

OBITUARY

Sir Frank Francis, KCB, FSA, FMA, elected a Vice-President in 1978, died aged 86. Almost his whole career had been with the British Museum where he started in the Printed Books Department and rose to be Director and Principal Librarian 1959–68 and the last Director to be appointed under the 1753 British Museum Act. He was much concerned with successive plans for the new British Library. On his retirement he came to live at Nether Winchendon.

Major John Darling Young of Thornton Hall died there aged 78. He served in the Life Guards 1932–46, on the County Council 1964–77, was High Sheriff in 1960 and Lord Lieutenant 1969–84. He took a keen interest in the history and antiquities of the county, much enjoying his Presidency of the Bucks Record Society and that of the Bucks Historic Churches Trust. He was elected a Vice-President of this Society in 1970.

Professor William Francis Grimes, CBE, D.Litt, FSA, was a most distinguished archaeologist and historian. He became well known for his post-war work on bombed London whilst Director of the London Museum. From 1956–73 he was a Professor at London University and Director of the Institute of Archaeology. He gave much help to the Society in the 1950s, when he served on the Council; elected a Vice-President, he resigned in 1975 when he returned to his native South Wales.

Professor A. C. Chibnall, FRS, FSA, died in

his 94th year. He achieved distinction as a biochemist, serving as Professor at Imperial College 1936–43 and Cambridge 1943–49. On his retirement he turned to local history; he continued to live at Cambridge but concentrated his research on the Bucks village of Sherington where his ancestors had lived since the fourteenth century. The result was two books of fine scholarship: *Sherington—Fiefs and Fields of a Buckinghamshire Village* (1965) and *Beyond Sherington* (1979).

Kenneth Webb, a Tring solicitor, served on the Council for many years. With much legal skill he strongly opposed the agreement with the County Council in 1957 but remained a good friend of the Society and seldom missed a meeting.

Harry Bradburn, a most popular member, will best be remembered for his work for the Natural History Section of which he was Secretary 1976–9 and Chairman from 1983 to his death. He seldom missed an outing, and served on Council for many years where his enthusiasm and good sense will be much missed.

Mrs Maisie Cooper was for many years the outstandingly successful Headmistress of the former village school at Weston Underwood. She and her husband seldom missed an outing when her great fund of knowledge, always trenchantly expressed but with great good humour was much appreciated by her many friends.