

BERKSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Summary of Report of the Council for 1970

1. THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Society was held in the Zoology Lecture Theatre at Reading University on 25th April, 1970. Dr C. F. Slade occupied the Chair, supported by the Hon. Secretary. The Annual Report and Accounts for 1969 were adopted. Mr Gwatkin proposed and Mr Copsey seconded the election of Dr Slade as President for a further term.

Under Rule 5, Mrs Slade and Mr Percival retired from the Council; they were re-elected with the additional nominations of Mr Arnold and Mr Harvey on the proposition of Miss Mason seconded by Mr G. Thomas.

2. MEMBERSHIP

Hon.	Corporate	Ordinary	Deaths	Total
8	17	452	7	477

With regret we have to record the deaths of the following members: Mrs B. Chapman (1956); Mr W. G. Cleghorn (1951); Mrs R. Lukin (1962); Mr E. R. Manley (1969); Miss Lockley Smith (1947); Miss M. M. Swadling (1927); Mrs R. Whitlock (1963). Memoirs on some of these late members will be found in Section 13.

3. THE SOCIETY. Attendances at meetings and excursions continued with good numbers but it is to be regretted that there was a falling off of those attending the 5-day Congress held this year in Devon. Fieldwork continued to be well supported and many hours were spent on survey to watch the work along the route of the M4 motorway. Twenty-seven new members joined the Society during the year.

4. FIELDWORK AND EXCAVATION. Dr Slade directed further investigation at Spencer's Farm, Maidenhead. Following discoveries along the M4 motorway, Reading Museum directed rescue excavations on two important Roman buildings. A further rescue dig was carried out by the Museum on an Iron Age habitation site south of Wittenham Clumps. Mr Stanley with the Middle Thames Group made some eventual discoveries of a Roman cremation site at Bray.

5. THE INDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY GROUP. This year has seen a consolidation of this Group which is now an active working unit. The W.E.A. in Reading held a course of lectures on the subject under the

leadership of Lawrence Cameron and Kenneth Major, this was well attended. In the field recording work was undertaken on sites to be obliterated by the M4. The Pinewood Brickworks at Hermitage was one of the more important of these sites recorded by Mr Roberts and Mr Underhill.

6. PRESERVATION OF OTHER BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS. Fifteen cases for demolition and 31 for alteration were submitted for comment by the Ministry and County Planning Department. The alterations were passed with some criticism, objections were lodged for all but three of the demolitions. A growing feature is that of redundant churches, and a donation is to be made for East Shefford, where important wall paintings have been discovered.

7. FINANCE. Our Accounts again reflect the Society's endeavours to meet rising costs without recourse to an increase in Members' subscriptions. This has been achieved by the exercise of the strictest economy, by prudent investment of accumulated funds, from a welcome surplus out of excursions and Congress and from the profitable sale of Journals and other books. For the convenience of publication, the funds of the Silchester Excavation Committee, whose activities are temporarily in abeyance, appear with our own for the first time.

8. PERSONAL AND OTHER SOCIETIES. The Centenary of the foundation of the Newbury District Field Club was celebrated at Newbury on 27th January. We offer our congratulations and good wishes for the future to our sister Society. Our President wrote an introduction to and compiled a published list of the Mayors of Reading. Mr H. Godwin Arnold was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London. The Rev D. J. Chitty received the degree of Doctor of Divinity in the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, on 31st October. Following the lamented death of Miss M. M. Swadling, her articles of Basildon's history already published in the *Country Neighbour* were collected and issued in pamphlet form at Basildon. Miss E. Carleton Williams published her biography of Anne of Denmark (Longmans). Mr Kenneth Major published *Mills of the Isle of Wight* (Charles Skilton Ltd.). Mr Major with the Industrial Archaeology Group took part in a BBC television programme in the *Chronicle* series on 14th March. Mr D. B.

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Connah has written the material for the Scout Badge Series, *Archaeologist*, published by the Scout Association, London. Reading Museum, with a grant from the National Art Collections Fund and our Society, secured the gold ring given to Richard Warde of Hurst by Henry VIII in 1540.

9. PUBLICATIONS. Volume 64 of the *Berkshire Archaeological Journal* was issued at the end of December.

10. LECTURES

10th January

A display of photographs and slides made during excursions and congresses of the Society was contributed by members with an introduction by the Hon. Secretary.

31st January

Mr P. J. Fowler, M.A., F.S.A., on *Wessex Archaeology*.

28th February

Mr R. A. Rutland, M.A., on *Recent Excavations in Berkshire*.

21st March

Mr Alan Reed on *Problems in the Conservation and Repair of Old Buildings*.

25th April

Annual General Meeting of the Society. Presidential address by Dr C. F. Slade on *The Street Lamps of Reading*.

17th October

Dr Michael J. Dumbleton on *The Bath Road*.

14th November

Mr T. G. Hassall, B.A., on *Recent Excavations at Oxford*.

12th December

Dr J. G. Landels on *Music in Ancient Greece*.

11. EXCURSIONS

6th May

Visit to Dodington House, Gloucestershire.

30th May

Visit to the Isle of Wight including Carisbrooke Castle and Brading Roman Villa.

27th June

Visit to Sussex, including Bodiam Castle and 'Batemans', Burwash.

9th July

Visit to Betterton House, Lockinge, by invitation of our Vice-President, Mr C. L. Loyd, who kindly entertained the members to tea.

25th July

Gt. Coxwell Barn, Arlington Mill and Minster Lovell.

31st August-5th September

Congress at Exeter. The excursions and congress were directed by Mrs Slade.

12. HOSPITALITY. For our meetings we continue to enjoy a lecture theatre in Reading University, and thank the Vice-Chancellor and Council for the privilege. The Director of Reading Museum has again provided accommodation for extra Council meetings.

13. OBITUARIES

Miss Minnie M. Swadling, F.L.A., F.S.A., has been one of the most active members of the Society since 1927. Secretary to the Local History Recording Scheme since its foundation by Mr C. B. Willcocks in the early 1920's, she became a member of Council from 1930, acting Hon. Treasurer during the war years (1942-46), Excursion Secretary and Congress organiser following Col. Rivers-Moore; there was hardly any side of the Society's aims and objects in which Miss Swadling had not taken an active part. Chief Assistant at Reading Public Libraries for her working life, she was an accomplished linguist, speaking German and French fluently. A mine of Berkshire knowledge, she was well known throughout the County. Her time and energies were given unsparingly to scholarship and local history. Living for many years at Lower Basildon, where she had been a Churchwarden, she contributed an account of village history to the parish publication and often lectured to local societies. Miss Swadling was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London in 1964.

Mr W. G. Cleghorn lived at The Priory, Old Windsor, and owned the land where the Saxon town was discovered in 1951. He co-operated most readily in giving permission for the excavations carried out there during the following seven years, and with Mrs Cleghorn was most kind and hospitable to many who took part in the investigation. Mr Cleghorn was most interested in local history and did much to preserve the 18th century features of his property.

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Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31st December, 1970

1969	EXPENDITURE			INCOME		
£	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
41	Printing and Stationery ..	19	13	528	Subscriptions ..	530
37	Postages and Telephones ..	42	8	22	Donations ..	14 11
13	Purchases of Publications ..	31	5		<i>Dividend:</i>	30 16 0
	<i>Subscriptions Paid:</i>			15	5½% National Development Bonds (gross)	5 10 0
	S.P.A.B....	2	2	103	Bank Interest (gross)	128 7 7
	Friends of St. George's ..	10	0	10	Profit on Redemption of Stock ..	— — —
	English Place Name Society ..	3	3	80	Profit on Excursions transferred from	
	Friends of Reading University ..	5	5		Excursion Account ..	147 2 7
	British Records Association ..	1	10	7	Sale of Publications (other than Journals)..	25 2 6
	Berks Local History Committee ..	2	2	2	Subscription cheques cancelled ..	4 2 0
	C.B.A. 9th Regional Group ..	12	6			
	C.B.A. ..	5	0			
22	Lecturers' Expenses ..	20	4			
26	Working Projector ..	20	15			
6	Rent of Room—Watlington House ..	7	7			
25	Rent of Lecture Room—Reading ..	25	0			
8	University ..	15	13			
5	Insurance ..	5	8			
4	Gratuities ..	3	0			
3	Auditor's Fees ..	5	0			
	Grants:					
	Miss Hartley—Printing Photo-					
	graphs ..	5	0			
10	Reading Corporation — Pur-					
	chase: Warde's Ring ..	10	0			
2	Wreath ..	15	0			
—	Cheque Book ..	2	0			
2	Depreciation of Typewriter ..	10	0			
563	Balance carried forward ..	2	7			
		656	2 11			
		<u>£871 15 7</u>				<u>£871 15 7</u>
	<i>Reserves approved by Council:</i>					
10	Berks Historic Buildings Fund ..	50	0			
25	Excavation Fund ..	25	0			
498	Printing Costs, Volumes 64/65 ..					
	Journal (Reserve) ..	537	2			
29	Balance being Excess of Income					
	over Expenditure and Reserves	44	0 11			
		<u>£656 2 11</u>				<u>£656 2 11</u>
				562	Balance brought down ..	656 2 11

Grants:	£	s.	d.			
Peach Street, Wokingham	..	25	0	0	Balance of Fund at 1st January, 1970 153 13 6
Coley Dovecote, Reading	..	25	0	0	Bank Interest Received 6 10 0
					Transfer from Income and Expenditure Account..	50 0 0
Balance of Fund at 31st December, 1970	..					
				50 0 0		
				162 3 6		
						£212 3 6

Printing and Stationery	2	6	7
Postage and Telephone	6	19	0
Subscription Paid—Berk's Joint Committee for Archaeology	10	0	
Balance in hand at 31st December, 1970	67	19	8
				<u>£77</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>3</u>

[illegible]

Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1970

1969	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
	<i>General Fund:</i>											
	<i>Balance as at 1st January,</i>											
	1970	..	..	1083	11	6						
1084	Add: Excess of Income over	..	..	44	0	11						
	Expenditure and Reserves ..	..	..							
				1127	12	5						
	<i>Excavation Fund</i>	..	..	105	17	4						
236	<i>Berks Historic Building Fund</i> ..	..	..	162	3	6						
				268	0	10						
	<i>Journal Account:</i>											
1000	Provision for printing Journals			1650	0	0						
	<i>Berks Field Research Group Account:</i>											
61	Balance of Account as at 31st			67	19	8						
	December, 1970											
	<i>Silchester Excavation Committee</i>											
	<i>Account:</i>											
—	Balance of Account as at 31st			301	0	8						
	December, 1970											
				301	0	8						
	<i>Cash at Bank:</i>											
	Thames Valley Trustee Savings Bank ..			57								
	Thames Valley Trustee Special Investment ..			1287								
	Barclays Bank Ltd.:											
	Current Account			150								
	Deposit Account			717								
	Deposit Account (Silchester Excavation Committee)			—								
	National Westminster Bank Ltd.:											
	Current Account (Berks Field Research Group)			57								
	<i>Cash in Hand:</i>											
	Excursion Secretary			—								
	Hon. Treasurer			1								
	Berks Field Research Group, Honorary Treasurer			4								
				£2381	13	7						
				£3414	13	7						

We have prepared the above Balance Sheet and annexed Income and Expenditure Accounts from the books and papers produced to us, and WE CERTIFY the same to be in accordance therewith.

22 CROSS STREET, READING, BERKS
5th April, 1971.

C. J. HAYWARD.

HAYWARD, PEER, ROBERTS & Co.
Accountants and Auditors