

OBITUARY

LIEUT-COLONEL PHILIP PALMER died in December. His family have lived at Dorney Court, one of the finest old houses in the county, since his ancestor acquired the estate in 1624. He was born in 1902, educated at Eton and the Royal Military College, and served in the Royal Leicestershire Regiment for most of his Army career. He was appointed a Deputy Lieutenant of the county in 1963 and served as High Sheriff in 1951. He was devoted to his house, the church of St James and the village, and entertained the Society there on more than one occasion.

E. V.

MRS. PATRICIA FAY, of Amersham, died of cancer aged 46. A woman of great charm and energy, she founded in 1965 the Chiltern Decorative & Fine Art Society, the first of over eighty similar societies which together now form the National Association of Decorative & Fine Art Societies (NADFAS). For her work in building up this Association she was awarded the O.B.E. She always paid tribute to friends in our Society who encouraged and supported her when she began this work.

E. V.

ANNAN DICKSON died in October at his home of recent years in Poole, Dorset. He wrote books that he called "descriptive and topographical" about the Chilterns and some about Devonshire too. They were (and are) among the best of their kind, combining an inveterate curiosity with a considerable learning worn lightly. His best known book on the Chilterns was "Portrait of the Chilterns" published in 1957 which contains a typical and delightful passage on *The Crong*, a hairpin bend so named on the road between Dancers End and Cholesbury. This he traced back via the Isle of Man TT races and Shakespeare's Henry IV to the Anglo-Saxon origin, "an ancient Anglo-Saxon term in an out-of-the-way corner of the Chilterns, forgotten elsewhere." It was typical of the lively mind and pen to which lovers of Chiltern ways will always be grateful.

M.D.

Other deaths recorded in 1979 were J. Day, Mrs. M. Enfield, David Jakobi, the Revd. Hubert Sillitoe, for many years Rector of Dunton, Mrs. G. Stross and Group-Captain I. Whittaker, a great supporter of the Society's outings.

E. V.