

In Memoriam

Dr ROBERT CORSANE MABON REID joined our Society in 1910 and in 1937 was elected an honorary member, in recognition of his generous services to us as often as we had occasion to visit Dumfriesshire and Galloway; at his death, on 21 April 1963, he was our senior member by four years. This is not the place for a full memoir of a most able historian and antiquary and a most generous and attractive person; that must be reserved for the *Transactions* of the Dumfriesshire & Galloway Society, of which for many years he was the main pillar. But something must be said of his outstanding services to the history and the archaeology of the whole Solway region, services for which the University of Glasgow conferred on him the honorary degree of LL.D. By training and his first inclination he was a medievalist and local historian, but he also had the vision and the generalship to make him a driving force in the study of archaeology, and he allowed no narrow limits of territorial protocol to interfere with the investigation of the region in every period of its history. Some local societies are jealous of their vested interests and resent incursions by people from outside their borders; the Dumfriesshire Society, under R.C.R.'s leadership, welcomed anyone who could give constructive help in the study of its rich and varied past — and his powers of persuasion, and his gift for effective organisation of whatever material help might be needed, will be remembered by many grateful intruders, from both sides of the Border, who owed to him the initial invitation to tackle problems within the sphere of their particular research interests. Above all, he insisted on treating the problems of Dumfriesshire and Galloway in their context, as part of the history of Britain; and though documents were his own special love, he was one of the most insistent promoters of field-work and excavation: witness his generous creation of the Mouswald Trust, to provide funds for excavation on prehistoric, Roman or later sites in the Solway region, the trust deed making provision for this Society as well as the Dumfries Society and the National Museum of Antiquities in Edinburgh to be represented by trustees. The present writer, who has had the good fortune to know many stimulating and delightful people, can think of nobody who deserves a higher mark on both accounts; R.C.R. wore his scholarship lightly, treated younger people as equals, and had an infectious enthusiasm which kept

him young and alert even when increasing physical frailty and, latterly, failing eyesight confined him to his chair. We may take pride in having had him as one of our honorary members for a quarter of a century.

E.B.

Mr EDWARD JOHN WESTGARTH HILYARD, M.A., F.S.A., of Middleton Hall, near Pickering, who died on 21 January 1964 at the early age of fifty, had been a member of our Society since 1949, but he had already begun active exploration in our territory several years previously, excavating with the late Colonel Oliver North at Watercrock in 1944 and at Burrow-in-Lonsdale in 1947 and collaborating with him in the reports printed in CW2 xlv 148-162 and xlviii 23-41; further excavations, at Low Borrow Bridge in 1950 and at Burrow again in 1952 and 1953, were reported on by him in CW2 li 40-66 and liv 66-101 respectively, and in 1955 he contributed a paper on an enamelled *fibula* from Brough-under-Stainmore, CW2 lv 54-58. *Fibulae* indeed were one of his special interests, as may be seen, for example, by several notes from his pen in the *Antiquaries Journal*, and he was also a keen and fastidious collector of Roman coins. Until ten years ago he lived at Horsley Hall in Weardale, his archaeological investigations in the dale leading to important papers in *Archaeologia Aeliana* and a meticulous series of reports on the archaeology of Weardale, privately printed for issue to his friends. His range of interests, whether as an excavator or as a collector, was very wide; the most important of his researches outside our district were unquestionably those at Catterick, initially undertaken in collaboration with his friend the late W. V. Wade, and reported on fully in the *Yorkshire Archaeological Journal*. Though archaeology took up much of his time, he played a full part in public life, serving as a major in the Home Guard during the war and as High Sheriff of Durham in 1947. To some people he gave an impression of shyness, but when discussing anything archaeological or numismatic with his friends he would become fluent and most entertaining. He had indeed a great capacity for friendship with people in all walks of life and of widely varying interests, and we hope that it may be some consolation to Mrs Hilyard and their two sons that so very many people feel that his death leaves a gap in their lives too.

E.B.

The untimely death, in the Spring of 1964, of ANNE BROMLEY-BOORNE will be deplored by her many friends, and particularly by those in the world of archaeology. This study had fascinated her from early childhood, and she was

always eager to give her knowledge and skill to help both professionals and amateurs in the furtherance of archaeological pursuits. Her vivid, generous character, keenness, and organising powers should be a source of inspiration to many, and it is hard to believe that her gay spirit will not be with us at future meetings.

*Lol some we loved, the loveliest and the best
That Time and Fate of all their Vintage prest,
Have drunk their Cup a Round or two before,
And one by one crept silently to Rest.*

A.B.G.C.

Miss JOAN HOWARD, a member since 1951, died on 13 December 1963, aged 84. She was the only daughter of the late Mr Henry Howard and Lady Mabel Howard, of Greystoke Castle. When Sir Eric Drummond became Secretary-General of the League of Nations Miss Howard was his secretary, and at the Coronation in 1937 she acted as secretary to her kinsman, the Duke of Norfolk who, as Earl Marshal, was responsible for making the Coronation arrangements.

Mr WILLIAM TOWERS, of 48 Castle Grove, Kendal, a member since 1948, died 21 November 1963. His enthusiasm for archaeology and wide knowledge of the countryside made him one of the leading workers in the Kendal Regional Group. He became chairman of the group in 1952 and resigned this office in 1962 when he was elected president of it. He was a forthright and amusing speaker and his loss will be keenly felt.

Mr KENNETH RICHARDSON PUMPHREY, of Preston Patrick Hall, who died 8 February 1964, joined the Society in 1946. He was a member of the committee for Prehistoric Studies from 1958-59, and he and his wife took a great interest in places of historic importance in our neighbourhood. His family moved to Preston Patrick Hall in 1921, and there he was to spend the rest of his life farming. There can be little doubt that his interest in antiquarian matters was stimulated by the historic qualities of his home. During the time he lived there a number of architectural features were brought to light, and he delighted to show visitors — of whom there were many — round the Hall. The Society has already visited the place on a previous occasion, and it is sad that Kenneth Pumphrey will not be there to welcome members of the Society on their return visit in September. Outside the Society he will be remembered both

for his enthusiastic work for young farmers, which culminated in his becoming President of Westmorland County Federation of Young Farmers, and for his services to the community as county councillor and member of the South Westmorland Rural District Council. The Hall remains in the hands of his family, as his daughter, Miss Jennifer Pumphrey, is carrying on her father's work there.

W.E.M.