

# Worcestershire Recorder

Spring 2003, Edition 68

ISSN 1474-2691

Newsletter of the  
**WORCESTERSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY**  
Charity No 517092



Free to Members  
Membership Secretary Tel: 01684 565190

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### **A Warm Welcome to new Members**

Mr J H Evans, Worcester  
 Dr P Hall, Upton upon Severn  
 C M Harris, Worcester

The Society is saddened to learn, just before going to press, of the death of David Davies who will have been known to many members.

### **Cover Illustration:**

Dr Peter Prattinton (left) with his draughtsman and manservant, John Instan, showing him a drawing of a church. His favourite cat is under the table. (Courtesy: Society of Antiquaries)

## **Chairman's Letter**

By the time you read this Chairman's letter, my term of office will be over and I shall be handing over the reins to my successor. I should like to thank you all for your support and contribution to the work and activities of the Society, and also for the friendship that has been generated. This is indeed a friendly society.

Organising a Society like ours, with its many differing activities, is no easy task, and your Committee has worked hard to keep things going. I would like to think that we have made some improvements, though that is for others to judge. But we do have one real, long-term problem that yet remains unsolved, and that is to find more people able and willing to take on the work of organising the various sections. During my three years of office there has been much new blood, with a new Treasurer, Secretary, Membership Secretary and Archaeology Advisor. However we still need a Publicity Officer and Excursions Officer – two opportunities for someone to take up! This is your society so please help to make it work.

The role of Chairman has its compensations and I should like to take this opportunity to thank all the officers and indeed all members for their efforts and contribution to our work. In particular I should like to record the Society's thanks to Tim Moelwyn-Hughes, who took on the Membership Secretaryship soon after I became Chairman but has recently returned to live in South Africa, and Janet Dunleavy, who has kindly stepped into the breach to act as both Secretary and Membership Secretary. The Society has been running for 150 years and, although our individual names will be cast into oblivion, we trust that it will continue long into the distant future.

## **Brian Ferris**

**Editor's Note:** It is regretted that at least one member was offended by the Chairman's letter in the spring edition. This was very clearly his personal letter and did not reflect the views of the Society. However we expect members will agree that we must preserve our historic environment. The Committee of the Worcestershire Archaeological Society is not responsible for any statements or opinions expressed in the *Recorder*, the authors of the contributions alone being responsible for the same.

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## **Treasurer's Note**

The Society has continued to benefit from the arrangement of tax repayments from the Gift Aid Scheme and I would again ask all taxpayers to ensure they tick that election on the membership form. You may be assured it is confidential and costs nothing.

The scheme is being further widened. From April 2004 people who complete Self-Assessment Tax returns will be able to nominate a charity to receive all or part of a repayment due to them. A list of participating charities will be published from which donors can choose. This new scheme will have real advantages in that the donation will be paid direct into the charity's bank, the form will include a gift aid declaration, the donation will be paid without being claimed by the charity and such gifts will for the first time benefit from anonymous donations. Members completing tax returns for assessment by the Inland Revenue need take no action.

## **John Holliday**

## Member Questionnaire

The Committee would like to thank the many members who responded to the recent questionnaire. There was a 50% response rate, which is exceptional. Also excellent is the fact that 95% of the responses were positive. The many constructive comments made will be carefully considered by the Committee elected at the AGM. In summary:

- 60% have 3 or more prime interests. The following were cited as particular interests:
- 75% *Transactions*
- 64% lectures
- 59% *Recorder* and
- 54% excursions

Only 12% expressed an interest in the Library but overall 80% requested further information on this. The evident gap will be addressed in the new year.

On the question of new membership some helpful observations were made, including evening and Saturday meetings, suggested by some 15 members. If evening meetings are to be considered we must be certain of your support.

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## News from the County

### Medieval Kilns at 9-10 The Tything, Worcester

Two medieval kilns were found last autumn beneath the former Kays office in the Tything, Worcester. The discovery was made during an evaluation by Worcestershire Archaeological Service on behalf of Neil Grinnall Homes Ltd who are currently redeveloping the site (and retaining the neo-Georgian facade).

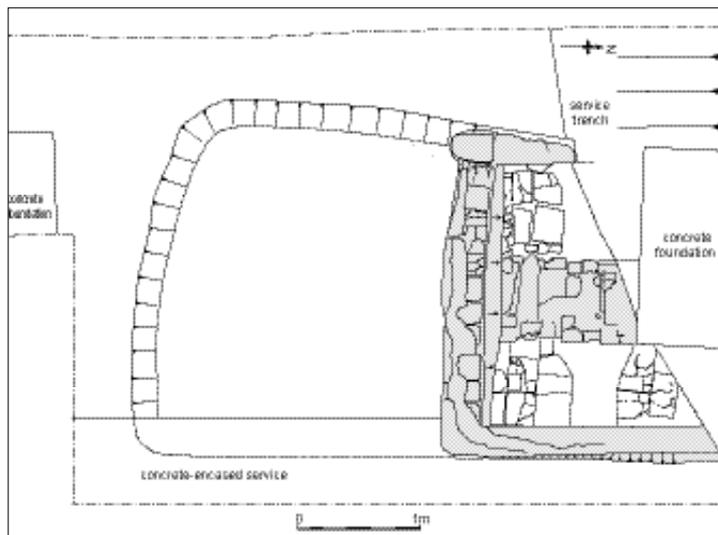
Previous research had suggested that remains of medieval industry might be found. The Tything and Foregate Street formed one of the suburbs of the medieval town and such places often contained industries that were not tolerated inside the walls. The discovery of the kilns exceeded all expectations however, especially as they were well preserved, readily dateable and associated with a range of artefacts and features.



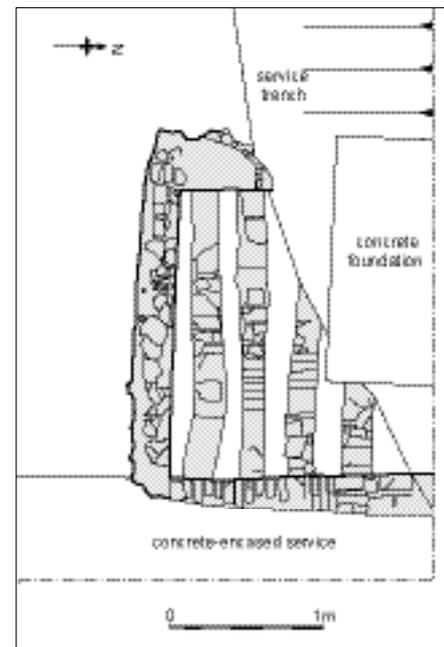
*General view of superimposed kilns*

The kilns were neatly superimposed, and built of the same flat roof tiles they seem to have produced, although several bricks were also used in their construction. The northern third of both kilns had been removed by a modern concrete foundation, but the rest survived in excellent condition and measured around 3.0m x 2.5m x 1m.

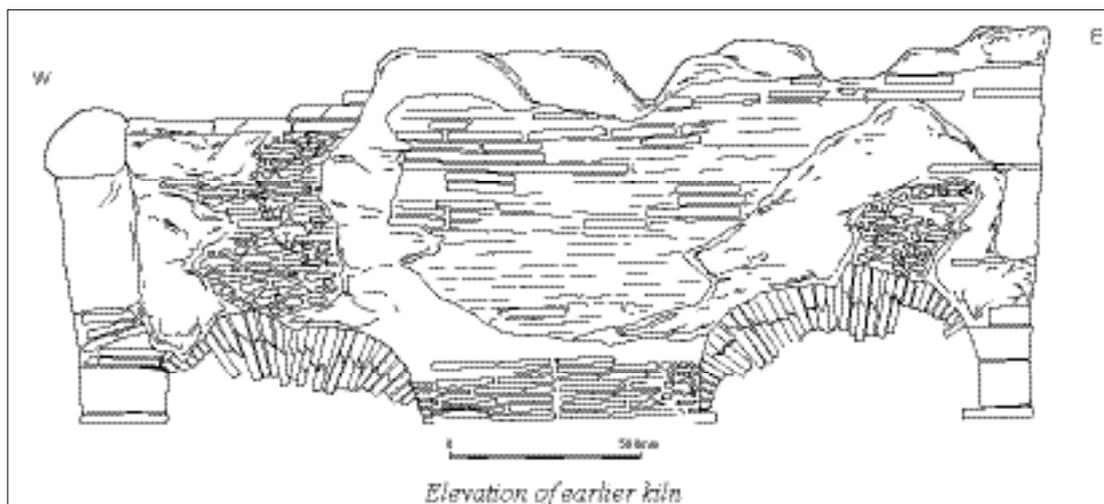
The earlier kiln lay at the north end of a large stoke-pit, where wood was burned and the heat channelled through two arches into the interior. The external face had been repaired several times, most frequently with unfired clay. From the evidence of the later kiln, it seems that the original structure contained several internal walls on which the clay blanks of tiles were stacked. In terms of its date, the earlier kiln was built over a pit containing 15<sup>th</sup>-century pottery, while a good set of archaeomagnetic dates placed the last firing of the kiln between 1450 and 1470.



*Plan of earlier kiln*



*Plan of later kiln*



*Elevation of earlier kiln*

The later kiln seems to have replaced the original structure more or less immediately. At all events, it occupied almost exactly the same footprint, and re-used elements of the original structure. But whereas the earlier kiln had been fired from a stoke-pit to the south, it seems

that the later kiln was fired from a stoke-pit to the north, as the new south wall completely blocked the arches of its predecessor. Several internal walls survived, each consisting of arches that sprang from the walls onto a central foundation (in fact, the earlier foundation re-used). As with the earlier, the later kiln was repaired several times, latterly in brick. Another set of archaeomagnetic dates placed the last firing of the later kiln between 1445 and 1480. Shortly afterwards, it was slighted, with its upper courses being pushed into the interior.

Other evidence of medieval tilemaking was recovered during the evaluation. The most significant feature was a rectangular pit filled with dumps of 15<sup>th</sup>-century tiles. The pit was similar to the stoke-pit of the earlier kiln, and may represent a third kiln immediately adjacent. There was also a slight structure made of stacked tiles and bricks, and a number of gravel pits backfilled with tile debris. In contrast, there was no evidence for contemporary or earlier settlement, apart from a narrow range of 12<sup>th</sup>- to 14<sup>th</sup>-century pottery. Taken together, the evidence suggests that the area was undeveloped before the mid 15<sup>th</sup> century, and then given over to tile manufacture on a large scale for several generations.

This period of tile manufacture seems to have been followed by two centuries of relative inactivity. An extensive layer of dark soil containing 16<sup>th</sup>- to 18<sup>th</sup>-century artefacts suggests that the site was open ground during this period, and used only occasionally for horticulture and rubbish disposal. This layer was cut by the foundations of 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-century buildings which gradually covered the site during this period.

The results of the evaluation have significant implications for various aspects of medieval archaeology in Worcester. In the first place, the accurate dating of the kilns and their products places the study of Worcester's building materials on a much firmer footing. It will soon be possible to compare closely-dated tiles and bricks with material from other excavations and standing buildings, and to use these comparisons to investigate patterns of production, distribution and use. For example, it may be significant that roof tiles were the main product of the kilns around the time that citizens were being ordered to use roof tiles in place of thatch (Stenton quotes an ordinance of 1467; the original is in the County Record Office). Comparisons with other tiles from Worcester might confirm this apparent association and show that the tiliary was responding to popular demand. Certainly the roof tiles produced by the kilns had the same sandy fabrics as tiles found in medieval contexts across Worcester, notably at Deansway and Friar Street. However, about 17 floor tiles were also present on the site, suggesting smaller-scale production for wealthier customers. Most of the floor tiles were plain, although some were glazed yellow or green, and a few had geometric and foliage designs similar to tiles found in local churches, and at another tiliary in Silver Street, Lowesmoor.

Secondly, the presence of a tiliary in the Tything for much of the 15<sup>th</sup> century may have implications for the character of the late medieval suburb. On the one hand, the tiliary could be seen as a thriving local industry in a generally unfavourable economic climate. On the other hand, given the pollution caused by tilemaking, it might reflect a decline in standards to the point where such industries could be established and maintained. On balance, and viewed alongside contemporary references to taverns, brothels and suspicious immigrants, the evidence suggests that the Tything may have been something like a slum by the 15<sup>th</sup> century, as it certainly was two centuries later, although the impact of the Civil Wars may have contributed to this situation.

Finally, the lack of evidence for earlier medieval settlement may also be significant, as it undermines a suggestion that the suburb was laid out in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. Until more evidence becomes available, it is equally likely that the suburb was a later development, or that development within a 12<sup>th</sup>-century framework was uneven in later centuries.

## **Darren Miller**

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## **News from Worcestershire Record Office**

### ***Record Office Accessions***

The following are some of the more significant deposits at the Worcestershire Record Office in the period April-September 2003.

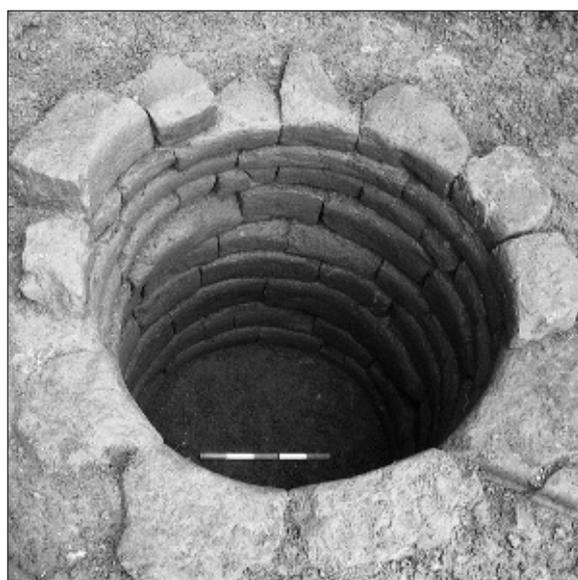
### **Accession**

- 13,767 Diary of George Martin of Belbroughton 1875-89 (with transcription).
- 13,769 Architect's drawings relating to building of All Saints, The Wyche, Malvern. 1902.
- 13,780 Minutes of the Technical Panel of the Worcester Civic Society, 1969-2003.
- 13,781 First World War diary of William Alcott.
- 13782 Papers re Knightwick and Doddenham Agricultural Society 1903-40 and papers relating to Rev. J.B.Wilson, late 19<sup>th</sup> cent.
- 13,801 Scrapbooks, letters and costume material relating to Vesta Tilley, the Music Hall artiste. These were purchased by the Record Office with the aid of a grant from the Victoria and Albert Museum. It is hoped an article on this collection will appear in a future 'Recorder'.
- 13,820 Files relating to the West Malvern Open Air School, 1914-1967.
- 13,823 Churchwardens' Accounts for Beoley, 1656-1788. These have been transferred to the WRO from the Birmingham Reference Library.
- 13,825 Sandys family material, Ombersley, including Civil War letters (scans available for public consultation) and account book and other papers of the Lloyd Charity, 18<sup>th</sup> cent. 13,828 Plans and correspondence concerning alterations to Wolverley church, 19<sup>th</sup> cent.

## **Robin Whittaker**

## News from the City

The Butts has been the scene of much archaeological activity over the last few months, with work at three adjacent sites. At 1 The Butts, a programme of work by Mike Napthan Archaeology included the recording of 19<sup>th</sup>- and 20<sup>th</sup>-century stables and other buildings before their demolition, and of part of the City Wall which will be retained behind new buildings. The next phase of work was an evaluation of the below ground archaeology. The medieval City Ditch was present as expected, separated by a 4m berm from the wall. In this narrow area were two Roman features, a ditch and a well. The well-built sandstone lining of the well was set in a large construction pit, and included worked stone, possibly from an earlier building. It may have been built in the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD; the upper fills of the well were excavated, producing a finds assemblage of the late 4<sup>th</sup> century. Building materials from the well fill included a fragment of a Cotswold stone column, *tesserae* and painted wall plaster, much of which had been burnt. A large pottery assemblage, glass vessel fragments and several coins were also present. The evidence suggests the presence of a substantial and high status building in the immediate area, which could have been destroyed by fire late in the Roman period.



*Roman well from the Butts. Courtesy: Mike Napthan Archaeology*

At 14/24 The Butts, extensive excavation by Birmingham Archaeology in advance of redevelopment recorded Roman ditches and pits, some of them apparently industrial, and a compacted stone surface, probably a road. Work continues at this site, and also at 8/12 The Butts (Mike Napthan Archaeology).

S of the city centre, evaluation by Oxford Archaeology of a site on both sides of Portland Street revealed evidence of activity of the late Saxon or medieval periods, and a dump of worked stone, probably medieval. This project also assessed the 19<sup>th</sup>-century buildings of Albion Mill.

A major refurbishment of the Crown Hotel in Broad Street is underway. A detailed record of the remaining historic structural elements has been made (Worcestershire Historic Environment and Archaeology Service). These include a medieval stone building at the Angel Street end of the site (first recognised in the 1970s and reported in *Medieval Worcester*) and part of a medieval stone undercroft at the Broad Street frontage. In between are remains of 16<sup>th</sup>- or 17<sup>th</sup>-century timber framing as well as a complex sequence of 18<sup>th</sup>- and 19<sup>th</sup>-century alterations.

Evaluations and watching briefs have also taken place in the city centre at College Street (the ‘Cathedral roundabout’), Sidbury, Cornmarket, Farrier Street, Sansome Street, Broad Street, Newport Street, New Street, High Street, and The Tything, and also at several locations in association with sewer relining. Many of these are ‘work in progress’ and will be reported on in future issues.

**James Dinn**

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### **Society of Antiquaries: Proposed Digitisation of Illustrations from the Prattinton Collection**

Dr. Prattinton

Peter Prattinton was born in Bewdley in 1776, the only son of William Prattinton, a member of a family long connected with the flourishing grocery trade which supplied local shops with goods imported through Bristol. He was educated at Oxford and became a Bachelor of Medicine in 1797; he was always known as Dr. Prattinton, but never entered medical practice. He used the wealth which he inherited to devote himself almost entirely to collecting material on Worcestershire history and antiquities, especially between 1810 and 1835. Every August he would leave Bewdley to visit churches in the county and transcribe property deeds in private possession. Returning in October, he would work on his notes making fair copies until February or March when he would go to Worcester, Oxford or London for long periods of research in public and private collections. He died a bachelor in 1840, and was buried in Ribbesford.

Dr. Prattinton’s collections

By his will of 1819, Prattinton gave to the Society of Antiquaries of London ‘all my collections for illustrating “Mr. Habington’s Survey of the County of Worcestershire”’. Prattinton was not a Fellow, but had spent much time in 1810 transcribing the collections of Thomas Habington (1560 – 1647) and other Worcestershire material which had been left to the Society by a former president, Rev. Charles Lyttelton. Prattinton was an avid collector of historical and contemporary items on the county, who never published anything himself.



*Bewdley Old Bridge from a drawing by Paul Sandby, 1778. Courtesy: Society of Antiquaries*

When Prattinton's collections were sent by cart from Bewdley to London in 1841, they filled one large oak chest and four other boxes. The manuscript material (now MS 520) comprises 75 volumes of notes, 5 large folio volumes of hundreds of pamphlets, printed notices and plans, 38 boxes of pamphlets, deeds and letters, 5 boxes of illustrations and 2 volumes of portraits. He also gave many printed books, museum objects, seal impressions and brass rubbings.

This extensive collection has been arranged by the Worcestershire historian, E.A.B. Barnard FSA and listed in his *The Prattinton Collection of Worcestershire History* (Evesham, 1931) and two additional typescript catalogues, compiled 1932 and 1951. A summary can be found in *Catalogue of manuscripts in the Society of Antiquaries of London* (2000). A few extracts from the church notes have been published in the *Transactions of the Worcestershire Archaeological Society*. An old and poor microfilm copy of the parish notes, illustrations and miscellaneous collections is in the Worcestershire Record Office (ref: 989.9:91 BA 10509).

Two current projects draw on Prattinton's work. 242 letters to him between 1810 – 1834 are being transcribed for publication by the Worcestershire Historical Society. These include correspondence from surveyors employed by the Ordnance Survey. The British Library is digitising the rare preliminary drawings for the first Ordnance Survey of the county for their *Collect Britain* website. Prattinton acquired these and kept them, whereas in other areas they were thrown away after the finished plans had been drawn.

#### Digitisation

In order to improve access to the collections and draw attention to some of the less well known material, the Society of Antiquaries is considering digitising about 2000 items and making the images freely available online via the internet. A selection would be made from the contemporary illustrations, portraits, printed ephemera and plans which provide an unusually detailed picture of the county in his lifetime. Many of Prattinton's illustrations are copies by the draughtsmen he employed, but in 1816 he was fortunate in being able to purchase several hundred original drawings by Thomas Rickards, a Worcestershire artist who had gone bankrupt. He drew mostly churches and their interiors; several have been much altered or even demolished since. A few are reproduced in volume 3 of the Worcestershire Victoria County History, as well as a number in a series of articles by E.A.B. Barnard in the 1930s, in the Society's *Transactions* NS vols 7, 9, 10, 11 and 12.

The printed ephemera is especially strong in material for Worcester and Bewdley, where Prattinton seems to have obtained notices in mint condition straight from local printers. For Worcester for example, there are programmes for the Three Choirs Meetings between 1785 and 1827 and election addresses 1802 – 1831. For Bewdley, there are playbills, exhibition and lecture notices c1775 – 1830, tradesmen's cards and advertisements and auction sale catalogues. A selection of engraved portraits and manuscript plans for different parts of the county would also be included.



*Detail from notice of Sale at Hoarstone Farm. Courtesy Society of Antiquaries*

### Appeal for support

The cost of such a project is estimated at about £50,000. This would include scanning, cataloguing, computer equipment, technical support and software, publicity, conservation and contingencies. An application to the Heritage Lottery Fund is being considered for a major contribution. However, digitisation projects alone, even with free provision of internet access, do not meet their current guidelines; a project needs wider objectives to introduce new users to heritage material through such means as publicity, exhibitions, talks and liaison with schools. Evidence of demand and local support is required and preferably partnership with other organisations.

The purpose of this article therefore is to ask those who would support such a project, and particularly local groups, to write to Joe Hillaby as local co-ordinator. Offers of practical voluntary help would be particularly welcomed and might include a willingness to help with local displays and talks or (for those with computer skills or local historical knowledge) to help with cataloguing. Any suggestions of other sources of financial assistance would also be useful. If the response shows sufficient interest, an attempt to raise the funds and an application by the Society of Antiquaries to the Heritage Lottery Fund would be made next year.

**Bernard Nurse**  
**Society of Antiquaries of London**

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### **Teme Valley Historical Society: Woodbury Hill**

Through the research and work of the Teme Valley Historical Society over the past three years, two interpretation boards have been erected on Woodbury Hill, Great Witley, to inform passers-by and the general public about events that took place on this site many years ago. One board explains that there existed an Iron Age hillfort on Woodbury Hill, one of at least nineteen in Worcestershire. The ramparts of the hillfort can be clearly seen near the board.

The second board commemorates the declaration on this site of the Woodbury Hill Clubmen's Charter on March 5<sup>th</sup> 1645 at the height of the Civil War. Some 1,000 'Clubmen', ordinary villagers and labourers from northwest Worcestershire, under the leadership of Charles Nott, parson of Shelsey, 'having long groaned ... and finding no redress of our grievances', drew up a Declaration to protest the 'utter ruin by the outrages and violence of the soldier; threatening to fire our houses; endeavouring to ravish our wives and daughters, and menacing our persons'. These were the first Clubmen in Worcestershire, 'enforced to associate ourselves in a mutual league for each other's defence'. Their eight aims included loyalty to the King, the Church of England and the 'ancient and just privileges of Parliament'.

The inauguration of the Woodbury Hill boards took place on 4 October 2003. Lord Sandys of Ombersley, whose forbears fought on both sides in the Civil War, inaugurating the Clubmen's Charter board and Malcolm Atkin of Worcestershire Archaeological Service, the Iron Age fort board. The event was also supported by English Heritage, Great Witley Parish Council and, not least, by Mr. David Banks, who owns Woodbury Hill.

For further information see C.D.Gilbert, 'The Worcestershire Clubmen of 1645' *Transactions* 3S 15 (1996) 211-18 or contact **David Blakeway Smith**, Chairman of the Teme Valley Historical Society, Tel 01 299 832 821.

## **All Party Parliamentary Archaeology Group: Report on the State of British Archaeology**

A selection of the Recommendations follows, using the paragraph numbering of the original report. For full report see [www.sal.org.uk/appag/report/Archaeology%20in%20the20Uk.pdf](http://www.sal.org.uk/appag/report/Archaeology%20in%20the20Uk.pdf)

### Government and National Agencies

27. There is a need for a single non-governmental organization to lobby for archaeology. The Council for British Archaeology, the Institute of Field Archaeology and the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (and possibly other umbrella organizations) should be encouraged to institute a review, under an independent chair, in order to clarify and redefine (or merge) their respective functions. The All-Party Parliamentary Archaeology Group stands ready to advise on this process.

### The Voluntary/Amateur Sector

42. In support of Article 3 of the Valletta Convention, the Government should ensure that a voluntary Code of Conduct is implemented to cover archaeological investigations, with appropriate resources being made available as necessary, and monitored to assess its effectiveness. Any Code of Conduct should enable developer-funded evaluations, excavations, watching briefs and other fieldwork to make provision for volunteers to take part without undermining the position of the professionals.

43. Closer links need to be formed between amateur societies, local authority archaeologists, English Heritage and contracting units. Analogous links need to be made in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The Council for British Archaeology, the Institute of Field Archaeology and the Institute of Historic Building Conservation should be encouraged to have a more active role in representing the interests of amateur groups. Ways of actively involving amateurs should be explored by all agencies, not just in excavation but in other forms of fieldwork and post-excavation, including recording buildings.

### Community Archaeology and Tourism

49. Consideration should be given to making the provision of information about archaeological developments to local communities a statutory obligation under the planning process and for the results to be published. The historic environment should be incorporated in Local Cultural Strategies.

50. There should be a greater role for local archaeologists to play in enhancing community projects. To this end EH should continue to play a lead role in appointing staff in each region to liaise and promote the historic environment, and local authorities should consider developing community archaeology officers.

### Museums, Archives and Collections

160. Every local authority should be given a statutory legal duty to provide an adequate public museum service to meet the reasonable needs of those whose residence or place of work is within the area of the authority, or who are undergoing full-time education within that area. The statutory duty should extend to contributing to the costs of maintaining those services whether provided by the authority or not. The partnership schemes that are being developed between national and regional museums need to be properly funded and placed on a more regular basis.

**Joe Hillaby**

## **The Bromsgrove Society. Local History Group Programme 2003-4**

- 18 November      Light and Colour: Bromsgrove's Stained Glass Windows and their Makers  
Roy Albutt
- 2 December        Elijah Walton Artist: Birmingham to Bromsgrove via the Alps and Egypt  
Pat Tansell
- 17 February        In Bromsgrove's Secret Hills: The History of Chadwich Manor  
George Gascoyne
- 16 March            Oppression and Revolt: Worcestershire's Experiences in the Civil War  
Malcolm Atkin

All meetings held at 7.45pm on Tuesday at the Methodist Centre, Stratford Rd, Bromsgrove. Members £1.50, non-members £2. All are welcome.

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## **Herefordshire and Worcestershire Earth Heritage Trust**

The work of the Trust is to record and protect Earth Heritage in the two counties. Important sites are identified and designated as Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites (RIGS). Ours is a particularly special area of the country as so many geological periods are represented. The story of geological time is written in our landscape from the ancient rocks in the Malvern Hills, nearly 700 million years old, to the recent glacial and river deposits in the Severn and Wye valleys. The Trust has produced a series of trail guides, leaflets and interpretation panels to explain and illustrate aspects of this geological story and present it in an interesting and understandable way to those who enjoy the countryside and would like to know a little more. The trail series includes Worcester cathedral, Worcester city, Great Malvern and Bewdley town centres, Broadway and surrounding area, Malvern, Abberley, Bredon, Clent and Lickey Hills and the Severn Valley railway.

The 12-page trail guides, £1.95 each, are available from retail outlets or the Trust at Geological Records Centre, University College Worcester, Henwick Grove, Worcester WR2 6AJ. Tel 01905 855184; email eht@worc.ac.uk.

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## **Old Parsonage, Kyre**

We fell in love with the early 14<sup>th</sup>-century Old Parsonage which we purchased in April 2001. We run our cabinet-making business from one of the disused 'modern' farm buildings, and have now entered a Countryside Stewardship Scheme to help look after the land and the traditional farm buildings on the site.

Old Parsonage (formerly The Old Rectory, Kyre Wyard)

The main building, of early 14<sup>th</sup>-century date according to VCH Vol IV, 281-2, is a base cruck construction of three bays, the four principal oak trusses measuring about 14" wide by 5"

thick. Old Parsonage was divided into two floors in the 17th century, with an addition at the south end, and a further, early 20<sup>th</sup>-century, extension also to the south.

Repair work has already started on the gable end by splicing in timbers where originals had perished under the 1970's pebbledash, rebuilding the stone plinth and removing the soft wood window to fit a new window with leaded lights to the first floor. A fourth bay may be indicated: carpenters marks on the timbers to the inner side of the gable; mortices cut on the outer cruck; and the apparent slight charring of the timber of the outer cruck, suggesting a fourth bay may have been destroyed in a fire; hence the detached kitchen. As part of the restoration plan, there will now be an archaeological dig to seek evidence for this theory, with dendrochronological dating to give a more accurate date to the property.



#### Detached Kitchen

The status of this building is subject to debate. I shall write of it in terms of a kitchen area, detached to protect the main house from the risk of fire, although another, more recent, view is that it is just a separate building for accommodation.

There are said to be four detached kitchens in the county, that adjacent to Old Parsonage being one of the two of timber construction. The building has most of its original timbers, chestnut roof timbers and bread oven intact although through time modern repair work has been carried out on the chimney and roof. Most of the lower brick walls have been carefully removed and cleaned due to instability and risk of injury. Our intentions are to restore the detached kitchen in a sympathetic manner: reinstate the missing timbers, windows and floor, rebuild the bread oven and chimney, re-thatch the roof and use it as a kitchen.

#### Historic Landscape

A small stream valley nestles beneath the farm, dammed in several places to create several pools, one of which has been maintained in good order. A small, stone rubble-built bridge at the head of another small pool may indicate this valley was part of the larger parkland at Kyre. Restoration of the bridge, in its pool and parkland setting is proposed under a Defra-funded Countryside Stewardship Scheme for the whole farm. Apart from land management, the Scheme supports the restoration of historic structures like the bridge, and traditional farm buildings like the tithe barn and detached kitchen.

Before any work starts the conservation officer and archaeological department have asked for the building to have an accurate survey, including above and below ground recording through a small archaeological excavation to see if there were traces of an earlier medieval building, along with dendro-dating the building.

#### Tithe Barn

The tithe barn, also mentioned in VCH, is in good order, most of the timbers and upper woven panels seemingly intact. We intend to lift the concrete which has been poured over the floors, and the stone plinth requires repairs in some areas. Dendro-dating by London University is being carried out in the near future. Our intentions are to restore this building by repairing the stone plinth, woven panels and reinstating the missing timbers, re-thatching the roof and reinstating the centre 'drive through'. We are against any conversion to holiday lets or other use.

#### Cobbled Yard and Cart pond

The cobbled yard has been covered over with concrete. This became obvious when some of the concrete deteriorated and cracked; we lifted some pieces and found cobbled gullies etc. The cart pond was filled, possibly in the 1960's, and will be reinstated along with the dry stonewalling.

#### **John & Nicki Beavan**

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#### **Churchyard Lichens**

Lichens are two 'plants' in one: a fungal partner usually forms the visible body of the lichen; within, protected by threads of fungus, cells of algae provide nutrition, utilising sunlight in the same way as green plants. Contrary to popular opinion, lichens do not 'feed' on the stone, bark or soil upon which they grow. Provided there is sufficient light and moisture, lichens are able to colonise surfaces mostly unsuitable for flowering plants. They grow very slowly, sometimes no more than half a millimetre a year, and many are long lived. The ancient stonework of churches and churchyards, when undisturbed and unpolluted by chemical sprays, provides a sanctuary for them. Due to differences in geology, stone surface and position the lichens on the shaded north side of a church are markedly different from those on its sunny south side.

In lowland England, where natural outcrops of rock are absent, the churchyard is the most important site for lichens growing on stone. Over 160 churchyards have each been found to contain more than 100 species, some of which seldom occur in any other habitat. In Britain 677 species have been found in churchyards, cemeteries and abbey and cathedral precincts.

The British Lichen Society is conducting a survey of ancient churchyard sites. It seeks to enlighten people about the beauty and fascination of lichen and to enlist their help with conservation. Ideally tombstones should remain in situ as some lichens are susceptible to the smallest of changes. Pesticides and vigorous scrubbing should be avoided; cleaning of tombstones etc is best achieved with a soft brush and water. If large-scale cleaning is required advice can be sought of a local lichenologist or the Society, which is also eager to carry out a survey before any large number of older gravestones has to be removed. The use of local limestones and sandstones for new headstones is encouraged. For further information visit the website at [www.theBLS.org.uk](http://www.theBLS.org.uk) or contact [bls@nhm.ac.uk](mailto:bls@nhm.ac.uk).

## A Box Of Delights (part 2)

In the last edition of the *Worcestershire Recorder*, pages from Mr. Moulding's notebook concerning his new waggon for use on his estate of Cockshott in Wichenford were featured.

The nature of such a notebook entails a diverse miscellany of entries. The vast majority of the other jottings arouses interest. Those following provide information about terminology and measures used in estate management in the first half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. This includes:

In an 'Acco't of the Timber Trees, Fruit Trees, Storers, Saplings [sic] & 'ca in the Sev'l Hedges of the Cockshott Estate' a header-note defines.....

- '**Runnells** i.e. Crop'd Oaks or pollards
- Storers** i.e. under 12 inches girt[h]
- Saplings** i.e. under 24 inches girt
- Timber** i.e. above 24 inches girt.'

The first page in the book contains information about land measures which vary from one county to another.

'**Hide / Plough Land / Carucate** (Gallica – Carruca – a plow [sic] ..... was as much as one plow could cultivate in a year – the Quantity was never determin'd – some call it 60, some 80, some 100 acres ——— 35H.3

the Yearly Value of a Hide of Land at Blockesdon [Bloxham] in Oxfordsh'r was £2 or forty Shill's. Harris Lex'n [Lexicon]

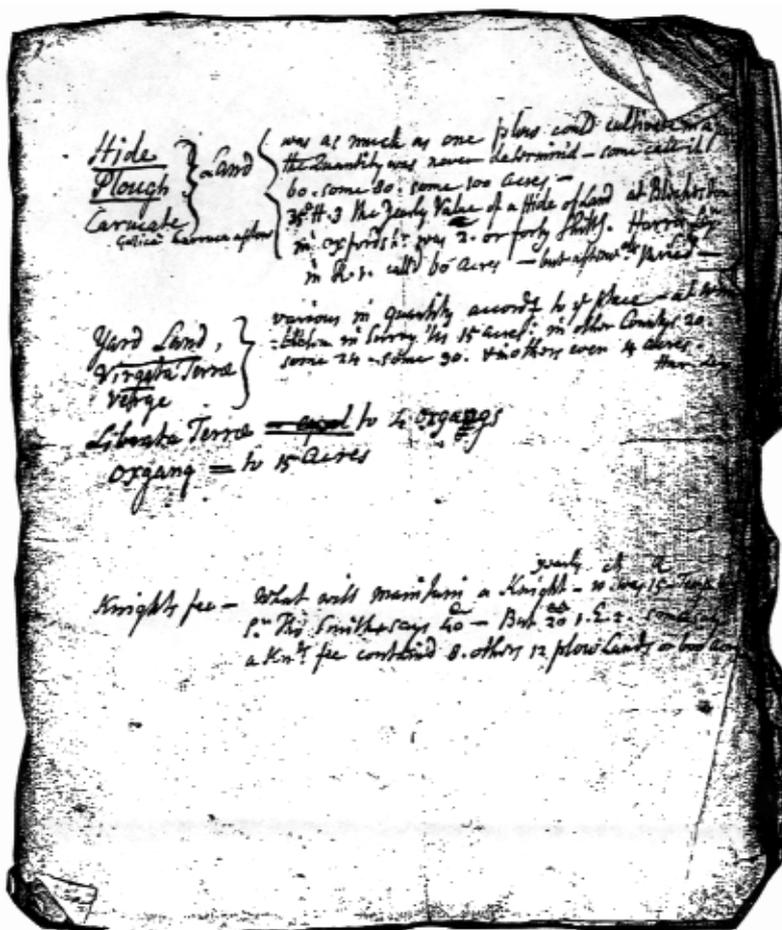
In R.1 [reign of Richard 1] call'd 60 acres – but afterwards varied.

**Yard Land / Virgate Terre / Virge** ..... various in quantity accord'g to ye place – at Wimbledon in Surry tis 15 acres : in other Countys 20. Some 24. Some 30. & in others even 4 acres. Har.Lex.

**Liberata Terrae** = to 4 oxgangs

**Oxgang** = to 15 acres

**Knights fee** — What will maintain a Knight yearly - w'ch was 15A[eres] – Temp. H'y[?]



S'r Tho's Smith says 40 Ac - But 20 Ac 1 E'z[?] some say a Kn'ts fee contain'd 8 . others [say] 12 plow Lands or 600 acres'

A note roughly scribbled on an otherwise blank page supplies the following definitions:  
 'a chain (Gunters) = 4 pole  
 or perch = 66 feet'

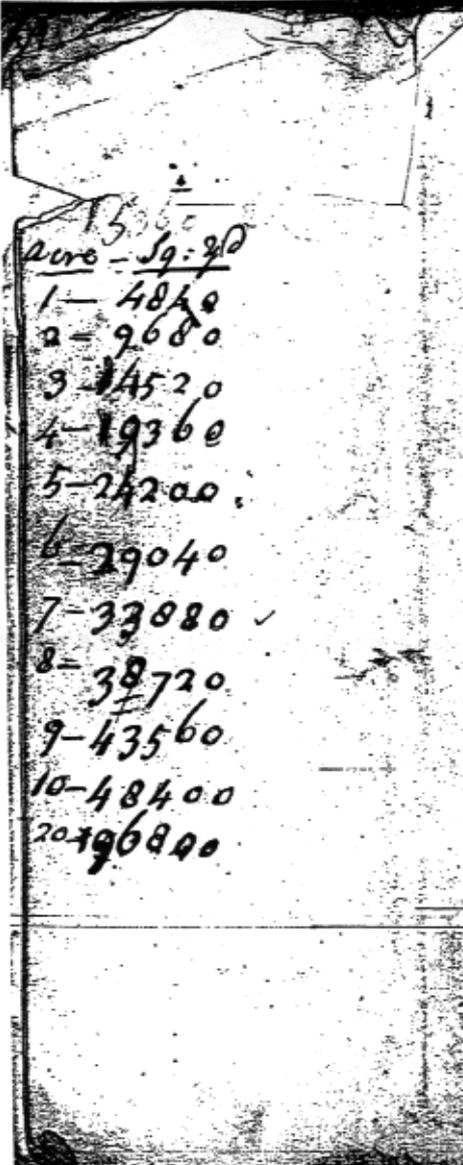
Finally, a measurement which brings us even closer to John Moulding:  
 '50 yards = to 90 Of my ord'y slow walking steps.'

Two of the pages are reproduced with this article. Further information may be requested from the writer r.leake@whsmith.co.uk or tel 01386 710382.

Roger B. Leake

Acres : square yards
Acres breadth : length
Perch/chain : acres

↓



Number of Rods	If will run square in Length
1	48400
2	24200
3	14520
4	12100
5	9680
6	8064
7	6912
8	6160
9	5616
10	5280
11	5084
12	4944
13	4860
14	4824
15	4794
16	4770
17	4752
18	4740
19	4734
20	4732
21	4736
22	4744
23	4756
24	4772
25	4792
26	4816
27	4844
28	4876
29	4912
30	4952
31	5000
32	5052
33	5108
34	5168
35	5232
36	5300
37	5372
38	5448
39	5528
40	5612
41	5700
42	5792
43	5888
44	5988
45	6092
46	6200
47	6312
48	6428
49	6548
50	6672

Table of Yard Measure in Acres - JM

↓

4840 sq yds = 10 acres  
 160 sq perch = 10 do  
 10 sq Chain = 10 do

Table of Perch Measure in Acres					
Perch	rod	feet	rod	feet	rod
10	16	0	28	5	11 3/4
11	14	9	29	5	8 1/2
12	13	5 1/2	30	5	5 1/2
13	12	5 1/2	31	5	2 3/4
14	11	7 1/2	32	5	0
15	10	11	33	4	14
16	10	0	34	4	11 3/4
17	9	6 1/2	35	4	9 1/2
18	8	11 1/2	36	4	7 1/2
19	8	6 1/2	37	4	5 1/2
20	8	0	38	4	3 1/2
21	7	10 1/2	39	4	1 1/2
22	7	6 1/2	40	4	0
23	6	11 1/2	41	3	14 3/4
24	6	11	42	3	13 1/2
25	6	6 1/2	43	3	11 3/4
26	6	2 1/2	44	3	10 1/2
27	5	15 1/2	45	3	9 1/2

Table of Chain Measure in Acres

Chain	rod	feet	rod	feet	rod
1	10				
2	5	33	33		
3	3	50			
4	2				
5	2	00			
6	1	66	66		
7	1	62	28		
8	1	27			
9	1	11	11		

↓

15 3/4  
 acre - 59: 3/4  
 1 - 4840  
 2 - 9680  
 3 - 14520  
 4 - 19360  
 5 - 24200  
 6 - 29040  
 7 - 33880  
 8 - 38720  
 9 - 43560  
 10 - 48400  
 20 - 96800

## Book Reviews

*Worcestershire Taxes in the 1520s: The Military Survey and Forced Loans of 1522-3 and the Lay Subsidy of 1524-7* ed M.A.Faraday. Worcs Hist Soc NS 19 (2003). £28.00 incl p&p

This latest volume in the publications of the Worcestershire Historical Society maintains the high standards of the series. The Society has published a number of Lay Subsidy records over the years and this is a very welcome addition to cover the early Tudor period.

The volume comprises an introduction in which the editor puts the surviving tax records of these times into their political and fiscal setting and also explains some of the complexities of the surviving original documents. They come from class E179 of the National Archives (formerly P.R.O.) and new documents are still coming to light as a result of the efforts of the 'E 179 Project Team'. Indeed, some very significant additional finds, relating to parts of the City of Worcester, appear as an appendix, having been identified too late to be included in the main text. The local historian must remain grateful to the diligent efforts of all concerned, which enabled even these late discoveries to be included in this edition. The originals are clearly difficult, being fragmentary, damaged and disordered, but the editor has set himself the task of putting before the interested reader as accurate a reflection of the originals as possible and in this he is highly successful.

He himself says that he has tried to provide the source material to enable people to ask of it whatever questions particularly interest them. How might Society members find this volume useful? It appears that, 'with the possible exception of Ribbesford', every parish in Worcestershire at that time is represented by at least one nominal list, although the Military Survey primarily covers the Hundred of Halfshire, with some parishes from Oswaldslow, two parishes from Pershore Hundred and one from Blackenhurst. The Military Survey returns give names of lords of the manor, their stewards, the parson and the value of the benefice, and other clergy with their incomes. Then come landowners and their estate values, and then all other males over 16, the value of their goods and their fitness to serve as soldiers. A typical parish, such as Claines, therefore shows, inter alia, Sir William Compton as steward of the lord of the manor, the bishop of Worcester, with a curate being paid wages, and other ecclesiastical bodies such as the Nunnery of Whiteladies having tithes or other interests. The list of landowners includes John Atwood of Perdiswell, of whom more later, and the males of the parish yield 7 archers and 12 billmen. Some residents have other equipment, such as Thomas Verne, who has a salett, a bow and half a sheaf of arrows or Richard Fryere who has some arm armour, a buckler, a sword and 2 bills.

There are then two lists for Claines associated with the Lay Subsidy returns of both 1524 and 1525, which allow for comparisons of names and values, including the information that John Atwood evaded the tax in 1524 and was fined £1. These various lists of names in themselves will be eagerly welcomed by family historians, covering as they do the period just before the start of parish registers. The student of social history will also find valuable information concerning such issues as personal wealth, social structures (reflected, for instance, in details of servants and retainers) and aspects of Tudor military arrangements at the local level.

This is just a small indication of the amount of detailed information that this edition includes. It has extensive indexes of people and places, and is, as usual for this series, very handsomely produced in a sewn hardback binding. This edition is a very useful addition to the printed sources available to the local historian of Worcestershire.

**Robin Whittaker**

***The Cockleshell Pilgrim. A Medieval Journey to Compostela*** by Katherine Lack. SPCK £9.99

This is a difficult work to review for, though short, it is in effect two books. The first part describes the spectacular discovery of the body of the 'Worcester pilgrim' during excavations in the cathedral in the 1980s, and this is followed by the suggested identification of the 'pilgrim' as a Worcester citizen named Robert Sutton, who died c.1455. This is an ingenious piece of detective work. The evidence comes from sound documentary research and the resulting identification, if far from certain, is at least plausible. In the course of the investigation the background of 15<sup>th</sup>-century Worcester is skilfully and vividly filled in.

The greater part of the book is concerned with an account of a pilgrimage to Compostela as seen through the eyes of a 15<sup>th</sup>-century burgess. To get Robert Sutton into this role the author invokes an extra-marital affair and the death of Sutton's young son, for neither of which events is any evidence adduced. Sutton is presented as a god-fearing son of the Church, but to undertake the hardships and dangers of a six-month pilgrimage on foot to Compostela and back does seem rather an excessive expiation. His journey through western France to the Spanish frontier is described in great detail (the Spanish part is dealt with more summarily) but throughout this major part of the book an awkward dichotomy persists. Dr Lack's knowledge of social and political conditions in 15<sup>th</sup>-century France is exhaustive: almost every religious house on the route is noted, and the bibliography is awe-inspiring. As a piece of historical research it is lucidly written, copiously referenced and pleasantly readable. Through all this dense factual details moves the imaginary figure of Robert Sutton, engaging our sympathy indeed, but also raising uncertainties about the frontier between fact and fiction. In her introductory chapter Dr Lack writes: 'The framework ... is fact; the journey is a fiction'. The final result is a vivid, informative and engaging book, but one which may leave a few nagging questions in the mind of some readers.

### **D M Annett**

NB. 1 April 2004 Katherine Lack is taking a day school 'The Worcester Pilgrim: Windows on a Medieval World' at The Guesten, 15 College Green, Worcester Cathedral. £30 (See p24)

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***Chapters in Newent's History*** compiled and published by Newent Local History Society, £14.95

Edited by Derek Pearce, the contributions to this book relate predominantly to the 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. There are chapters on education, poor relief, industry, glass-making and pottery, as well as material from the church records by Frances Penney and on transport by David Bick. Of particular interest are the pages on the Land Settlement Association, founded in 1934 to provide 51 five-acre holdings for the unemployed: a true successor to the nearby Chartist Land Company settlement at Snigs End (see *Recorder* 61, Spring 2000). By the 1950s it was the largest single employer in the area, with 200 workers.

Eric Warde's '20<sup>th</sup> Century Wars' is notable for its inclusion of the wartime recollections of 21 Newent men, and women. These include two Italian prisoners of war, Andrea Russo, born at Caserta, and Guiseppe Perillo of Somma Vesuviana, both of whom, after repatriation, returned to Newent to build new lives. Some of these brief recollections will be extremely moving to readers who experienced the Second World War.

The 104 illustrations range from flint core, arrow points and blades and Anglo-Saxon gold thrymsa from Bouldson, through a plan of Newent based on the Nourse MS of c1725, James Henry Frowde as both circus clown and founder of the Zetland Masonic Lodge c1864, a flat-capped child leading a horse with its wagon-load of coal from the colliery in 1879, Newent Waterworks steam engine of 1897, the head gardener at Newent Court with double-barrelled shotgun and dog 'Tiger' c1900, to the head of Newent Grammar School dressed for the 1928 performance of 'Ruddigore' and the felling of the Waterworks chimney in 1956. In all this book provides a wonderful transect of Newent society over the last centuries.

**Joe Hillaby**

***Roman Dress Accessories*** by Ellen Swift (Shire Books, £5.99)

Since the early 20<sup>th</sup> century large quantities of prosaic items from every day life have been recovered from archaeological excavations. This book provides an introduction to non-precious metal items termed 'dress accessories' to distinguish them from the elite Roman 'jewellery', objects made from gold, silver and precious stones. Bracelets and rings were not common before the Roman occupation, but by the 4<sup>th</sup> century a distinctive provincial Roman culture had developed, with widespread use of Roman-style dress accessories among all sectors of the population. Glass beads were worn before, but were very different in appearance to Roman style beads which became more popular. Items such as bracelets and pins are widely found in the Roman period in copper alloy, bone, glass, jet, shale and other materials. The distribution of objects may be revealing about trade networks and production systems. Evidence of a workshop at the Temple of Nodens site at Lydney Park, Gloucestershire, where over 270 copper alloy bracelets, thought to have been a votive offering, were found, suggests these were made on site.

The chapters examine this provincial Roman culture looking at production areas, distribution patterns and locations of workshops, with an overview of brooches, bracelets, beads, rings, earrings, pins and belt sets. Fourteen different types of brooch and ten of beads are illustrated. Thus the book enables the reader to identify objects commonly found in museums and on archaeological sites. There follows a discussion of the wider study of dress accessories and what it can tell us about the past, enabling the reconstruction of the dress and clothing fashions of different period.

***Discovering Traditional Farm Buildings*** by J.E.C.Peters (Shire Books, £4.99; first published 1981)

Farm buildings form an important element in the landscape. They provide valuable evidence for agricultural history, reflecting in their design regional and other variations in types and methods of farming. Modern techniques have rendered these traditional buildings redundant, so they are rapidly disappearing, through conversion to dwellings or other use, modification, demolition or decay. The book is based largely on the author's field research, much in Worcestershire, Herefordshire and Gloucestershire, and study of farming textbooks etc. Following an overview of the farmstead and various layouts, Peters examines the characteristic features and plans of the different types of farm building before 1880 so that each may be recognised, as a barn, stable, cartshed or cowhouse. About a quarter of the book

is devoted to the barn, the plan of which is governed by the position and number of the threshing floors, producing five types in traditional barns. The farmhouse, a subject on its own, is not included. The author appends a useful list of farm buildings open to the public, with contact details. Well illustrated with both sketches and photographs, this little book covers a lot of ground clearly and succinctly.

NB. The **Historic Farm Buildings Group** provides a forum for those interested in old farm buildings and seeks to promote their study. Membership is open to all concerned with such buildings, their history and the protection of a threatened heritage. As well as newsletters and an annual journal the group arranges an annual weekend residential conference in different parts of the country, including visits to farm buildings of historical interest. For information contact The Secretary, Museum of English Rural Life, University of Reading, Whiteknights, Reading RG6 6AG, tel 0118 931 8663.

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## **Worcestershire Archaeological Society**

### **Architecture Group**

The Architecture Group was formed in 1999, so we have been in existence for four years and are about to embark on our fifth season. The group is headed by Brian Ferris who leads most of the discussions and talks, but others make contributions from time to time. Our subjects are historical architecture and construction in Europe and occasionally further afield; we do not confine ourselves to Worcestershire but comparisons with our own county can often be made by looking at material from further away. In a relaxed and friendly atmosphere members are encouraged to participate and join in discussions and make comments. Each session lasts from 2.30 to about 4pm.

We meet at the Friends Meeting House, Sansome Walk, Worcester, just opposite the Bradbury Centre. For the next season we shall be meeting on Thursday afternoons. All members of the Society are welcome to attend; there is an admission charge of £1.50 per session to pay for the rent of the room and make the group self-supporting.

The programme below has been compiled after consultation with those who normally attend. Members are welcome to make suggestions for additional items. We may add another meeting at the end of the season according to members' wishes, date and subject to be decided.

20 November: Southwest France: Albi, Carcassonne and Cahors cathedrals and various medieval towns and villages

11 December: Portugal and Spain: a look at the various styles of these two countries

22 January: Vaults and domes: their complicated geometry and structure and the many decorative forms to be found in England, Germany, Spain and elsewhere. Also a quick look at the domes of Florence, Rome (St Peter's and the Pantheon), St Paul's in London

26 February: Salisbury cathedral, England's only gothic new-build cathedral. We will take a detailed look at its planning and form and decorations, making comparisons with contemporary Amiens cathedral and our own Worcester cathedral. We may also decide a site visit

25 March: Santiago de Compostela: a look at this great pilgrimage church and other shrines on the pilgrimage routes including Vezelay, Conques, Burgos and Leon.

**Brian Ferris**

## **The Library – Matters of Interest in Recent Acquisitions**

The Library continues to receive regular exchanges of Transactions and other publications of a wide range of archaeological and local history organisations not only in this country but also from abroad. The following is a selection of some items which might be of particular interest to members.

Following the Society's visit to Bradford-on-Avon this summer it was interesting to note that *Wiltshire Studies* vol. 96 for 2003 has a short note on recent work at St Laurence's chapel in that town. It is suggested that evidence may have been found for a crypt to the Anglo-Saxon chapel.

The *Transactions* of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society vol. 120 (2002) includes an article on 'The rooms over the porches of Bishop's Cleeve and Bredon parish churches: a question of dating' by J.P.McAleer. The article on 'The Anglo-Saxon charters of Stoke Bishop: a study of the boundaries of *Bisceopes stoc*' by D.H.Higgins is also relevant for the history of the ancient diocese of Worcester.

*Past & Present* No. 100, the Newsletter of the Sussex Archaeological Society, includes the results of a membership survey entitled 'Just what do our members want?'. 21% of the membership returned the questionnaire, and most comments were supportive. Whilst some of the activities of the S.A.S. do not tally with ours I thought some of the conclusions might be interesting. The membership falls in to three broad classes, the 'active member and volunteer', the 'passive member' who enjoys being just that (one typical comment – I belong to the SAS because it is a 'good thing') and 'members who would like to be more active but can't because of commitments'. 44% expressed a strong or very strong interest in using their library and have asked for special introductory sessions to be held. Members were overwhelmingly supportive of the transactions and newsletter, many citing these as the main reason for joining, but only 16% expressed a strong interest in contributing. Some people wanted excavation reports to be more 'lay-person friendly'. There were comments on the balance between archaeological and history contributions. The strongest membership interest was in the more remote past, from Roman to post-medieval.

The prize for the largest and heaviest volume goes to *Essex Archaeology and History* vol. 33 (2002) which is a substantial 476 A4 pages. As Editor I am intrigued as to how much it must have cost to print and distribute. I noted that some of the articles had been funded by something called the 'Publication Development Fund' of the Society.

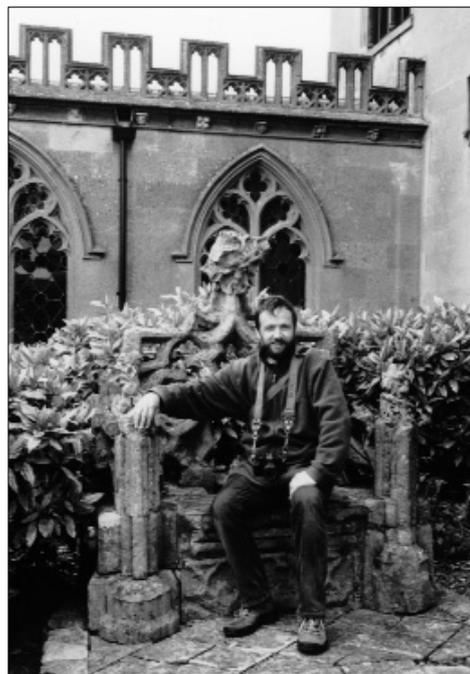
### **Robin Whittaker**

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### **New Star on BBC Television**

By the time you read this article, a number of us will no doubt have forgotten the opening episode in June of the excellent 4-part 'In Search of Shakespeare' by Michael Wood. In this we saw him being shown, in Worcester Cathedral, the marriage bond of William Shakespeare and Ann Hathaway, by our own **Robin Whittaker**: a master class in cool and professional presentation (Robin, of course; the other two provided good support).

The photograph shows Robin NOT in the *cathedra* (bishop's throne) but sitting so comfortably in an earlier model, probably from the now demolished (Henry VIII) Evesham priory. This picture was taken at Evesham Manor, on the Society's visit in May, by courtesy of Mr & Mrs Phipps, another of our first-class visits organised by our Chairman, Brian Ferris.



## **Les Fenton**

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### **Excursions Programme 2004**

What is in store for the following season? This is not an easy question to answer, for the programme is compiled during winter, ready for distribution in early March, by when the excursions sub-committee has met and agreed the programme, and preliminary enquiries and arrangements have been made, including ascertaining prices and fixing provisional dates. The programme must, of course, reflect members' interests, so feedback to the Excursions Committee is very useful. Secondly, one tries to fix a balanced series of visits over the summer. Members often ask for archaeological digs, but there are few of these, and many are not suitable for a visit. Such a case was the Cathedral Chapter House, where no public access has been granted, and to date no results have been given out. Museum visits are also requested but, as we have a museums society, these are not high on our list. Country houses are always popular and those not usually accessible to the public are a high priority. The following venues will be under consideration for the coming season, amongst others:

Salisbury Cathedral – to tie in with Architecture Group's talk on 26 February (all welcome)

Morville Hall, Shropshire (NT) – an Elizabethan house converted in the 18<sup>th</sup> century

Corsham Court, Wilts – an Elizabethan house with a fine art collection

Hoar Cross church, Staffs – splendid high Victorian church

Rycote Chapel, Oxon (EH) – 15<sup>th</sup>-century chapel with 'sumptuous' 17<sup>th</sup>-century furnishings

Tyntesfield, Somerset (new NT property) – spectacular Victorian country house

Stanton Harcourt Manor House and church (if available) – including medieval kitchen

Wells and Glastonbury

Higham Church (Victorian) and Gloucester City

Crosby Hall, Chelsea, as newly restored (if available) – built c1475, fine false timber roof

Lichfield, Boscobel (EH) & Tong – Charles II's Royal Oak etc; fine monuments at Tong

Suggestions from members are always welcome, preferably in writing. Also Roy Shepherd is arranging a 4-day trip to Scotland, commencing 25 January, around £215.00 each, with a full day in Edinburgh. For details phone Roy, 01905 356045, or Brian Ferris, 01905 354224.

## **Brian Ferris**

## Dates for your Diary

**University of Birmingham Day Schools** For further information tel 0121 414 8065

- 15 November 'Experimental Archaeology' (with CBA West Midlands)  
22 November 'Birmingham History Day 2003'  
6 December 'Rome and the Papacy in the Renaissance', Stella Fletcher  
14 February 'News from the Past' (archaeological discoveries in Midlands, with CBA)  
1 April 'The Worcester Pilgrim: Windows on a Medieval World', Katherine Lack  
24 April 'Medieval Birmingham'  
1 May 'From Arbours to Mausoleums: An Exploration of Buildings in English Gardens, 1500-1900', Dianne Barre  
8 May 'Investigating the History of your House – from Regency to Edwardian' Patrick Baird and Gay Hill  
26 June 'Saints and Sinners: Medieval Pilgrimage' (with CBA West Midlands)  
Date tba 'The Dissolution of a Monastery: Wenlock Priory'

## WAS 2003-4 Lecture Programme

The Lecture programme commenced on 6 October when Dr Alan Taylor spoke on 'The Role of the English Heritage Inspector'.

- 1 December: 'Worcester Cathedral's Finances 1540-1600'  
Dr David Morrison, Worcester Cathedral Librarian
- 12 January: 'Reflections on Recent Archaeology in the City'  
James Dinn, Worcester City Archaeological Officer
- 2 February: 'The Romano-British Farmstead and Anglo-Saxon Settlement at Saxons Lode Farm, Ryall Quarry, Ripple'  
Mary Alexander, Cotswold Archaeology
- 16 February: 'Landscape, Location and Livelihood: The Worcestershire Tithe Map Project'  
Neil Lockett, Worcestershire Archaeological Services
- 15 March: 'The Foley Family and the Party Politics of Worcestershire and Herefordshire'  
Ted Rowlands MP

**Saturday 24 April 2004:** Sesquicentennial Celebrations at Avoncroft Museum, Bromsgrove  
NB change of date

**Many thanks to all contributors for their submissions. Items for inclusion in the next issue** should be sent to the Editor, Caroline Hillaby, at The Roughs, Hollybush, nr Ledbury, Herefordshire HR8 1EU, tel/fax 01531 650618 to be received by Friday 5 March 2004. Please remember this is your newsletter.



Printed by Aldine Print Ltd., Six Ways Trading Est.,  
Barnards Green, Malvern, Worcs. WR14 3NB