

THE SOCIETY

Membership

During 1993 we learnt with regret of the deaths of Miss F. E. Allan, Horace Brackley (Life Member), R. G. Close-Smith, The Reverend Robert Collier, Mrs J. R. Cook, Lady Davies, Miss Wendy Groves, W. J. S. Gurney, Mrs E. M. Knight, Mrs M. N. Ruse, Norman Sears, Mrs Jane Wright, and Brian Young.

At the end of 1993, we numbered 335 ordinary members, 118 family/household memberships, two junior members, 20 honorary and life members, 4 ex-officio members, and 12 affiliated societies.

Annual General Meeting & Council

The report and accounts for 1992 and the 1993 AGM agenda were included in the *Spring Newsletter* which also notified the increases in subscription rates for 1994 and the reasons for *Council* decision. The 1993 AGM minutes were reproduced in the *Autumn Newsletter*.

Council met five times with Dr Arnold Baines FSA as Chairman. Ted Bull was co-opted to act as Meetings Organizer. Mr and Mrs Viney were elected as Honorary Members in appreciation of their unprecedented services to the Society. Horace Brackley bequeathed a choice of books and artefacts to the Society plus the sum of £100 which was munificently doubled by his executors, Mr and Mrs Anthony Reilly.

Bucks County Council Library & Museum Sub-Committee

Society representatives were the President (Elliott Viney Esq FSA), Dr A. H. J. Baines FSA and Dr R. P. Hagerty, all three being members of the *Museum Panel*. Representative on the *County-wide Consultative Committee for Museums & Archaeology* was Dr Hagerty.

The three-year £2.3M refurbishment by the County Council of the Museum buildings contin-

ued. First-phase topping-out took place on 7 May. A six-week archaeological excavation involving enlargement of the basement area took place in July/August, the Society contributing £2,000 toward the estimated cost of £12,000. Subsequently, construction of the Art Gallery commenced. The County Council was much exercised finding ways and means of financing the costs of new displays and extra staff for the extended Museum. The future is overshadowed by the possible break-up of Buckinghamshire following the Local Government Review which has been brought forward into 1994.

Lecture Series

Six talks, with slides, were given on Saturday afternoons in the County Museum Technical Centre at Halton.

- JAN 16 FOSSIL REPTILES IN BUCKS
by Kate Rowland.
- JAN 30 FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE & THE BUCKS INFIRMARY
by R. Vernon Chesworth.
- FEB 27 PROGRESS & PLANS AT THE COUNTY MUSEUM
by the Curator, Colin Dawes.
- MCH 13 MEET A BARN OWL
with Mike Willicombe.
- MCH 20 PREHISTORIC BOATS
by Dr Ted Wright FSA.
- APR 3 NATURAL HISTORY SECTION AGM.
Followed *by* DISAPPEARING FLORA OF BUCKS
by Jean Hall.
- SEP 18 RURAL BUILDINGS OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
by Roger Evans.
- OCT 23 MAGISTRACY & MURDER IN AYLESBURY VALE (A CASE STUDY OF SOCIAL CONTROL 1828-38)
by Professor John G. Carina.
- NOV 13 THE ROTHSCHILDS & THEIR HOUSES
by Elliott Viney.
- DEC 4 THE GREAT TRAIN ROBBERY
by John Woolley.

Outings

All five outings enjoyed good or acceptable weather.

- MAY 1 BATH. A day exploring the superb 18th century city. Not a guided tour but a map and list of suggestions provided.
- JUN 5 WILTSHIRE. LONGLEAT HOUSE, the great Elizabethan "prodigy house" of the Marquess of Bath.
STOURHEAD HOUSE and LANDSCAPE GARDENS (NT).
- JUL 31 DERBYSHIRE. MELBOURNE CHURCH - 12th C. SUDBURY HALL - 17th C (NT). STAUNTON HAROLD CHURCH, a most unusual Gothic church dating from the Commonwealth and Restoration periods (NT).
- SEP 4 SUSSEX. CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL (guided tour). HARDHAM CHURCH - wall paintings. PETWORTH HOUSE (NT).
- OCT 2 BUCKS CHURCH CRAWL. WINGRAVE, WING, STEWKLEY, SOULBURY, EATON BRAY (Beds), EDLESBOROUGH, IVINGHOE, PITSTONE, DRAYTON BEAUCHAMP.

Publications

Records of Buckinghamshire Vol. 33 (1991) were distributed in April to members then fully paid-up and later to tardy payers as and when subscriptions/arrears due were received. Once again, we are very grateful to all who helped with deliveries, thereby reducing the Society spend on postage.

Copies of the *Index for Records Volumes X* thru *XX* have been supplied to members on request and copies are still available on request to the Hon. Librarian

Society *Monographs* prepared by the staff of the Milton Keynes Archaeology Unit: No 1 *Roman Milton Keynes* (1987), No 2 *Roman and Belgic Pottery* (1989), No 3 *Great Linford (Medieval Village)* (1992), No 4 *Pennyland & Hartigans (Iron Age/Saxon)* (1993), No 5 *Changing Landscape of Milton Keynes* (1993), No 6 *Medieval Village Excavations* (1993). *Monographs* Nos 7-10 are due before demise of the *Milton Keynes Archaeology Unit* in March 1994.

R. P. Hagerty
Honorary Secretary