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A Warm Welcome to New Members

Rev Canon S Banyard, Droitwich
Mr I Bedford, Crowle
Mrs C Boughton-Thomas, Stourport
Mr K Fenwick, Malvern
Mrs C Lloyd, Droitwich
Mr N Swanson, Worcester

Neither the Committee of the Worcestershire Archaeological Society nor the Editor is responsible for any statements or opinions expressed in the Worcestershire Recorder, the authors of the contributions alone being responsible for the same.

Cover Illustration: Croome Court, looking west (see p13)

Chairman's Letter

It doesn't seem long since I last wrote, but we are already into the autumn season of lectures. I look forward to seeing many of you at what promises to be a fascinating series of talks on subjects both familiar and unfamiliar.

This year, the Society was approached to see if we would be prepared to sponsor the Worcestershire Archaeology Day School, held at the University of Worcester. This is the only regular day-long event focusing on new archaeological fieldwork in the county. We have decided to sponsor this year's day school, with the specific aim of bringing the work of the Society, and the benefits of membership, to a new audience. The day school is on Saturday 15 November and tickets are £20, including tea and coffee, but not lunch (booking queries to explorethepast@worcestershire.gov.uk).

Over the past eight years, English Heritage and the two organisations which represent professional advisers on the heritage (the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers and the Institute of Historic Building Conservation) have been tracking the numbers employed in local authorities to manage the heritage. Local authorities are the front line in protecting heritage assets, especially in the planning process, but the staff who provide this protection are by no means immune to the financial pressures facing local authorities in this time of austerity. Since 2006, the numbers of professional advisers have fallen by over 30% across England. In the last 12 months alone the numbers of archaeologists in local authorities have fallen by 9.5%. Here in the West Midlands, the fall in numbers has been even steeper, over 40% since the peak in 2007. This places severe pressure on the resources of conservation and archaeological services, and many have had to review their activities and stop providing some services to the public, or introduce charges.

There has been a drop in the numbers of planning and listed building consent applications over this period, but these are now starting to increase again. With the loss of professional capacity, it is ever more important that professionals and volunteers work together effectively to protect our heritage. Worcester City Council and Worcestershire County Council have both been developing projects where professionals can work with and support volunteers. Worcester City Council has been working with Worcester Civic Society to survey buildings at risk, and has just been awarded a second grant by English Heritage to continue this work and test the new national framework for heritage at risk. Worcester Civic Society has recently started work on developing and expanding Worcester's local list of buildings and structures (those which are of local importance but do not meet the criteria for statutory listing), and Malvern Civic Society is working with Malvern Hills District Council on a new local list for Malvern. Volunteers are sought to help with all of these projects.

The Society and its members gave valuable support to the Bredon Hill Hoard appeal, making it possible for Museums Worcestershire to acquire the county's largest Roman hoard. This is only the beginning: the Art Fund has recently provided further funding to equip the museum so that the coins can be cleaned and conserved. This is an enormous task, and the Society's members are invited to participate – dates for volunteer sessions will be announced very shortly.

Very important work is also under way on the Society's library and collections, including conservation, research, cataloguing, and making information and resources more widely available. This is reported on by Stephen Price and Peter Walker elsewhere in the *Recorder* (see p9). It is very pleasing to be able to mention the input of volunteers in this work, and also the financial

support from the Kay Trust Fund which is enabling much of the technical and specialist work. A direct result of this work was the loan of some of the Parker-Hore tile painting collection to the Chepstow Museum exhibition, 'Sites of Inspiration: Tintern Abbey', which was extended until 12 October.

There is still much to do to identify, research and protect the county's heritage. We should not forget that Worcestershire Archaeological Society was formed, in large part, to protect historic buildings under threat in the 1850s. While the early battles for the Guesten Halls at Worcester and Great Malvern were lost, the Society has a proud record in defending heritage assets in the 160 years since. The work goes on!

James Dinn

News from the County

Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service: An Accredited Service

On Monday 9 December 2013, the National Archives announced that Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service (WAAS) was one of only six archives in the country to be awarded accreditation in the inaugural year. This follows on being approved as a place of deposit by the National Archives earlier in the year.

Accreditation is the new UK quality standard which recognises good performance in all areas of archive service delivery. Accredited Archive Services ensure the long-term collection, preservation and accessibility of our archive heritage. Achieving accredited status demonstrates that WAAS has met clearly defined national standards relating to management and resourcing; the care of its unique collections and what the service offers to its entire range of users.

We are thrilled to be one of the first accredited archive services. The application was a true team effort, with all areas of the service inputting information required from the Accreditation Panel. It is a great accolade, and a national recognition of the service that the team provides at The Hive, from managing and conserving the archive collections, making them available to our customers on site and taking them out to school and community groups.



Being accredited is particularly gratifying given the recent move to The Hive and reflects well on our new home and new service. This was specifically mentioned in the feedback that we received, with the panel noting that '*...the speed of service transformation in recent years and how the opportunities presented by The Hive have been grasped to bring benefits across the service... They welcomed the clear service-wide recognition of access limited by a large cataloguing backlog, and the investment of appropriate resource to open up collections. The Panel were interested in the innovative approach of The Hive ... [and] suggested there would be value in reviewing the approach to learn lessons ... and to identify where further development would be possible or desirable.*' The panel were also very keen to recognise the strong customer focus and how WAAS strives to understand and meet customer requirements, something that the team are justifiably proud of.

Lisa Snook

News from the City

After a long gap, development is restarting at the former Royal Worcester Porcelain site. Current work is focusing on the north-eastern corner of the site, towards Sidbury. A fourth programme of evaluation (following earlier trenching in 2005 and 2013) has found further remains of the Victorian St Peter's church, including an unexpected concentration of 20th-century concrete foundations as well as evidence of vault clearance in the 1960s.

A desk-based assessment of a former garage site in Barbourne Rd has confirmed the location of one of Worcester's former execution sites. A combination of map research and trawling through newspaper archives has pinpointed the site and suggested that the bodies of those executed were buried on site. The gallows seems to have been in existence by the mid-16th century and was removed by 1726. It has often been assumed that Worcester's 17th-century Catholic martyrs were executed at Red Hill, but it is perhaps more likely that they were executed here. The martyrs in question are Blessed Edward Oldcorne (executed in 1606 along with Ralph Ashley, a tenant farmer named Perkes, Humphrey Littleton and John Wintour, for their part in the Gunpowder Plot) and St John Wall (executed in 1679 and buried at St Oswald's). Newspaper reports in 1859 and 1871 recorded the finding of large numbers of human bones during the construction of a brewery here (later Spreckley's), while further finds were made as recently as 1958 when the brewery was demolished.

Worcester City Football Club have recently left the St George's Lane ground they occupied for over 100 years. The buildings were all recorded in detail before demolition, and an archaeological evaluation then took place. Much of the site had been damaged by later construction and landscaping, while archaeological remains in the northern part of the site are deeply buried as the natural ground surface dips down to the Barbourne Brook. However there was an area in the middle of the site, below the former pitch, where remains were well preserved. As well as Iron Age and Roman finds, there were features and finds relating to medieval ironworking. The evaluation went on to a full excavation which uncovered extensive remains of this industry, and evidence for tile-making as well, though unfortunately none of the bloomery furnaces or kilns.

Two buildings have recently been identified as early car showrooms from the 1920s. 36 Foregate Street is one of Worcester's best Art Deco buildings, and is well preserved although converted as insurance offices in the 1930s. 46-48 Barbourne Rd is less well preserved, having lost a storey. In both cases the original layout can be reconstructed using the contemporary plans held at Worcestershire Archives, and in digital form at the Worcester City Historic Environment Record.

Other buildings which have been recently recorded before alterations include an 18th-century warehouse at the rear of 29 Broad St (almost the last surviving building on the historic street of Dolday), and the early 19th-century lock keeper's cottage and barn at Diglis Basin.

James Dinn

Edward Oldcorne and others

From the *ODNB* and *Wikipedia* we learn that Edward Oldcorne, after whom the Catholic secondary school in Worcester is named, was born in York in 1561 to a Protestant bricklayer and Catholic mother. A school friend of Guy Fawkes, he became a Jesuit in 1588, and from about

1590 lived at Hindlip House, seat of the Catholic Habington family, subsequently working mostly in Worcestershire. A popular preacher, he was said to have ‘founded and governed nearly all the domestic churches in those parts’. Littleton, who had sought to save his own life by informing the privy council that Oldcorne was at Hindlip, publicly asked pardon of God for having wrongfully accused him of the conspiracy. Oldcorne and Ralph Ashley were amongst 136 martyrs for their faith beatified by Pope Pius XI on 15 December 1929.



Coins from the city – some new (old) finds from Worcester newspapers, 1820-1950

In 1969 Maurice Fendall, then curator of numismatics at the Worcester City Museum, published a sylloge of coins from Worcester in the Society’s *Transactions*.¹ Listing some 75 hoard and single finds of Iron Age to Medieval date, drawn largely from the museum’s collection and selected antiquarian sources, the Sylloge continues to provide a crucial foundation for applied numismatic studies of the city, well complemented by a growing number of discoveries from recent excavations. Nonetheless, reassessment of the corpus reveals several omissions, including a significant assemblage of Roman coins from Britannia Square recorded by his predecessor, F.S. Salisbury, and a modest number of discoveries reported intermittently over previous centuries in county newspapers and journals.² The potential of these latter sources is now beginning to be realised in the numismatic literature, a process greatly assisted by the meticulous archiving and digitisation of old newspapers over the last four decades.³

Through assessment of microfiche copies of local newspapers held at The Hive, it has been possible to ‘rediscover’ at least 44 coins, jettons and tokens found in the city throughout the 19th and early 20th centuries otherwise omitted from the Sylloge. To these have been added additional coins described in other archival sources, including two Roman coins recorded by Doharty on his 1741 city plan (Figure 1).



As might be expected of the source material, the quality of the records varies quite significantly; many lack basic details of material, quantity, issuer or denomination, although conversely some are described well enough to permit an attribution to types described in standard numismatic catalogues. The resulting additional finds are listed in Table 1.⁴

The finds from Worcester newspapers provide a modest but useful addendum to the Sylloge, extending the corpus in size and chronological coverage. While their interpretation must await future detailed study, three patterns are nonetheless evident in the data. First is the dominance of Roman coins, a trend which must reflect an antiquarian preoccupation with the city’s Roman past at least as much as it does their ubiquity as archaeological finds. Second is the importance of building work in the formation of the early archaeological record, some 86% of discoveries being made by such means – most often while digging foundations – with a concentration of discoveries in the 1850s reflecting a wave of Victorian ‘urban improvements’. Finally, the data underlines the critical importance of 19th-century learned groups, particularly the Worcestershire Natural History Society, in maintaining records of local discoveries; however, frequent side references to otherwise unknown finds provide a sobering reminder of the ‘considerable number’ of discoveries for which we have no record.

Find no	Year of discovery	Location	Circumstances of discovery	Summary description	References
1	c.1741	SO 850 549	Unknown	AE sestertius of Claudius (RIC I Claudius 96, 41-50 AD) and AR denarius of Marcus Aurelius (?RIC III Marcus Aurelius 259, 171-2 AD)	J Doharty, 1741, <i>A plan of the city of Worcester</i>
2	Pre-1833	SO 8488 5497	Unknown	'Some' coins of Constantine I (306-37 AD) and Licinius I (308-24 AD)	<i>Worcester Herald</i> , 9 November 1833, p 3
3	1842	SO 8528 5433	Building work	AR 1/2 stuiver of Holland (KM26/27, 1614-28 AD)	<i>Berrows Worcester Journal</i> , 5 January 1843, p 4
4	1842	SO 8551 5420	Building work	'Some small coin' (halfpenny/farthing?) of George III (1760-1820 AD)	<i>Berrows Worcester Journal</i> , 17 February 1842, p 3
5	1855	SO 8497 5476	Building work	Several ancient English' and Roman coins, AE trade token (W Worcs 133-5, 1660-6 AD), AE halfpenny of George II (1729-54 AD) and an indeterminate token (1832 AD)	<i>Berrows Worcester Journal</i> , 9 June 1855, p 8
6	1856	SO 8533 5487	Garden landscaping	AE sestertius of Faustina the Younger (RIC III Marcus Aurelius 1699; 176-80 AD)	<i>Berrows Worcester Journal</i> , 12 April 1856, p 3
7	1856	SO 8497 5476	Building work	AE as/dupondius of Vespasian (69-79 AD), AR penny of Edward I-III (1279-1377 AD), 'some' AE English, Irish and Continental coins and an AE trade token (D&H Middlesex 945-6, 1761-1820 AD)	<i>Berrows Worcester Journal</i> , 12 January 1856, p 5
8	1857	SO 842 564	Building work	'Various' indeterminate Roman coins	<i>Berrows Worcester Journal</i> , 1 August 1857, p 5
9	1857	SO 8502 5488	Building work	'Another' indeterminate Roman coin	<i>Worcester Herald</i> , 3 October 1857, p 2
10	1857	SO 8461 5487	Building work	AR ?sixpence of Charles I (1625-49 AD)	<i>Berrows Worcester Journal</i> , 19 September 1857, p 8
11	1857	SO 8497 5476	Building work	AE as of Domitian (rev. MONETA AVGVSTI / S C, 85-96 AD)	<i>Worcester Herald</i> , 23 September 1857, p 4
12	1857	SO 848 550	Building work	AE as of Antoninus Pius (RIC III Antoninus Pius 732, 143-4 AD) and AE as/dupondius of Faustina the Younger (RIC III Antoninus Pius 1383a-c/1405a-c, 145-61 AD)	<i>Berrows Worcester Journal</i> , 23 May 1857, p 3
13	1857	SO 8410 5652	Building work	AE nummus of Licinius I (308-24 AD), two AE halfpennies of William III (1695-1701 AD) and one indeterminate English farthing	<i>Berrows Worcester Journal</i> , 23 May 1857, p 3
14	1860	SO 849 537	Building work	AR denarius of Faustina I (RIC III Antoninus Pius 362, 141 AD)	<i>Worcestershire Chronicle</i> , 20 June 1860, p 2
15	1862	SO 8497 5459	Building work	An indeterminate AE Roman coin, Nuremberg jetton and an AE trade token (D&H Worcestershire 33, 1788 AD)	<i>Berrows Worcester Journal</i> , 23 August 1862, p 5
16	1862	SO 8496 5522	Building work	'Several' indeterminate Roman coins	<i>Worcestershire Chronicle</i> , 6 August 1862, p 2
17	1862	SO 858 552	Building work	'Several' indeterminate Roman coins	<i>Worcestershire Chronicle</i> , 6 August 1862, p 2
18	1890	SO 8502 5498	Building work	Indeterminate coin of Vespasian (69-79 AD) and other ?Roman coins	<i>Worcestershire Chronicle</i> , 19 April 1890, p3
19	1901	SO 8518 5578	Building work	AR denarius of Trajan (98-117 AD)	<i>Worcestershire Chronicle</i> , Saturday 19 October 1901, p 6
20	Pre-1902	SO 854 559	Garden landscaping	'Some' coins of the period of Constantine I (306-37 AD)	<i>Worcestershire Chronicle</i> , Saturday 4 January 1902, p 8
21	1902	SO 8493 5479	Building work	Several Roman and ?later coins, including AE nummus of Crispus (317-26 AD)	<i>Worcestershire Chronicle</i> , 11 October 1902, p 6
21	1938	SO 8464 5596	Building work	'A number' of AU and AE coins of George II (1727-60 AD), George III (1760-1820 AD) and Victoria (1820-40 AD), and a medal of William Pitt	<i>Berrow's Worcester Journal</i> , Saturday 19 February 1938, p 9

Table 1: Coin finds from Worcester newspapers, 1820-1950.

M. Fendall, 'Sylloge of coins from the city of Worcester', *Transactions of the Worcestershire Archaeological Society* 3S, 2 (1969) 105-15

² F. Salisbury, 'Roman coins in the Worcester Museum', *Transactions of the Worcestershire Naturalists' Field Club* (1919) 124-40

³ For instance, C. Cessford & R. Newman, 'The Dolphin Inn hoard: re-examining the early nineteenth-century discovery of a mid-thirteenth-century hoard from Cambridge', *Archaeological Journal* 168 (2011) 272-84; C. Stephen Briggs, 'Numismatics from newsprint 1753-1884: some lost Yorkshire hoards exposed' *Yorkshire Numismatist* 4 (2012) 277-304; M. Allen & C. Stephen Briggs, 'The Bene't street, Cambridge, hoard of gold and silver coins of Elizabeth I, James I and Charles I' *British Numismatic Journal*. 83 (2013) 207-13.

⁴ Abbreviations used include: RIC = *Roman Imperial Coinage*; D&H = Dalton and Hamer, *The Provincial Token Coinage of the 18th Century*; KM = Krause and Mischler, *World Coins*; W = G. Williamson, *Trade tokens issued in the seventeenth century in England, Wales, and Ireland*.

Murray Andrews

Museums Worcestershire. Barbarians: The Age of Iron

If you visited the Museum and Art Gallery in Worcester between January and June this year you may have seen our Barbarians exhibition in the temporary exhibition gallery. Barbarians was sponsored, in part, by Worcestershire Archaeological Society and aimed to tell the story of the Iron Age in the Worcestershire area.

Birmingham Museums Trust was kind enough to lend us finds from Conderton Camp as well as some of the wonderfully evocative artefacts from the Thalassa Cruso Hencken excavations at Kemerton Camp in the 1930s, including human remains and weapons from the intriguing massacre layer that was found in the roadway leading up to the gate. These human remains have been re-assessed in recent months by Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service and Ossa Freelance. Their work has returned dates of 170-50BC and has confirmed earlier theories that this massacre was a single, pre-Roman event. The bones display a grizzly and shocking array of deadly injuries from slashed skulls to legs that were torn away at the hip.

The Ashmolean in Oxford lent us a swan head pin or brooch that was found during the construction of the lock at Holt in the nineteenth century. The pin seems such a small loan from such a prestigious institution but is one of Worcestershire's only early Iron Age artefacts.

The exhibition also enabled us to give talks, host family holiday workshops and work with school groups. The changes to the national curriculum have put the Iron Age back on the primary school curriculum and the exhibition has been a useful starting point for our education officers to think about how we can help teaching professionals explain the Iron Age to young children.

So, on behalf of Worcester City Museum and Art Gallery, we'd like to say thank you to the Society for their sponsorship and their support. It made a very real difference to what we could offer to the public.

Deborah Fox

Curator of Archaeology and Natural History, Museums Worcestershire

As noted in Garston Phillips' 'The Lost Artworks of a 19th-century Archaeologist' in the last edition (89) of the Recorder, some of H.H.Lines's works were on display during the Barbarians exhibition. This 'View of the British Camp and Herefordshire Beacon' by Lines is illustrated in

Poems and Paintings of the Malvern Hills, ed Jonathan Lumby (Logaston Press, 2014) £10, a delightful publication. It is shown here courtesy of Museums Worcestershire.



The Kay Trust Fund: Improving Access to the Society's resources

With the generous support of The Kay Trust Fund, work to improve access to the Society's valuable resources in its library and museum collections is well underway. In 2010 the Society received a substantial donation from the Fund in memory of Kathy and Margaret Kay, to be used towards the costs of a project or projects that would not otherwise be affordable and that would be of permanent value to the Society. A working group spent some time investigating the possibility of using this money as match funding for a grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund for a large-scale digitisation, conservation and access project. However, after taking advice from the HLF and others, it was felt that such an ambitious project was beyond the capacity of the Society at this point in time, and that those who would have had to prepare the bid were already fully committed on other work for the Society. Instead, with Ernie's Kay's agreement, we have concentrated our resources on three specific areas of the collection that have been identified as priorities and where the gift can support and make a major difference to each. These are:

1. Conservation, repair and display of the Habington chest.

This is one of the Society's most evocative possessions, given its place in the study of Worcestershire's history and its links to Thomas Habington (1560-1647), the county's earliest antiquary and the compiler of *A Survey of Worcestershire*, and to a later antiquary Dr Peter Prattinton.



It is an oak counter-boarded chest distinguished by an inscription 'T H' and the date 'MDCV' formed by small hand-made nails on the lid. Its history has been told by E. A. B. Barnard in our *Transactions* (New Series X for 1933, pp64-68) showing its provenance to be Hindlip Hall, the seat of the Habingtons. Its later history is equally interesting. In 1814, when the old mansion at Hindlip was being demolished, Lord Southwell gave the chest to the Bewdley antiquary, Dr Peter Prattinton (1771-1840), and on his death it was used to transfer many of the doctor's papers to the Society of Antiquaries' library in London. In 1934 Barnard was instrumental in bringing the chest back to Worcestershire and ever since then, although owned by this Society, it has been in the care of the Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum.

Understandably, time has taken its toll and it now requires treatment by a professional conservator. The first process will be fumigation to be followed by gentle removal of surface dirt. At some point in the 19th century the bottom boards rotted away so it now needs stabilization and a secure plinth on which to display it. The writers have been re-examining and recording the chest to see what its construction can still tell us. While the chest appears to have a secure date of 1605 – Habington was implicated in the Gunpowder Plot and his son and heir was born

in the same year – it is clear from the position of redundant key holes in the back that some of the boards have been re-used. Counter-boarded chests with multi-studded decoration like this are very difficult to date on stylistic grounds. Our own research collections help a little here: Harold Aston recorded a number of dated examples in his survey of church chests in the south Midlands so these will be examined to see how close they are to ours. We are encouraged by the discovery that the end boards of the Habington chest with tree rings visible appear to have considerable potential for non-invasive dendrochronology, which we are hoping to undertake in the next few weeks.

We believe that the process of revealing the story of the chest and its owners is well worth telling. It is also timely because there are plans for a Day School on Habington next year (see p21) to mark the acquisition by Worcestershire Archives & Archaeology Service of one of the original manuscripts of Habington's Survey, followed by the opportunity for Museums Worcestershire to put it back on public display.

2. Repair of books in the Society's library

Many of the Society's rarer books are in need of care, a fact which has made access difficult without endangering the volumes further. Over the last few months a professional bookbinder has been busy repairing the more significant items, ensuring that wherever possible we retain the original spine and boards. One of the strengths of the Society's book collection is not only local archaeology and antiquities but also its early emphasis on architectural history, a factor reflected in the Society's original role as the Worcester Diocesan Architectural Society. The condition of each book treated is closely examined and recorded before and after conservation. A by-product of this is that we are beginning to learn more about the early owners of some of the books. We have, for example, a fine copy of a work by the 17th-century politician and writer Sir Winston Churchill, *Divi Britannici, being a Remark upon the Lives of all the Kings of this Isle, from the year of the world 2855 unto the year of Grace 1660*. Our copy was owned by antiquary Richard Graves (1677-1729) of Mickleton in Gloucestershire. Described by Nash as 'a most curious Historian, Antiquary, and Medalist', Graves built up a collection of 500 ancient coins gathered in Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Worcestershire, and planned a history of the antiquities of Evesham.

3. Storage, conservation and eventual digitisation of the Parker-Hore collection.

A student volunteer, Grace Campbell, has been working on this collection over the past two years in her vacations, under guidance from Deborah Fox at the City Art Gallery & Museum. A professional paper conservator provided advice on the collection some time ago so that Grace has followed this up by examining the entire collection of 15,000 items, recording their state and how best to house them. Our first priority is to improve their storage and make the lists of what we hold publicly available. Eventually we would like to be able to digitize all our topographical prints, drawings and watercolours that provide such a rich resource for researchers.

The Society owes a great deal to Ernie Kay as trustee of the Kay Trust Fund for supporting this very valuable work.

Closely related to all this work, Peter Walker has been working on a database of the Society's books, digitising the card indexes produced by Barbara Ronchetti and successive librarians. He has completed the first draft and in the coming months we hope to make this available to members as an accessible resource.

Stephen Price & Peter Walker

CBA celebrates 70 years of British Archaeology

The origins of the CBA lie in the Congress of Archaeological Societies, founded in 1898. In 1943 archaeologists in Britain began to contemplate the enormous tasks and opportunities that would confront them at the end of the war. In London alone more than 50 acres lay in ruins, and many historic centres had suffered devastation. In response to a resolution from the Oxford Meeting of the Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies, Sir Alfred Clapham, then President of the Society of Antiquaries, called a meeting of the Congress, at which it was agreed to form a Council for British Archaeology to promote British archaeology in all its aspects.

The first meeting was held in March 1944. A key objective was the ‘safeguarding of all kinds of archaeological material and the strengthening of existing measures for the care of ancient and historic buildings, monuments, and antiquities’. One of the tasks inherited from the Congress of Archaeological Societies was the drawing up of a Survey and Policy for Field Research. To provide bibliographical backup, the first volume of its regular *Archaeological Bulletin*, now the online *British and Irish Archaeological Bibliography*, appeared in 1949, in which year it received official recognition as the body representative of British archaeological opinion and was granted annual government aid. The next year saw the launch of the CBA’s public finds recording campaign, promoted by Brian Hope-Taylor’s famous poster.



Brian Hope-Taylor's famous poster launching the CBA's 1950 public finds reporting campaign.



The Natural Sciences Panel was set up in 1945, and in the early 1950s six period-based Research Committees, spanning the whole of Britain’s past from the Palaeolithic to the post-medieval period. In 1959 the CBA set up the first Industrial Archaeology Committee in the world, and five years later the Nautical Archaeology Committee, later the Society for Nautical Archaeology. Further specialist committees were established throughout the 1960s to 1980s. In 1965, the CBA’s response to the Buchanan report ‘Traffic in Towns’, which was ‘appalled by the magnitude of the emergency that is coming upon us’, introduced the concept of historic urban areas that is still in use today.

More recently the CBA has adopted ‘Archaeology for All’ as its focus, to increase opportunities for participation and learning through archaeology and the care of the historic environment. In this anniversary year, it has launched its ‘Archaeology Matters’ campaign to help it meet the challenges ahead for archaeology:

‘Our campaigning role is just as vital now as when we were founded in the 1940s, with arguably more threats to our archaeological heritage from the pressure of development and effects of severe funding cutbacks on archaeology services in local authorities, teaching and practice in the UK. Archaeology matters just as much to us today and the CBA works closely with archaeology organisations, professionals, academics, students and young people and local societies to speak

up for our archaeology with decision makers and give everyone opportunities to participate in archaeology here in the UK.

In 2015, our core funding from the British Academy stops and we will be reliant on membership and charitable income. We have recently launched an appeal to grow our membership to ensure we have the stable foundation we need to continue to resource our vital campaigning and advocacy work, projects and programmes. By adding your voice to ours we can help to give future generations the opportunity for a lifetime of involvement in archaeology.

Please join us today. If you are already a member, you can upgrade your CBA membership to become a Friend a Lifetime Member or an Ambassador, or introduce someone new. Find out more at www.archaeologymatters.org.uk.

Beatrice de Cardi

The first Director of the CBA, Beatrice de Cardi celebrated her 100th birthday in June hosted by the Society of Antiquaries. The CBA's headquarters in York has been renamed Beatrice De Cardi House, and this year's Beatrice de Cardi lecture on 10 November, by Professor Graeme Barker, will be 'Do we measure up to Beatrice? A British archaeologist abroad'.

Home Front Legacy Project, 2014-18 (taken from www.homefrontlegacy.org.uk)

The CBA is working with English Heritage and other partners to help local communities identify and map the remains of the First World War in Britain, from drill halls to factories to training camps. It plans to offer community training in partnership with CBA West Midlands so that local people can help to document and preserve our stories, and vulnerable remains.

An online toolkit enables everyone to record sites, structures and buildings. This local knowledge is presented on a UK-wide map. The data is also submitted to the UK's national and local archaeological records to inform planning decisions and help to safeguard First World War remains.

Military historian and CBA President, Dan Snow is keen for everyone to get involved:

'There's still so much out there. Volunteers using the recording toolkit are mapping the remains of the First World War all over the UK. People are going out in the field to find forgotten camps and practice trenches, searching local archives to discover that a local factory was turned over to munitions manufacture or that local buildings were used as drill halls, hospitals or prisoner of war camps. The physical legacy of 100 years ago is all around us and it's up to us to pass that knowledge on to our descendants.'

What remains in Britain?

Although First World War action did not take place here, preparations transformed our economy, society and landscape. The extensive site identification and recording that took place through the CBA's Defence of Britain project a decade ago highlighted a substantial physical legacy on British soil. Remains include buildings temporarily requisitioned for the war effort through the Home Front, so the project encourages communities to update and extend this knowledge, preserve it and create a map of sites and projects.

What evidence are we looking for?

Along with a description and photographs of the site, we want people to send in documents, maps, plans, historic photographs and postcards, as well as details of people and events associated with

military and Home Front sites and buildings. The project will also identify sites associated with ‘events’, such as air crashes, bombings, naval raids and strikes.

The project seeks to:

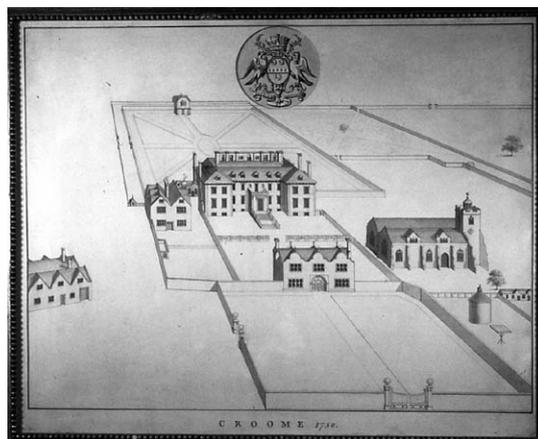
- identify new sites and update local and national records relating to the First World War
- publish recording data from community projects in local HERs and SMRs and the NMR
- increase community engagement with Britain’s First World War archaeology
- raise awareness of national and local records and archives and services relating to archaeology and the historic environment
- promote good practice in data exchange and liaison between community groups and HER services
- raise the profile of archaeology with wider audiences
- show decision makers, through public involvement in the project, that archaeology matters

SWAG Geophysical Survey at Croome

The South Worcestershire Archaeological Group (SWAG) geophysics team has been undertaking work at Croome with the National Trust.

There are a number of mid-18th century plans and drawings of the park. These show interesting features that were lost during the landscaping of the park by Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown. Bird’s-eye view drawings show a gatehouse on what is now the North Lawn, as well as the medieval church of St James the Apostle situated close to the Court.

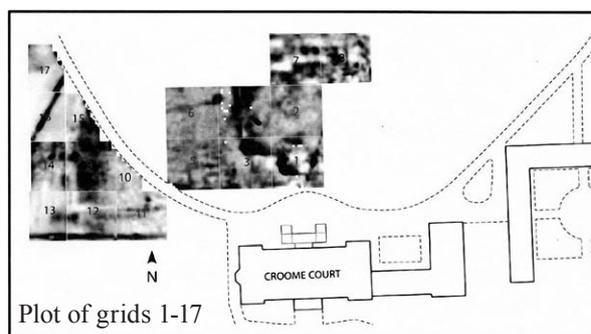
Drawing of Croome prior to landscaping in the mid-18th century (looking south)
Reproduced courtesy of the Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service



The team has been undertaking a resistance survey to try to determine if there is any sub-surface evidence of the demolished structures.

Between July and December 2013, resistance measurements were carried out in eight grids on the North Lawn, and between May and June of 2014 a further nine grids were completed north-west of the Court. The resultant plot shows high resistance features (e.g. masonry) as dark areas, whilst low resistance features (e.g. ditches or moist ground) show up as lighter areas.

The high resistance features in grids 7 and 8 may be associated with the northern gatehouse. The large area of high resistance in grid 9 has been interpreted as demolition rubble from the church. Because the ground was originally very wet, a system of culverts was engineered during the landscaping of the park. These drain into the Croome River. Visible at the southern edges of grids 11, 12 and 13 is a linear high



resistance feature running east-west. This is consistent with the position of one of the main culverts draining into the river. The position of a second culvert running through grids 16 and 17 is visible as a depression in the aerial photograph below. The outlet in the riverbank is visible from the far side of the river.

Lynda Evans

Huddington Court Geophysical Survey 2013

Huddington Court is a picturesque moated house in Worcestershire with a history dating from the late 15th century. Its architectural and documentary history was set out by Stephen Price and Nicholas Molyneux in our *Transactions* for 2012 (Third Series, vol 23, 2012). Dendrochronology has shown that the main range dates from 1493 with substantial later phases of modernisation in 1594 and in the first half of the 17th century. The writers concluded that ‘what survives today represents only about one third of the buildings which once occupied the moated site as late as 1697. Over the next hundred years or so the other major buildings, including the gatehouse and hall, were removed.’ In July 2013 the opportunity arose for the Society to collaborate with the South Worcestershire Archaeological Group (SWAG), whose members are experienced in carrying out such work, to investigate the site further with a non-invasive resistivity survey. The purpose was to find and identify any evidence of the now missing wings of the medieval house.

Survey

Four plots surrounding the house both inside and outside the moated platform were surveyed. They were chosen because of their proximity to the house and being level areas of sufficient size to enable the survey to be accurate.

Plot 1 was to the north of the house within the moated site;

Plot 2 was to the south of the house within the moated site;

Plot 3 was to the east of the house outside the moated area and to the north of the church with the drive as the northern boundary;

Plot 4 was to the north east of the house outside the moated area north of the drive on a site formerly used as a tennis court.

Methodology

Grids of 20 metres by 20 metres were set up on three of the plots with a 30 metre by 20 metre grid on the fourth plot. These grids were subdivided by tapes to produce lines which enabled readings to be taken at 1 metre intervals thus producing a plot comprising 1 metre squares. The mobile probes were inserted into the ground in each of these squares which provided an electronic reading. These readings were automatically imputed into the machine and downloaded using the software provided with the machine.



Undertaking survey work in Plot 2 on the south side of the Court.

Results

Plot 1. A distinct area with well-defined edges was noted on the southern edge of the survey plot nearest the house and in line with the house. This area had a curve away from the house. There was another area on the west of the plot adjacent to present outbuildings. There were no other anomalies in this plot.

Plot 2. An anomaly was noted in the northwest corner of this grid which is consistent with 20th-century building works to produce a patio area.

Plot 3. No anomalies were seen.

Plot 4. No anomalies were seen.

Discussion

Plot 1 was the only grid which produced any discernible evidence of previous buildings. It is speculated that the edges found in plot 1 might be the position of a northern wing of the house since demolished. The position and angulation of the anomaly is consistent with this interpretation.

The ranging rods mark the line of the anomaly noted in Plot 1. It is suggested that this may be the east side of another range of buildings running towards the camera at right angles to the surviving wing.

The aims of the project were in part met by locating the likely position of a lost range of building at the Court. Only further investigation, such as a trench or other electronic survey work, can provide proof.



Acknowledgements: The Edmondson family welcomed us to investigate the site and provided warm hospitality. Thanks are due to members of South Worcestershire Archaeological Group in particular Richard Axe, Lynda Evans, Helen Kircup, Paul Richardson. Bob Ruffle and Stephen Price of Worcestershire Archaeological Society facilitated the event.

Our thanks are also due to English Heritage (licence case No: SL00054860 Monument no: 31194 (10148546) under Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (as amended) section 42) for permission to carry out a geophysical survey.

W M Ellison B.A.

Chairman, South Worcestershire Archaeological Society

The Droitwich to Worcester Turnpike Tercentenary, 2014

On 1 June members of the Droitwich History & Archaeology Society, the Milestone Society and the Civic Society celebrated the tercentenary of the Droitwich to Worcester Turnpike.

The upkeep of medieval roads was the responsibility of landowners, until Tudor legislation gave the task to the parish, every householder having to contribute, from 1563, six days' work each year. This arrangement worked for local roads, but not for the principal highways used by long-distance travellers and waggoners. Many roads were impassable for three months of the year. In 1621/2 a parliamentary bill proposing tolls on part of the Great North Road was defeated, and

it was some 40 before the first turnpike trust was formed, in 1663, to improve the road between Wadesmill, Herts, and Stilton, Hunts. The toll-gate at Wadesmill was the first effective toll-gate in England.

These were not the first tolls, however. As early as 1279, although chapter 9 of King John's charter of 1201 ordained that 'Jews be quit of all customs and tolls ... as our own chattels', 'the bailiffs and good men of Huntingdon' were granted pontage for three years of '1d for every Jew crossing the bridge on horseback, ½d if on foot'. Similarly, in 1285 Jews had to pay tolls to cross the Severn at Montford Bridge, near Shrewsbury.

About 150 turnpike trusts were established by 1750, a further 400 by 1772, and in 1800 there were over 700, each formed by act of parliament. In 1825 about 1,000 trusts controlled 18,000 miles of road in England and Wales, the majority of roads continuing to be maintained by the parishes, the turnpike system only ever administering a fifth of the roads in Britain.

Toll gates proved unpopular and inefficient. There were, for example, turnpike riots in Ledbury in 1734 and Bosbury in 1735. A century before the notorious Rebecca Riots in Mid Wales, the Ledbury rioters were 'dressed in Women's Apparel, with High-crown'd Hats, and their faces blacken'd'. Two prisoners had to be transferred to Worcester for trial; such was the tumult, 'near 100 soldiers with bayonets fixed to the end of their muskets attended the execution'. Toll gates came to be regarded as an impediment to free trade. Unable to compete with the railways, most turnpike trusts were wound up during the 1860s and 1870s, due in part to maladministration. However they provided the framework of today's main road system, and many milestones and tollhouses have survived.

Milestones were initially installed on a voluntary basis, but later acts included provision for them to be erected, and they became compulsory in 1767. For the four generations of Worcestershire milestones see the late Terry Keegan's article in *Recorder* 66 (autumn 2002) pp16-17 and *Finding Worcestershire Milestones* (Milestone Society, 2007) 32 pp, £3.50. Rules of the road, such as driving on the left and not damaging the road surface, were also introduced.

In this county, Worcester was refused a turnpike act in 1705, and Droitwich, with its salt industry involving heavy loads of incoming coal and outgoing salt, was the first of 37 turnpike trusts to operate. Its first Turnpike Act, passed in 1714, applied to the six miles from Droitwich to Worcester. Over 40 trustees were appointed, headed by Sir John Pakington, all of whom invested money in the trust, receiving 6% interest on the loans. Whilst many had a vested interest in improved roads, most took no active part in administration. A quorum of nine was required to make executive decisions.

The Act allowed for the appointment of a surveyor, the erection of toll gates or bars and the collection of tolls. It laid down a very simple list of charges:

- 1s for a coach or wagon,
- 6d for a cartload of hay,
- 1d for a horse, mule or ass and
- 10d per score for pigs or sheep.

There were exemptions for loads going to market, passage of farming implements and harvest, loads of road-making material, and soldiers on the move. Refusal to pay incurred a fine of 5s or confiscation of stock or goods to that value. Loads in excess of 30 cwt incurred a fine of 40s. Anyone transporting salt had to produce a permit.

As the need arose to increase mileage, alter charges, appoint more trustees, etc, as elsewhere Droitwich had further turnpike acts, in 1714, 1725, 1749, 1755, 1767, 1793, 1803, 1824, 1859 and 1877 when the roads were deturpiked. The original six-mile stretch was increased in stages; by 1793 it extended north to the Spadesbourne Bridge in Bromsgrove; east through Hanbury to the Bradley Brook (where it met the Alcester Trust with a side road from Hanbury through Stoke Prior to meet the Bromsgrove road at 'The Hanbury Turn'); south to Barbourne in Worcester; and west to Holt Fleet where there was a ferry before the bridge was built in 1838, with a side road through Claines to the Worcester road; and to Low Hill in Hartlebury Parish with a branch to Mustow Green, where the Kidderminster Trust road crossed and a Stourbridge Trust road went on north. In 1824 the Trust was split into four divisions: Bromsgrove and Worcester included the main road, now the A38, and Droitwich town roads; Hanbury and Stoke the roads to the east; Ombersley had the Ombersley road, the branch through Claines being deturpiked in the same Act; Hampden Lane included the Low Hill and Mustow Green roads.

Mrs Berkeley, in whose memory the Berkeley lecture is held, noted in 'The Old Toll-Gates of Worcestershire', *Transactions* NS 15 (1938) 55-66, that in 1714 the parish surveyor 'could take any chalk, gravel, sand, or stones within the parish, or from the common, for the mending of the roads'; also that in 1776 a gatekeeper was 'allowed 3d a week towards finding him with candles'. There were, she tells us, seven gates between Presteigne and Hay, some 11 miles, each demanding 9d. 'Taken as a whole the gate-keepers seem to have been of a curious type, often surly and crafty and generally suspected of getting all they could out of the traveller'; Mrs Berkeley gives an colourful account of one such who even locked the gate against George III, on his way to visit Bishop Hurd at Hartlebury.

Expensive Lawyers !

It is an accepted fact that the leading international law firms in London and other financial centres charge very large fees compared with their country cousins in the small towns of Worcestershire. However this has not always been so, as I discovered when researching the Inclosure of lands in my own village of Wick, or to give the full title 'the Hamlet or Chapelry of Wick, juxta Pershore with Wike Burnel and Wyke Waryn all in the Parish of Saint Andrew in Pershore'. The full record of the dealings of the Inclosure Commissioners, including full details of all monies received and paid out, are contained in a bound Minute Book held in the Worcester Archives. Whilst my main area of research was into the field systems and field names of the parish my natural instinct, as one long versed in accountancy, was to analyse these entries and to put together an Income and Expenditure Account.

The Commissioners raised funds to cover the costs of process of Inclosure by making a levy on those owners of land or rights attached to land except for those entitled to payments of tithe. A further levy was made specifically to cover road charges. It is assumed, but not confirmed, that the levy was based upon a valuation of each person's ownership of land and rights. The total receipts of the levies imposed but the Commissioners was £3590, of which over £2500 was paid for by the Hudson family who were claiming Lordship of the Manors of Wick, Wike Burnel and Wyke Waryn in competition with The Dean and Chapter of the Collegiate Church of St Peter, in Westminster. The whole process of Inclosure was controlled by the Clerk to the Commissioners, who in this instance was a firm of lawyers from Upton upon Severn called Long & Beale with the help of a Land Surveyor, one Henry Clarke of Shipston-on-Stour in the County of Worcester. The Commissioners were paid 5 guineas a day for their work, most of which took place at The Angel Inn, Pershore, where no doubt they were well looked after. Apart from the cost of making new roads, £300 paid to Richard Hudson, the only other major cost was for fencing. The total expenditure of the Commissioners was as follows.

	£
Surveyor and Road Costs	1020
Commissioners Fees	733
Fencing Costs	338
Clerk to Commissioners – Fees	1344
Expenses	149
Sundries	6

To be able to fully assess the quantum of this expenditure in current day terms there are three methods of comparison. The straightforward use of the Retail Price Index will give an indication of the purchasing power of the sums involved, whilst using the Labour Cost Index will take out the marked disparity of professional fees compared to basic wages in 1807. Finally, there is the economic cost equivalent which compares the total cost of a project to a percentage of the national Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at the time. Using data from the website www.measuringworth.co.uk/compare, the comparisons for the lawyers’ fees and the total cost are as follows:

	Total Cost	Lawyers’ Fees
Actual in 1807	3,590	1,344
Purchasing Power (RPI)	249,317	93,366
Labour Cost	2,999,778	1,123,379
Economic Cost (GDP)	13,682,499	5,123,925

Whichever way these figures are viewed, the amount received for part time work spread over a year looks to have been in the colloquial phrase ‘a good little earner’. The economic cost comparison raises the thought that the present-day larger landowners of Wick are very unlikely to invest over £13 million into a scheme of which the end product is only new roads and fences, unless they stood to gain substantially in the amount of land that they controlled.

Garth Raymer

Recent Publications

Noble Household Management and Spiritual Discipline in Fifteenth-century Worcestershire Worcestershire Historical Society New Series Vol 24. Comprising ‘A Household Account of Edward, Duke of York, at Hanley Castle, 1409-10’ ed James P. Toomey, and ‘The Visitation Court Book of Hartlebury, 1401-1598’ ed Robert N. Swanson & David Guyatt

This latest publication from the Worcestershire Historical Society, the County’s record publishing society, brings together two texts that throw fascinating light on life in the county in the fifteenth century. The hard-back volume is produced to very high standards, so that it is a pleasure to hold and read, combining succinct but telling introductions to each text with clearly edited translations/calendars of the original texts produced to sound and clear principles. These editions put before the reader all they need to understand and interpret the sources.

The household account adds to the existing corpus of such published accounts, enabling us to see how far they support the conclusions developed in the work of such scholars as Prof Chris Dyer (e.g. in his ‘Standards of Living in the Later Middle Ages’) and Chris Woolgar about how such households were run and what standards of living were like. The nobleman had an extensive organisation to run his household, with foodstuffs and other items both purchased from a variety of markets and also produced by his own desmesne. He had to cater for a potentially large

number of dependants, guests and others. Dr Toomey suggests the average number of people catered for in the period of this document was 91, with the largest attendances on Sundays and feast days. The diet provided was clearly not that of the average person in this period, but it was also closely controlled by religious dietary regulations, requiring much fish to be served on the days of traditional abstinence from meat. This fish was both salted and fresh (from both sea and river). Thus on 1 November 1409 there is recorded the purchase of chub, roach and eels, with fresh herrings the following day. Staff were despatched to a number of markets to get provisions, including Worcester, Upton, Ledbury and Tewkesbury.

The accounts also cover details of transport, in particular the major relocation of the duke and his household from Cardiff Castle to Hanley, the heavy luggage going by river but the duchess travelling by land (a journey requiring three overnight stops) and the duke coming from a parliament at Bristol. Interestingly the 'chariot' that carried the duchess was later used for transporting loads of fish, going as far as Fotheringhay and London to get salt fish and herrings.

The local reader will be particularly interested in the light these accounts throw on Hanley, its castle and the neighbourhood. At this date the castle was a popular and well-used residence of the lords of Hanley, latterly (and just as these accounts start) the Despencer family. A number of rooms and workshops are mentioned, which enable one to hypothesise the sort of layout the castle might have had, nothing now remaining above ground (but see also Dr Toomey's earlier volume for the WHS on the records of Hanley Castle, where he transcribes the inquisition post mortem of 1416 with its description of the castle). There is much of intense interest in this first text to aid the researcher in a number of fields.

The second text takes us into the unfamiliar (to many) world of church courts. I have to admit a bias here as I am currently working on the Consistory Court papers of the bishop of Worcester for the eighteenth century, and the types of case dealt with at Hartlebury in the fifteenth century are very familiar from the staple of the court in the eighteenth. Hartlebury was a 'peculiar' of the rector and hence cases could be heard locally rather than going to the bishop's court. The cases involve both moral discipline of the populace and also tithe, testamentary and marriage matters. The publication of this volume is a timely way to bring this important but often overlooked source of evidence to greater prominence. Discipline was administered largely through the process of visitation, where presentments were made in response to visitation articles and decisions reached by a jury. Sanctions were mainly penance, purgation and excommunication. The 'crimes' were largely moral – fornication, adultery, defamation and so on – but also related to attendance at church and upkeep of its fabric. Wherever one reads in this text there are telling individual examples which throw light on life as it was lived in Hartlebury. For instance in 1408 Thomas Stone is found guilty of fornication with Elizabeth, a fellow servant. He is sentenced to a 'three-fold beating round the churchyard on three Sundays' – but he is allowed to pay a fine instead. At the same court, in an apparent case of witchcraft, one Agnes Kynvar was accused of poisoning a child in the womb. However, she was able to bring eight people as character witnesses to support her denial. Another feature of Consistory Court proceedings, as common in this fifteenth-century example as in the later papers, is the unwillingness of some people to comply with the proceedings against them, hence a number of entries where people are excommunicated for contumacy (i.e. not complying with a decree) or do not turn up when summoned.

This text will be invaluable for historians of Hartlebury for the light it throws on local families, the local church and the running of the parish. More widely, social historians will find the evidence for social and moral mores at the time of great value, and, at the level of church history, the editor

examines what this text tells us of relations between the central diocesan authorities and this 'peculiar' jurisdiction of the rector.

This is a volume that can be very highly recommended.

Robin Whittaker

Copies are available from: Robin Whittaker, 14 Scobell Close, Pershore WR10 1QJ (robin.whittaker@btinternet.com) for £28.00 plus £3.50 p. & p.

***The Unremembered Inn* Max Harris**, due out before Christmas; £14.95, available from Brewin Books of Studley, Warwickshire, <http://brewinbooks.com>

The Unremembered Inn traces the social history of a building situated in the High Street of the riverside town of Upton-upon-Severn. It follows the lives of people associated with the property from the early 16th century to the start of the 20th century. The book draws on evidence from title deeds, probate records, numerous cases in the Courts of Chancery and Common Law, newspaper and other records to re-live the lives of these individuals.

For the first 150 years the building was a small country inn, although by the end of the 17th century a 'sales shop' had been established in the premises. There then followed a long succession of merchants and shopkeepers, some of whom succeeded in their business whilst others faltered and sank into debt. Insolvency and bankruptcy were very familiar to many of these people, who regularly resorted to the courts of law to resolve their predicaments.

The book is illustrated with maps, plans, genealogical tables, and drawings by a well-known Malvern artist. It also includes transcriptions of several 16th- and 17th-century wills and inventories.

Dates for your Diary

Worcestershire Archive & Archaeology Service: Archaeology Day School 2014

Saturday 15 November 9.45am to 5.00pm at the University of Worcester

Tickets £20: includes tea/coffee & biscuits on arrival, mid-morning and mid-afternoon.

For information, 01905 766352 or explorethepast@worcestershire.gov.uk

This year the Day School is sponsored by Worcestershire Archaeological Society.

Lectures include:

Fascinating Finds 2014

The Archaeology of Devil's Spiteful

Iron Age Horse Bridles

Redditch Buildings

3D Modelling of Droitwich

Flooding and the Historic Environment

Archaeology of the Worcester Porcelain Industry

Worcestershire Great War Exhibition in The Hive

An exhibition is currently being held in The Hive on levels 1, 2 and 3, part of the Worcestershire World War One Hundred programme, which is one of the largest in the country and funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and Voices of War and Peace, First World War Engagement Centre. Displays include photographs and documents based on three main themes – Gender and Home Front, Childhood, and Cities at War – commemorating how the war affected the lives of people

across Worcestershire. It is hoped the exhibition will inspire local people to come forward with their own letters, diaries, photographs and stories.

The exhibition, which opened on 4 August, will run until the end of the year, following which it will be toured around the county over the next four years. For more information on the programme visit: www.ww1worcestershire.co.uk/

**25 Oct to 7 Feb 2015 World War One: In the Words of Worcestershire People
Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum**

The exhibition includes letters, diaries, poems and personal mementos to shed a very personal insight into the emotional highs and lows of the war.

The Hive also offers a range of **workshops** to help you discover more about our collections and help you with your research:

Mon 3 November Explore Maps

It is said that all good adventures begin with a map! Join us for a workshop on maps, finding out about the different types we hold, the information they reveal and how to search for and use them here in The Hive. 10am-3pm (45 min break), £12

Mon 10 November WWI in the Archives

How can you research soldiers in the archives? What information is held here about Worcestershire during the Great War? With the centenary of the World War One starting we'll highlight what you can discover within our collections. 10am-12:30pm, £8

Tues 11 November 'Have we forgotten the horrors of war?'

Join speakers at The Hive for a Question Time-style debate with the Royal Society of Arts, part of the Worcestershire World War 100 programme. 6pm

Wed 26 November Explore Archives: Parish Records

Find out about love and death and more recorded in the parish records, one of the key sources for family and local history, detailing people's lives. 10am-12:30pm, £8

Thurs 27 November Behind the Scenes Tour

What happens behind the scenes of Worcestershire Archive & Archaeology Service? See our conservator in action, handle archaeological artefacts found in the county, and see documents such as Shakespeare's marriage bond and a letter written on the Titanic. 2-3:30pm, £5

Saturday 18 April 2015 Worcestershire Historical Society Day School

The Worcestershire Historical Society is teaming up with the University of Worcester and the Worcestershire Archive and Archaeology Service to arrange a day school. The topic will be the life and works of Thomas Habington (1560-1647), the earliest Worcestershire historian, who was also a Roman Catholic. The speakers will address both his antiquarian and historical work and the topic of Roman Catholicism in the seventeenth century. It is planned to have on display a manuscript of his *Survey of Worcestershire* (now in the collections of the Worcestershire Archive & Archaeology Service). Our Curator, Stephen Price, plans to talk about the Habington chest, owned by this Society and currently about to have restoration work done on it. (see p9)

The Day School will take place on Saturday 18 April 2015 at The Hive in Worcester. More detailed information will be available nearer the event, but do make a note of the date in your diary now.

Robin Whittaker

Chairman, Worcestershire Historical Society

Four types of archaeologists

Thanks to Janet Dunleavy for spotting Alan Crosby's humorous take on a Victorian cynic's summing up of his local society's membership (*Local History News* 111, Spring 2014, 33-4).

There were, he said, four types of archaeologists:

the archaeologists proper, the serious ones who wanted to learn and investigate;

the harkaeologists, those who came to listen to lectures;

the larkaeologists, who were involved for the fun of things and generally had a good time;

and the sharkaeologists, whose main concern was to enjoy the excellent luncheons. In that group Janet places those WAS members who enjoy the excellent excursions!

Alan Crosby reassuringly 'condemn[s] them not, for every society needs all of them'.

WAS Excursions

Such was the success of this year's programme, there was a waiting list for the majority of the excursions. The average number of participants was 30. Photographs of the places we have visited can be seen on the Society's website.

The Excursions sub-committee is discussing the vexed question of private cars versus coach travel. Many members have said they prefer coach trips, but coach hire is expensive and results in our having to charge about £30 per head, whereas when people travel by their own cars it is around half this. Muriel Tinsley would welcome members' views on this: tel 01905 616434 or email excursionsadministrator@worcestershirearchaeologicalsociety.org.uk

WAS 2013-14 Lecture Programme

Last year's lecture series witnessed the highest ever average attendance: 76 compared with 68 the previous season. This was in part explained by the exceptionally high number of visitors at two of the lectures: Della Hooke and Robin Jackson each attracted 107 people.

WAS 2014-15 Lecture Programme

2014

This season's lecture programme opened on 22 September when Stephen Price and Dr Stuart Davies gave a remarkable double act on 'New Light on an Old Town: Recent discoveries in Bewdley', Stephen covering the architectural and Stuart the historical aspects. A substantial programme of dendrochronology has recently revealed a notable concentration of timber-framed halls and terraces behind Bewdley's Georgian and other facades, dated to the 1460s. A compelling argument was put forward that this building activity followed destruction by the Lancastrians during the Wars of the Roses, Bewdley being a former Mortimer manor, by then in the hands of Richard Duke of York. It is significant that Richard's son, Edward IV, granted a borough charter in 1472, no doubt in recognition of the townsmen's service.

13 October 'Shakespeare's homes: the legacy of his birth and death in Stratford' Nicholas Molyneux

William Shakespeare was born in the small provincial town of Stratford (in the Diocese of Worcester) in 1564 and returned there in later life after his illustrious career in London. This talk will explore the legacy of his residence there, focusing on his birthplace and the house where he died, New Place. They each have much to say about the development of the town and his social position within it.

3 November **‘The Pershore Hoards and Votive Deposition in the Iron Age’**
Derek Hurst (WAAS) and **Ian Leins** (British Museum)

In 1993 a large hoard of Iron Age coins was discovered by metal-detecting at Pershore, and its prompt reporting enabled an archaeological response to be rapidly mobilised. This recovered a second hoard of the same date, and established the presence of a large, previously unknown, Iron Age/Roman settlement. The finds of gold and silver from the site were declared to be Treasure Trove in May 1994, and subsequently purchased by the British Museum, where they were promptly put on display.

The site raises many issues of interpretation, as well as questions about how to respond to such discoveries when they first happen. The results of the follow-up fieldwork and specialist study of the finds have, however, now finally been published in full in the *Proceedings of the Prehistoric Society*. Finally, it is possible for an informed debate to take place, and for the find to now publicly assume its rightful place as one of the most significant Worcestershire archaeological discoveries of recent years.

24 November **‘Worcester Royal Infirmary’**
Professor Jonathan Reinarz

Professor of the History of Medicine, University of Birmingham

This talk will summarise the history of Worcester Infirmary from its establishment in 1746 until the early 20th century. While tracing the gradual expansion of the institution, as well as the notable staff, the talk will focus on placing the story of the infirmary in the context of hospital development nationally. Was Worcester typical, innovative, unusual in the way the hospital and its services evolved?

15 December **‘The extraordinary accounts of Joyce Jeffreys of Ham Castle, 1638-48’**
Dr Judith Spicksley, University of York

Joyce Jeffreys was born at Ham Castle in the later 16th century. Her household and business accounts, which survive for the period 1638-48, provide a wonderfully rich source for her life and times. This talk will look at her early life at Ham Castle, the importance of account keeping for girls, her development into a moneylender, and the interests and activities of an elderly gentlewoman in the mid 17th century. Professor Chris Dyer has compared Joyce Jeffreys with Pepys, ‘whose personal writings tell us so much about the society and economy of that period’.

2015

12 January **‘Chamber Pots in Context: Pottery in Early Modern Worcester Houses’**
Dr Bob Ruffle

Pottery is often treated by archaeologists merely as a dating tool, or as evidence for trade, cultural contact or industrial innovation. But it was also a part of the living material culture of the household, along with other ‘stuff’, such as textiles, metal and wooden objects, which do not so readily survive to end up in the archaeologist’s finds tray. This lecture tries to place the kinds of pots around in late 17th and early 18th century Worcester in the houses of which they formed part, by using evidence both from archaeological excavation and from the probate inventories of Worcester citizens.

2 February **‘The History of the Worcester & Birmingham Canal’**
Ian Hunter

2015 sees the 200th anniversary of the opening of the Worcester & Birmingham Canal. This talk

by WAS member Ian Hunter, past Chairman of the Worcester, Birmingham & Droitwich Canals Society, will consider:-

- the canal in the context of the inland waterway network.
- why it was built.
- the lengthy process to obtain parliamentary approval.
- the even lengthier and at times controversial period of construction.
- the influence of the canal on trade and industry.
- the decline of the canal.

2 March **AGM, followed by Report on visit to Orkney and Shetland**

Ernie Kay and colleagues will talk about and illustrate the exhausting but enjoyable archaeological tour of Orkney and Shetland that many members of WAS joined last August. This tour, part of Brightwaters programme, was specially tailored to what we wanted to see and included the major Neolithic excavations at the Ness of Brodgar as well as visits to the many heritage sites and unspoilt towns of the northern isles. The rich landscapes and brilliant light were also much enjoyed. Our guide Clive Warsop, an environmental archaeologist from Edinburgh University, was tireless in ensuring that we saw as much as possible and in looking after the party.

One satisfied group member expressed gratitude for ‘the excellent, comprehensive and informative journey ... overwhelmed by all there was to see and take in, and think we covered a tremendous lot in those few days ... I learnt a lot ... an unforgettable experience’. Sadly, John Harcup was unable to go; we all wish him a speedy recovery.

23 March **‘Prehistoric Worcestershire’**

Dr Jodie Lewis University of Worcester

This talk will consider the prehistoric archaeology of Worcestershire, providing an overview from the Palaeolithic to the Iron Age. Special attention will be paid to Neolithic and Bronze Age sites and finds, including excavations undertaken by the speaker at Bredon henge in the Avon Valley. The prehistoric landscape of the wider region will also be discussed and the significance of Worcestershire considered.

13 April **Berkeley Lecture: ‘A Community in the “companie of heven”: the fifteenth-century “donor” figures at Great Malvern Priory’**

Dr Heather Gilderdale Scott

The glazing scheme installed during the extensive reconstruction of Great Malvern a Priory over the course of the fifteenth century is exceptional: both in the extent of its survival (it is the most completely surviving stained glass cycle of its period) and also in the richness of its early records. One striking feature made clear as a result is the proliferation of so-called ‘donor’ figures in the glass, originally lining the foot of almost every one of the church’s windows, encompassing the monks who spent their lives cloistered at the priory, local lay families, leading aristocrats of the realm and even kings of England (both Henry VII and the future Richard III were depicted); collectively, it seems, representing close to 100 individuals. This paper examines the nature of this community in glass: who was included, why they might have been represented, and what this suggests about piety, religion and lay-clerical relations in late medieval England.

Items for the next issue should be sent to the Editor,
email recorder@worcestershirearchaeologicalsociety.co.uk by **1 March 2015**.

