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# THOROTON

Number 5: August 1994



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## *A Message from the Chairman . . .*

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The last few months in the Society have been a shade disappointing. As we report elsewhere, there has been a decline in numbers attending lectures, but we have also been unhappy to find that excursions have also been less well subscribed than used to be the case, and we have not been able to run a stall at this year's Three Counties Local History Fair.

While Council scratches its collective head to try to work out what is going wrong, we must start looking forward. In 1997 the Society will be one hundred years old, and the opportunity will be there for a fine old celebration. But we must start planning now, and to that end we really do need some suggestions. Neville Hoskins is hoping we can repeat the first ever Society excursion (though we may not be able to

use 'brakes' on this occasion), and we hope to line up a distinguished list of lecturers for the year. What else should we do? A garden party at a country house, a fund-raising event for a particular purpose, or what? We need your suggestions, together with offers of help. 1997 is only thirty months away, and unless we have our plans laid well in advance the opportunity of boosting the Society's position locally, and giving members an opportunity to enjoy themselves, may well be lost.

Please write to me if you have any suggestions, comments, or offers of help. In the meantime, enjoy the excursion programme over the remainder of the Summer, and I look forward to seeing you at the lectures in the Autumn.

*John Beckett*

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## THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 97th Annual General Meeting of the Society was held in the imposing setting of Retford Town Hall, a Victorian structure, but containing many reminders of the town's historic past.

The Mayor of Retford, Councillor Wendy Quigley, welcomed the Society; Mr Hildyard replied appropriately and said how much her attendance was appreciated, as was that of Retford's Lord High Steward, Dr Edwin V. Laidlow. This office can be traced back to the early sixteenth century, and until earlier this century was held by members of the aristocracy, successive Earls of Shrewsbury, an Earl of Clare, Sir Gervase Clifton, and the first Duke of Newcastle-upon-Tyne were followed in the eighteenth century by numerous Dukes of Newcastle-under-Lyme and, early this century, by the 7th Viscount Galway.

The holder of the office acts as link between crown and corporation, and was sometimes referred to as the town's 'Protector'. The financial rewards were few, but the holder could influence the Corporation who nominated two Members of Parliament. Dr Laidlow is the

third 'non aristocratic' holder of the office which he has held for eleven years, and expects to hold for life. The striking badge of office which he wore to the A.G.M. was made for the Corporation last year.

The Treasurer presented a favourable report on the Society's finances, mentioned the forthcoming volume in the Record Series and warned that whilst membership subscriptions were remaining at their present level for the moment, they would have to be reviewed in 1995.

Professor Beckett referred to changes in the membership of Council. Dr Caplan had retired as Honorary Lecture Secretary after many years, and was presented with a token as a mark of the Society's appreciation; Mrs Jean Nicholson has taken over the position. David Bagley has succeeded Mrs Ann Hoskins as Circulation Secretary. Ann was presented with flowers and thanked for her services - both as Honorary and Circulation Secretary - as were retiring Council members Dr Philip Dixon, Mr Brian Loughbrough, Mr Peter Smith and Dr Richard Smith.

Mr. Adrian Henstock explained the change in format of *Transactions*, providing a more easily read and more economical production. The Chairman assured members that the question of the venue for lectures was being kept under review, and reminded members of the forthcoming Centenary of the Society in 1997.

Afterwards Dr David Marcombe spoke on Retford's history and then members were able to view the recently redecorated room of the Town Hall.

### Meeting of Council

At the meeting of Council on 1 May it was decided to invite Dr. Maurice Caplan to become a Vice-President of the Society. Council considered your responses to the Lecture Programme questionnaire, which proved most valuable, and discussed the style and format of the Annual Report and ways of regularizing and improving the method of nominating and electing members of Council. This will be further considered and brought before the next A.G.M.

## THE PICTURESQUE LANDSCAPE .....

..... is the title of the exhibition now on at the Nottingham University Arts Centre on University Boulevard.

It celebrates the bicentenary of the publication of two important books on landscape in England: Richard Payne Knight's 'Landscape' and 'Essay on the picturesque' by Uvedale Price.

Both authors were natives of Herefordshire, and much of the exhibition is devoted to placing them within the context of the landscape, society and culture of that county; but it also explains the wider influence of their work and one section looks at the picturesque tradition in the Dukeries.

Among artists, landscape gardeners and architects whose work is represented are Gainsborough and Turner, John Nash, 'Capability' Brown and Humphrey Repton, several of whose famous 'Red Books' are on display.

It is well worth a visit. Admission is free, but watch out - it closes on the 4th September.

As we have had no letters to the Editor, we reprint the following from 'Nottingham Daily Guardian' of 1897. See next issue for reply!

### THE THOROTON SOCIETY

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NOTTINGHAM DAILY GUARDIAN

Sir,- The Thoroton Society has been successfully launched, and we wish for it a long and useful career. That its sponsors and officers are of "family" and social influence admits of no doubt. There is no reason why such a society should not be patronised. When, however, it comes to the matter of the election of the council, then it is not absolutely essential that these qualifications should prevail. What is required is that these individuals should be (1) workers, and of business habits; (2) be thoroughly acquainted with written and printed material relating to the county; and (3) in close touch with the workers in various departments of historical and antiquarian research. These factors have been entirely overlooked or ignored in the selection of the Nottingham members of council; and, in part, in those of the county members of the council. The Nottingham band of well-known workers have been ignored. Where are Messrs. T.C. Hine, Percy J. Cropper, J. Henry Brown, Hugh Browne, Briscoe, J.T. Godfrey

S. Corner, W. Moore, J.T. Radford, Hawley Torr, A. Stapleton, J. Ward, E. Sutton, J. Shipman, and C. Gerring? All left out in the cold, and their places taken by men who have shown little interest in local history and antiquities. Where are Messrs. C. Brown, of Newark; R. White, of Worksop; Dr. S.F. Cromwell, of North Repps; T.M. Blagg, of Newark; and Harrop White, of Mansfield? With the Nottingham workers?

These were probably the men whom Mr Briscoe had in his mind when he formally seconded the secretary-prepared list of members of the council, and when he suggested that other names should be produced. No time was, however, given for further nominations, and consequently the "house list" was adopted - hence dissatisfaction has been freely expressed among those who can distinguish the workers from those who have not yet attained to that distinction in this connection. Is Nottingham devoid of a suitable man as one of the secretaries? Of the officers only the treasurer is resident in Nottingham. I am, sir, &c.,

ANTIQUARY.

*Contributions to future Newsletters are welcome. Please write to The Editor, Mr F N Hoskins, 12 Forest Road East, Nottingham, NG1 4HH. The views expressed in this Newsletter are not necessarily those of the Society, nor of its Council.*

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**REPORTS OF EXCURSIONS 1994**


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**14 MAY - LAXTON**


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More than forty members and guests travelled to Laxton for a half-day visit, on what turned out to be a warm and sunny day (which is unusual for planned visits to Laxton!).

The highlight of the visit was a guided tour of the open fields which took place, with the help of Stuart Rose of Bottom Farm, on tractor-trailers. If the ride was a little bumpy, it made sure we could see all three of the open fields, which would not have been possible on foot. With Stuart's help I was able to describe the working and operation of the open field system, both in the past and the present, and to give some indication of how the system has adapted to the needs of present day farmers.

Tea in the Dovecote Inn was provided by the landlord and his wife Steve and Betty Shepherd. Many members of the party were then given a guided tour of the village streets and buildings by John Severn, while I led a much smaller group on a brief visit to the motte and bailey. Members were also able to pay a visit to the church.

Everyone enjoyed a pleasant day out on what was, for some members of the party, their first visit to Laxton since they were shown around by the late Professor Chambers in the 1960s.

With a Visitors' Centre, and with information boards recently erected by the County Council, the village is now more 'user-friendly', but the technicalities which range from the functioning of a court leet to the operation

of the E.C.'s set-aside policy are still best explained in person!

*John Beckett*

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**11 JUNE - LEICESTER:  
KIRKBY MUXLOE AND  
BREEDON-ON-THE-HILL**


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After a somewhat traumatic start the party arrived at Leicester Castle, where Peter Liddle led a tour of the historic building including the court rooms, continuously in use from the 14th to the late 20th century. Their timber roof is reputed to be the largest in Europe. There followed a 'walk around' of the exterior including the ancient motte.

At Kirkby Muxloe Fred Hartley was our guide. The building has hardly altered since construction was halted after the death in 1483 of its owner, the 1st Lord Hastings.

After lunch at the Royal Oak Hazel Salisbury led us to Breedon-on-the-Hill church, and spoke on the long history of the site and on the famous Saxon carvings. The day ended with tea at Breedon.

*Nancy Mulholland*

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**28 JULY - WEST  
RETFORD & EVERTON**


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Nearly sixty members enjoyed a privileged visit to one of Nottinghamshire's most historic institutions, Trinity Hospital at West Retford. Founded by Dr John Darrell in the first half of the 17th century as a Hospice for 16

aged men of good repute, the hospital has continued to operate on the same site under much the same constitution for over 350 years, still under the 'governorship' of the Sub-dean of Lincoln Cathedral. The party was welcomed by the Chaplain, Canon Peter Wigginton, who took half into the Chapel and spoke on the religious significance of the hospital and on the symbolism of some modern needlework recently introduced on and above the altar.

Jean Nicholson took the remainder of the party into the Audit Room in the tower, added in 1872 to Edward Blore's brick structure of 1832, itself on the site of the 17th century building. Copies of historic documents were displayed, together with the hospital's mace and numerous paintings and illustrations. Jean spoke on her family connection, her recent researches and the origins of the hospital.

The Society's donation to the Hospital will be used towards the conservation of the West Retford Enclosure Map.

At Everton, after a substantial tea provided by the ladies of the congregation, we visited the 'Church of the Holy and Undivided Trinity' with its Norman nave, chancel and tower arches and important early tympanum over the south door. Here we were treated to a knowledgeable, enthusiastic and at times humorous account of the church, its building and its personalities, by Mr. Alan Berry, Churchwarden and Reader. A most successful excursion.

*Neville Hoskins*

## THE LECTURE SECRETARY LOOKS BACK

When I began as lecture secretary in the session 1975/6, I had taken over from Louis Roberson. The Chairman was Keith Train; and in that session Adrian Henstock joined him as co-editor of *Transactions*. Michael Dobbin was secretary and Nora Witham, as assistant treasurer, was usually on hand, an ever-helpful friend.

My task has not been unduly onerous and I have received much help and co-operation from members, and especially from members of Council who, between them, combine a formidable range of expertise on aspects of history and of archaeology.

My object was to provide during each session a series of lectures with a good spread of periods and of subject matter; and to engage lecturers who were academically acceptable and who spoke with authority on their subjects. As I said at the A.G.M., such is the prestige of the Thoroton Society that those persons I invited to lecture - and they included distinguished scholars - seldom refused. One refusal I did receive, however, was from a man who lectured on the stained glass of Chartres Cathedral. He wrote to say, somewhat ungraciously, that for one lecture Americans paid him the then equivalent of several hundred pounds, whereas what I was offering was scarcely half the price of a pair of trousers! There was a happy sequel, however, when the expert in charge of the stained glass of York Minster came here and delivered a splendid lecture, illustrated

with magnificent slides.

The best historians are not always the best speakers. One lecturer, a national authority on his subject, kept his head down, and read rapidly from a typescript. And we have had a lecturer who spoke in a tone scarcely above a whisper; and one who went on for an hour and a half and could not be halted. But these were exceptions, and on the whole the standard has been high.

Meetings have not been without their anxieties. I recall arriving at the International Community Centre, where our meetings were then held, to find all our equipment locked away and the caretaker absent. With that stalwart of the Society, Byron Barrett, I rushed to the University Adult Education Centre and borrowed what we required. On another occasion, this time at the Cathedral Hall, I arrived on a bitterly cold day to find they had forgotten to turn on the heating. And only recently, at the Y.M.C.A. our screen was missing on 'the day'.

In the past, tea and biscuits were provided by a caterer and when that ended, teas became my responsibility. Eventually, with some difficulty, I was able to make a rota of members who would each help at one meeting a year. Now the efficient Paddy Huxley deals with teas, and she too is in need of voluntary helpers.

Looking back over the past nineteen years I believe I can say that the Society has flourished. Standards have been maintained; lecture meetings have usually been

satisfactory; and attendances (until recently) have been high. May we hope that the next nineteen years will be no less successful.

I am sure my successor, Jean Nicholson, will be an excellent lecture secretary. Let us offer her our good wishes and our support.

*Maurice Caplan*



### DELIVERY OF *TRANSACTIONS*



*For many years Miss Mulholland has very kindly organized a team of helpers to deliver copies of Transactions by hand to members living in the immediate area but not able to attend the A.G.M. In this way the Society has been saved a great deal of money in postage - it costs about £1.50 to mail each copy.*

*We are very grateful to Miss Mulholland for her work in this area, but she is no longer able to organize the delivery and this has meant a higher than usual postal bill in 1994. For 1995 the Council would be most grateful if any member of the Society with the time and transport would be willing to take on this task, either individually or by organizing a small group of helpers.*

*If you are able to help please get in touch with either the Secretary or the Chairman, and please do not be put off from offering your services by financial considerations, since it may be possible to arrive at a mutually acceptable arrangement. Please get in touch soon so that we can discuss the best way of producing copies of Transactions for the purpose of delivery.*



DR CAPLAN'S SUCCESSOR AS LECTURE SECRETARY IS MRS JEAN NICHOLSON:  
HERE SHE CONTRIBUTES HER 'PROFILE'.

## PROFILE OF JEAN NICHOLSON



I was born at Everton, North Nottinghamshire in 1931. I attended the village school and Retford High School very much on a part-time basis, as both schools acted as hosts to evacuees from Yarmouth. The village school also had children from Leeds and Birmingham, and for a time was the A.R.P. post. My interest in history started early: my earliest memories are of visiting Trinity Hospital in West Retford with my grandfather to see his uncle Joseph Denman Beed, who was one of the brethren there.

However, my career was science-orientated, first in Boots Antibiotic Research Department at Daleside Road, where Nancy Mulholland was one of my first friends - she introduced me to the Thoroton Society. It was at Daleside Road that I met my husband Joe.

We bought a then-dilapidated framework knitter's cottage at Lambley in 1953 and have lived there ever since. After bringing up three children I went to teach at Pierrepoint School. When it amalgamated with Manvers I became Head of Biology and a Pastoral Year Head. I retired in 1984.

Since then life has never been the same! I joined the Archdeaconry Research Unit at the University, took the Certificate in Local History, and the last year completed my M.A. in Local and Regional History. Needless to say, nearly

all my research has been on Retford and Bassetlaw. Even my four-year old granddaughter when she goes to nursery school informs everyone 'I've been helping Gran with her dissertation and we've been to Retford'.

Now that I am a free agent my researches are concentrated on - need you ask - 17th-century Retford and Bassetlaw. I hope to find out more about my Denman ancestors and their connection with the foundation of Trinity Hospital.

My other interests are my two grandchildren, and gardening. My husband and I are Assistant County Organizers for the National Gardens Scheme in Nottinghamshire; we open our own garden in early Summer. When I can find the time I enjoy cooking, painting, embroidery and bobbin lace making - and yes, I have got a bobbin lace-maker ancestress in my family tree!

### THREE COUNTIES LOCAL HISTORY FAIR

This year the local history fair was held at Rufford Park on 9 July. Sadly the Thoroton Society was not represented. None of the officers were in a position to look after a stall, and Council members were unable to step into the breach.

As this is becoming an annual event, are any members of the Society willing or able to help out, assuming that it falls on a convenient date? It simply means looking after a stall for part or all day. The officers can supply exhibits and other materials. Volunteers please contact the secretary, Rev Patrick Rowley, 116 Lincoln Road, Tuxford, Notts.

### CENTENARY HISTORY OF NOTTINGHAM

Preparations are going ahead for the production of a scholarly volume on the history of Nottingham to accompany celebrations in 1997 marking the centenary of the City Charter.

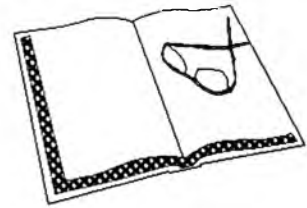
During the winter of 1994-5 a series of public seminars have been arranged at which many of the contributors to the volume will be presenting their preliminary findings. Speakers include the chairman of the Society's Council, Professor John Beckett, Dr David Marcombe, Dr Trevor Foulds, Mr Adrian Henstock, Mr Geoffrey Oldfield, Mr Ken Brand, and others who have close connections with the Society.

Thoroton members may well like to attend these seminars, which will be held in the Friends' Meeting House between 6.30 and 8.00 on a variety of evenings. Details will be available in local libraries, the archives office, and at Society meetings, as well as from Jean Jackson, Department of Leisure and Community Services, 51 Castle Gate, Nottingham (483500 ext 14012).



# BOOK REVIEWS

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SYLLOGE OF COINS OF THE BRITISH ISLES.

44 THE NORWEB COLLECTION, CLEVELAND, OHIO, U.S.A.  
TOKENS OF THE BRITISH ISLES 1575-1750

PART VI NORFOLK TO SOMERSET by R H THOMPSON and  
M J DICKINSON

LONDON: PUBLISHED BY SPINK & SON LTD, NOVEMBER 1993, PRICE £25

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'Sylloge' is not a word which is in everyday use, nor is it one which is likely to be very familiar, even to members of the Thoroton Society, for all their historical interests. The word simply means a collection and is taken directly from the Greek verb 'to collect'. It is used to record details of a collection, as opposed to a 'corpus' which aims to provide all the known details about a subject.

Vol. 44 of the Sylloge of Coins of the British Isles was sent to the Society for review because in part it relates to Nottinghamshire. It is the fourth volume in the series in respect of the Norweb Collection of Tokens: these volumes are being published in alphabetical order of counties, Part I being Bedfordshire to Devon (1984), Part II was Dorset to Gloucestershire (1988), Part III was Hampshire to Lincolnshire (1992), and the volume being reviewed covers Norfolk to Somerset, including Nottinghamshire.

The British Sylloge project was promoted in the early 1950s by members of the British and Royal Numismatic Societies and in 1956 the original informal committee secured its admission as a Committee of the British Academy; it is now a British Academy Research project. The aim of the series is to

publish detailed and fully illustrated catalogues of coins of the British Isles in British and foreign collections.

The Norweb Collection was built up by Mrs R. Henry Norweb and her husband who was an Ambassador of the United States. Despite their eminence, Mr and Mrs Norweb seem to have few biographical details recorded, but as he collected tokens Mr Ambassador Norweb was probably particularly interested in Nottinghamshire, because he was born here in 1894, went to America at the age of 13, attended Harvard, entered the Diplomatic Service and represented America as an Ambassador in Europe and South America. Perhaps some members of Thoroton can throw some light on his local background?

Nottinghamshire is regarded as a 'difficult' county for tokens and there are only 68 entries in this volume from this county, far fewer than the total number of tokens known to have been issued in Notts. in this period, and including none of the 'unique' tokens, i.e. those of which only one example is known to exist now.

The tokens included in this book, which all date from the period 1575-1750, are of great value to all who are interested in local history, of which coins and tokens can tell so

much. There are tokens from Bingham, Blyth, Collingham, Cossall, Laneham, Mansfield, Newark, Nottingham, Retford, Southwell, Tuxford and Worksop. Most were issued by tradesmen such as apothecaries or bakers, chandlers, mercers or milliners; some were issued by the Chamberlains of Nottingham; all are for amounts which seem very modest today, most having a face value of ½d.

This excellent publication is extremely well researched and presented, as would be expected when it has such a learned pedigree and has been produced by some of the leading numismatics of our generation. Every token is well illustrated and each one is described in very authoritative and informative detail.

This is a superb and unique volume of a scholarly nature which will be invaluable to all with a serious interest in the tokens which were in such common use for a long period of our history.

The copy sent to the Society may be borrowed from John Fox (tel. 0602 817981). Later this year it will be deposited with the other books collected by the Society in the library of the University of Nottingham, where it will be accessible to members of the Society and to all others with access to the University library.

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THE CHANGING FACE OF NOTTINGHAM IN OLD PHOTOGRAPHS  
by GEOFFREY OLDFIELD. PUBLISHED BY ALAN SUTTON/  
NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL. PRICE £7.99

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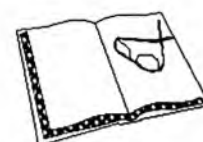
At first glance this latest volume in Alan Sutton's 'Britain in Old Photographs' series is yet another rehash of the same old photographs from the Local Studies collection. The back cover, however, explains why it is different. It consists largely of photographs with brief captions, but they are all hitherto unpublished and Geoff's own. In 1955, with commendable foresight, he set about recording Nottingham as it was, concentrating on those areas which he knew were to be

redeveloped. Over the next twenty years he accumulated an unparalleled series, some three hundred of which are reproduced here. They cover not only the city centre but parts of St. Anne's and other suburbs as far as Bulwell, areas not often included in the 'stock' Old Nottingham books. The result is a most valuable addition to the local historian bookshelf, and is excellent value.

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COACHING DAYS: THE TURNPIKE ROADS OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE  
by ARTHUR COSSONS, NOTTS. COUNTY LEISURE SERVICES. PRICE £2.45

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This is a reprint, with minor amendments, of a booklet first published as long ago as 1934 by the Historical Association and the Geographical Association as part of a national series. Even though the topic dealt with only one county, it was felt to be a national model of its kind. The author was the late Arthur Cossons, a Beeston headmaster who was an enthusiastic local historian, and it is a measure of his achievement that, sixty years later, his text requires little revision.

The booklet deals with the development of

turnpike roads both nationally and locally, including aspects such as Acts of Parliament, tolls, road maintenance and traffic. There is a definitive list, with dates and a map, of all the turnpike roads in Nottinghamshire. The new edition includes illustrations for the first time, and has a full colour cover reproducing a print of London Road, Nottingham in c.1808, depicting a Royal Mail coach approaching a tollgate. The Foreword has been contributed by the author's son, Sir Neil Cossons, Director of the Science Museum, London.

◆ ◆ ◆ BOOKS TO LOOK OUT FOR ◆ ◆ ◆



THE THURGARTON  
CARTULARY

Council member Dr Trevor Foulds has edited this important addition to our knowledge of medieval Nottinghamshire. The Augustinian priory at Thurgarton in Nottinghamshire was founded by Ralph Deyncourt in the 1130s. *The Thurgarton Cartulary* is the monastery's massive collection of 1177 charters and administrative records. The importance of the collection has long been recognized by medievalists, not least by Sir Frank Stenton and Kathleen Major, for the wealth of unique information which it contains. Until Dr Trevor Foulds edited the text, however, this important source remained rarely exploited. The local historian of Nottinghamshire and

Lincolnshire and the general medievalist will find here a substantial source for the study of medieval economy and society, for the study of place-names (there are several hundred field and street names in the Cartulary) and for genealogy. There is also a valuable fourteenth-century survey of the priory's lands containing information on agriculture and labour services, and even a medieval recipe for ginger syrup.

The edition is exemplary. There is a detailed introduction, genealogical tables of the main patrons of the priory, maps of the main estates and a full index. It is printed on long-life paper and bound in real cloth, and the whole edition is a monumental 1040 pages long. It retails at £75, but Thoroton Society members may obtain their copy at £60 post-free, from Paul Watkins Publishing, 18 Adelaide St, Stamford, PE9 2EN.

## \* \* AUTUMN LECTURE PROGRAMME \* \*

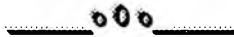
**Saturday 15 October 1994**

**RECENT EXCAVATIONS AT FLIXBOROUGH**

by Mr Gareth Watkins, BA, AITA

Gareth Watkins is a native of Nottingham; he attended West Bridgford Grammar School, then read History at Hull University. Subsequently he worked for Humberside Archaeology Unit, initially specializing in medieval pottery. He is currently Finds Co-ordinator for the Flixborough Project.

As well as using slides, Gareth will bring with him some of the spectacular finds and some display material. It promises to be a fascinating afternoon.



**Saturday 12 November 1994**

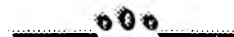
**EARLY MEDIEVAL CASTLES IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

by Dr Sarah Speight, MA, PhD

The origins and development of medieval castles have been a subject of ongoing controversy and debate since the 1960s. A lack of complete excavation of sufficient sites means that this debate will continue for many years yet. There will still be a significant number of monuments in the landscape that have either been misidentified as castles or which await classification as such.

In Nottinghamshire we have very few known castles, mainly due to the encroachments of Sherwood Forest, yet those that we do possess provide a fairly thorough survey of the types of castle that existed in England from the 1050s through to the mid-12th century. Using their evidence, this lecture will assess the current state of early 'castleology' and attempt to shed some light on our county's most obscure castle sites.

Dr. Speight took her first degree in Ancient & Medieval History at Manchester, an MA in Archaeology at Nottingham, and then a PhD on 'Family Faith and Fortification: Yorkshire 1066-1250'. She is currently teaching for the Adult Education Department and sees herself as an historian rather than an archaeologist. The 12th century is her speciality.



**Saturday 3 December 1994**

**INDUSTRIAL HISTORY OF THE EREWASH VALLEY**

by Mr Geoffrey Oldfield, MA

The River Erewash is less than 20 miles long, flowing from near Kirkby-in-Ashfield to join the River Trent. For much of its course it is the boundary between Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire. It gives its name to the Erewash Valley, the land extending east and west in the two counties. Over about the last 200 years the border area has seen the growth of a number of small towns which have arisen from the establishment of industries. This illustrated talk will trace the changing pattern of the industries and their effect on the communities.

Geoffrey Oldfield is a member of Council and well known as a local historian and as an author, lecturer and broadcaster.



*All lectures are held in the YMCA, Shakespeare Street, Nottingham, beginning at 3.00 p.m. Members are invited to patronize the book stall, and have a cup of tea after the lecture. Non-members too are welcome.*

*Please note a change from the Programme Card in the 12 November speaker.*

**LOOKING AHEAD TO 1995 LECTURES**

**14 JANUARY:** Dr Chris Salisbury  
Excavations at Hemington & the River Trent

**11 FEBRUARY:** The Nora Witham Lecture  
Rev P Bailey, MA  
19th century Leenside: A Nottingham Slum

**11 MARCH:** The Maurice Barley Lecture  
Professor David Hey - Vernacular  
Architecture and the Local Historian

**14 OCTOBER:** Dr John Samuels  
Recent Excavations on the Fosse Way

**11 NOVEMBER:** The Nottinghamshire  
County History Lecture

**2 DECEMBER:** A nostalgic pre-Christmas special! Bernard Bielby will present a lantern slide show on T. Hammond, Victorian lace designer and artist.