



# DERBYSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

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*Querns at Repton 2016*

# DERBYSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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# DERBYSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

## NEWSLETTER 82 JULY 2016

### The Cover Story

#### REPTON REVISITED

It was 25 years ago that Professor Martin Biddle completed his extensive excavations at Repton, wherein, among other things, he found Viking graves near the church, a mound and a charnel house in the Vicarage garden which contained the miscellaneous bones of at least 264 bodies of uncertain origin - and a D shaped ditch around the church and its surrounds. All were thought to be associated with the overwintering of the Great Heathen Army in 873/4.

Since then an isotope study of the teeth from the charnel house has been completed by Cat Jarman of Bristol University. You may remember she gave a fascinating lecture to the Society on the subject a couple of years ago. The results have revealed that the bulk of the bodies could be of Scandinavian origin and date to the late 9<sup>th</sup> century. Four juveniles buried together just outside the mound came from very different origins and are likely to have been linked with the Viking presence.

The last dig was positively funereal in its findings with little or nothing to suggest

Viking military occupation within the ditched area and a recent GPR survey by a PhD student, Henry Webber had revealed a number of possible structures thought to relate to the monastic complex. So, with a view to investigating the Anglo Saxon monastic settlement and enclosure, a team from Bristol University led by Professor Mark Horton and Cat Jarman has been at work once again in the Vicarage Garden. It is thought that the interpretation of the Viking Age charnel and mound should be seen in light of the wider context of the buildings connected to the monastic complex.

Discoveries have included what appears to be a structured deposit of a large number of broken early medieval quern stones, likely to be of local types and provenance. They also uncovered a decorated stone fragment of what appears to be an Anglo-Saxon cross, which is likely to have been related to the monastic complex. Evidence of the Viking presence in Repton was also discovered.

It is hoped that they can return next year, funding (and the Vicar) permitting. I do hope so!

*Barbara Foster*

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## Programme Secretary

The opening lecture 8 January 2016 at the University was by Mr Tony Wilmott, from Historic England, on 'Highlights from Recent Excavations at Maryport'. We were not in our usual surroundings of cosy OL1 but in another theatre somewhere round the back and up 3 floors and in spite of the rather chilly surroundings it was a very interesting lecture.

26<sup>th</sup> February was the Tom Larimore Memorial lecture 'Heanor - Then and Now' by Brian Key, Chair of Heanor & District Local History Society at St Mary's Church Hall, I'm told that it was very well attended and on a subject Tom would have enjoyed. March 4<sup>th</sup>, Professor Julian Richards from University of York talked about 'Torksey Lincolnshire - recent work in the winter camp of the Viking Great Army', a fascinating subject.

The AGM on 29 April was followed by Dr Iain Hambling's excellent talk on the long and eventful history of 'T G Green & Co, Ltd', a pottery in Church Gresley South Derbyshire.

The Summer Programme is well underway – full details on our website and in your programme card.

Winter Programme 2016-17, the opening lecture in OL1 on September 30<sup>th</sup> 2016 will be 'Aethelfrith and the Battle of Chester AD616: a battlefield and war-grave discovered' by Dr David Mason. This lecture is rescheduled from March 6<sup>th</sup> 2015.

The Programme talks range from Isotope Analysis; Sir John Chandos; A W N Pugin - A Passion for Gothic; Excavations at Elmton; Excavations at Lenton Priory; and another 2 lectures in Room OL1 - King of All Balloons - The Adventurous Life of James Sadler, the First English Aeronaut. The Christmas Event at St Pauls Church Hall will have Bob Neill from Aston on Trent, coming with a load of boxes and a lot of fun! Dr Jenny Alexander on 13 January, 'From Cathedral Workshops to Country House Building Sites: how did stonemasons cope in the Early-Modern period?' Memorial Lecture

for Barbara Hutton and Michael Mallender in Room OL1. However I cannot tell you who is giving the talk on March 3<sup>rd</sup> as the speaker is probably still thinking about what to say.

*Malise McGuire*

## Library notes.

### HELP - Bookseller wanted

It has been the busiest of times and the quietest of times in the Library this last few months. In the last Newsletter I appealed for a volunteer who would consider taking over the Librarian's role. I am pleased to say that a member has come forward, but so far between us we have hardly found time to meet. When we did fix up a working session and got to the Central library we found that the cellar level had just been closed to all. An 'electrical fault' so no lights which would be fixed 'tomorrow'. But nearly a month later 'tomorrow' had not come. To give them their due that is the first time in 40 years that that has happened. So there is much to get on with.

On the better side the number of DAJs that we loaned recently for scanning for online access have been returned in kind. We have had donations of two items relating to Crich (Jackson and Smith), Cromford (Uttley) and Derby (Skinner and Rippon) and also the two books reviewed in the last Newsletter (thanks reviewer) all of which we are pleased to have.

### HELP

Michael Mallendar in his will left the Library all his historical/archaeological collection of books with the provision that we could sell any that we did not want to access. We are planning to take 16 items into the Library but there are many more that could be sold. We also have a previous stock of 'for sale' items. So we are seeking help from A MEMBER WHO WOULD LIKE TO ACT AS THE SOCIETY'S

**BOOKSELLER.** It's a great job! We can do a catalogue and so on and we would like members to have a first chance purchase (at a discount!). So please anyone interested in doing this job get in touch with Joan D'Arcy or me. (see cover). Thanks.

There remains some problems at the Central Library so it is best, if members wish to borrow books, first to contact Joan D'Arcy or myself by e-mail, 'phone or post with their request.

*Ray Marjoram*

## ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESEARCH GROUP

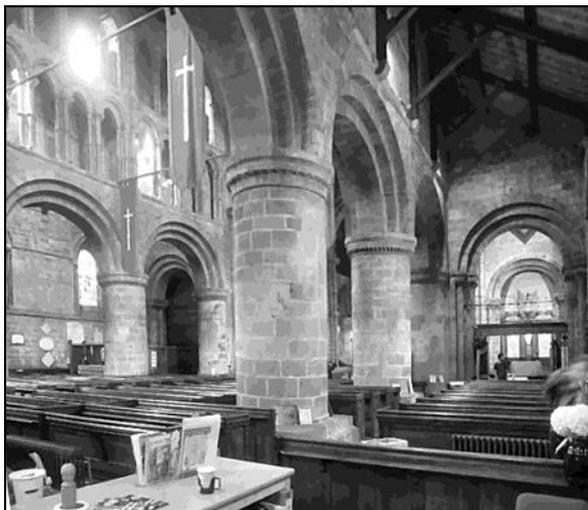
### Chester – 15<sup>th</sup> August 2015

After the motorway stop our journey became slow, the coach being stuck for miles behind a tractor. It seemed that we might miss the slot arranged for the chapter house of St. John the Baptist. One of our members phoned the incumbent explaining that we might be late. Still two miles short we crawled through a hamlet named for an eponymous wayside monument. 'Vicarscross' he said in attempted

reassurance to Joan who was looking a little anxious. 'I hope he'll still let us in!' she replied.

St. John's is probably an older foundation than St. Werburgh's (abbey) cathedral with which it had vied for status over some centuries. It has a history of changes of status leading to chronic underfunding, decay and tower collapses. Its location outside the south east corner of the Roman legionary fortress walls caused it to suffer damage during the siege of 1645-6. Nonetheless it is of much interest. Much of the massive Norman nave survives (maybe 11<sup>th</sup> century but opinions are divided about almost all dates) and there are many features and monuments including Anglo-Saxon crosses peculiar to the region. There is a 13<sup>th</sup> century painting of St. John the Baptist. The east end is much ruined. The reputed chapter house (a vaulted building c1300 with a central pier) houses a magnificent collection of carvings including more grave markers; a stone with Anglo-Saxon writing thought to be the memorial to a Saxon abbess; and what appears to be an almost complete set of ceiling bosses, probably 13<sup>th</sup> century in excellent condition, from an adjacent ruined aisle. Discoveries

*Inside St. John's and its wall painting*



are still being made (a runic inscription built into a wall, for instance) but unfortunately carved stones are eroding from the made up ground surface of the ruined north-east chapel.

Our host, the Rev. David Chesters (formerly an archaeologist) mentioned that he would like to see the small church of St. Olaf on Lower Bridge Street open for the public to visit; a reminder of the Norse influences in this part of England.

*John Morrissey*

After this visit, the group were at leisure to do as they wished. Most visited the Cathedral which was founded as a Benedictine Abbey in 1092 and still has the most complete set of monastic buildings in the country. The church was rebuilt around 1250 onwards in the Gothic style resulting in the magnificent structure we see today. There are some fine examples of misericords; there are 48 depicting a variety of subjects, some humorous and some grotesque.

The energetic walked the two miles around the city walls whilst others did shorter stretches catching glimpses of the River Dee and getting a good view of the city which has many attractions. A definite must was to visit the unique Rows which are continuous half-timbered galleries, reached by steps, which form a second row above those at street level. Some original 13<sup>th</sup> century buildings have survived but many of the impressive facades are Victorian copies. Some visited the museums, took a boat trip or an open top bus tour. There were plenty of places to eat and parks to relax in, one being the Roman gardens in which were displayed carved fragments from the Roman legionary fortress of Deva. They include pieces of some of the most important military buildings, for example, the main baths and the headquarters. Many of the columns in the gardens came from the exercise hall of the Roman bath house. Just outside the city's walls is a Roman amphitheatre with ongoing excavations.

It was agreed that we had had a good day, the highlight of which was the visit to St. John's Church and we thank John Morrissey for making the arrangements.

*Anne Haywood.*

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## **Revealing Greyfriars: the archaeology of Leicester's Franciscan Friary. Mathew Morris**

Excavations on the Alderman Newton Girl's School playground and the Social Services car park in Leicester started in 2012 when narrow trenches were dug resulting in the discovery of the burial of Richard III. This led to the larger investigation in 2013 when the major object became the Grey Friars, who were mendicant preachers arriving in Leicester around 1224-31.

Possible founders of the Friary were Simon de Montfort, his wife Eleanor, Robert de Grosstest, Richard, Earl of Cornwall and Henry III. The church was completed in 1290 and, by 1300, 18 of the Grey Friars were qualified to hear confessions. In 1402 five of the friars were executed for conspiring to return Richard II to the throne and in 1414 Henry V held a parliament in Leicester. Richard III was buried in 1485 the area of the church choir. The buildings were demolished in the mid C16 and by 1600 the site was lost. The only hints of the occupation were discovered in the C18 when human remains were discovered in the area and some artefacts from C14 window tracery were identified in a local garden. Signs of Roman use were found on the site in the form of a C4 coin, a brooch and some pottery.

Much of the Friary features are now under modern buildings and roads and most of the stone walls were stolen to make things like stone benches. This left only wall lines and tile impressions on floor areas to indicate the possible cloister.

A small amount of walling with no foundation was found. This had been rendered and showed evidence of a door threshold. A full scale excavation done on the Chancel revealed the position of buttresses and, towards the west end, the base of a possible tower. These features suggested a possible similarity to the Nosley Collegiate Chapel near Hallelton in Leicestershire. Signs were also found of choir stalls, graves, the Presbytery and a stone coffin.

Traces of buildings south of the Church were of an earlier date and more substantial. These were possibly the foundations of an initial, temporary medieval building dated around 1255.

In part the floored area tiles had been laid diagonally to the walls. Some tiles were found, glazed, not patterned. Whilst the church had been of good build the domestic buildings were of poor quality. Part of the Church floor had Wessex style tiles with heraldic animals and one of the Presbytery tiles featured a large bird in yellow and orange. The Church floor tiles were laid in an intricate pattern, some having a black glaze

Findings included: roof slates, tomb lettering, painted stone, lead window edging, a C14 French jetton token, an Edward IV silver ½d (1468).

Burials included: 4 skeletons, all female aged between 23 and 54 years old, height 5'1" to 5'4", death 1270-1400, all predating Richard III. All showed evidence of being hardworking.

A fifth body was found completely sealed in a lead coffin inside a stone sarcophagus. The lead had soldered seams and a soldered cross on the lid. The death was dated 1250-1400. The woman was of high class, 5'4" and 60+ years old, had a good healthy life. Her diet had been similar to Richard III. It was possible that she might have been one of the founders. Signs on the coffin suggested that it might have been transported to the Friary.

Following the dissolution of the monasteries the Friary closed in 1538 and in 1539 it was leased for an annual rent of 20 shillings, the Church being demolished and materials including the bell and roof lead sold for £88. In 1549 the site was sold for £24 and in the 1590s Robert Herrick built Grey Friars House.

Mathew remarked that there is still much to be discovered and future work is needed. Obviously, for the Society, a further talk in prospect.

*Pat Tinkler.*

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### **Excavations of a mill at Toton**

On 8<sup>th</sup> April, after the section AGM, Gill Morral gave a talk on a community archaeology project to locate the water mills and manor house of Toton in Nottinghamshire. In 2012, amateur historians, Gill and Rex Wyatt, had produced a book entitled 'Toton Revealed' which provoked many questions about the manorial site. Toton was a medieval township located on the River Erewash. A manor house was mentioned in the Domesday Book and documents from the 16<sup>th</sup> century record that the Stanhope family bought Toton manor. The earliest depiction of Toton Mill is on Sir John Borlase Warren's map of 1789 which shows a single rectangular building. The tithe map of 1847 shows the mill made up of two rectangular buildings.

It was learned that the Council planned a play area on a potential site of one of the ancient water mills. A geophysics survey of the recreation ground, an uneven area and a shrubby area was carried out and generated interest in local people. Trent & Peak Archaeology became involved and the project between the Friends of Toton Fields and Broxtowe Borough Council, funded by a Heritage Lottery grant, began in 2014.

A survey of the recreation ground was made by volunteers, on a learning curve, using various techniques, including laser, GPS and also a more simple arrangement of a camera on a pole above the trenches. Measurements with tape measures were made when the land was too rough, there being many brambles, but the volunteers laughed a lot and worked hard to clear the ground and reveal an ancient ridge and furrow field system. Five test pits were dug but the earth was very hard and difficult and nothing was found. However, two trenches located a barrel vaulted cellar of the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, lots of walls, large stone foundations and bricks on top of bricks. Demolition rubble walls and floors of different ages – lime floor, ash floor, cobbled floor and brick floor were revealed. During the third week of the dig a large medieval ditch was located, possibly a boundary ditch, containing a tile of the 13<sup>th</sup> century with a yellow glaze which might indicate that this was an important building as blocks of dressed stone were also found together with pottery and a coin of James I or Charles I. Walls of the 17<sup>th</sup> century were under walls of a later age, so it appeared that when one building was knocked down another was built in its place. A farmhouse stood there until it was demolished in 1952. A Victorian midden produced lots of crockery and a musket or pistol ball. Obviously, there had been occupation on the site for centuries.

Investigation of the rough ground then commenced looking for water channels. Boreholes were made. One channel in use in the 17<sup>th</sup> century flowed into the old mill pond. Channels 3 and 4 were the oldest channels and more investigation needs to be done. In looking for the water mill a 5 metre square area was cleared and a trench dug. Close to the surface, the floor was quickly revealed and then the wooden remains of the threshold were found. The brickwork was mid 18<sup>th</sup> century on stone foundations. A cog wheel pit was revealed and a well was discovered built in the 19<sup>th</sup> century which

may have been more to do with the later trade of soap making in the building. Discoveries came thick and fast – large bricks to avoid the Brick Tax, a kiln, a pit full of burnt and charred material, a square post hole in the medieval section. More walls were found at different angles and a door lintel that looked very odd. It was decided that the water came in from below, an undershot wheel, which although not very powerful it was quicker to stop. The water wheel pit, with a brick floor, was uncovered together with lots of metal and many burnt items, horseshoes, nails and animal bones. The mill had been water powered in 1840 but in 1880 it was steam powered. The mill pond was located; it had been filled in in 1954 because it was deemed unsafe. Many scary stories about the pond had entered local folk lore. It had been named the 'Pit of Doom' because of its black, smelly nature. However, in the pond four large posts were found. They were very firmly embedded and only two were eventually removed. These posts of oak were later dated as being felled around 1196 and 1215 and had been put in place between 1215 and 1240 but it is not known yet what their purpose was. They have been reburied in a waterlogged site to preserve them.

Throughout the dig the community were kept aware of progress with interpretation boards, visits and daily postings of any finds. Gill told us of the enthusiasm and enjoyment by the volunteers in this very successful project. A full report is on the website 'Toton Unearthed' by Trent & Peak Archaeology which charts all the progress of the dig. There are also various websites displaying photographs of the project and daily diaries kept by the volunteers.

*Anne Haywood*

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## Chester Green Excavations.

On Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 27 interested members of the Society, met up with Paul Flintoft, Project leader for Trent and Peake Archaeology, to look at the current ongoing excavations at Chester Green.

Paul explained that Trent and Peak Archaeology had been involved in the project, Our City Our River- a flood elevation scheme, for pretty much one year and three months. Paul went on to explain that currently a volunteer project was in place, where members of the public had been invited to carry out activities such as pot washing, finds processing and digging, this had proved to be extremely popular, and in fact the team had found it difficult to fit everyone in, this included a number of DAS members.

Paul proceeded to direct us around the site, and we were shown a ditch containing earth and ramparts of the Roman Fort, very uniform and well preserved, he explained the pottery they had unearthed here dated back to 205/208 AD. The team suspected that there was an earlier ditch underneath the ramparts. Paul went on to describe the earliest excavations of William Stukeley in 1724. Further excavations concluded that the fort was not high enough to be a defensive fort but more likely to be a centre for redistribution of goods and collection of taxes.

In the second location we were taken to the ditch containing industrial residue and bits of bone, this collection was probably the result of past flood events.

The third location referred to as, 'Stukeley's road', met up with a section of Rykneld street, this was the entrance to what was known in imperial Rome as the, 'Vicus', or the civilian settlement area, this would have been the beginning of the town of Derby, with houses built of stone. Here Paul our guide, painted a very clear picture of the exchange of trade and industry which would have taken place between the local people

and the Romans. The fort would have been home to entire families, a quantity of coins and personal items had been discovered here.

We were introduced to further ditches, showing stretches of road packed with silt all the way down to the agger, as the road began to narrow and then break out towards the town, we came to the 4<sup>th</sup> location, excavated and written up in further investigations during 1971-72. Here was found the remains of a bakehouse, a quern stone was used as a floor surface. It was discussed that the quern could have originated from Holloway in Belper as this was a major quern making area in the Iron Age. Here was also found huge mounds of compacted material probably from collapsed kilns.

We were then shown the excavations on the South side of the fort, Paul described how three trenches had been dug in three known locations of the fort so that the proposed flood wall can be changed to steer clear of the archaeology and show the outline of the fort.

Historic England is in the process of trying to re-instate the fort.

Further recent finds have included a section of Roman road one metre thick and the remains of a bath house behind the cricket pavilion.

Paul concluded with a tour of the finds, and emphasised that they were trying their best not to touch any archaeology and is hopeful that the full report will be written soon.

*Anne Haywood*

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## ARCHITECTURAL SECTION

### The Roundhouse, Derby Lecture on 29 January 2016

We were lucky enough to be able to engage the services of one of the Directors of Maber Architects who were involved in this complex project.

The Roundhouse is part of the former Derby Railway works. English Heritage had put the disintegrating building on their "at risk register". Despite the re-development in the rest of Pride Park, the Roundhouse with its adjacent buildings remained neglected for over twenty years. Derby Further Educational College took on this project which cost £46m with the aim of forming a new vocational skills centre for the College. Funding was obtained with major funders including the Heritage Lottery Fund, EMDA, ERDC and the LSC. The architects developed two prong strategy, on the one hand researching the history of the leading to the complete restoration of the Engine Shed,

the Carriage Shop and the Roundhouse itself which is Grade II listed. Mindful of the cutting edge technology of the original railway trail blazers, there are three new buildings as well incorporating modern initiatives yet also having artwork including a steam train and pictures of such pioneers as George Stephenson and Matthew Kirtley.

These days English Heritage expect any additional buildings on a site to be contrasting and this project certainly showing this. In the former carriage shop there are specially designed education pods in an extra insert first floor. The Kirtley Engineering building dichroic colour changing glass marking the passage through space and time as one walks by. The brand new buildings are the Stephenson Building, the Kirtley Building plus the new public plaza. In addition the Francis Thompson building has been substantially restored including the clock. Throughout all the restoration work craftsman have been utilised for work e.g. window frames, roofs etc. as would have been the case in the buildings' hey day.



The building completed in 2009 after two years' worth of building once all the funding was up and running with a large tranche of experts in many fields. This building has proved an asset to the college with student members being substantially up but, is also very popular with visitors. Indeed, as there is a Society Section visit there on 30 July.

Maber Architects have worked with Derby College since day one in 2002 initially on the Joseph Wright Sixth Form College. Derby College were up for the challenge of developing the Roundhouse and adjacent buildings when many were content to let it remain an eyesore or fall down being frightened by anticipated high costs. On the other hand Derby College set a brief not only to restore the old buildings to their former glory but to also use many new technologies in both the new and old buildings.

The building in its restored state has featured in quite a few publications. Ian cited English Heritage's "Conservation in Practice" 2008, Building Design "Derby College Roundhouse Campus" 2009, Civil Engineering "Roundhouse Restored as part of New College Campus". This last is an American publication.

This site reflects the College's wish to observe sustainability and reducing energy costs. The former brown field contamination has been removed. The redevelopment is a safe link with the City of Derby centre rather than a neglected, deserted, unsafe area. They are doing all they can to reduce energy consumption with also substantive aids for people with disabilities and assistance for students who do not speak English.

The College is to be commended for grasping the nettle and obtaining such a lovely, useful building.

*Alison Haslam*

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## Stone House Prebend and the Bate family

After the Architectural Section AGM on March 11, Dr. Joan D'Arcy gave a talk on the Stone House Prebend and Bate Family. This house sits in the southwest corner of Derwentio Roman Fort. Henry I gave the area to the Dean of Lincoln, who passed the land south of Old Chester Road to support the Augustinian canons as prebendal farms. The Stone House Prebend supported the Subdean, the tomb slab of one named John Law can be seen in Derby Cathedral. After the Reformation it was acquired by Derby Borough through Queen Mary's Charter of 1554. Derby Borough let the farms out on long leases. An inventory of a tenant in 1561 showed some size, with 8 oxen for two ploughs, ten horses and 60 sheep.

Thomas Bate became the tenant in 1591. He was a prosperous local draper, but his sons Anthony and Robert, styled themselves Merchant Adventurers. Anthony spent time in the middle east, becoming consul in Aleppo and, according to Hakluyt, returned in the Hercules which was "the richest ship of marchants goods ever to come to this realm". The house carries a carved stone with the date 1594 and the Buck in the Park design of Derby. The roof timbers have also been dendrochronology dated to mid-sixteenth century for one wing and 1591 for another, so most of the house dates from the Bate lease. It was a close-studded half timbered building with a thatched roof.

Anthony Bate died in 1588 and Robert in 1626. There was considerable wealth in the family at this time with property in several counties and houses in London. The largest room in the house has oak panelling dating from the early 17th century with a fine inlaid overmantle to the fireplace. Robert's son Nathaniel inherited the lease, and was styled 'Gentleman'. Robert's daughters married well: a Vicar, a

Rector, Stephen Flamstead (father of the first Astronomer Royal) and the Earl of Folkinham.

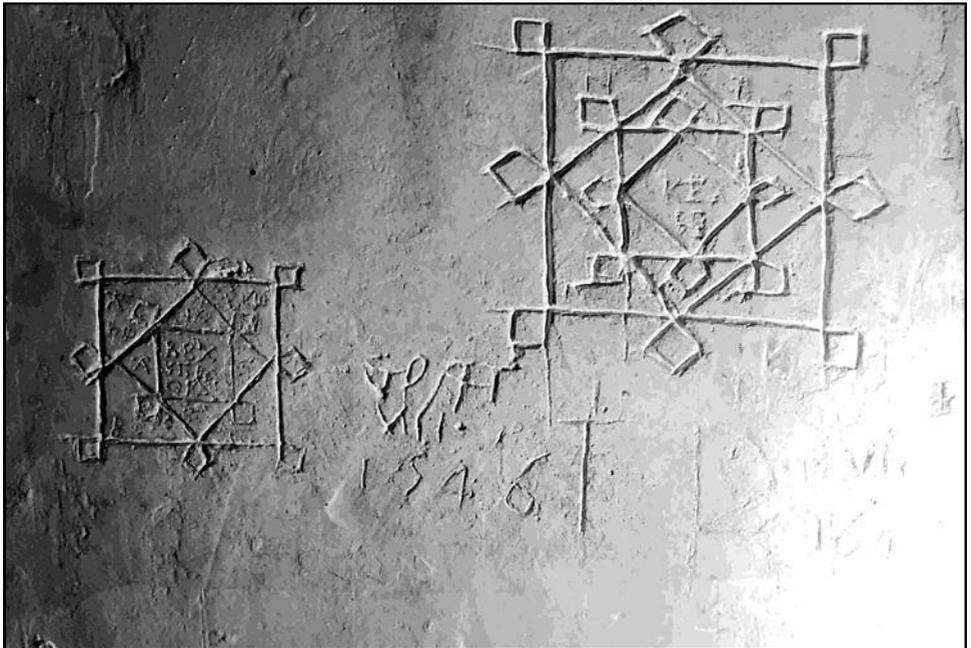
Then, Nathaniel's son, another Nathaniel, took over on his father's death in 1647. One of his younger brothers scratched the children's initials on the wall outside a bedroom door. This gives proof that the Bate family lived at this house. In the Civil War, the Bates were staunch Cavaliers (one was killed at the siege of Shelford House in Nottinghamshire) and a pattern inscribed REX was scratched on a bedroom wall in two places. These have the date in September, 1646 written nearby. After the Restoration of Charles II, Nathaniel was included in the list of those eligible for the Order of the Royal Oak. It appears that the family fortune had gone badly downhill about this time, the suggestion being that Nathaniel had supported the King financially to his own ruin, as he died in 'poverty' in 1676. His inventory survives, including a

cheese-press, which is possibly the one still in the dairy. He was the last Bate to lease the Prebend

The house continued as a farm until the mid nineteenth century, when the farmland was gradually built on, and the Friargate line which ran about 250 yards to the south opened in 1878. Later tenants included Derby School which used it to board some of their teachers, the Parker family and the Davie family who ran a carrier business. In the 1970s, Mrs. Little who had inherited the lease from her father, John Davie, had died and a fire was started following a break-in. Derby Council then decided to sell it by tender. It was bought by a Mr. Smith who sold it to the D'Arcys in 1979. Some early photographs were shown, while a painting from the 1920s concluded the talk.

*John D'Arcy*

*Civil War graffiti*



## Derby Cathedral and the Bridge Chapel - 11<sup>th</sup> June 2016

On the Queen's Official Birthday (her 90<sup>th</sup>), 15 members visited the Bridge Chapel, the Cathedral and the Derby Diocesan Treasury.

Peter Hodgson showed us around the Bridge Chapel, one of only six surviving such buildings, giving us a good summary of its interesting and varied history. The first bridge was dated to the 12<sup>th</sup> century with the chapel added in the 14<sup>th</sup> C but only the chapel and the springing arch of the first bridge remain. Intriguingly, there is also a low arch under the chapel for flood water. Peter pointed out the hagioscope (squint) for travellers too hurried to go into the service but these rituals were swept aside when, as a chantry chapel, it was closed in 1547. However, a more notorious event followed in 1588, on the eve of the Spanish Armada, when three Roman Catholic priests, arrested at Padley Manor, were executed and their dismembered bodies displayed outside the chapel.

The building served briefly as a Non-Conformist chapel and domestic dwellings before declining further to become workshops, a new bridge being built in 1794. It was rescued by this Society through the passion of two local architects and the funding provided by the children of Sir Alfred Haslam (sometime Mayor of Derby). It then passed to Trustees who administer the upkeep but it now acts as a Lady Chapel to the cathedral while also providing the Russian Orthodox and the Latvian Lutheran communities a place to worship at other times.

A short walk took us to the cathedral church of All Saints where we were given a guided tour by Derek Limer, Keeper of the Treasures, who provided many lively reminiscences to supplement his factual description of the building. Founded in 943 by King Edmund of Wessex as a collegiate church, it passed by gift of Henry I to the

Dean of Lincoln, became a parish church at the Reformation, and eventually the cathedral of the newly formed diocese of Derby in 1927. Architecturally, the tower from 1530 is in the Perpendicular style but the main body of the church designed by James Gibbs, of St Martin-in-the-Fields and Radcliffe Camera fame, appears rather low, has a classical interior, and has doors and windows exhibiting his characteristic Gibbs' surrounds.

Derek entertained us with the saga of Dr Hutchinson, vicar in 1723, who had the gothic church demolished while awaiting agreement from the Mayor and Corporation and then paid for the rebuild, in part, by renting newly created box pews. Of the many features of interest, the column capitals, called Tuscan by Pevsner, are decorated with triglyphs, but the most striking feature is the magnificent wrought-iron screen designed by Gibbs and made by the Derby smith Robert Bakewell in 1730. Beyond the screen the baldachin, or canopy,

*Robert Bakewell—George II Arms*



over the high altar is of an Early Christian style but from the 1920s and nearby the C18 Cathedra (bishop's chair) a Greek Orthodox import from Constantinople. A side chapel carries a wall mounted monument to Bess of Hardwick with her effigy in alabaster. More modestly, there is a brass plaque to Henry Cavendish, who first isolated hydrogen and estimated the mass of the earth. Below, we visited a small crypt chapel dedicated to St Katharine, now outside the sealed Cavendish burial vault. A final curiosity was a bread table, used for distributing bread to the needy poor (but only Anglicans need apply).

Across the road to the basement of the Cathedral shop (still Clulows to some) for tea and a talk by Derek in front of the very Treasures of which he is Keeper. There are many items of silverware from around the Diocese, the oldest being a mediaeval paten from 1491 and also a rare example of a Commonwealth silver chalice. The Keeper, Derek noted, also has to clean them.



*Mediaeval  
Platter*

Finally, upstairs we visited the Bishop Rawlinson library with the cathedral librarian, Rosemary Annable, as our guide. The Library catalogue is now up and live on the Derby Cathedral website under Cathedral on the Home Page. It is based on the personal collection of the second bishop, so reflected his interests in church history and

New Testament studies but now has expanded to over 3000 volumes. Dr Rawlinson's portrait keeps a stern eye on any readers.

*David Jones*

## LOCAL HISTORY SECTION

### Paul Hudson, the author of **The History of Derby Shrovetide Football (2005)**

Paul gave a talk to the Society about his research into this historic game on 12 February 2016. Paul carried out his research during his years as Librarian at Derby Local Studies Library. The game's origins, he said, were '*lost in the mists of history*', and related the story of a riotous Derby crowd who supposedly severed the head of a Roman soldier stationed at Derventio (Little Chester) and tossed it around as a football. This event is very precisely dated to AD217!

The earliest written reference Paul's research uncovered was a mention in the *Derby Mercury* in 1731 and in 1747 the newspaper printed a notice of an intention to ban the game. It is hardly surprising that the it met with opposition from trades people especially. In much the same way as the game played today at Ashbourne, a leather ball of 12-15 inches in diameter, one of which survives in Derby Museum, was thrown up in the Market Place at 2 p.m. on Shrove Tuesday and a scramble for possession ensued, usually ending in the Derwent or Markeaton Brook.

As many as 1,000 might congregate in the Market Place to see the ball 'turned up'. There were few rules to restrain the two competing sides (residents of St. Peter's parish versus those of All Saints and Derby's other parishes) in their attempts to run the ball to goals at opposite ends of the town. With no limit on numbers and

boosted by *'foreigners'* from out of town, it was a physical and rowdy affair. The 1747 notice gave *'tumults and disorders'* as the reason to ban the game. However, it continued into the mid 19th century.

Derby's Shrovetide football matches attracted men from all stations in life. Amongst the supporters was Joseph Strutt who is said to have taken part wearing a protective suit of buckskin. It was perhaps his death in 1842 that marked the turning point as shortly after it was brought to an end through the efforts of successive Mayors, William Eaton Mousley and Henry Mosley. Paul finished by saying that although there were occasional attempts to revive it, a less boisterous alternative was found in 1885 by the formation of Derby County Football Club.

*Joan Davies*

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### **The Life of Robert Sherbourne, 1454 – 1536 18 March, 2016**

This evening we heard of some interesting research carried out by Arnold Burston on a man born in the area and who, in the 15<sup>th</sup> century, went on to really great things.

An effigy of Robert Sherbourne can be seen in St. Mary's Church, Rolleston-on-Dove, Staffordshire - he also appears in a stained-glass window, too.

Sherbourne was born at the time of the Wars of the Roses in Rolleston and baptised in the church. However, he soon moved to St. Cross, Winchester and began his education, which led him on to New College, Oxford where this Churchman gained the degree of Bachelor of Medicine. He remained at the College both as a Fellow and Registrar until 1486.

As an important member of the church, Sherbourne had prebendal stalls in many cathedrals – Lincoln, Chichester,

Lichfield, Exeter, St. Paul's, Salisbury and Wells. He was also Treasurer and Chancellor of Hereford Cathedral.

Appointed Master of the Hospice of St. Cross in 1492, Sherbourne spent a great amount of his own money in beautifying and improving the building. By 1496, he had become Secretary to King Henry VII and also a councillor and ambassador to the Roman court so as to open negotiations with Pope Alexander VI who wanted Henry to join the Holy League against King Charles VIII of France. More appointments continued both at home and abroad.

In the next few years he took the long and very difficult journey to Rome twice more – mainly in connection with the marriage of King Henry VIII of England.

In 1508 Sherbourne was appointed Bishop of Chichester and once again invested large sums in repairs and beautification. By 1523/24 he had founded and endowed, by a deed of 12 February, the Rolleston Grammar School.

Just after the execution of Anne Boleyn in 1536, Sherbourne resigned his Bishopric and he died a few months later. As well as his effigy in Rolleston, he has a tomb in Chichester Cathedral. His motto was "Opera Credite" – believe in my works.

*Norma Consterdine*

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### **Visit to Sinai House May 14<sup>th</sup> 2016**

The sun shone as a large party of DAS members turned out to visit Sinai House, a splendid half timbered moated manor house atop a ridge that overlooks Ryknield Street and the Trent Valley. It is a Grade 2\* Listed Building and a Scheduled Ancient Monument to boot. The house has had a chequered history and it shows!

Our guide, Kate Murphy the owner talked us through the complicated ages and stages of the site which, it is thought, was once occupied by the Romans and more certainly by the de Schobenhale family. By

## *Sinai House*



1320 “a place surrounded by a ditch in Shobnall Park” was itemised as a possession of Burton Abbey and which was used for bloodletting in the purely medicinal sense although, perhaps, in the sense of hunting in the Park. In any event it was a place of rest and recuperation after the undoubted rigours of a procedure that was used as both a prevention and a cure. The monks were said to have been allowed a two week “indulgence” away from Burton. The name Sinai House is derived from the French name for the bloodletting – seigneur and such “seyney houses are as rare as hens teeth. Ownership, perforce, changed hands at the Dissolution and came to the Paget family, who having a portfolio of properties in the area, relegated Sinai House to the status of Hunting Lodge. The Pagets went on to become Marquesses and Earls with most famously Henry 1st Marquess of Anglesea who lost his leg at Waterloo. With the death of another Henry, the 5<sup>th</sup> Earl of Anglesea in 1905, Sinai along with much of the Paget estate was sold to pay of his debts. Known for his extravagance and with a passion for extravagant amateur theatricals, he was a flamboyant character who was eventually declared bankrupt. Thereafter the buildings were converted into six cottages, were billeted by the RAF and finally became a farmhouse accumulating damage and dilapidation at every stage. Latterly it was used to shelter pigs! In the 1990s new

owners, faithfully restored the oldest wing to the northwest, but the other two wings are yet to be tackled.

Structurally the house is U shaped and made up of a central block with two cross wings with some ruinous brick additions of the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries to the east. These enclose a south facing former garden or courtyard which once upon a time provided splendid views over the Trent Valley.

At some point in the 15<sup>th</sup> century the old manor house was deemed as unsuitable by the monks and it was surmised (given the range of dendro dating) that dismantled houses were brought from Burton and re-erected on the site. It could be that it had an open hall and cross wings layout originally and it is known that around 1604 that the central block or hall was in whole or in part rebuilt with the addition of a second storey and a porch. Close timbered, both the cross wings are jettied with splendid dragon beams to strengthen the outer corners. The restored wing is now replete with Tudor type chimneys, ancient fireplaces, exposed posts and rails and chamfered beams – the archetypical picture of old England.

It all must have been a glorious sight in its heyday but now, apart from the restored wing the house is a riot of scaffolding and skewed timbers. Recently the roof of the east wing blew off in a

storm, happily with no gross damage to the walls and the roof timbers. It is to be hoped that further funding will soon be finally secured soon and the 47 ghosts reputed to be residents can feel more at home!

*Barbara Foster*

### **A Walk around Ashbourne, Saturday 4 June.**

On a breezy but thankfully dry afternoon, Keith Blood led a party of 20 members on a walk around Ashbourne. Keith, a Blue Badge Guide, was born in the town and has recently returned to live there and his knowledge of its highways and byways is considerable. The walk was altogether well planned and informative.

We met on the edge of the main car park at the place where the ball is thrown up to set in motion the Ashbourne Shrovetide Football match. From there we crossed to the War Memorial Park, once the garden of Ashbourne House, the seat of the Cokaynes and then the Boothbys. A truncated wing of the building still stands, converted into flats. The Henmore Brook runs through the Park and on through the town, providing a natural division between the Up'Ards (Keith is an Up'Ard) and the Down'Ards during the Shrovetide match.

Leaving the Park we walked into the town centre along St. John's Street, noticing the variety of building dates: from the late 15th century timber-framed Ashbourne Gingerbread shop (recently bought and now run by Birds) to brick, or sometimes merely brick fronted, 18th century houses. Our route took us uphill to the triangular Market Place, complete with market stalls arranged around a Memorial to Francis Wright of Osmaston. On the east side is the Town Hall (1861) but we were taken through an alleyway into one of Ashbourne's many small courts where, incidentally, Keith was born. (see illustration).

*Behind the Town Hall*



We walked along the Shambles where one butcher's shop still remains and admired the hanging sign of the Green Man and Black's Head Royal Hotel with its Janus head. It was originally a coaching inn and still has the wide arched entrance which gave coaches access to the yard behind. Having stood empty for several years it is now being renovated by new owners.

Moving on to Church Street, we noted the many Georgian buildings, most of which now house shops. We took special note of the mid 18th century Clergy Widows Homes set around a central court, the 16th century stone built Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School and, facing it across the street, the Mansion, built c.1685 but with a brick Georgian façade hiding 17th century gables, probably designed by Joseph Pickford.

Finally, a steep climb to appropriately named Belle View Road (an old back lane) via a stepped alley, led us to a spot where we could look across the town to St. Oswald's church. This was the final destination for half of the party. The rest of us retreated to the Heritage Centre at No.

13 Church Street. The Centre sometimes houses special exhibitions but on our visit we were shown items and information relating to the town's history: the church, historic buildings, businesses and customs. Housed in two rooms with an entrance lobby, the Ashbourne Heritage Society has plans to expand into other parts of the building. Would be visitors can find more details on [www.ashbourneheritagesociety.org.uk](http://www.ashbourneheritagesociety.org.uk).

Joan Davis

### All Saints Church, Brailsford June 21<sup>st</sup> 2016



It was the longest day of the year and a fine evening for the visit to All Saints Church Brailsford. Our knowledgeable guide was Ray Jones, the church warden, whose family have lived in Brailsford for generations.

The church is in an isolated position surrounded by fields about half a mile from the village, built to serve both Brailsford and the nearby village of Ednaston. In the Domesday Book Brailsford is described as having a priest and half a church and Ednaston as having half a church. The church is equidistant from both villages.

Some remnants of the early church remain. In the churchyard is part of an eleventh century Saxon cross with interlace

decoration and a human figure. The present church has a nave, chancel, south aisle and tower. The chancel arch is supported to the north by a Norman pillar with scalloped capital and the westernmost pillar of the arcade separating the south aisle from the nave is also Norman with a similar capital. The Norman church was large because the battlemented tower was built around 1500 into the width of the nave of the Norman church. The chancel is early fourteenth century with characteristic chancel arch, windows and three seated sedilia and piscina on the south wall. There is a priest's doorway on the south wall. Ralph Shirley and his third wife Lucy are known to have been buried under the chancel in the fifteenth century and a damaged alabaster stone on the north wall might have been part of their memorial.



In the nave the octagonal font is sixteenth century, its wooden cover might once have been suspended from the roof. It is decorated with Tudor roses at the base. There are beautifully carved bench ends depicting religious symbols and Biblical scenes, made for the church in 1884. The church has six bells, three dating from before the seventeenth century, two added in the eighteenth century and a sixth bell more recently in 1956.

In the churchyard is a very old yew tree. On the south wall of the church a gritstone slab has been built into the wall. It is inscribed with a cross and part of a pair of shears and was possibly a memorial to a wool merchant or wealthy sheep farmer.

Ray Jones was thanked for showing us so much of interest this evening and Pat Andrews was also thanked for preparing welcome refreshments at the end of the visit.

*Joan Davies*

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## INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY SECTION

### Canary Girls

September 1915, and the first shells were delivered in January 1916. Over the course of the war over 19 million shells was produced, together with other munitions such as mines. 2000 of the 6000 staff were women, who became known as “Canary Girls” due to the effect on their skin of exposure to chemicals in the explosives.

A substantial part of the factory was destroyed in an explosion of eight tons of TNT on 1 July 1918. In all 134 people were killed, of whom only 32 could be positively identified, and a further 250 were injured. The unidentified bodies were buried in a mass grave in St. Mary's Church,

Attenborough. The blast was reportedly heard twenty miles away. The reason for the explosion was never established – there were rumours of sabotage by a sacked employee or the I.R.A., but it seems most likely that it was an accident due to lax safety standards.

At the end of WW1, in 1919, the site became a Royal Army Ordnance Corps storage depot and retained this role through WW2 and for many years afterwards. Part of the site has been sold off and redeveloped, but a substantial area remains in use for army training purposes, now known as the Chetwynd Barracks.

The speaker became interested in the history of the site at the time of the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the explosion. A memorial to those killed in the explosion was erected in 1919, but it remains inside the military site, and many of those whose relatives had died were unaware of its existence, so she decided that it should be better publicised through a book which was published by the Beeston and Local History Society. Since then, with rising interest in WW1, she has been in constant demand to speak to local groups on the topic. The talk was splendidly illustrated with photographs from official sources and gathered from descendants of the workers.

*Ian Mitchell*

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### **The Life and Times of a Victorian Water Engineer, Chris Hossack 5 February**

James Watson (1844-1919) as born in the small Scottish town of Douglas. His father was a farmer, but after an apprenticeship with a local architect and surveyor, he set up his own business in Lanark. In 1869 he moved to Dundee as Chief Engineering Assistant to the Borough Engineer, at a crucial time when the inadequate private water companies were

being bought out and major investments were made in new reservoirs and distribution systems. When the Dundee Water Commissioners were established after a series of Acts of Parliament in 1871-1874, he became Chief Engineer and supervised projects that quadrupled the city's water supply.

In 1891 Watson was appointed Waterworks Engineer for the City of Bradford, where he was responsible for development of a series of reservoirs in Nidderdale and a 32 mile aqueduct that was cleverly engineered to deliver fresh water to the city entirely by gravity. The works took 30 years to complete and involved a substantial "tin town" for the workers and a light railway. He also served as consultant to many other waterworks project as his knowledge and skills were valued worldwide. These included our local Derwent Valley scheme that still supplies the majority of the water for Derby and Leicester.

Watson was the great-great-grandfather of our speaker, and the talk was illustrated with readings from the engineer's personal diary as well as superb official photographs of the works. This included a first hand description of the aftermath of the

Tay Bridge disaster in 1879 – Watson was one of the first on the scene in a Dundee ferry boat searching for survivors.

*Ian Mitchell*

## EMIAAC 90 – The Ashby Canal

The Spring 2016 East Midlands Industrial Archaeology Conference was organised by the Railway and Canal Historical Society and held at the National Forest Visitor Centre at Moira in Leicestershire on 14 May. The speakers were Dr Wendy Free on the origins and development of the canal in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, and Geoff Pursglove on its decline and restoration in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries.

In the afternoon there was a choice of visits to two recently restored sections of the canal – an isolated part from the visitor centre to Moira furnace, and an extension to the main navigable line from Snaresstone towards Measham. The long term restoration goal is to link these together, but colliery subsistence throughout the area will make this a major engineering challenge.

*Ian Mitchell*

*Current terminus between Measham and Snaresstone*



## OBITUARY

### Michael Mallender

In February we were very shocked and saddened to hear the news that Michael had suddenly died. He had been a long term member and generous friend of the Society, serving as a Council member for many years, a Vice President and recently as our President. He was also guaranteed to ask searching and scholarly questions of our visiting speakers!

A solicitor specialising in Probate matters he was formerly the Senior Partner in the firm Taylor, Simpson and Mosley and it was he who famously tracked down the right heirs to the Harpur Crewe estate in the 1980s. He was active in the Derbyshire Historic Buildings Trust from its inception which has resulted in the preservation of the Railway Terrace and Brunswick Inn in Derby and many other buildings throughout Derbyshire. He was also an Honorary Lay Canon to Derby Cathedral.

Our condolences go to his wife Margaret and his family. He will be missed!

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## DERBYSHIRE MISCELLANY,

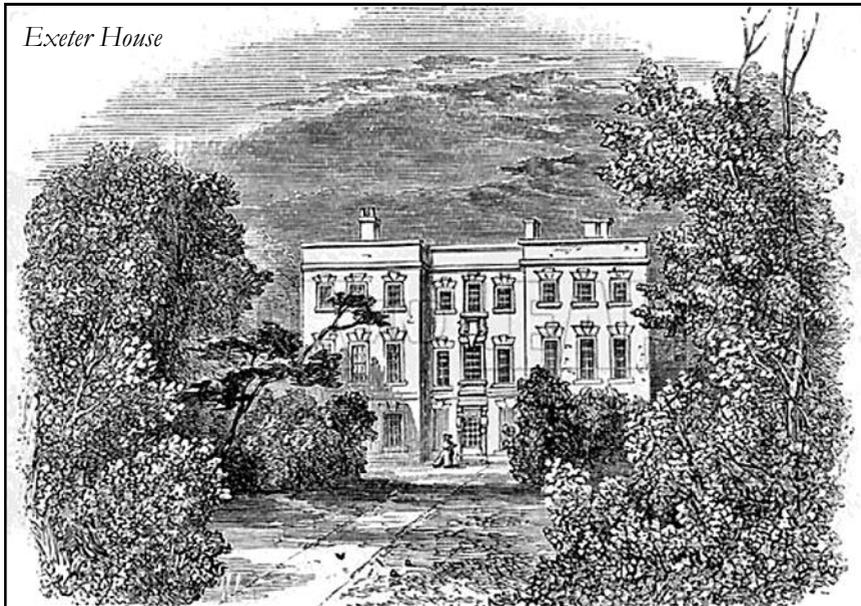
### Vol 21, Part 1, Spring 2016

Exeter House- by Joan D'Arcy

In April 1934 a newly built block of flats in Derby required a name. After a short debate Exeter House was chosen. As Alderman Oswald Ling stated at the time *'It retains a name famous in history. It was at Exeter House that the Young Pretender stayed on his ill fated visit to Derby in 1745.'* The Exeter House in which Charles Edward Stuart stayed, then the most prestigious house in Derby, was demolished in 1854 but the name was embedded into the town's history. In her very comprehensive article, Joan D'Arcy traces the history of Exeter House and its owners.

The house was built on land between Full Street and the River Derwent for John Bagnold, Town Clerk and later MP for Derby, before his death in 1698. The first part of the house, a gable fronted house on Full Street, was built by John Reeve. Later an annex to the rear was built by Thomas Trimmer. A later owner, probably the Earl and Countess of Exeter, re-fronted this

*Exeter House*



annex with a Georgian facade to give the impression that it had three storeys instead of the original two storeys, as shown in Keene's photograph of 1854. This became known as Exeter House. Several visitors to the house described the interior. The oak panelling of the drawing room where Prince Charles held his Council of War is now in Derby Museum.

John Bagnold's daughter, Margaret, married Thomas Chambers, a wealthy London merchant who had been born in Derby. Their daughter, Hannah Sophia, married Brownlow Cecil, later 8th Earl of Exeter of Burghley House, in 1724. When Charles Edward Stuart and his army arrived in Derby in 1745, the Exeter's were not at home.

After the death of the Earl of Exeter in 1854, the house reverted to Hannah and was put up for sale in 1757. It was sold to John Bingham, a mercer and draper and Mayor of Derby in 1757-8. When he died in 1773, his son, John II, inherited the house and although he lived there, the House was subdivided and the Full Street part was let out to a Mrs Meynell. After John II moved out, c1791, William Strutt, the brother of Jedidiah Strutt lived there from c1793 till his death in 1800.

After the death of John II in 1819, Exeter House was sold to William Eaton Mousley, a prominent solicitor with offices in Derby and London. He was highly respected by his fellow solicitors and was twice Mayor of Derby. But, after his death in 1854, it emerged that he had been a '*sharp practitioner*' and by various dubious methods had brought financial ruin to many people. Amongst the local claimants were the Strutts who reclaimed a loan. Far more damaging were claims from Trustees and in particular a case brought into Chancery which led to the demise of Exeter House. The Georgian annex was put up for sale, together with other property owned by Mousley who was the largest property owner in Derby. No purchaser was found and it was demolished

in 1854. Mousley's second son, John Hardcastle, had joined his father in his solicitor's practice which in 1857 was based at 1 Full Street, Derby (earliest part of John Bagnold's house). In 1872 John Hardcastle's office was still at No 1. He took on John Henry Powell as an articled clerk and then partner. After John's death in 1875, Powell remained at Full Street until his death in 1929, after which the practice moved to Amen Alley where, as J.H. Powell & Co, it still exists today.

Articles for inclusion in *Derbyshire Miscellany* should be sent to Dr Dudley Fowkes, 11 Sidings Way, Westhouses, Alfreton, DE55 5AS

If you don't subscribe to *Miscellany*, copies of this issue are available from Dudley Fowkes (£4.25 incl. p&p). Alternatively an annual subscription to *Derbyshire Miscellany*, which is published twice a year, is £6.

*Jane Steer*

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## New Members Joining Since Last Newsletter

- Mrs A. Leeson of Derby
- Dr M.G. Rumsby of Riddings
- Mrs J. Ashton of Wirksworth
- Mr M.J.C. Botham of Bakewell
- Mr D. Graber of Densingen, Switzerland
- Mr B. Lockwood of Derby
- Mr N. Leverton of Heanor
- Mrs S. Vaughan of Aston on Trent
- Miss J. & Mrs M. Worrall of Littleover
- Dr S.S. Nicholson of Alvaston
- Mr D. Pickup of Sheffield
- Miss E. Strutt of Chislehurst
- Mrs R. Fogg of Chellaston
- Mrs V. Moseley of Ednaston
- Mr N.J. Barks of Leicester

## Deaths Reported

- ◇ Revd Jeremy Burslem. Died Nov. '15
- ◇ Mrs Jean Reedman. Died Dec. '15
- ◇ Mrs O. (Kay) Billings. Died Feb. 16
- ◇ Mr Michael Mallender. Died Feb. 16

*Keith Reedman*

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## PILLING AWARDS

So far the Society's Pilling Award has given 20 awards to archaeological and local history projects in Derbyshire. They are quite diverse and have for instance enabled the analysis of pottery and Roman coins from excavations at Ticknall and Heage to making possible the use of photographs from art galleries for a book on Thomas Smith, a Derbyshire landscape artist of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. We have also helped finance a massive landscape survey in north Derbyshire and a photographic survey of "at risk" wall paintings in a church in Derby. Our latest grant has gone to the Golden Valley Light Railway who are creating a permanent exhibition at the Midland Railway Butterley site to demonstrate the evolution of a railway track. A casting of an early "fishbelly" rail is needed to complete the array.

So if you have a project that needs some finance somewhere along the line do get in touch

## 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*

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## BOOK REVIEWS

### Patterns in Stonework The Early Churches in Northern England by John F Potter,

BAR British Series 617, Oxford  
ISBN 978 1 4073 1393 1, £53.90

This detailed study of the pre Romanesque stone churches of the Northern Counties is one a series covering the whole country and as such has allowed the author to garner all his now considerable experience to confirm not only the known signatures of largely Anglo Saxon foundations such as "long and short" work but also to identify distinctive patterns in the type and manner in which the stone was used. These patterns were largely achieved by the use of vertical and horizontal bedding in various orientations particularly in quoins, pilasters and doorway jambs but also in the constructions of walls. Comparisons are made between the construction methods and techniques of the Saxons and early Normans and I found it all quite engrossing.

A book of two parts, the first devoted to the technicalities and the most lucid overview of "Fundamental Geology" that I've ever come across – and I've certainly heard – rather than read - plenty, but usually in the context of "what's that rock"? The second describes the very early elements remaining in the churches of the northern counties. In Derbyshire, Bakewell, Repton, Aston on Trent and Stanton by Bridge are covered - although not in the greatest detail - together with a multitude of very early churches in Lincolnshire and examples from further north

Academics have previously been a bit sniffy about claims that Aston was a Saxon foundation but the author has found a typical patterned arrangement of quoins in the north west corner of the nave where it abuts the Norman tower and possibly at the



*Found at Melandra. "Velerius Vitalis, Centurion of the First Cohort of the Frisiavones"*

south too. Likewise there was a less obvious (to me) section of patterned stone tucked away in the north east corner of Stanton by Bridge but now that I have seen the photo all is revealed! A stone by stone illustration of one of the external walls of the chancel at Repton is magnificent.

This is a scholarly tome that screams expertise, experience and a lot of devotion. It is a valuable resource and a fascinating read particularly for those who love a wander round our ancient churches. Am now off to Repton with a pair of binoculars, a magnifying glass and the picture to get to grips (at last) with the many variables of the ubiquitous and what was once upon a time known as Mercia Mudstone and found all round here.

*Barbara Foster*

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### **Roman Derbyshire by Mark Patterson.**

Published by Five Leaves in 2016 in association with Derbyshire County Council. 298 pages. Softback.  
ISBN 978-1-85910 17025 0. £14.99.

In 2011, Five Leaves published Mark Patterson's *Roman Nottinghamshire* which was shortlisted in 2012 for the Current Archaeology Book of the Year. Although it did not win it was highly commended. *Roman Derbyshire* is a follow up, perhaps the beginning of a new county series.

Collating and organising the vast body of published material on Roman Derbyshire is a daunting challenge and it is a brave author who attempts it. Mark Patterson has taken up the challenge and in many ways has succeeded. He has brought together the works of antiquarian writers, sifted through a stack of archaeological

reports, both in print and in grey literature, and as a bonus, using skills gained as a newspaper reporter, he has collected oral recollections from field archaeologists.

In his Introduction, he asks why there are so few visible remains of Roman occupation in Derbyshire and argues that they are not hard to find. The book is in part a search for what he terms a '*hidden legacy*'. Enthusiasm for his subject is apparent and made evident in his stated aim, '*to instill a sense of wonder about what you might call the antiquity-on-your-doorstep*'.

The first two chapters, 'In the Heart of Roman Country' and 'Roman settlement and life style', cover aspects of Romano-British settlement and Roman occupation, setting the scene for detailed descriptions of four well recorded sites; *Derwentio*, *Navio*, *Melandra* and *Chesterfield*. These large 'forts' are interspersed with subject specific chapters on Derbyshire Ware, Roman roads, Small forts, 'Lacking a sense of place' (Lutudarum and Aquae Arnemetiae) and finally the question of lost archaeology and the Risley Park Lanx. The last chapter brings the book to a lively conclusion.

This book is a densely packed store of information, a colourful introduction to Roman Derbyshire for the general reader but also useful to the scholar. Factual content is interlaced with 'curious stories', theories and discussion which make for a lively, if discursive, read. The copious footnotes are more than academic references as they frequently expand on matters arising in the main text. It will find a welcome place on my bookshelves.

There are some caveats, inevitable in such an ambitious work. In spite of every attempt at accuracy a few errors and omissions will be noted by the well informed local reader and there is no index, always useful. Some illustrations could be sharper while an expanded site map of *Derwentio* and a town plan of *Chesterfield* would be welcomed. Most of all, some part of the chapter on *Derwentio* will shortly need to be

rewritten as in the last three years there has been a whirlwind of archaeology in advance of new flood defences (Our City Our River) which is redefining the fort's defensive structures and the settlement within the vicus. However, archaeology will not stand still and this is a good step forward in bringing Roman Derbyshire to a wider audience.

Joan D'Arcy

## **John Whitehurst; Innovator, Scientist, Geologist and Clockmaker.**

**By Maxwell Craven,**

Fontana Media Ltd. London  
ISBN 978-1-78155-265-0, £40

Nowadays, John Whitehurst (1713 - 1788) is best known for his clocks and scientific instruments which were innovative, high quality and judging by the sumptuous illustrations in this book, works of art. Benjamin Franklin was a friend and a fan and appears to have facilitated the export of tidal and more ornamental clocks to America. If that is not enough, he was also an intellectual with great curiosity who became one of earliest members of the Lunar Society, the Derby Philosophical Society and ultimately became a Fellow of the Royal Society. His contacts within the scientific world of the day were second to none featuring the likes of Boulton, Watt, Wedgwood and Erasmus Darwin and many other such luminaries.

Besides his flourishing clock making business Whitehurst also involved himself in somewhat heavier mechanicals and became a much favoured hydraulic engineer for the many and various "water works" in the stately homes of Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire. In addition he was long a keen explorer of the Peaks with an eye for the value of its minerals and to that end published in 1778, "*An Inquiry into the*

*Original State and Formation of the Earth*” one of the earliest geological books ever. And he was acquainted, if not actually bosom friends with hundreds of people. These and their kith and kin are extensively described.

Back in 1996 Maxwell Craven wrote a book about John Whitehurst and his Clocks so he is well qualified to lead us through these labyrinthine networks of family, friends, thinkers, inventors, craftsmen and manufacturers with his usual verve. Pausing now and then to describe the actual mechanics of the many ingenious devices that John Whitehurst was, in some way, thought to be associated with – anything from fine balances to kitchen ranges - and with a very nice sideline in Blue John his influence is remarkable. Splendidly illustrated throughout with antique clocks and technical drawings and using a variety of primary and secondary sources, this is indeed an exhaustive tribute to the life and times of John Whitehurst.

*Barbara Foster*

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### **Civil Engineering Heritage – East Midlands by Barry Barton, MICE**

Published by Ruddocks Publishing Limited,  
2016

ISBN 978 0 904327 24 3

This book has been compiled on behalf of the Institution of Civil Engineers’ Panel for Historical Engineering Works and supersedes an earlier version published some years ago. The first part of the book is a thematic survey with chapters on transport, bridges and tunnels, weirs, dams & reservoirs, land drainage & flood defences, maritime engineering, and power generation & public utilities. The second part is a gazetteer organised by counties. There is also a good glossary of terms and an index. The definition of ‘Civil Engineering’ is quite wide, and includes, for example, windmills and buildings with significant innovation in structural design.

The book is well written, covers most of the sites you would expect to see within this scope, and the descriptions are generally accurate. One minor gripe is that there is some mismatch in coverage between the thematic survey and the gazetteer, e.g. there are no examples of electricity generating stations in the gazetteer.

One warning for Derbyshire readers – a physical geography definition of the East Midlands has been adopted, so sites around Glossop, New Mills and Longendale are missing – these will appear in the North West volume of the series.

*Ian Mitchell*

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### **Ancient Burton : The Writings of H.J Wain,**

Edited by Beryl Tunstall, £6.25 from the  
Magic Attic, Swadlincote

H.J Wain was a well known local historian who, for over 50 years contributed articles on the subject to many local newspapers until his death in 1986. This book is made up of themed extracts ranging from Ancient Trackways and Wulfric Spot to 18<sup>th</sup> century Burial Regulation and the Marquess of Anglesea’s leg. It has been very capably compiled and set out by Beryl Tunstead. As such it is a good browse for alarming incidents and amusing titbits as well as a general overview of the history of Burton through the ages. Illustrated throughout by some of the best reproductions of old photographs I’ve ever seen, readers should however note the publishers advise that knowledge has expanded over the intervening years so no need to huff and puff. The Trent for instance is now thought in academic circles to come from the Ancient British word for a Trespasser. I can vouch for that!

*Barbara Foster*



rediscovering

THE IRON GIANT  
OF THE EREWASH VALLEY

# BENNERLEY VIADUCT

20 may - 30 august

EXHIBITION

## Erewash Museum



### OPENING TIMES

Tuesday to Saturday (not Wednesdays)

10.00 - 16.00

Open Monday to Saturday during the school holidays

0115 907 1141

[www.erewashmuseum.co.uk](http://www.erewashmuseum.co.uk)

High Street Ilkeston DE7 5JA

Sustrans, the national sustainable transport charity, in partnership with Erewash Museum have put together a fascinating display showcasing the heritage of the 139 year old wrought iron viaduct. Valued as a rare and impressive example of Victorian railway architecture and an Erewash Valley landmark, the story of this 'iron giant' and its surroundings will be the focus of the summer-long exhibition.

During the course of the exhibition there'll be a range of special events taking place including:

- |           |   |
|-----------|---|
| 8 June    | Evening talks about the history of the viaduct and its wrought iron construction* |
| 2 July    | Art demonstration and workshop by local transport artist Paul Atchinson*          |
| 23 July   | Model railway displays by Ilkeston  |
| 3 August  | Woodside Model Railway Club   |
| 10 August | featuring a scale model of  |
| 20 August | Bennerley Viaduct!  |

\* booking required

For bookings please contact Erewash Museum on 0115 907 1141

For more information about the exhibition and events

contact Sustrans on 0115 853 2953/07823 536 941

or visit the Friends of Bennerley Viaduct website

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



PEVSNER ARCHITECTURAL GUIDES *The Buildings of England*

## DERBYSHIRE

Clare Hartwell, Nikolaus Pevsner and Elizabeth Williamson

This is the essential guide to the architecture of Pevsner's 'country of contrasts', home to an amazingly diverse assortment of landmarks. Among Derbyshire's many distinguished country houses are Haddon Hall, an incomparable medieval courtyard house, and Hardwick Hall, one of the most innovative and spectacular Elizabethan houses in England. Seventeenth-century highlights include the adventurous architecture of Bolsover Castle and the Baroque splendours

of Chatsworth, while the dazzling Neoclassical interiors of Kedleston Hall are the summit of the county's many Georgian achievements. Numerous spa towns, pioneering industrial settlements and parish churches from Anglo-Saxon to modern are also included, as well as the alabaster tomb sculpture and wrought ironwork that are distinctive to the region. The settings range from the Trent valley to the sublime landscape of the Peak District, making Derbyshire one of England's most visually arresting counties.

Clare Hartwell is an independent architectural historian based in Manchester. Her previous work for the *Buildings of England* includes the City Guide to Manchester, *Lancashire: North* and two co-authored volumes, *Cheshire and Lancashire: Manchester and the South-East*.

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SOCIETY FOR  
LINCOLNSHIRE  
HISTORY &  
ARCHAEOLOGY

## Introduction

The Great War had a huge impact on Lincoln's engineering companies and they quickly turned to the manufacture of a diverse range of military equipment and munitions for the armed forces. The Tank was developed and manufactured here and the city became one of the most important centres of aircraft production in the country. It also saw the recruitment of female labour into factories for the first time which would eventually lead to political emancipation. This conference opens with an introduction to Lincoln's industries in the period leading up to the Great War and follows on with accounts of the principal activities, the products and the people who made them.

## Industrial Heritage Days, formerly East Midlands Industrial Archaeology Conference

These events are held every six months and they are open to anyone with an interest in the subject. The first conference was held in 1970 with the idea of enabling industrial archaeologists in the East Midlands to meet in differing locations to consider topics of mutual interest. There is no formal organisation; the sponsoring bodies are Derbyshire Archaeological Society; the East Midlands Group of the Railway & Canal Historical Society; Leicestershire Industrial History Society; North East Derbyshire Industrial Archaeology Society; the Northamptonshire Industrial Archaeology Group and the Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology.

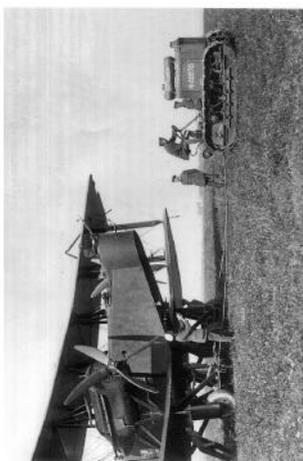
## The Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology

The SLHA is the principal county society addressing the interests of Industrial Archaeology, Local History, Archaeology, Transport History, Folklore and Customs, Vernacular Architecture, Church Architecture and so on.

SLHA, Jews' Court, Steep Hill,  
Lincoln LN2 1LS. Tel 01522 521337  
[www.slha.org.uk](http://www.slha.org.uk)

# Ploughshares into Swords

The Contribution of Lincoln's  
Manufacturing Companies to the Great War



*Clayton & Shuttleworth-manufactured Handley Page O/400 bomber  
being towed out of the factory by a C&S tractor*

Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2016

An Industrial Heritage Day – EMIAC 91

Christ's Hospital School  
Wragby Road, Lincoln LN2 4PN

## Programme

0830	Setting-up bookstalls and displays
0900	REGISTRATION and coffee
0930	WELCOME
0940	Lincoln's Industries Leading up to 1914 <i>Peter Robinson</i>
1030	Refreshment break
1055	Lincoln's Industries in the Great War <i>Peter Robinson</i>
1135	Great War Tank Development <i>Richard Pullen</i>
1220	EMIAC Business Meeting
1240	LUNCH and Bookstalls
1340	Aircraft Made in Lincoln <i>Charles Parker</i>
1425	Women Munitions Workers <i>Neil Wright</i>
1445	The Tank Memorial <i>Richard Pullen</i>
1500	Films
1600	Tea and Close of Conference

## The Speakers

*Peter Robinson* worked as a draughtsman for Ruston Bucyrus Ltd and the Aircraft Division of English Electric Co. With an Honours degree in Education he exchanged drawing office for classroom with eventual "retirement" as author ("Lincoln's Excavators" Vols 1-4) and model-maker (models in National Museum of Science & Technology, Stockholm, and National Coal HQ, India). He is currently the President of Lincoln Engineering Society.

*Richard Pullen* is an archaeologist and writer. He has had four books and numerous articles published. Recently he found a serial number hidden inside the WW1 tank on display in Lincoln which proved that it was called Daphne and not Flirt as had long been thought.

*Charles Parker* has been interested in aviation since childhood and he has recently published a book on the Royal Observer Corps in Lincolnshire. In 2000 he co-produced a book on Lincoln's aircraft industry with John Walls, a respected writer on aviation in the Great War. He has also contributed to several other publications and written numerous magazine articles.

*Neil Wright* is the current Chairman of SLHA and has been writing about industrial archaeology and local history in Lincolnshire for over 50 years. His late wife Ann researched women who worked in munitions in Lincoln.

## Booking Form

### Industrial Archaeology Day – EMIAC 91 Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2016

The total cost of the Industrial Archaeology Day is £20.00 including lunch and refreshments. An acknowledgement and location information will be sent to you by e-mail. **If you require a paper acknowledgement please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.**

Name.....

Address.....

.....Postcode.....

E-mail address.....

Society (if appropriate).....

I have the following special dietary requirements.....

I wish to have display space for.....

*Anyone wishing to sell material other than on behalf of an affiliated society will be expected to contribute towards the expenses of the conference.*

Please make cheques payable to SLHA.

**We cannot accept bookings after 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016**

Please return this form and your payment to:

Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology  
Jews' Court, Steep Hill, Lincoln LN2 1LS

Tel 01522 521337

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

# DERBYSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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