



**LAMAS**

Transactions of the  
**London and Middlesex  
Archaeological Society**

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# London & Middlesex Archaeological Society

*Charity Registration No. 267552*

ESTABLISHED IN 1855

**Patrons:** The Most Rev The Lord Archbishop of Canterbury; The Right Rev The Lord Bishop of London; The Right Hon The Lord Mayor of London; HM Lieutenant for Greater London and Custos Rotulorum; The Very Rev The Dean of St Paul's

**Past Presidents:** Rt Hon the Lord Londesborough, KCH, FRS, FSA (1855—1860); Rt Hon the Lord Talbot de Malahide, FRS, FSA (1860—1883); General A.L.F. Pitt-Rivers, FRS, VPSA (1883—1885); Edwin Freshfield, LLD, FSA (1885—1910); Sir Edward W. Brabrook, CB, Dir.S.A. (1910—1930); Sir Montagu Sharpe, KC, DL (1930—1942); Rt Hon the Earl of Strafford, JP (1943—1946); Col the Rt Hon Lord Nathan of Churt, FSA (1947—1949); William F. Grimes, CBE, MA, FSA (1950—1958); D.B. Harden, FBA, CBE, MA (1959—1964); R. Michael Robbins, CBE, MA, FSA (1965—1970); Arnold J. Taylor, CBE, MA, D.Litt, FBA, Hon VPSA, FR Hist S (1971—1973); Ralph Merrifield, BA, FSA, FMA (1974—1976); M.G. Hebdict, MA, FSA, FMA (1977—1979); Dr Valerie Pearl, MA, D.phil, FSA, FR Hist S (1980—1981); Professor John Wilkes, BA, PhD, FBA, FSA (1982—1985); John Kent, BA, PhD, FBA, FSA (1985—1988); Derek Renn, PhD, FIA, FSA, FSS (1988—1991); Hugh Chapman, BA, PhD, FSA, AMA (1991—1992+); Derek Renn, PhD, FIA, FSA, FSS (1992—1993); Harvey Sheldon, BSc, FSA (1993—1996); Mark Hassall, MA, FSA (1996—1999); Derek Keene, MA, D.phil (1999—2002); Professor Clive Orton, MA, CStat, MIFA, FSA (2002—2005); Dr Simon Thurley (2005—2008); Professor Caroline Barron, MA, PhD, FSA (2008—2011); Professor Martin Biddle, OBE, FBA, FSA (2011—2014)

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*Ex officio* (the officers mentioned under Rule 9): **Honorary Treasurer** Tara Sutin; **Honorary Secretary** Karen Thomas, BA (Hons); **Honorary Editor** (*Newsletter*) Richard Gilpin, BA (Hons), MA; **Honorary Publications Secretary** Karen Thomas, BA (Hons); **Honorary Director of Lecture Meetings** Kathryn Stubbs, BA, MA, DipTP, MRTPI, IHBL; **Honorary Librarian** Miss S. Brooks, MA; **Honorary Subscriptions and Membership Secretary** Patricia Clarke; **Production Editor** (*Transactions*) Wendy Sherlock, BTech (Hons)

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**Archaeological Research Committee:** Chairman, Harvey Sheldon, BSc, FSA

**Historic Building and Conservation Committee:** Chairman, Jon M. Finney, DipArch, DipTP, IHBC

**Local History Committee:** Chairman, Mrs Eileen Bowlt, JP, BA

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**Bankers:** CAF Bank Ltd (Charities Aid Foundation) and Barclays Bank Ltd (211 Regent Street Branch)



# London and Middlesex Archaeological Society

## 161st ANNUAL REPORT OF COUNCIL FOR THE SUBSCRIPTION YEAR ENDING 30th SEPTEMBER 2016

Council met five times during the year.

Members of Council and others continued to represent the Society at meetings of the Southwark and Lambeth Archaeological Excavation Committee and the Council for British Archaeology London.

### Lecture meetings

The lecture series season ran from October 2015 to May 2016, in the Clore Learning Centre, Museum of London, organised by Kathryn Stubbs, and included a joint lecture with the Prehistoric Society. All of the lectures were very well attended and Council would like to express its appreciation to Kathryn for her hard work in organising the lecture programme.

The first lecture was entitled 'Finding Pitt Rivers Project' given by Jane Ellis-Schon, Project Curator at Salisbury Museum, who brought us up to date with the project we first heard about two years ago. In November we heard from the Curator of Historic Buildings, Historic Royal Palaces, Daniel Jackson, on 'Recent work at Hampton Court' and in December Stuart Forbes and John Adams introduced us to their recently published 'Syon Abbey Herbal'. In January Guy Hunt from L-P Archaeology unveiled the site at '100 Minories — A Multi-Period Excavation Next to London Wall' while March's lecture was given by Judy Aitken, Heritage Manager at the London Borough of Southwark on the topical subject of 'The Cuming Museum in Southwark'. In April, the joint lecture with the Prehistoric Society on 'Neolithic Ditches, Middle and Late Bronze Age Enclosures at West Drayton', given by Alastair Douglas of Pre-Construct Archaeology, was very popular and we intend to have more such joint lectures in the future. The final lecture of the series in May, welcomed Jay Carver, the Project Archaeologist for Crossrail, who provided a very good overview of the project with his talk on 'Archaeological Investigations and Crossrail'.

At the AGM in February the Society's President, John Clark, gave his second Presidential Address, on "Sights Most Strange": Tourists in Medieval and Early Modern London'.

### Publications, Newsletter and Website

Richard Gilpin has continued to do a splendid job with the *Newsletter* and, as always, each issue includes a wide range of reviews and short articles as well as news of the activities of our own and other societies. Council would like to express its thanks to Richard for his hard work as editor.

In September Council launched a Membership Services survey both on paper and online to find out how the present range of membership services are being utilised by our members. We hope to be able to publish the results of the survey in 2017.

We have also welcomed Florence Laino to Council who has been helping with publicity for the Society and we now have a Twitter handle @LonMidArchSoc.

### Membership (report by Pat Clarke)

Membership for the year stood at 580 (including 7 honorary and 15 life members) compared with 593 last year and 603 for 2014. Thirty-nine new members joined the society, most using Paypal.

### Research Fund

Council agreed that we would reinstate the Research Fund for the year 2015/16 and two awards were made to Glynn Davis for his project 'Forgotten but not Lost: Re-discovering the Romans in the Archaeological Archive' to publish five small research projects (£2,446.50) and to Dr Nick Holder and Dr Mark Samuel to produce a painted reproduction of Blackfriars in 1500 (£2,000).

### **Publications Committee** (report by John Schofield, Chair)

The Committee met three times during the year. Special Papers 1 to 16 (from 1976 to 2013) have now been scanned and are available on the Society's website. Volume 65 of the *Transactions* for 2014 was published in November 2015. Our experiments with publishing PDF supplements to major papers continue; as does discussion about publishing the report on Highgate Wood. The production of *Transactions* is now in the capable hands of Wendy Sherlock. We are opening discussion with Oxbow Books about their taking our stock of Special Papers apart from the festschrift to John Clark, for sale at reduced prices.

### **Archaeology Committee** (report by Jon Cotton, Secretary)

The Committee met three times: in January, April and September. Links have been maintained with CBA London and with the Society's Historic Buildings Committee, though the passing of Jon Finney leaves a big gap which is going to take some filling.

Regular reports on archaeological matters are received from MOLA, GLAAS and CBA London. This year much of the Committee's time has been devoted to appraising the impact of the down grading and closure of museums and local archives across London. Links have been sought with the GLA and with Arts Council England, to move the issue further up the political agenda.

The Committee organised the 53rd Annual Conference of London Archaeologists, which was held in the Weston Gallery of the Museum of London on Saturday 19th March. Some 200 delegates witnessed the presentation of the 2015 Ralph Merrifield Award to Cath Maloney for her long service to London archaeology, and to the LAARC.

The ensuing morning session on recent work featured talks on Ewell, Lime Street in the City, Principal Place in Hackney, Brandon House, Southwark, and the Wallbrook stream.

The afternoon session addressed recent work carried out on London's buried population, and included contributions from Mike Henderson on Bedlam burials, Mary Lewis on puberty and health in medieval London, Jelena Bekvalac on radiographic perspectives on the history of health, Rachel Ives on Bethnal Green cemetery and Ceri Boston on the skeletons of Royal Navy pensioners from Greenwich Hospital.

### **Local History Committee** (report by Pat Gough, Secretary)

The Committee held three meetings, in October 2015 and January and May 2016.

The members of the Committee were Eileen Bowlt (Chair), John Price, Alex Werner, Graham Javes, Pat Gough, Lorraine Woodleigh, Roger Chapman and Richard Gilpin. Diane Tough, John Hinshelwood, Pat Clarke and John Peach left the Committee.

The Annual Local History Conference took place in November 2015 at the Museum of London on the theme of 'Middlesex: Our Lost County'. The following five talks were given: 'Middlesex from First Reference to Domesday Book' by Pamela Taylor, historian and archivist; 'Made in London: A Review of Ceramic Manufacture in Middlesex from the Middle Ages to the 19th century' by Jacqui Pearce, Senior Specialist at Museum of London Archaeology; 'Profligate in Principle as in Practice? John Wilkes and Elections in Middlesex 1768–1790' by Dr Robin Eagles, Senior Research Fellow at the History of Parliament Trust; 'A Cinderella Service: The Middlesex County Council 1889–1965' by Charlotte Scott, Head of Collections at the London Metropolitan Archives; and 'A Vision of Middlesex: The North Middlesex Photographic Society's Contribution to the Photographic Record of England' by John Hinshelwood, member of LAMAS.

The winners of the two Local History Publications awards, each of £100, presented during the annual conference, were Harefield History Society, *Mapping an English Parish Before 1860: A History of Harefield in Middlesex Through Maps*, and Hornsey Historical Society, *Hornsey Historical Society Bulletin* 55.

### **Historic Buildings and Conservation Committee** (report by Christopher Oliver, Acting Chair)

With the loss of its Chairman, Jon Finney, in March, this past year has been rather traumatic for the Committee. Jon carried out a phenomenal amount of work as Chair and his extensive knowledge and experience will be sorely missed. No new Chair has come forward but Chris Oliver agreed to stand as Acting Chair for a limited period. However, we have welcomed four new members to the Committee, namely, Robert Briggs, Alec Forshaw, Michael Nelles and Mark Price. The year has progressed with 455 cases reviewed at our monthly meetings during the first half of the year and 245 thereafter. Jon Finney was particularly interested in the formation and development of Market Towns — particularly with those on the periphery of London and on Heritage Buildings at Risk. These exercises have not proceeded since his demise.



In October some streamlining of the system used to deal with the numerous referrals to the Committee was introduced in order to try to avoid too much duplication of effort, especially on the part of the Chair. The lack of a Spatial Plan for London, with views of the River Thames and of St Paul's Cathedral being compromised with the City fringes being developed in a muddled way, continued to cause consternation, and it was resolved, in January 2016, that a letter would be sent to the Secretary of State, to the Mayor of London and to all mayoral candidates to express our views.

It was noted, in April, that the Committee were reliant on the CBA sending us referrals after an initial 'sift' to determine the level of impact and that referrals had reduced since February.

The developments at Norton Folgate and Bishopsgate Goodsyards continue to cause consternation, and other notable applications looked at during the year included the following: modifications to the approved scheme for Battersea Power Station, Kirtling Street, SW8 which required more information; a tower above Paddington Sorting and Delivery Office, 31 London Street, W2; and Shire House, Whitbread Centre, where a large development was to straddle historic vaults. These last two were objected to by the Committee but an extension at St Paul's Cathedral School, which would effectively increase the numbers of boarders, was considered to have been developed with great care and sensitivity.

My thanks to all on this worthy and diligent Committee, particularly Vicki Fox, who works harder than the rest of us and keeps things under control.

BY DIRECTION OF COUNCIL

Colin Bowlt  
*Chairman of Council*

Karen Thomas  
*Honorary Secretary*

**LONDON AND MIDDLESEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2016**

<b>2015</b>	<b>Incoming Resources</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>Resources Expended</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>£</b>		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>		<b>£</b>
11,694	Subscriptions	11,696		Publications	16,791
1,542	Gift Aid	1,660	16,910	- LAMAS Transactions	2,202
223	Sale of Publications	167	2,248	- Newsletter	2,207
242	Royalties and Licensing	1,064	2,132	Archaeology Conference	1,796
11,715	Grants for LAMAS Transactions	14,666	1,140	Local History Conference	5,000
1,920	Archaeology Conference	1,906	5,000	Research Grants	519
2,478	Local History Conference	2,505	587	Lecture Series Expense	533
100	Lecture Series Income	86	259	Postage, Printing and Stationery	1,600
152	Interest	102	-	Scanning of Specialist Papers	302
257	Donations Received	204	105	Bank Charges	100
500	Miscellaneous Income	-	100	Ralph Merrifield Award	231
			150	Computing	-
			20	Miscellaneous Expenditure	
<b>30,823</b>	<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	<b>34,056</b>			
<b>(2,172)</b>	<b>Net (Incoming) Resources</b>	<b>(2,775)</b>			
<b>£28,651</b>		<b>£31,281</b>	<b>£28,651</b>	<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	<b>£31,281</b>

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

2015	ASSETS	2016	FUNDS OF THE SOCIETY	2016
£		£		£
5,277	Bank and Cash Balances	5,598		
70,467	Savings Accounts	75,098	<b>Restricted Funds</b>	
-	Debtors	400	Publications Fund	7,105
<b>75,744</b>	<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>81,096</b>		
	<b>Less: LIABILITIES</b>		<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	
926	Creditors	503	Funds brought forward	48,845
3,964	Future Publications	3,964	Net Incoming Resources for the Year	2,775
14,904	Research Grants	17,904	<b>Total Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>51,620</b>
<b>19,794</b>	<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>22,371</b>		
<b>£55,950</b>	<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>£58,725</b>	<b>Total Funds</b>	<b>£58,725</b>

Notes to the Accounts

- 1
- These accounts have been prepared on an accruals basis.
- 2
- The *Statement of Financial Activities* and *Balance Sheet* have been prepared using the 'natural classification' as permitted in the Charities Act 2011.
- 3
- Use of the Restricted Funds requires the sanction of the donor, Historic England.

These accounts were approved at the Annual General Meeting of the Society held on Tuesday 14th February 2017.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society

Having examined the finances of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society for the year ended 30th September 2016 and having received satisfactory explanations to my enquiries I find the attached Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet to be in accordance with the Society's accounts and records and to comply with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

Stuart S. Forbes  
Independent Examiner  
4 Gable Court, Lawrie Park Avenue  
London SE26 6HR

(Signed) S.S. Forbes 14th February 2017



# Ivor Noël Hume (1927–2017): The Career of a Trans-Atlantic Archaeologist Remembered

On 4 February 2017 Ivor Noël Hume (known as Noël) passed away at the age of 89. The following weekend an informal gathering was held in celebration of his life, at one of his favourite restaurants in Williamsburg, Virginia USA, where friends, colleagues and acquaintances were invited to stop in and pay their respects to his family and raise a glass or two in his memory. Understandably, it attracted several hundred people, whose lives Noël had touched upon during his long career.

It was an honour, as a friend and a fellow London-born archaeologist following in his large footsteps, to cross the Atlantic to attend, and in doing so fly one small British flag for him, in recognition of his pioneering contribution to London's archaeology in the years after the Second World War, which formed the foundation of urban stratigraphic excavation we know today.

He began his illustrious archaeological career as a volunteer at the City of London Guildhall Museum in 1949 assisting Adrian Oswald, then employed as sole field archaeologist of the City of London Guildhall Museum. In November 1949 Noël was employed as Oswald's assistant, and in 1950 after Oswald's departure Noël took over the post and remained at the Guildhall Museum until 1957, when he and his first wife, Audrey (1927–93), went to work at Colonial Williamsburg (*The Times* 2017).

It was Noël's London years where his lifelong interest in post-medieval archaeology begun. Noël decided that as he knew no Latin he was unlikely to be a successful Romanist. He would 'focus on an area that has hitherto received little attention', his rationale being that 'then one at least has a sporting chance of making an uncontested yet legitimate name for oneself' (Noël Hume

2010, 183). Noël was the first archaeologist working in the City of London to recognise the analytical potential of post-medieval finds groups recovered from features like cesspits and wells, and he focused on excavating these finds-rich contexts. This work led to his study of post-medieval glass wine bottles, which resulted in him being invited to Colonial Williamsburg in 1956 to study their collection of bottles. The visit in turn led to him being offered a job there. Noël and Audrey directed and published numerous excavations across Virginia and helped establish colonial archaeology as a dynamic discipline. The finds research he undertook led to the production of a seminal book on the artefacts of colonial America (Noël Hume 1970). One of Noël's other research interests was post-medieval ceramics, which he and Audrey collected.

Noël's London years were very hectic as there was a great deal of redevelopment going on inside the blitzed historic City. The 'Roman and Mediaeval Excavation Committee', under the leadership of Professor Grimes from 1946 to 1968, was undertaking trial excavations on many City of London sites and larger scale work on selective sites (Shepherd 1998, 4–6). However, Grimes's team did not have the resources to investigate every site that was being developed or to monitor any of their excavated sites during their subsequent redevelopment; this was left to the Guildhall Museum archaeologist and his assistant. It is a great tribute to Noël that, assisted by a small number of volunteers and his wife Audrey, he was able to salvage so much in the face of the drag-line excavators that tore the heart out of much of the City's archaeology during this period (Noël Hume 1978). One of Noël's many achievements was setting up the Excavation Register (ER) system to

record his discoveries — this was effectively a combination of a museum accession number and an excavation context, which allows us to identify his finds and notes in the Museum of London's archaeological collections today (Schofield 1998).

The cyclical nature of redevelopment in the City of London has seen an increasing number of the sites Noël worked on being redeveloped in recent years. For example, Bucklersbury House (now known as Bloomberg London) in 2010–14 (Tomlin 2016, 31–51; Wilmott 1991, 18), where he excavated a number of Roman wells (Fig 1), 25 Cannon Street (Elsden 2002; Shepherd 1986), 12 Arthur Street (Swift 2008), St Swithin's House (Noël Hume & Noël Hume 1952; Noël Hume *et al* nd; Wilmott 1991, 34) and Trump Street (Egan & Watson 2011) have all been redeveloped and reinvestigated since 1998. Again and again Noël's fieldwork has been invaluable in determining the missing elements of site sequences during these new investigations and assisting with the interpretation of the remaining archaeological deposits. It was during Noël's salvage work on the Cheapside Roman baths site in 1955–6 that he recorded a deep timber-lined 'tank' of uncertain function (Noël Hume 1956; Marsden 1976, 40). Subsequent work during 2001, on the neighbouring site of 30 Gresham Street, confirmed that this 'tank' was actually one of three unusually large early Roman wells situated in this locality from which water was extracted by complex lifting machines (Blair *et al* 2006, 36–9). As Sir Isaac Newton (1642–1727) observed when discussing his own discoveries 'if I have seen further it is by standing on the shoulders of giants'.<sup>1</sup>

In honour and recognition of Noël's archaeological works in London and Virginia (where he rose to the post of Chief Archaeologist at Colonial Williamsburg for three decades) a festschrift entitled *A Glorious Empire: Archaeology and the Tudor-Stuart Atlantic World* (Klingelhofer 2013) was presented to Noël in Williamsburg in January 2013 (Fig 2). The papers included a contribution by the authors on Noël's discoveries of Great Fire period deposits in the City of London (Blair & Watson 2013). The late Geoff Egan was to have written a paper on cloth seals in this volume, as it had



Fig 1. Ivor Noël Hume up to his neck in a box-lined Roman well at Bucklersbury House in 1954 (© Ian Blair)

been Noël who first nurtured his interest in the subject.

In the week following the presentation of his festschrift, Noël was interviewed at his home as part of a film being shot by production company *Leafstorm*, who had been filming the excavation at Bloomberg Place (formerly Bucklersbury House). Although the main aim of the film was to form part of the visual display in a new museum on the site housing the reconstructed Temple of Mithras (due to open in 2017), it provided a chance for Noël to give a personal account of how he first came to be involved in the archaeology of the City and to chronicle his years with the Guildhall Museum, with especial reference to his Walbrook sites (Bucklersbury House and St Swithin's House). The full version of the film is to be deposited in the Museum of London's Archaeological Archive (LAA), and it is hoped that this will be the first of many such personal accounts, which collectively will link together in chronicling the early

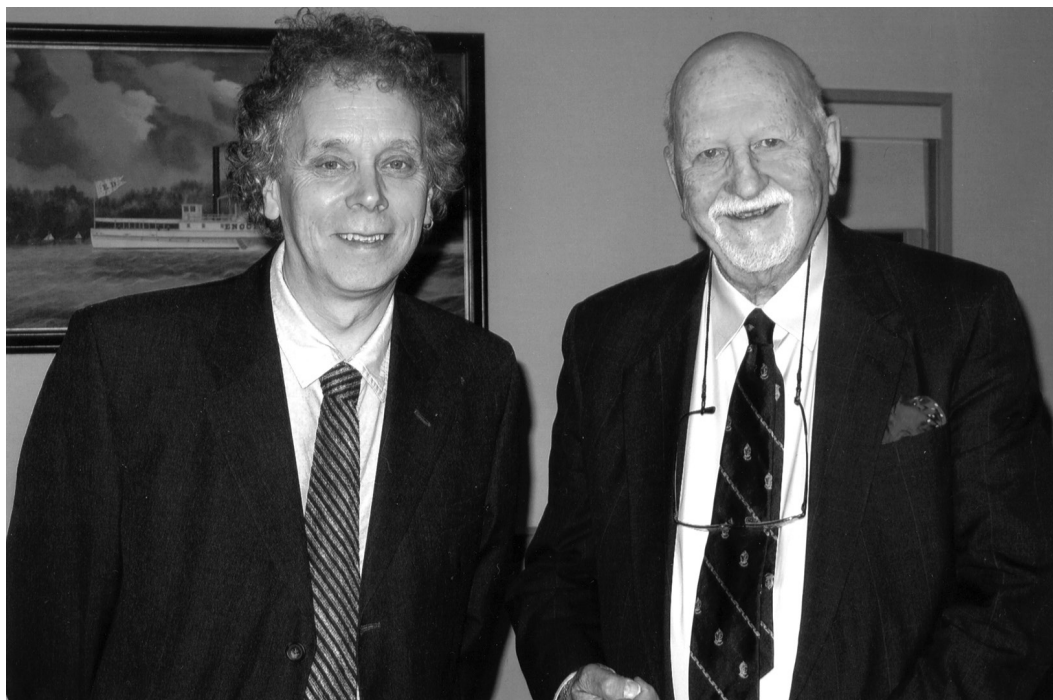


Fig 2. Ivor Noël Hume (right) with Ian Blair at the *festschrift* presentation in 2013 (© Ian Blair)

faltering steps of archaeology in the City of London and its gradual evolution over half a century, which ultimately led to the formation of the organisations that carry out rescue archaeology today, under conditions that are a far cry from what Noël endured.

Noël was a prolific and wonderfully evocative writer, not only on archaeological topics, but on a wide variety of subjects including autobiography, biography and drama, with an incredible ability to write a novel or a play simply as a distraction or for personal amusement. He was also a talented, engaging and witty lecturer, able to bring any subject into sharp focus, who inspired archaeologists on both sides of the Atlantic to look beyond the physical remains and objects they excavated, and try to see through the eyes of the people that were responsible for their creation.

Genuinely unique and one of a kind, with his passing it is truly the end of an era, as London archaeologists have lost a tangible link with our earliest beginnings, that Noël and his volunteer 'Guildhall Irregulars' lovingly salvaged from beneath the ruins

of the blitzed City, over sixty years ago. He will be greatly missed, but his work and the beautifully crafted words he left behind will echo through time as his lasting legacy.

Ian Blair and Bruce Watson

## NOTE

- <sup>1</sup> Letter to Robert Hooke 5 February 1675.

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