanum with incomplete or eroded carvings. The beakhead mouldings on the door jambs date the doorway to about 1150.

Inside we were met by Ann and David Jones, volunteers of the National Trust, who led us competently through the history of the church.

Although Kedleston Hall is owned by the National Trust, the Grade 1 church is under the care of the Churches Conservation Trust. The church which is consecrated still holds the occasional services. Kedleston Hall appeared in the Domesday records but there was no mention of a church. However in 1198 the hall passed to Thomas De Curzon, with the advowson of a church. In 1290 the Norman chancel was knocked down. The only remaining part of the original church is the Norman south doorway and adjoining nave wall, the greater part of the church, namely the chancel, crossing and transepts, dates from re-building in the late 13<sup>th</sup> centu-

ry. Sometime later the top of the tower was added in perpendicular style. The building had high pitched roofs later lowered. The church is believed to have been dedicated to St. Margaret, but is now All Saints.

Major changes happened to the church about 1700 when the house was rebuilt by Sir Nathaniel Curzon, the second baronet. He installed a sundial over the East wall of the church, this is inscribed with the words, 'we shall', this together with 'sundial' makes the awful pun 'we shall soon die all'. It is decorated with skull and crossbones, and on its summit are hourglasses, all a timely warning! He also installed box pews, which at a later date the 4<sup>th</sup>, Lord Scarsdale who was also the Rector, hired John Scott in 1884 to raise the roof, remove the box pews in the nave and put in flooring.

The North chapel was completed in 1913, built by Lord Curzon at the cost of £4,745 to honour his wife. It is a large free-standing monument by the Australian sculptor Bertram Mackennel, it bears the effigies of Lord Curzon and his wife Mary, it is a table tomb in white marble, two angels hold the crown of life over the figures. Lord Curzon who became the Viceroy of India in 1899, he had been accompanied by his wife. Shortly after they returned she suffered a miscarriage and peritonitis and eventually died in 1906, he was so overcome with grief he built the magnificent monument, which dominates the church, at the cost of £5,000. It is recorded that the marble was from Italy, the green aventurine floor caused problems as the colour faded with time.

We then viewed the rest of the church. There is a tomb chest with the effigies of Sir John Curzon and his wife dating from 1456, Sir John is dressed in armour and at the feet of the effigies are dogs, the figures of their 17 children decorate the sides of the tomb. Further Curzon monuments dating back over 700 years, fill the church. The stained glass in the chancel was made for Lord Curzon, whereas that in the nave, the stations of the cross, dating from 1550-1610, was



brought by him from Lucern in 1910. The constant building and rebuilding over the years was evident in many different floor levels and the heights of the piscinas. The North transept contains the organ, which was built in 1899 and rebuilt and enlarged in 1910.

Outside in the churchyard amongst the very neat graves there is one dedicated to a member of the Curzon family who died as a Derbyshire Yeomanry officer and a pioneer Corps soldier of World War II.

We are very grateful to Ann and David for not only describing the monuments and the lovely building to us, but for giving us such an insight in to the Curzon family, and including many references to outside research.

*Janette Jackson.*

## ARCHITECTURAL SECTION

### Melbourne Hall & its Estate. Philip Heath

Philip, a former chairman of the section, returned to a well-attended AGM on 24.3.17 & gave a fascinating account of the changes at Melbourne Hall & its Estate through history. The Hall is well documented & preserved, if constrained by the remarkable garden of 1704. It started as a rectory house of the Bishops of Carlisle, the manor house being the Castle itself, & was sold to Sir John Coke of Trusley in 1628. It may have been moated originally, & had a public road to the E., closed in 1647 with the agreement of 74 residents. This later allowed great extension of the garden, 'to suit Versailles', by Thomas Coke, a 'gentleman architect', after he inherited the estate in 1692, with the advice of Henry Wise, using a local contractor. He converted the leasehold to a freehold, & was the first patron of Robert Bakewell, erecting the famous 'Birdcage' arbour, for £120.

There was a subsequent scandal & he 'fled' to Derby. There are also numerous lead figures in the angles of the Yew hedge by Jan van Nost. The level of the Pool, serving the Mill, previously belonging to Donington Hall, had been raised almost 2 ft. by George Sorocold in 1703 to supply the garden fountains, & islands were subsequently established as the gardens matured.

The house was originally medieval & irregular, but Georgianized, by the Smith family, the main front by William Smith, retaining a small courtyard. A gatehouse was erected to the design of Joseph Pickford, but later demolished. A dower house built in Calke Park was not liked by its occupant, & the bricks were reused for Melbourne National School. There was quarry, & in 1845 a factory was built to make silk gloves.

The last Coke died in 1750, when it passed to Matthew Lamb, the husband of Charlotte Coke, & he used the house as a secondary home. His son William was the first Lord Melbourne, & built The Albany in London in 1770 to the designs of William Chambers. Only two more held the title, & his son, also William, a favourite of Queen Victoria early in her reign, became Prime Minister. However his two children predeceased him & his brother Frederick succeeded., but was childless & the estate passed in 1853 to his sister Emily. She married the 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Cowper, but was the mistress of Henry Temple, 3<sup>rd</sup> Viscount Palmerston, also Prime Minister, later marrying him. It remained in the hands of the Cowper family until Lady Annabel Cowper married Admiral of the Fleet Lord Walter Kerr, whose descendant is of course Ld. Ralph Kerr, a brother of Michael Ancram, 13<sup>th</sup> Marquess of Lothian. She also inherited Kings Newton Hall, purchased from the Hardinge family in 1735, but did not rebuild the Hall after the fire of 1859. This was left to Sir Cecil Paget in 1910, chairman of the Midland Railway, after he bought the estate.

The Robinson family, growing 'quicksetts', or hawthorn, since 1750, lost a

farm tenancy on the estate, but established market gardening in the area. At a later date Thomas Cook tried unsuccessfully to become tenant of the Hall. The Estate peaked in 1900 when extended with the sale of land by Donington Hall, but in 1919 part was sold, tenants being prevented from buying.

*Malcolm Busfield*

## Visit to Cheadle and Alton, Staffordshire

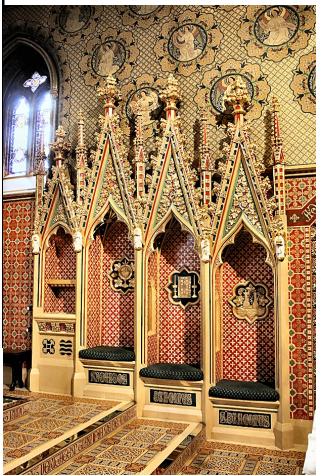
Following a talk on A.W.N. Pugin by Michael Fisher in October 2016, the Architectural section organised a visit on 13 May 2017 to Cheadle and Alton ('Pugin land', in Pevsner's words) guided by the same authoritative speaker.

Approaching Cheadle, the 200ft steeple of St Giles Roman Catholic church is very prominent, and more so than its mediaeval counterpart (now Anglican) with the same dedication. More remarkably, it was built in 1841-1846 to serve a catholic congregation of barely 100 in a population of 4000. Begun with the modest ambition of costing £4000 it developed into a major statement of Pugin's architectural ideas ("Perfect Cheadle"), encouraged by John Talbot, 16<sup>th</sup> Earl of Shrewsbury, who funded it to an eventual cost of £40000. The visitor approaching the west doors, decorated with huge golden lions

period of Gothic architecture, deriving authenticity for his style from visiting many churches in East Anglia. The Easter sepulchre in the chancel, with its splendid ogee arch, being a revivalist example, although backed by a painting in the Victorian rather than mediaeval style. Across the chancel (see photograph) there is a magnificent combination of a piscina with its sedilia, for the priest and deacons. The sedilia follows the downward sequence of the Sanctuary steps, leaving the sub deacon in no doubt about his liturgical importance.

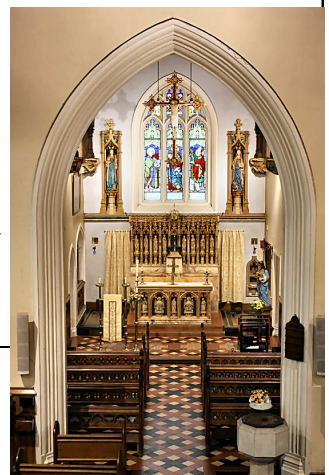
The decoration of the church as a whole is extremely rich, but the encaustic tiles by Herbert Minton of Stoke are particularly striking and sumptuous. The fine metal work was executed by Hardman of Birmingham, and John Hardman like Minton became a personal friend of Pugin. The stained glass, which Pugin considered decoratively important, caused him some difficulties before eventually employing William Wailes. John Talbot directly influenced the interior decoration by proposing the stenciling of all the stonework, the patterns for which anticipate the Arts and Crafts movement by decades. Lord Shrewsbury also suggested the addition of a Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament, for which he gained Pugin's enthusiastic approval. Later, Cardinal Newman described it as the "gate of Heaven".

Michael Fisher believes that Pugin's architectural and decorative style stemmed from his theological and moral ideas which, in



rampant, is left in no doubt about the Talbot contribution. Michael Fisher emphasised Pugin's particular preference for the Decorated

Piscina with Sedilia  
and  
St John's Chapel



turn, had a consequential influence on the liturgy of the emerging and recently re-emancipated Roman Catholic Church in England.

After an enjoyable ploughman's lunch at the Blacksmith's Arms in Alton we visited the Hospital of St John (the Baptist) and Alton castle perched on an escarpment high above the Churnet. Here, Lord Shrewsbury had funded Pugin to build a gothic revival castle within the ancient remains and also, on the other side of the original fosse, a complex of buildings that would emulate the alms houses of a mediaeval 'hospital'.

The chapel of the Hospital was designed so that the extended 'nave' could be partitioned off and used as a conventional schoolroom (see photograph). As a chapel for the poor of Alton, it is less highly decorated than St Giles, but Minton tiles are again used to good effect and the carved alabaster figurines in front of the altar are striking. Immediately to the left of the high altar is a memorial brass, in characteristically mediaeval style, over the tomb of John Talbot, 16<sup>th</sup> Earl of Shrewsbury (1791-1852), whose patronage, friendship and funding had facilitated Pugin's work. Across the ravine, in every sense, lies Alton Towers the former home of the Talbots whose current revenue stream, if almost certainly not its methods, would surely have been utilized by the 16<sup>th</sup> Earl and his architect.

*D G Jones*

## LOCAL HISORY SECTION

**W.W.Winters**

**Jane Middleton-Smith. 10/2/2017**

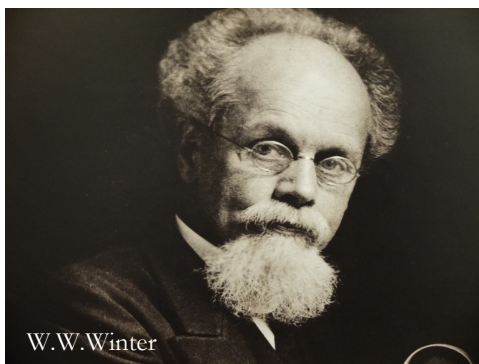
W.W.Winters of Midland Rd. Derby may well be the oldest surviving commercial photographers in the world. Perhaps that's why over 90 people attended this splendid talk on a much loved Derby institution.

The rapid expansion of photography in the 1850s had much to do with the wet col-

lodian process which used glass plates producing a brilliant, precise, "instantaneous" image. Photographic studios proliferated and there were over 40 available in Derby by the 1860s

A Belgian, formerly a textile machinist, E.M.Charles, set up a studio at 2, Midland Rd, possibly in 1852. It sold "toys", meaning miniatures and photographs. In 1862 William Walter Winter became Charles' assistant. When in 1864 Charles died, Winter married his widow Sarah Charles and carried on the business. Like many early photographers, Winter was an artist. In 1867 he built a studio, the present one, on the other side of Midland Rd. The "Alexandra Fine Art Gallery" with its "lancet" windowed front was built to maximise the available light. Huge skylights were set into the roof of the studio and a galleried courtyard was used to lay out developing photographs. There were two waiting rooms, first class for more expensive and larger photographs, probably with more props. Second class offered a cheaper process and smaller prints. Vital for all Victorian photographers was a retouching room where physical defects and the clamp used to hold subjects' heads during long exposures could be retouched out. Colour retouching was popular for items such as the 'carte de visite' which were a mainstay of the business.

In 1896 William Henry King joined as a photographic assistant. When in 1910 W.W.Winter had financial problems and



emigrated to Canada, King purchased the business. Hubert King joined the family business in 1945, becoming the managing director in 1975.



*Group in studio waiting room*

The studio today looks much as it did in Victorian times; it is an absolute gem of continuity and it is now being more widely recognised. Winter's is of such interest that a supportive charitable trust now exists and a Lottery grant was awarded to preserve and catalogue the collection. Thousands of glass and film negatives exist, all uncatalogued as Winter's donated their record books as part of a 1939 campaign to collect paper for the war effort. Volunteers have been assisting with this project and the D.A.S., via the Pilling Trust, have made a significant donation to help with the purchase of storage wallets for this massive collection.

Winter's seem never to have thrown any-



*Retouching studio*

thing away. Apart from original props and chairs, they had a cellar and chute into which they poured hundreds of glass plates. Some six tons were left there and despite their poor condition many can still be scanned, even if only partially. We were invited to view some of these and suggest dates and places. It must be said that D.A.S. audiences are pretty good at this! What did we suggest? Normanton Barracks; High Tor, Matlock; Melbourne Pool; Derby Cattle Market bridge; Qualcast foundry; Wingfield Manor undercroft; the 'Stove' at Chatsworth. Nothing escapes the D.A.S.

Finally, the human element. Two pictures stood out. The Earl of Harrington on horseback, in Hussar dress uniform, looking like he needed somewhere to invade! A tragic picture taken in the 1920s of a ragged legless boy. Evidently the Derby Rotarians were so moved by this picture that they had provided him with a bespoke wheelchair.

This was a beautifully presented, absorbing and very popular talk.

*Mick Appleby*

## **Swarkestone Bridge, a short history** **17<sup>th</sup> Feb. 2017**

DAS's own Barbara Foster gave this very interesting talk to a packed audience, eagerly awaiting facts about one of Derbyshire's most significant historic monuments still in daily use and in constant danger from heavy traffic every day.

Barbara commenced by giving us some background information. Swarkestone Bridge and its causeway cross the river Trent some four miles south of Derby. The name Trent means 'trespasser' indicating that it was probably a braided river that often flooded, changing course over the last few millennia. In 1675 Ogilvy's map showed three courses of the Trent at Swarkestone and the causeway built in the early 14<sup>th</sup> century still has major arches at each end and four in the middle. It is three quarters of a mile in length!

Most of the very early history of the Bridge is speculative but the name Swarkestone comes from the Danish personal name *Swerkir* with a Saxon *tun*. A village adjacent to a possible series of fords would probably have been a strategic place for the Danes. The first definite mention of the bridge is in 1204 when King John granted an Aid in Pontage which allowed tolls for the cost of repairs/rebuilds. By this time Melbourne was a fairly important King's manor with a royal deer park and the Bishops of Carlisle also had an estate there. John visited four times and at least once ordered a considerable amount of wine to be delivered! By 1249 the Bridge had a chapel which was still standing in the 1550s.

In 1265 Melbourne was given to Edmund Crouchback, the king's brother and then in 1296 it came to his son Thomas Duke of Lancaster who fortified the manor house, and in another Aid in Pontage was issued. Melbourne castle was built 1311-21 so Swarkestone would have been in need of a better Bridge.

In earliest times bridges were financed by private subscription and local magnates would perhaps initiate and subscribe together with local worthies and the Church and other donors. There were limits though – Magna Carta (1215) ordained that no town or person should be forced to build except those with an ancient obligation to do so. It seems unlikely that Swarkestone was forced to build a bridge as the merchants of Melbourne and the burgesses of Derby were just as keen as King John, although records show that the towns' relationship soured somewhat over the administration of tolls.

In 1285 there was a catastrophic flood that no doubt damaged what would have been a relatively flimsy bridge at that time. There are no records of Aids in Pontage to repair but it turns out that one Hugo de Vienne, chamberlain to Edmund Crouchback and a money lender on the side came up with the money. Indeed his obituary in Dunstable Annals noted in 1296 records that

*"During his lifetime he had spent an absolute fortune on building a stone causeway at Corbridge over the Trent."* It was known as the Bridge of Cordy at the time. The widespread story that two grieving heiresses financed the bridge is very unlikely. Usually heiresses were regarded as financial capital themselves and their estates held in trust.

Given that there were three Aids in Pontage in the early 1300s it would appear that the bridge was in dire straits yet again. The Causeway that you see today has arches and ribs that are virtually identical to Hethbeth Bridge the forerunner of Trent Bridge in Nottingham that was built in the 1330/40s. The walls were "battered" and the original level is represented now by a string course but over the centuries many small flood arches and stretches of road have been replaced particularly in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. By this time, as the result of the Statute of Bridges in 1531, the County paid for repairs but it was the case that local bequests helped out for a number of years after the Act.

The strategic position of the Bridge on a Kings Highway between Derby and Coventry was recognised by both sides in the Civil War and a significant skirmish took place in 1643. Swarkestone became a Parliamentary garrison for a time. Just over a century later of course Swarkestone was famous as the place where Bonnie Prince Charlie's army stopped and retreated from in 1745.

In 1781 the bridge was in great decay and dangerous to horses and carriages. It had suffered repeated damage from river boats as well as frequent floods. Finally in 1795 there was a great frost lasting for three months, the river froze and there was a great flood with ice floes when it thawed. The nine arches at the Swarkestone end were destroyed by this, as was the Inn at Sign of the Talbot that stood on the other side. The new bridge was designed by Thomas Sykes who was County Surveyor at the time and built at a cost of £3,500. This is the bridge still standing today.

The 19<sup>th</sup> century saw much widening and some arches strengthened with blue brick. Buttresses were also added.

The 20<sup>th</sup> century brought the threat of increased traffic. A bus went through the wall in 1922 and although it was possible to drive a herd of cows across it in the 1940s, as we were shown a photo, one would not want to do that today with approximately 26,000 cars, buses and lorries going over every single day. The weight limit is supposed to be 7 ½ tons but that does not stop 40 ton lorries trying to use it. It is policed by the Trading Standards Office at Matlock.

There has been talk of a bypass for many decades but nothing has yet been decided. Who knows how long the bridge and its causey will last with the constant pounding of modern traffic, although the fact that it is still around is a tribute to its builders.

A fascinating talk which gave us so much information.

*Sue Brown*

## **The Duke Of Newcastle Friday 10 March, 2017**

This evening Chris Francis shared his research into the 1<sup>st</sup> Duke of Newcastle (on-Tyne), who was born William Cavendish in 1593, the son of Sir Charles Cavendish and his wife Catherine Ogle (daughter of the 7<sup>th</sup> Baron Ogle of Northumberland).

The introductory slide was a portrait of William, painted by Van Dyck.

William spent his early years at Welbeck Abbey near Mansfield and went on to St. John's College, Cambridge - his grandmother, Bess of Hardwick, being a benefactor. He was a superb swordsman and in Italy he enhanced his swordsmanship plus other sports. He entered the Royal Mews (horses) and was trained by a Frenchman in Manege; later his interest led him to build the Riding House at Bolsover Castle.

He became the Member of Parliament for Retford in 1614; was influenced in his

writing by the plays of Ben Johnson; by 1617 he had inherited the family estate and he married Elizabeth Bassett from Blore in Staffordshire the following year. William was responsible for the decorative scheme in Bolsover's Little Castle, using ideas from Greek Mythology. These are reputed to be the best wall paintings of the Jacobean period. However, his aim was to become close to the Royal family.

In the period between 1619 and 1628 he was created Viscount Mansfield and later Earl of Newcastle. When his mother died in 1629 he inherited the Ogle estate and began to build a house on the site of a Benedictine Monastery in Clerkenwell, London. This later became known as "Newcastle House".

By 1630 William and Elizabeth had four children – the youngest, Henry, inherited the Cavendish estate. William's aspirations were growing and now he was keen to acquire a Court appointment. In his endeavours, he entertained King Charles I and his Queen at Bolsover and Welbeck – the latter event said to have cost between £4 and £5,000. The King "appreciated the events provided for him".

William's main loves were music and poetry and he apparently used music to train his horses. He became Governor to 8 year old Charles, Prince of Wales and a Privy Councillor in 1638.

The events of 1642 saw the Royalist William, who was based at York and General of the Northern Forces, arrive late on the Marston Moor battlefield and though this was the most important of the Civil War battles – he gave up. He eventually fled to Scarborough; Hamburg and Paris to join the Court of the Queen Consort Henrietta Maria. Having used up all his funds during the battle he received the £2,000 owed to him by the Queen. William was created Marquess of Newcastle by Charles I in 1643.

During his exile, William married Margaret Lucas ("Mad Madge"), a maid of honour



to Henrietta Maria, in Paris in 1645. They moved to Rotterdam and then Antwerp where they lived with the widow of the artist Peter Paul Rubens. It was here that William converted a room to a training area for horses. Margaret, like William, wrote poems, plays and also critiques.

Following the Restoration of the Monarchy the couple returned to London to find that the house in Clerkenwell had been sold. William still wanted a Court appointment. He was, however, reimbursed for the loss of his estate and the new King reinstated him as Clerk of the Bedchamber. At Welbeck William created a five mile race track where several meetings a year were held and a silver cup awarded; he bought Nottingham Castle and Samuel Marsh (who worked at Bolsover) undertook the alterations.

In 1665 he was finally made a Duke. William died on Christmas Day, 1676 (almost three years after his wife). They can be found lying together in Westminster Abbey.

William gave great loyalty to the Crown but remain on the fringe of the Court.

We learned lots of details about William Cavendish from this lecture and I noted several comparisons with his Grandmother, Bess, in her endeavours – especially with Arbella Stuart.

*Norma Consterdine*

## **Visit to W.W.Winter, Midland Rd Derby. 17.5.17**

Winter's is a marvellously preserved mid-Victorian photographic studio, certainly the oldest in the country and possibly in the world. Our visit started with Geoff Blackwell, treasurer of the Royal Photographic Society giving us an overview of the origins of photography. Nicéphore Niepce took the world's first photograph in 1827, a view from his house taking an 8 hour exposure. Daguerreotypes followed, silver plate prints

without a negative. Fox-Talbot, working at Lacock Abbey, produced paper negatives, but the real break-through commercially came with the Collodian (wet-plate) process which allowed for sharper, cheaper photographs. The process led to 21 photographic studios appearing in Derby in the 1850's (44 in Nottingham).

A Belgian, Emmanuel Charles set up his studio at 2, Midland Rd, in 1852. When he died his assistant William Walter Winter married Charles' widow and took over the business in 1864, moving to number 45, opposite, in the same year. After a fire in 1883, Winter extended the premises to some 30 rooms with between 30/40 staff. When in 1894 electricity arrived in Derby, Winter was able to photograph people even on dull days and in the evenings.

Today the studio employs just four people, but there is growing recognition of its unique nature. Winter's, by the C21st rather resembled Calke Abbey: over the years, props, equipment, negatives, glass plates, retouching kits that were redundant were simply piled up in the various rooms, so that it was very difficult to enter some of them. Negatives and glass plates lay in glass boxes, completely unrecorded and awaiting identification. In the cellar were 6 tons of fragments of glass plates, a treasure trove of past Derbyshire life.

A Lottery Grant was successfully applied for, resulting in a 'Friends of Winter's' group. The volunteer's, working under Jane Middleton-Smith, also the archivist of Smedley's, have worked through a tiny proportion of the vast hoard of photographs. Many are now digitalised and identified. One of the volunteers, Jason Toon, a builder, has given much of his free time to repair the building and clear the cellar.

We had a fascinating morning seeing just a few of the rooms: the first and second class waiting rooms with their Victorian props; the retouching room with its graphite pencils. We are very aware of 'Photo-Shop' but the Victorians also wanted 'coloured'



*Archaeological Society group in main studio*

photos and bald patches, spots, wrinkles and physical defects removing. After all at 7s6d for a dozen carte de visite photos, you wanted to impress. The advent of photography compelled many eminent sitters to worry about their image. Charles Darwin grew a beard partly to hide his eczema from the camera. William Gladstone is photographed with a single white glove to disguise his missing finger.

Large boxes of photographs were on display, many waiting to be identified. We needed a rail enthusiast to identify the masses of steam locos, photographed for the Midland Railway Company.

The DAS have given over £800 from the Pilling Trust to Winters for conservation materials and it is hoped that with further funding more rooms can be opened to the public. Thanks to Winters for putting so much into our visit.

*Mick Appleby*

## **Visit to Middleton Hall Thursday 1 June**

On a bright sunny day at the beginning of June, a group of about 20 of us journeyed into Warwickshire to visit Middleton Hall, a Grade II\* listed house. Having been abandoned to the elements in 1966 after the Hall and 1,200 acres of ground had been sold for sand and gravel extraction, it was saved by a group of ramblers who came across it during a walk. North Warwickshire County Council thought that it was beyond rescue but a Trust set up by volunteers in 1980 and a 75 year lease allowed them to begin work on its restoration. The Trust now manage the Hall, an ancient pool and extensive gardens.

A tree lined avenue leads to 'The Stables', a courtyard craft centre with refreshment facilities and having congregated there we crossed by a bridge over a restored moat to the main house where coffee and tea awaited us in an eighteenth century wing. After an introductory talk we began to explore the complex site which comprises several ranges of varying dates. The earliest



standing building, on earlier foundations, is a typical, late Norman manor house or hunting lodge attributed to Philip Marmion of Tamworth Castle c1285 with sandstone walls, an undercroft and an external stone staircase leading to a large upper hall with a barrel vaulted or 'wagon' roof. This block is said to be the oldest domesticated building in the county. Of particular interest were two 17th century stills, used for the preparation of perfumes.

By 1435 the site had passed by marriage through the Frevilles to the Willoughby family of Nottinghamshire and it was Sir John Willoughby who built the striking, timber framed and jettied Great Hall of c1530, its three oriel windows overlooking the moat. (see photograph) Carefully restored in 2003, the upper floor houses a display on the life of Tudor navigator Hugh Willoughby. From there we moved on to a third block known as the de Freville building, dated by dendrochronology to 1647. Its restoration was only completed in 2007, the collapsing side walls tied together with steel towing wire normally used for launching fighter jets and found in a skip. The upper floor is now dedicated to John Ray, the 'Father' of British Natural History who lived at the Hall from 1666-1676 while he compiled the first major catalogue of British plants. We passed through several other rooms, too many to mention here, to spend some time in the Flury Gallery which houses various displays and artifacts relating to the Hall, the estate and the Trust's restoration.

We then bought a picnic lunch, which we ate in the grounds before strolling into the walled garden, its walls built in 1717 and restored in 1984. Here we viewed the colourful beauty of the garden beds, planted in cottage garden style, from a small gazebo and then rested for a while, wishing that we had the energy to go round the house again - as some others did. It was a truly memorable a visit and is highly recommended.

*Joan D'Arny*

## St Michael's Church Kirk Langley

June 21st was warm and sunny this year for our visit to St Michael's Church, Kirk Langley. Mrs Mary Debley, the church warden, welcomed us with an introductory talk and then led a clockwise walk round the church beginning at the west end of the north aisle. Here irregularities in the stone work indicate the remains of an earlier church. The manor of Langley had no church at Domesday but by the early 13th century the manor was divided into Kirk Langley which contained the church and Meynell Langley the home of the Meynell Family. The early church was rebuilt in the 14th century. The font at the west end of the north aisle is octagonal in shape and stands on a 19th century marble pillars. Its 17th century conical cover was recovered from a barn in the 19th century. A blocked doorway on this aisle and one facing in the south aisle were until 1839 the principal entry doors to the church and the present entry by the west doorway was then only used by bell ringers. The windows and arcade of the north aisle are 14th century. The Meynell Chapel at the east end of the north aisle has a wooden screen containing some 16th century work. There is a plaque in memory of Captain Godfrey Meynell of the British Indian Army who was killed in battle in 1935 in India and posthumously awarded the Victoria Cross for bravery. On the north wall is a large incised alabaster memorial to Alice Beresford. It is dated 1511 and she is portrayed with a pointed head dress, gown and long girdle. At some time in the past the slab was stained possibly by water from a leaking roof and this makes the details on the memorial difficult to see.

The chancel is early 14th century and has a piscina and sedilia with trefoiled heads filled now with modern woodwork. There are memorials to the Meynell family. The stained glass in the east window, by Burlison and Grylls, was given in 1851 in memory of



John Meynell. There are squints on either side of the chancel arch.

The Twyford Chapel at the east end of the south aisle has an east window partly of 17<sup>th</sup> century Flemish glass and on the floor are some medieval tiles. The 1558 alabaster tomb of Henry Pole and his wife Dorothea once stood here but was moved to its present position in the south aisle during the 19<sup>th</sup> century restoration. Henry Pole is depicted in 16<sup>th</sup> century armour, his head on a helmet and Dorothea has a French cap and a fur-lined cloak. The windows in the south aisle are 19<sup>th</sup> century. The battlemented west tower is 14<sup>th</sup> century.

Very good refreshments were served at the end of the tour and Mrs Debley and her helpers were thanked for giving us such an informative visit.

*Joan Davies*

## INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY SECTION

### Restoration of a London Tramcar 20 January 2017

Laura Waters is the Curator at Crich Tramway Village. She described her role as

the person who brings a museums perspective to managing the collection of over 70 historic vehicles, balancing conservation of original material against the requirements for safe and reliable operation.

London County Council Tramcar No. 1 was a one-off experimental prototype constructed in 1932 and painted in a unique 'Bluebird' livery. It incorporated a number of improvements over older tram types, aimed at maintaining competitiveness with other forms of road transport that had advanced

enormously since the First World War. There were a number of teething troubles and the design was not replicated, but the tram operated for several years in London, before being sold onto Leeds in 1951. It was initially preserved at the Museum of British Transport at Clapham, and when that closed it moved to Crich, where it has been a static exhibit for many years.

In 2012 the decision was taken to restore the tram to working order, and return it to the condition in which it ran in London between July 1932 and July 1933 (including reproductions of the advertisements it carried at the time). The aim is to retain as much as possible of the original material, but to enable the tram to run and carry passengers some components will have to be replaced because they are worn out or not up to modern safety standards.

The work commenced in 2014 and is anticipated to take 4 years and £250,000 - £500,000 to complete. They began by carefully dismantling the vehicle to its component parts. This was very much like an archaeological excavation, with each part being measured, drawn, photographed and recorded in its context on the vehicle. When the interior side panels were removed, they revealed a treasure trove of objects that had fallen into the slots that accommodate the sliding windows. Layers could be dated by

*Restoration  
of the  
London  
tram at  
Crich*



the type of tickets – London at the bottom and Leeds at the top. Typologies of fastenings and electrical cable types have been established.

Where original parts cannot be reused, they are being preserved as part of the historic record. When the project in complete and No.1 is running again, a selection of these parts and the objects discovered in the tram will be exhibited in a display telling the story of the vehicle and its restoration.

By 2016 the tramcar had been completely stripped, and the steel bodyshell was shipped off to a specialist engineering company in Ilkeston who cleaned and treated the structure, replacing corroded panels using original hot riveting techniques. Back at Crich, the process of re-assembly has started, with the canvas roof covering renewed, and components such as the electric motors and controllers refurbished. Another specialist sub-contractor is putting the wheels and axles back together again. Work is on schedule for completion in 2018.

Laura finished her talk by inviting the DAS to visit the museum this year while the restoration is in progress, and this is now planned for 29 June.

*Ian Mitchell*

**Ordnance Survey  
'When Mat and Mel came to  
town : the ordnance survey in  
Derby' by Rod Pearson.**

Rod gave an informative and interesting lecture, delivered in an amusing way, to a packed audience, everyone no doubt intrigued by the title. Rod covered the art and science of the painstaking work of the Ordnance Survey in detail. It was started in 1751 covering Scotland by General William Roy at one inch to a mile and spread over England and Wales from a baseline near the now Heathrow Airport. The baseline would have been checked and rechecked several times to ensure it was completely accurate. The sea level datum was set at a dock in Liverpool and our system was being linked with France until Napoleon appeared.

The survey came through Derby on three occasions- 1851, 1912 and 1953. For the last one the base point was outside Riber Castle near Matlock (Mat) and the survey line led to a base point between Melbourne (Mel) and Ticknall. The base mark outside Riber is still visible protected by fencing. Thus the title of Mat and Mel coming to Derby! Benchmarks are still visible on

prominent buildings en route. Originally they were a carved arrow with sometimes a locating bolt and later they were a rectangular cast flush bracket with details cast into them. Rod showed us photos of various visible marks of both types.

The sea level datum was changed to Newlyn in Cornwall in 1931 for greater stability and was calculated from readings taken every 15 minutes, 24 hours a day for several years!

With the advent of satellite technology the need for local benchmarks has been reduced and they are surprisingly not protected.

There is a Bench Mark Database on the internet with details of the whole system.

No doubt many of us will be searching out these marks to the amusement of passers by.

There was a lively session of questions at the end and Rod was thanked for a great evening.

*Ian Mitchell*

## **EMIAC 92 Cromford Threads 7 May 2017**

The East Midlands Industrial Archaeology Conference was hosted by the North East Derbyshire Industrial Archaeology Society (NEDIAS) and held at Arkwright's Mill in Cromford. The event was very well attended – the numbers had to be capped at to 90 to fit comfortably within the venue.

After a welcome from Cliff Lea of NEDIAS, the first speaker was Professor Stanley Chapman, who spoke about the local development of factory based textile production in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century. He compared and contrasted the technologies and market conditions for silk and cotton. The second speaker was Dr Lynn Willies who spoke about lead mining in the area, and how the Cromford sough that was excavated in the to drain the mines initially provided a reliable source of water for Arkwright's mill. However, in the 19<sup>th</sup> century the deeper Meerbrook

sough diverted most of the water supply away from the mills, and precipitated the end of textile manufacture on the site.

After a short comfort break, Darrell Clark spoke about how the wealth generated by Richard Arkwright I from his cotton spinning innovations was consolidated by his son Richard Arkwright II who moved into banking and invested in land and property for his many children. As a result the family became established in stately homes all over the country. The final speaker, Peter South, spoke about the German entrepreneur Johann Gottfried Brugelmann, who established the first Arkwright-style cotton spinning factory on the continent of Europe. Like Arkwright, he established a village around the factory, and even named it Cromford, despite having acquired the knowledge of how to do this via what we would now regard as industrial espionage.

The morning ended with the EMIAC Business meeting where it was reported that the previous EMIAC in Lincoln had made a substantial profit, and there was now a surplus of funds available for small grants to be awarded to suitable I.A. projects in the region. An application had been received for £200 to subsidise publication of a book on ironstone mining in Lincolnshire and this was approved.

A number of activities were organised for the afternoon, including a chance to see a new audio-visual visitor experience that has been created within the empty shell of the 'First Mill'. There was also a guided walk around the village of Cromford and a chance to see inside Cromford parish church, which was originally built as the Arkwright family chapel.

The next EMIAC will be on 14 October on the theme "Engineered in Northampton" – full details and a booking form elsewhere in this newsletter.

*Ian Mitchell*

## Visit to Taylors Bell Foundry 6th. June

A visit to the Bell foundry was enjoyed by 23 members on a wild and windy day and all found parking places around the grade 11\* listed building in the maze of terraces surrounding. Taylors are now the only Bell Founders in the UK and dates back to the 14th. century. The present building was built in the 1850s, Taylors having moved to Loughborough to complete a contract to replace the bells in the parish church of All Saints.

We met in the museum amongst a fascinating display of bells of all sizes and ages from hand bells through ships bells to large church sizes with some of the tools used to make them. The room was dominated by the stoke holes of the large furnaces to supply the molten metal to the casting floor of which more anon! An introduction to the firm, its history and the art of bell making was then given by a very knowledgeable guide.

From here we moved to a machine shop filled with many sets of bells being fitted with heavy collars which held the bells in

supporting structures. The supporting structures were being made in an adjacent woodworking shop and were an engineering challenge in themselves having to resist the loads from the swinging bell and yet be controllable by the ringer through very large wheels carrying the bell ropes in grooves on the outer edges.

It was obvious that we were seeing the production process in reverse as the next workshop we entered was the all important Tuning and machining shop. New bell castings from the casting hall were machined to rid them of casting excesses and to provide mounting features and then mounted on a huge ancient (1879) vertical boring machine. This machine fine tuned the bell by removing metal from the inside surfaces selectively, the bell's response being then compared to a range of tuning forks, using a great deal of operator skill, until it was judged satisfactory. We had a talk on the tuning process and were shown a set of identical bells cast from different materials having completely different sounds but all having different applications. The operator did admit to suffering from tinnitus !

*The group  
examining the  
mountings for  
new bells.*







Inside the  
Loughborough Bell  
Foundry.

Bells ready to be tuned  
and mounted.

The final step was onto the casting floor. Unfortunately it was unoccupied as the last set of castings had been dug up and were being cooled down in a controlled manner. The bells are cast in large pits in the earth floor. This is the traditional way, supporting the casting, lessening the possibility of molten metal leak and ensuring the bell cools slowly. In the pit is buried an outer cast iron shell lined with brick with a smooth layer of loam, horse manure and goats hair which shapes the outer surface of the bell. This surface is usually highly decorated and must have the necessary mouldings, in reverse of course! The inner part of the bell is formed by a plug lowered into the outer shell and formed in the same way.

The 'pouring' ends of the melting furnaces protruded into the casting hall and the casting process must be a sight to behold. The Little John Bell for the Nottingham Council House weighs 10 tons 7cwt. and a relatively recent casting was for the Valletta Harbour Malta George Cross Siege Bell weighing 10tons 14cwt.

A fascinating trip revealing what can still be produced by traditional methods but relying on an incredible level of craftsmanship.

*Peter Robinson*

### **Visit to Rolls Royce Hucknall Heritage Group Wed. 14th. June**

An evening visit to the Rolls Royce Hucknall establishment was enjoyed by 15 members.

The airfield at Hucknall opened during the first world war by the RAF. Rolls Royce moved in alongside the RAF in 1934 setting up an engine test flying and experimental facilities to study the problems of putting evermore powerful engines into aircraft. Increasing power leads to many problems such cooling, demanding testing engines in flight in aircraft installations. Other problems such as anti icing, noise and engine installation were studied. The RAF left the airfield in 1957 and Rolls Royce flying finished in 1971, the experimental and production work declining. The airfield has now largely been sold and faces a rising tide of housing and industrial development covering its recent history.

The redevelopment was very obvious on arrival with new houses spreading onto the airfield the old runway of which has been removed but the Flying Control Tower was still visible. We were lead through the site by two members of the Rolls Royce Heritage group who are setting up an exhi-

bition centre to conserve some of the work and history of the site. The first area we met was that of the rig testing area now a grassy field with hut foundations visible, sobering for the writer who spent 10 years there trying to break things! Further walking through the site showed all the Technical Offices containing the drawing offices and laboratories to be gone but left standing were most of the flight hangers and an ex RAF first world war 'Belfast' hanger a listed building. This hanger we were told will shortly have to go however as it was considered not 'rare' and had suffered some alterations.

The sombre atmosphere was lightened by the news that the building for the Heritage Group had been saved from demolition and would be available on a long lease. The building was a specialised test bed containing a section of wing on which engines could be mounted and run in a flying attitude with cowlings and accessories fitted. The wing will have to be replaced but the building still has the two control rooms, one with original round dials and the other with digital instrumentation! Arranged through the building was a very good display of engines and wind tunnel models all being carefully cleaned and conserved. One of the exhibition piston engines had all its components scanned electronically and assembled into a 'virtual' engine which can be 'run' as a teaching aid. The ambition of the Heritage Group is to create a centre which will celebrate the activities of the site in the past such as the design and manufacture of the 'Flying Bedstead' a pioneer jet powered vertical take off aircraft, and provide education tools for young engineers.

There are still extensive manufacturing facilities in place on the site but most will be moved when capable alternative suppliers are found and around 1500 houses built together with some new industrial units. There was some doubt over the future appearance of the whole site but there is no doubt that the enthusiasm of the group setting up the Heritage Centre and the quality of the work

already done can only mean that the history of this site will be saved, remembered and available for the future. Our guides were full of anecdotes and enthusiasm and we were left in no doubt that the exhibition will be spectacular when completed.

*Peter Robinson*

## **Coach trip to Hull 18 June 2017**

The Industrial Archaeology Section's coach trip this year was to Hull. The trip was very well supported – the booked 33 seat coach would have been full, but the coach company actually provided a giant 59-seater so we had plenty of space. The outward journey took us over the Humber Bridge, the longest single span suspension bridge in the world when it opened in 1981. We picked up our local guide at the service area just north of the bridge and continued into Hull city centre.

Our guide for the day, Geraldine Mathieson, had prepared an excellent handout with a map, list of places of interest, and a fascinating 1640 plan of the city showing the city walls and other defences at the time of the English Civil War. Our visit started with a walk along the part of the river Hull, looking at lifting bridges, warehouses and former shipbuilding sites. As is typical on an I.A. tour, there would have been more to see last year – an interesting 1907 flour mill has recently been demolished.



***Preserved barge in  
Humber Dock***



Arctic Corsair trawler on  
the River Hull

The initial walk ended at the Hull and East Riding Museum, where the party split to look at the archaeological collections in this museum, visit the adjacent Streetlife transport museum, the family home of the anti-slavery campaigner William Wilberforce House, go on a tour of the preserved trawler 'Arctic Corsair' or just visit a nearby pub for lunch – no one had time to do all of these!

We regrouped in the afternoon for Geraldine to lead us on a further walk through the old town area, where there are a number of former coaching inns – including the George Hotel which claims to have the smallest window in the UK – and then down to the Humber estuary to see the landing stage for the ferry to New Holland that operated until the opening of the Humber Bridge. The ferry terminal building survives, displaying the initials of the Manchester Sheffield and Lincolnshire Railway. We then walked alongside some of the docks that were constructed for shipping from 1774 onwards – the Humber dock of 1809 is now a marina, Prince's Dock of 1829 has a shopping centre in it, and the original Queen's Dock is filled in as a public park. The tour ended at the former dock offices, now the Maritime Museum, but by the time we reached there it was museum closing time, so we boarded the coach for the journey home, all very much aware that there was lots more to see in the 'city of culture' than we had been able to squeeze into one very busy day.

*Ian Mitchell*

## OBITUARY

### PETER BILLSON

1929 -2017

It is with great sadness that we heard that Peter had died. Even though he been ill for some time it still came as a shock and he will be much missed. He was such a lovely man. He had been the Treasurer of the Society for 25 years until his retirement only last year.

Born in Derby, he lived here for all his life. He attended Darley Abbey School and later Bemrose Grammar school before training as an architect and working for his father's company before finally joining and becoming a partner, for many years, in the architectural practise of Naylor Sale and Widdows. His greatest triumph was the design of the new St Alkmunds Church but he was also involved with the now famous conservation and restoration of the Brunswick pub and the Midland Railway cottages by the Derbyshire Historic Buildings Trust. Latterly he was a member of the Derby Conservation Area Advisory Committee.

Indeed the list of Peter's interests is legion – he was a member of the Derby Youth Orchestra (where he met his late wife Brenda) and the Derby Concert orchestra and continued to enjoy classical music for the rest of his life. He was a stalwart of the Derby Civic Society and the Derby Porcelain Society amongst many others including the DAS. He was also a published author with books as diverse as "Derby and the Midland Railway", "Thomas Bridgett and Co" and "Churches in Nottinghamshire" and others to his name.

By all accounts he had a long, happy and busy life and our thoughts are with his family at this time.

*Barbara Foster*

There will a Lecture in Peter's honour on the 27<sup>th</sup> October 2017 at Derby University and the speaker will be Maxwell Craven. Full details will be in our forthcoming win-



ter programme. We also hope to be launching Peter's latest book "Francis Thompson: Victorian Railway Architect" on the same night.

## DERBYSHIRE MISCELLANY Vol 21, Part 3, Spring 2017

- *The Chinley Herbage*s by Derek Brumhead
- *The Life and Times of a Delinquent Cavalier, Sir Aston Cockayne, 1608-1684, Royalist, Catholic, Poet and Dramatist* by Alan Cockayne

Very little has been written about herbage - pastoral out-stations leased out by the Crown or, in the case of Chinley, by the Duchy of Lancaster from 1391-2 - but Derek Brumhead has unearthed some interesting information which certainly adds to our knowledge. The Chinley herbage were in north-west Derbyshire. From the late 11thC much of this region was part of the Royal Forest of the Peak and from medieval times part of an administrative district called Bowden Middlecale which for tax purposes consisted of ten hamlets covering 16,000 statute acres.

Originally the forest formed part of an inheritance dating back to William II but in the 12thC it reverted back to the Crown. Basingwerk Abbey in Flintshire received extensive grants in Longdendale from Henry II in 1157 which included the manor and church of Glossop. In 1372, the forest, except for the Abbey's Glossop manor, came into the possession of John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, becoming part of the Duchy of Lancaster in 1399.

Population growth in the 12th and 13thC led to increasing competition for the resources of the forest. Documents from the early 13thC show the laws of the Forest of the Peak being broken: assarts taken for farming, houses built and trees used for building and fuel, and thus include the first mention of arable farming when land was cut

out of the forest. Some local place names are also mentioned. In 1442 the abbot of Basingwerk leased the manor of Glossop to John Talbot, the 1st Earl of Shrewsbury and in 1537 George Talbot, 5th Earl of Shrewsbury, was granted possession by Henry VIII after the dissolution of the monasteries. In the late 16thC the Earl purchased a large part of Longdendale from Elizabeth 1 which was then formally disafforested.

A map (probably 1587-1590) shows the areas of herbage in Longdendale, Mainstonefield (alias Chinley), Ashop, Edale, Fairfield and Tideswell. It also includes outline pictures of buildings of the chief places in between the herbage which were leased out. The Chinley herbage covered just over 600 statute acres. Some documentary history of the Chinley herbage was also found, beginning with a grant of lands to Merivale Abbey recorded in the Duchy rentals in the early 13thC.

Not many people are lucky enough to be able to trace their ancestors back to the 17thC, let alone to be able to tell the story of a *Delinquent Cavalier who was also a Royalist, Catholic, Poet and Dramatist*. But Alan Cockayne can. His interesting account of *Sir Aston Cockayne, 1608-1684* begins with his birth at Elvaston Castle, the eldest son of the Catholic Thomas Cockayne of Ashbourne Hall and Anne Stanhope and ends with his death in poverty in lodgings in Derby on 18 February 1684.

The Cockaynes had arrived in England in the time of William the Conqueror and for over 450 years the family had prospered in the service of their monarchs. Aston's cousin, William Cockayne, an advisor and personal friend of King James I, was then the richest commoner in England.

Aston was an intelligent and well educated man. He attended at least three universities, spoke several languages and was well travelled and connected. He married Mary Kniveton, daughter of Sir Gilbert Kniveton in 1634 and went to live at Pooley Hall, near Polesworth in Warwickshire. He had a son

followed by a daughter and spent his time with his books, his companions, his religion and his devotions to King Charles I, writing a play '*A Masque at Bretby*' which was performed at Bretby in 1639. He also wrote poems (several of which are reproduced). Aston inherited Pooley Hall in 1638 together with his father's debts, the marriage portions of his five sisters and the maintenance of his mother and her large household at Ashbourne Hall until her death in 1664.

But Aston also liked an extravagant life and his financial problems were not helped by the onset of the Civil War. His estate was sequestered by Parliament because he was a Catholic and the King, who had knighted him, expected his financial support. He borrowed money extensively to cover his five sisters' marriage portions but appears to have spent the money, providing a dowry for only one sister. He continued to draw an income for his own use and as a consequence appeared before the Committee for Compounding with Delinquents. After the loss of his estates, he sought sanctuary at Tutbury Castle but this was besieged. When the King surrendered the castle he went to France but

soon returned, arrested for debt and sent to Marshalsea Prison. Released from prison c1651 following payment of his fines by William Cockayne, Aston retired to Pooley where he published several more plays and poems and probably leased or mortgaged the Pooley estate to William Cockayne. Eventually Ashbourne Hall and the Lordship of Ashbourne were sold to Sir William Boothby and in 1683 Pooley Hall and the Lordship of Pooley Manor were sold to Humphrey Jennings. The end was inevitable - a life of poverty in Derby in his old age. Members of the Cockayne family lived in Derby but he never acknowledged them and they in turn considered he had disgraced the ancient name by the loss of the Derbyshire and Warwickshire estates and the family fortune.

For the time being, articles for inclusion in *Derbyshire Miscellany* should be sent to Mrs Jane Steer, 478 Duffield Road, Allestree, Derby, DE22 2DJ.

If you don't subscribe to *Miscellany*, copies of both this issue and back issues are available from Mrs Susan Peberdy, 147 Havenbault Lane, Littleover, Derby, DE23 4AF (£4.25 incl. p&p). Alternatively an annual subscription to *Derbyshire Miscellany*, which is published twice a year, is £6.

Jane Steer

## NEW MEMBERS (since January Newsletter)

- Mrs & Prof J. Powers of Quarndon
- Dr N.S. Hunt of South Wingfield
- Miss B. Sheldon of Derby
- Ms K. Warner of Belper
- Mr M. Whyld of Ripley
- Mr D. Budge of Spondon
- Mr & Mrs M. & J. Neal of Mickleover
- Mrs J. Pellington of Nuthall



- Drs G. & S. Spring of Stanton by Bridge
- Mr P. & Mrs S. Thomas of Allestree
- Mrs J. Middleton-Smith of Duffield
- Mrs V. & Mr J. Page of Spondon
- Mrs A.G. Sanders of Attenborough
- Miss K. Topliss of Chesterfield
- Mrs J.L. & Mr P.W. Wood of Winster
- Mr W.A. Read of Allestree
- Mr P. Rowlands & Miss M. Chicksen of Derby

We have been notified of the death of the following members.

- Mr M.H. Evans,
- Mr P. Billson,
- Miss E.M.J. Parkinson

## PILLING REPORT

A grant of £600 was made to Mrs Denise Grace and the Belper Group for pottery analysis of a comprehensive selection finds from a long running excavation behind the Market Place in Belper. It was a complicated multiphase site from the ancient to the relatively modern so the results should be very interesting.

If you have a project in mind, be it archaeological, historical, architectural or industrial and Derbyshire based please do get in touch – see advert below.

## 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). *Barbara Foster*

## BOOK REVIEWS

### **An Upland Biography Landscape and Prehistory on Gardom's Edge, Derbyshire By John Barnatt, Bill Bevan and Mark Edmonds**

Windgather Press (Oxbow Books) Oxford  
ISBN 978-1-911188-15-5 £34.99

This book describes an intensive archaeological study of a relatively small area of the Peak District's Eastern Moors, famous for their dramatic gritstone edges. It is in two parts, the first a well-illustrated and readable account of the six excavation seasons carried out between 1995 and 2000 by the authors on behalf of the Peak District National Park Authority and Sheffield University assisted by scores of volunteers; the second, a series of specialist reports on the findings.

Archaeologically, surviving surface traces of prehistoric field systems, cairns and other features on the Eastern Moors are well-known, but less well-known are the time depths and details of human interaction with their environment that they embody. Despite poor results from geophysics and the problem of acid soils having destroyed evidence such as bone, pollen and plant microfossils, this book makes it clear that there is still a great deal that can be deduced.

The reader is guided through the evidence for people having visited, lived and farmed on the edge through millennia, fossilised in the stone structures above ground and under the turf. Detailed archaeological survey and excavation and careful, painstaking analysis of the results are woven into an intricate and intimate story localised to the Gardom's Edge landscape. A few surprise discoveries are revealed and a greater understanding is gained, almost stone by stone, of the remains and the people who made them, primarily in the second and third millennia BC.

Inserted alongside the archaeology are coloured photographs accompanied by commentaries on green coloured pages, which evoke the continuing 'magic' of the gritstone edges, particularly Gardom's, for anyone interested in landscape history.

*Pauline Beswick*

## SMALL ADS

### Frost Collection

The family of E G Frost has handed a collection of his papers to the Society and it is possible that some of these might be useful to members with a particular interest in aspects of Nth Derbyshire. Most of the items are photocopies of published material, some of early dates. They are concentrated on Roman Roads, a selection of caves and forts and Melandra.

I am currently cataloguing the papers and will have the list available for perusal at future meetings. However, if you think you might like to see any of these before then, please get in touch with me via my email address:

[pattinkler34@gmail.com](mailto:pattinkler34@gmail.com)

### The Richard III Foundation

The Foundation will hold its 2017 Annual Symposium *Warfare in the Fifteenth Century* on Saturday, October 14 at the Guildhall, Leicester.

The speakers and topics are:

- Dr. Tobias Capwell - 'The Last Ten Minutes: Armour, Cavalry Charges and the Downfall of Richard III'
- Professor Anne Curry – 'Changes in Warfare in the Fifteenth Century'
- Dr. Jane Evans – 'Analyzing the Bones of a King'
- Dr. Turi King – 'Richard III; the Resolution of a 500 year old Missing Person's Case'

- Richard Knox – 'How the Battle of Bosworth was fought - or was it'
- Author Mathew Lewis – 'Richard, Duke of York and the Art of Avoiding War'
- Bob Savage - 'Killed the Boar, Shaved his Head'; the Death of Richard III

Cost £40 per person.

To reserve your seat, please mail your name, address, email address of each participant along with your check (£40 each) payable to "The Richard III Foundation, Inc."

Please submit to Ms. Dorothy Davies, Half Moon House, 32 Church Lane, Ryde. Isle of Wight PO33 2NB.

For further questions, please email us at [Richard3Foundation@aol.com](mailto:Richard3Foundation@aol.com). Website: [www.richard111.com](http://www.richard111.com).

## DO YOU KNOW?

The Derbyshire Archaeological Society has completed digitising all issues of the annual Journal and the Local History publication—Miscellany.

They are all now available on-line for free via our website [www.derbyshireas.org.uk](http://www.derbyshireas.org.uk) with the exception of the very recent editions.

We occasionally email items that may be of interest to members - such as events, changes to our programmes etc.

Please ensure we have your updated email as many have changed with the closing of freeserve. If you have never received these we do not have your email address and would be grateful if you could let us have it. Please send email address to the secretary (Email inside front cover).

We do not divulge your email address to anyone without your agreement.



## Northamptonshire Industrial Archaeology Group

### Industrial Heritage Day

EMIAC 93

## Engineered in Northampton



Saturday 14 October 2017

National Training Academy for Rail, Northampton

The programme looks at three Northampton-based companies in the engineering sector from three different centuries. Nineteenth century iron founder EH Barwell's products can still be found in southern England. In the twentieth century the Express Lift Company's lifts were to be found across the world and their innovative testing tower is once again being used for development work. Alongside their train care facility, Siemens have recently opened a new training facility for the railway engineers of the 21st century.

### Programme

- 08.30 Set-up and displays
- 09.00 Registration and Coffee
- 09.45 Welcome and Introduction
- 10.00 Barwell – Early 19th Century Iron Founder - Peter Perkins
- 10.50 Break
- 11.05 The Express Lift Company: Lift Manufacturers and Installers of Northampton – David Thompson
- 11.55 Mind the Gap: Responding to the Skills Shortages within the Rail Industry – Simon Rennie
- 12.45 Business meeting
- 13.00 Buffet Lunch
- 14.00 Visits to NTAR and Traincare facility.
- 16.00 Tea and depart
- 16.30 Building cleared

### Location

This event will be based at the newly-built National Training Academy for Rail located in Northampton.

Admission to the conference is by advance booking only as this is a secure site. Parking will be off-site, an easy ten minute walk away. Maps and full directions will be provided for which an SAE is essential when booking. For those bringing stands/display material, parking space will be provided on-site. Also please advise if you have a mobility problem.

The cost for the day will be £23.00 per person which includes refreshments, lunch and car parking. Please complete the enclosed booking form and return it, together with your cheque made payable to NIAG and SAE, to:

Dr TJ Waterfield, 6 Bakers Lane, Norton, Daventry, NN11 2EL.

## Speakers

**Peter Perkins** is Secretary of NIAG. From the 1820s, Edward Harrison Barwell became one of the leading ironfounders in Northampton, undertaking a variety of work including bridges, glasshouses, fountains, railings, heating systems and ovens, some of which were for the nobility. He also had *fingers in several other commercial pies*. His Eagle Foundry continued after his death, finally closing in the 1990s. This talk traces the history of Barwell and his business and identifies some of his work that can still be seen over the southern half of England.

**David Thompson** is now Director of Vertica Consulting, a business supporting the lift design and building industries having started his engineering apprenticeship with The Express Lift Company. Rising through the ranks to senior managerial positions he is well placed to present the history of the company and its many achievements such as the UK's first double-deck lifts in the National Westminster Bank Tower, London and the development of hydraulic lifts.

**Simon Rennie** was appointed General Manager of the National Training Academy for Rail (NTAR) in 2014. His presentation will look at the skills challenges facing the rail industry and how NTAR has been set up to respond to these problems. He will also discuss how modern technology is helping NTAR achieve its goals.

## Industrial Heritage Days

EMIAC, the East Midlands Industrial Archaeology Conference, comprises a group of societies from across the East Midlands. EMIAC Industrial Heritage Days are held twice a year and are open to anyone with an interest in industrial archaeology or related historical subjects. The first event was held in 1970 and this, the 93rd, is being hosted by NIAG, Northamptonshire Industrial Archaeology Group.

The other EMIAC affiliated societies are:

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

## About NIAG

NIAG has been active since 1965 and is concerned with studying and promoting the county's industrial heritage. The group meets monthly between October and March and has a programme of weekly outdoor meetings during the summer months between May and August visiting sites both inside and beyond the county boundary. A quarterly newsletter keeps members informed of activities and news.

email: [secretary@niag.org.uk](mailto:secretary@niag.org.uk)

[www.niag.org.uk](http://www.niag.org.uk)



Images courtesy of NTAR.

**EMIAC 93 – ENGINEERED IN NORTHAMPTON****Saturday 14th October 2017****BOOKING FORM**

Admission to the Conference is by **advance booking only** as this is a secure site. Please complete this booking form and send it to the Booking Secretary by the **1st October**, enclosing the correct remittance and a **stamped self-addressed envelope**. An acknowledgement and location map will be sent to you.

The price of £23.00 per person includes the cost of all refreshments, lunch and car parking.

Name(s) : \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If applicable please complete the following:-  
Society(if appropriate)\_\_\_\_\_

I/We have the following dietary requirements:

\_\_\_\_\_

I wish to have display space for:

\_\_\_\_\_

I have a mobility problem and require a disabled parking space.

\_\_\_\_\_

Please send your remittance (**cheques made payable to NIAG**) to:

Dr. T J Waterfield  
Hon. Treasurer, NIAG  
6 Bakers Lane,  
Norton  
Daventry  
Northamptonshire, NN11 2EL

# DERBYSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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