

account of his career can be found in the obituaries that appeared in *The Daily Telegraph* of 16 March and *The Times* of 23 March 1994.

He was the first President of the Society for Medieval Archaeology and delivered the first Presidential address 'Some comments on the Miniatures and Ornaments of the Lindisfarne Gospels' on 6th December 1957. He had been interested in manuscripts since his days as an undergraduate. The facsimile edition of the *Codex Lindisfarnensis* appeared in 1956 and was accompanied by a considerable volume of commentary and discussion by himself and others. He was particularly fascinated by the relationship between the manuscripts and metalwork in early medieval insular art. He published on the *Codex Amiatianus* as well as the hanging bowls which form one of the outstanding group of Celtic artefacts of the period 400–800 A.D. His last great task, the *Corpus of Late Celtic Hanging Bowls* A.D. 400–800 was completed only shortly before his death. This corpus bears witness to his life long interest in Celtic art, and it is notable that he wrote a long review for this journal of *Early Christian Ireland* by Maire and Liam de Paor (*Medieval Archaeology*, vol 2, 1958, p. 214).

When the Sutton Hoo ship burial was discovered near Woodbridge, Suffolk, in 1939 he was carrying out the first scientific excavation of a deserted medieval village at Seacourt, near Oxford. In 1949 he excavated the 10th- and 11th-century settlement at Mawgan Porth in Cornwall, and in 1955 he excavated the chapter house graves at Lincoln Cathedral. Seacourt was published in *Oxoniensia*, Mawgan Porth was discussed in his *Recent Archaeological Excavations in Britain* (1956), and the final report will shortly be published by English Heritage. The Lincoln graves were published in *Tribute to an Antiquary, Essays presented to Marc Fitch* (1976).

It is the publication of the Sutton Hoo excavations and finds that is his greatest memorial. The first volume which appeared in 1975 was hailed as 'one of the great books of the century' and it bears witness to the depth and breadth of his scholarship. The two subsequent volumes appeared in 1978 and in 1983. He conducted excavations at the site in 1966 and 1968 (Pl. IX, A). The volumes are not only major works of scholarship, but they record the many discoveries that were made in the meticulous and painstaking programme of conservation that was carried out in the Museum. He was an enthusiastic advocate of further excavation at Sutton Hoo, and was a keen supporter of the recent series of research excavations on the site conducted by Professor Martin Carver for the Society of Antiquaries and the British Museum.

In all his archaeological work two aspects stand out. He saw and examined objects with an intense eye, combining this intensity of analysis with a great breadth of scholarship. Secondly he attracted the affection and respect of colleagues of all ages across Europe, and was a great source of encouragement to younger colleagues, and institutions such as this Society.

JOHN CHERRY

## THE BRISTOL CONFERENCE 1995

A joint conference was held with the Department of Continuing Studies, University of Bristol, on 2–3 December 1995 on the theme of Bristol and its Region in the Middle Ages.

On the first day speakers showed Bristol's individual character and its reliance on sea and river trade: Late Medieval Bristol (Joe Bettey); The Medieval Port (Bob Jones); Topography and Buildings (Roger Leech); Medieval Shipping (Gillian Hutchinson); and A Thirteenth-Century Severn Estuary Boat (Nigel Nayling). There was also a paper by Mike Blackwell, on the project to rebuild a replica of *Matthew*, which in 1497 sailed from Bristol on a voyage of discovery to Newfoundland. On the second day Mr Blackwell guided conference over that replica while Roger Leech lead a walk around medieval Bristol.

PAUL STAMPER