

THE LEICESTERSHIRE  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY  
158th ANNUAL REPORT 2012–2013

2012

Thursday  
4 October

*Viking Leicester*  
Prof. Michael Wood  
President of the Society

Thursday  
18 October

*Vernacular Erections: Lincolnshire Coastal Development and Conservation before 1940*  
Dr Susan Barton

Thursday  
1 November

*Orson Wright: Champion of the People*  
Peter Cousins

Thursday  
15 November

*Deeply Buried Prehistoric Archaeology at Must Farm, Cambridgeshire: Understanding Past Peoples' Movement in a Time Transgressive Environment*  
Mark Knight  
Senior Project Officer, Cambridge Archaeological Unit

Thursday  
29 November

**Annual General Meeting**  
*Followed by a presentation of the principal results of the Greyfriars, Leicester, excavation where the grave of Richard III was discovered.*  
Richard Buckley  
Lead archaeologist for the project and chairman of the Society's Committee.

Thursday  
13 December  
(at the Guildhall)

**Members' Evening**

2013

Thursday  
10 January

*A Blessing to the Town: the Vaughan Working Men's College.*  
Cynthia Brown  
Oral History Society Officer, Vaughan College

- Thursday  
24 January                      *Excavation of a Roman Temple at Eggleton, Rutland*  
Jim Brown  
Project Officer, Northamptonshire Archaeology
- Thursday  
7 February                      **W. Alan North Memorial Lecture**  
*Chedworth Roman Villa: Research and Redisplay*  
Professor Simon Esmonde Cleary  
University of Birmingham
- Thursday  
21 February                      *Anglo-Saxon Social and Administrative Organisation:  
Place-name Evidence from Leicestershire and the East  
Midlands*  
Dr Jill Bourne  
Hon. Editor of the Transactions of this Society
- Thursday  
14 March                      *The Identity and Leicester Associations of the Important  
Early Tudor Composer, Hugh Aston*  
Professor Patrick Boylan  
Professor Emeritus, City University London
- Thursday  
4 April                      *In Search of the Heartland of Mercia*  
Paul Bowman  
Chairman of the Leicestershire Fieldworker

#### *Annual General Meeting*

This was held on Thursday 29th November; the chair was taken by Vice President, Robert Rutland.

#### *Committee and Officers*

The committee met six times in the year 2012–13: Helen Sharp joined us as a new member in March 2013.

#### *Lectures*

Neil Finn once again organised an excellent programme of lectures. The average attendance has been consistently high and it is encouraging that we need to bring out more chairs on almost every occasion! We have also been graced with the presence of important guests at some of the lectures including the Chairman of Leicestershire County, who showed warm interest in the Society, and the High Sheriff, Mrs Sally Bowie, who has been most supportive. We are grateful as always to Mr and Mrs Lawrence for providing tea, coffee and biscuits after lectures – always a good opportunity for members to meet and socialise.

#### *Membership*

Often at committee meetings we have discussed the shortfall between income from subscriptions and expenditure on lectures, newsletters and our publications. As the

Hon. Treasurer reported, this gap is reducing gradually but we need to reduce it even further in future years in order to maintain our capital funds. It is pleasing that our membership remains constant at around the 400 mark – a result almost certainly of active recruiting at a number of public events by members of the committee, helped by the redesigned Newsletter and attractive new society leaflet produced by Stephen Butt, our Hon. Secretary, which is now printed and in circulation. It is also worth noting that membership of the society continues to be exceptionally good value in terms of the tangible benefits it brings. Significantly, the hard work of our Membership Secretary, Matthew Beamish, is beginning to have an impact. He has achieved great things in creating an electronic database to record personal and institutional subscriptions and gift-aid declarations, thereby increasing the society's income and reducing the shortfall. The Society gratefully acknowledges the donation of £50 in memory of Mr Vincent Lee Roby of Houston, Texas, USA (1925–2014) by his granddaughter Dr Lauran Kerr-Herally.

#### *Library*

Recent Sunday afternoon attendance has seen a substantial increase. Over the winter period, the library was not accessible due to the seasonal closure of the Guildhall. In future years, as new public developments in the area come to fruition at Jubilee Square, Cathedral Gardens and the Richard III Visitor Centre, the Guildhall and the Society's library will be at the heart of a remarkable heritage quarter.

#### *Social Media*

We are joining Facebook and Twitter, thanks to Ian Marshman.

#### *Networks Project*

The Society Networks Officer, Caroline Wessel, has compiled a list of the contact details of over 90 member local history groups throughout the county: this is now online on the Society website: [www.le.ac.uk/lahs](http://www.le.ac.uk/lahs). At the 2013 Council for British Archaeology Conference, Marilyn Palmer gave a paper highlighting some of the Society's achievements, including our Networks Project. No other regional archaeological society has such an important resource. Much time has been spent by Caroline, helped by Stephen Butt, Chris Jordan, and others in preparations for the Society's next history fair at Beaumanor Hall on Sunday 23 March 2014. This is to have the theme: 'Wartime Leicestershire', with many local societies represented, together with displays, activities and mini talks. Planning for the Nichols 2015 bi-centenary celebrations has already commenced, with two events planned so far: a lecture by Julian Pooley in autumn 2014 and a dinner at City Rooms on May 15 2015, with a menu based on one from 1817. Two Nichols publications are also planned.

#### *Research Fund*

We are delighted that Peter Liddle has agreed to join the Research Fund committee. Marilyn Palmer continues to coordinate grant applications and awards and grants have been given this year towards the purchase of the Dalby Mount, so it can be retained in Leicestershire and to Julian Pooley, for further Nichols research.

*Publications*

The consistently high standard of our publications continues to be maintained, for which we are grateful to Jill Bourne (*Transactions*), Joyce Lee (*Leicestershire Historian*) and Stephen Butt (*Newsletters*).

*Website*

The project to make back copies of *Transactions* available on the Society website continues, and we now have a digital copy of every volume which will be uploaded as and when the chairman of the committee has time – he has found himself rather occupied with Richard III matters since the discovery of the king's grave in Greyfriars in September 2012!

# OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY

## 2012–2013

### *President*

Professor Michael Wood

### *Vice Presidents*

The High Sheriff of Leicestershire  
The Chairman of Leicestershire County Council  
The Right Worshipful the Lord Mayor of  
Leicester

J. D. Bennett

P. J. Boylan, B.Sc., Ph.D., F.G.S., F.M.A.,  
M.B.I.M.

R. J. B. Keene, Dip.Arch., R.I.B.A.

O. D. Lucas

Jean E. Mellor, B.A., F.S.A., M.I.f.A.

Joan F. M. North

Squire G. de Lisle

G. T. Rimmington, B.Sc. (Econ.), M.A., M.Ed.,  
Ph.D., F.C.P.

D. H. Smith, A.T.D., Dip.Ed.

D. L. Wykes, B.Sc., Ph.D., F.R.Hist.S

(NB J. D. Bennett and G. T. Rimmington were  
inadvertently missed off the list of Vice  
Presidents in Vol 87, 2013)

### *Honorary Secretaries*

S. Butt, B.A., M.A. (*General*)

N. Finn (*Lectures*)

*Hon. Treasurer*

M. H. Johnson

*Hon. Editor, Transactions*

Jill Bourne, M.A., Ph.D.

*Hon. Editor, Leicestershire Historian*

Joyce Lee, M.L.S., B.A., Dip.Lib., M.C.L.I.P.

*Hon. Editor, Newsletter*

S. Butt, B.A., M.A.

*Hon. Librarian*

A. W. Stevenson, M.C.L.I.P.

### *Trustees of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society*

M. H. Johnson

A. W. Stevenson, M.C.L.I.P.

D. L. Wykes, B.Sc., Ph.D., F.R.Hist.S

### *Trustees of the Leicestershire Archaeological Research Fund*

P. J. Boylan, B.Sc., Ph.D., F.G.S., F.M.A.,  
M.B.I.M.

M. Palmer, M.A., Ph.D., F.S.A.

C. C. Dyer, C.B.E., B.A., Ph.D., F.B.A., F.S.A.,  
F.R.Hist.S.

P. Liddle, M.B.E., B.Sc., AMA

Deirdre M. O'Sullivan, B.A., M.Phil.

G. T. Rimmington, B.Sc. (Econ.), M.A., M.Ed.,  
Ph.D., F.C.P.

### *Representatives on other bodies*

*Council for British Archaeology*

M. Palmer, M.A., Ph.D., F.S.A.

*Conservation Advisory Panel, Leicester City  
Council*

M. H. Johnson

*University of Leicester Court*

G. T. Rimmington, B.Sc. (Econ.), M.A., M.Ed.,  
Ph.D., F.C.P.

### *Committee*

R. Buckley, B.A., F.S.A., M.I.f.A. (*Chairman*)

Caroline Wessel, M.A., A.L.C.M., O.St.J. (*Vice  
Chairman*)

*Hon. Secretaries (General, Membership, Lectures  
and Newsletter)*

*Hon. Treasurer*

*Hon. Editors*

*Hon. Librarian*

Cynthia Brown, M.A.

C. C. Dyer, C.B.E., B.A., Ph.D., F.B.A., F.S.A.,  
F.R.Hist.S.

R. P. Jenkins, B.A., M.A., DAS

C. Jordan, B.Sc, C.Chem., M.R.S.C.

I. J. Marshman, B.A., M.A.

Marilyn Palmer, M.A., Ph.D., F.S.A.

D. Ramsey, B.A.

Helen Sharp, B.A.

### *Networks Project Officer*

Caroline Wessel, M.A., A.L.C.M., O.St.J.