

Buckinghamshire Archaeological Society

NEWSLETTER – Spring 2016

Report of the Honorary Librarian and Honorary Archivist

This will be my last report since I am not standing for re-election. I am again particularly grateful to our library volunteers for all their help throughout the year. Dr Jeremy Howarth spent many months preparing for our Prints Exhibition at the County Museum, selecting prints and carrying out research. He wrote detailed notes for a handlist which accompanies the exhibition and gave a talk at the opening on 27th February 2016. Over 70 members and invited guests attended the opening event and it was particularly gratifying to welcome Julian Clare who was responsible for the conservation of the print collection some years ago, a project headed by Diana Gulland and financed by the William Delafield Charitable Trust. Diana spoke at the opening about that project and how the Society's book "Historic Views of Buckinghamshire" came to be published. Many of the prints featured in the book are now on display and we have discounted the price to £5 so we can sell the book as a catalogue. I would also like to record my appreciation and thanks particularly to Mel Czapski, and to Richard De Peyer, David Erskine and all the Museum Staff too numerous to mention here who made the exhibition and opening event possible. I think they have done us proud. Hopefully the exhibition will help publicise our wonderful collection and I urge everyone to visit before it closes on 2nd July.

Dr Garry Marshall has again been a tower of strength sorting out and cataloguing the Society's own archive and helping to declutter the Muniment Room. He has recently been working on a catalogue of the late Professor Bill Mead's diaries and I'm also grateful to Diana Gulland for reading the diaries and advising on the draft catalogue.

Roelie Reed continues the somewhat exhausting task of going through all our pamphlet boxes, sorting and listing their contents.

Finally, Sheryl Mardlin has proved an invaluable volunteer, checking our stock against the Modes catalogue and tidying the library shelves. Together we have done a stock-take of the Muniment Room, sorted the journals and put them in proper files. As you will see from the list below our library and archives continue to grow apace so, with limited space, continual and judicious weeding is necessary. Journals are increasingly going online. *The Archaeological Journal* up to 1963 is free to download on the Archaeological Data Service website; <http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/archjournal/> so we have thrown away our old and tatty pre-1964 volumes. Of course if you don't have online access you can always contact the library and we can print articles for you. Many of our surplus offprints will also have to be discarded.

With Mike Palmer's help I monitor conditions in the Muniment Room. Tidying has helped and our new de-humidifier has restored humidity to recommended levels, but with journals double-banked conditions are still not ideal. We hold a significant stock of duplicate and non-Bucks related books in the Muniment Room, presumably given to the Society over many years. Some may be of value and space could be freed up by a selective disposal but that will be a question for my successor and Council.

Much of my time has again been spent running the Society's "office", dealing with book sales, distributing *Records*, giving copyright consents and publicising the Society's and other relevant events through e-mail and Twitter. Numbers coming to consult our collection in person have continued to dwindle. Enquiries come mainly via email and telephone and sometimes through the Museum. I'm grateful to Mike Farley and Brett Thorn for their help with archaeological questions. It's surprising how often we get enquiries about objects found in gardens or whilst walking the dog! We continue to receive enquiries about family, local and social history often from people who seem to be unaware of the existence of the Historic Environment Record, or more surprisingly the Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies. If we don't have the answer I direct them to the appropriate place and, together with publicising other local society's events, I like to think this helps promote BAS's role as a co-ordinating organisation.

Most of the acquisitions listed below have been given to us for which thanks are due. Others have been bought or given to us as review copies.

Items added to the library and archives during 2015 and early 2016.

Books

Alcock, Nat & Miles, Dan. *The Medieval Peasant House in Midland England*
Atkins, R et al. *Broughton, Milton Keynes. The evolution of a South Midlands landscape*
Austen-Leigh, R.C. (revised edition) *A Guide to Eton College*
Brazil, Eddie. *Bloody British History, Buckinghamshire*
Broad, John ed. *Bishop Wake's Summary of Visitation Returns from the Diocese of Lincoln 1706-1715 (Part 1 Lincolnshire, Part 2 Outside Lincolnshire)*
Brown, Paul & Herbert, Edwin ed. *The Secrets of Q Central*
Bucks Bird Club. *Buckinghamshire Bird Report 2013.*
Camp, John. *Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Pubs.*
Chilterns Conservation Board. *Famous People of the Chilterns*
Cook, Robert. *Buckingham Voices*
Dunleavy, Bryan. *The Lost Streets of Wolverton.*
Dunleavy, Bryan ed. *First Impressions: Contemporary Accounts of Victorian Wolverton*
Dunleavy, Bryan. *Manno's Manor. A history of Wolverton to 1838*
Halliwell, J.O. *Dictionary of Archaic Words*
Hay, Daisy. *Mr & Mrs Disraeli A Strange Romance*
Henig, Martin. *The Heirs of King Verica – Culture and Politics in Roman Britain*
Hutton, Barbara. *Recording Standing Buildings*
Johnson, Michael. *Holy Trinity church, Cookham 'in ages past'*
Kelly, D.J. *Buckinghamshire Spies and Subversives.*
Lewis, David. *British Historic Towns Atlas vol. IV Windsor and Eton (with CD of maps)*
Mayou, Richard. *Shabbington A Thousand Years of Village History*
Mead, W.R. *Towards a Commonplace Geography.*
Murray, Catherine. *Exploring England's Heritage. Oxfordshire to Buckinghamshire.*
Over, L. & Tyrell, C. *A Millennium in the Royal Borough*
Palmer, Sutton. *Buckinghamshire Water Colours*
Quick, Peter. *War Memorials and War Graves Vol.13 – Burnham and area*
Raymond, Stuart R. *Words from Wills and other Probate Records*
Samson, Vivien and Deborah. *The Rabbi in the Green Jacket*
Simpson, Sue. *Sir Henry Lee (1533-1611): Elizabethan Courtier*
Stamp, Gavin. *Gothic for the Steam Age. An Illustrated Biography of George Gilbert Scott*
Steane, John & Ayres, James. *Traditional Buildings in the Oxford Region c.1300-1840*
Taylor, John. *Stony Stratford During the First World War.*
York, Trevor. *Arts and Crafts House Styles.*

CDs

Stoke Mandeville wills – transcribed by Honor Lewington and the BAS Probate Group.
Accompanied by an Excel spreadsheet

Pamphlets/papers/reports/essays

Aylesbury Vale D.C. *Aylesbury, Walton & Wendover Road Conservation Areas.*
(Conservation Area Appraisal)
Banville, Jim. *Old Aylesburians Association Centenary (1907-2007)*
Chilterns Conservation Board. *Our Common Heritage*
Crosbie-Hill, Bill. *The origins of Quainton*
Eureka Partnership. *The People of Wendover, vol.2*
Farley, M. & Marsden, P. *Twyford village earthworks. Historic Landscape Report. 2011.* (part of BAS HS2 research project)
Haddenham Museum Trust (publisher) *Haddenham Chronicles no. 13.*
Marshall, G. & Oxford Archaeology. *Archaeological Survey of the Ashridge Estate volumes VI and X*
Oxford Archaeological Unit. *Widmere Chapel, Marlow (Historic Building Record)*
Oxford Archaeology. *In Touch – review 2014-2015*

Theses/Dissertations

Chibnall, Joan. *The Roads of Buckinghamshire 1675-1913 with special reference to the turnpike roads of the county.* M.Sc. thesis University of London. 1996.

BAS reports

The Knights Hospitallers' Preceptory at Hogshaw – Geophysical Survey Interim Report

Miscellaneous items including estate agents details for historic houses, obituaries, press cuttings, guide books, historical trail leaflets, articles relating to Bucks people and places etc.

Archives

Eveleigh collection: *The History of main roads and road transport in Buckinghamshire and surrounding counties with emphasis on the development of turnpikes.*

Anon (probably Revd. Burgess) *'The Roman Villa' An account of some excavations made on the site of the Roman building or villa at Dell's Farm. Latimer, Bucks 1864-5.*

Diaries of the late Prof. William Mead

Two boxes of correspondence and associated documents from the late Clive Rouse, M.B.E. recently received and not yet sorted or catalogued.

Journals

We continue to subscribe to a wide selection of journals, too many to list here, and some of which you are unlikely to find elsewhere in the county. We also receive newsletters from various local history societies.

Recent library acquisitions of special local interest

Rothschild Archive Review of the Year April 2013-2014 includes in the list of acquisitions "Estate papers and deeds from Ascott House. An extensive collection of documents relating to the development of the Ascott Estate from the 16th to 20th centuries." Ref 000/2206

A Georgian Group supplement *The Amateur Artist Sketching the English Country House* " by Robert Bargery has a picture and description of a watercolour of Denham Place 1826.

Oxon Recorder (newsletter of the Oxfordshire Buildings Record) Winter 2015 issue 65 has a report on the Historic Farm Buildings Group conference September 2015 which visited several Chiltern farms including some at Hambleton, Fingest, Hughenden and Piggotts.

Marian Miller, Hon. Librarian & Hon. Archivist