THE THOROTON SOCIETY Nottinghamshire's History and Archaeology Society



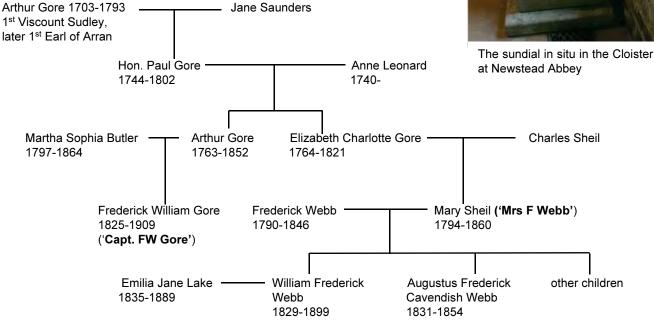
The Quarterly Newsletter of the Thoroton SocietyIssue 83Spring 2016

THE HISTORY OF A SUNDIAL AT NEWSTEAD ABBEY



Inscription on the dial plate of the Newstead Abbey Sundial





The family connections of William Frederick Webb of Newstead Abbey

The Thoroton Society of Nottinghamshire The County's Principal History and Archaeology Society Visit the Thoroton Society website at: www.thorotonsociety.org.uk

In this issue:

Editorial	2	National Civil War Centre	11
Reports on Lectures	2	Warner's Paddock, Bingham	12
Members' Research:		Friends of Nottingham Museums	13
The Barret family	4	Your Society:	
Newstead Abbey Sundial	6	Excursions 2016	13
Water Porridge Hall	8	Geoffrey Bond Award 2016	14
An Ancient Hedge	9	3 rd Nottinghamshire Archaeology Day	16
Information Sought	10	Bookshelf	16
News:		Published Articles	18
Newark Air Museum	10	The Thoroton Society – Information	19
Segelocum Archaeology project	10	Pictures	back cover

EDITOR'S SACKCLOTH AND ASHES DEPARTMENT (OR SHOULD IT BE THE SACK?)

In my endeavours to get the last issue of the Newsletter out on time, I omitted the second page of Barbara Cast's article on the Annual Luncheon. This of course included the account of Ted Cantle's talk to us. My apologies to you all, especially to Barbara. The article should conclude:

We then had the honour of welcoming Professor Ted Cantle, former Chief Executive of Nottingham City Council and currently Chairman of Nottingham Castle Trust, the multi-million pound trust which aims to transform Nottingham Castle and its associated Ducal Palace and grounds into a world-class heritage attraction. The 1000 year history of the site will be interpreted in three different themes – "Discovering 1000 Years of History", "Robin and the Rebels" describing the castle and its focus for dissident heroes throughout its history, and "Building on the V&A Gallery, the Creative City".

Professor Cantle's illustrated talk explained the ideas which were now being put into practical action to transform this long under-valued but incredibly important site into somewhere that Nottingham can be proud of once again and that people will flock to see. The project is due to be completed in 2019/20 and we look forward to witnessing its results. And we are promised that there will be no "plastic turrets"! – all will be done with care and respect for the integrity and history of the Castle.

This talk was greatly appreciated and the Chair, John Beckett, thanked Professor Cantle for joining us at our annual luncheon.

An enjoyable time together - we look forward to our lunch next year on 5th November 2016.

John Wilson - Editor

REPORTS ON LECTURES

The Archaeology Lecture, Saturday 10th October 2015 The people of the palace: voices of a community at Kings Clipstone, Nottinghamshire James Wright and Andy Gaunt

Society members were treated to a double presentation for the annual Archaeology lecture in October 2015, as James Wright (Senior Archaeologist, Museum of London Archaeology) and Andy Gaunt (Director, Mercian Archaeological Services) presented a rich and fascinating account of their decade-long research project on the site of the medieval royal residence at Kings Clipstone in the heart of Sherwood Forest.

The theme of the lecture was "The People of the Palace", and the approach was very interdisciplinary – with James providing a potted history of the many historical figures, from Kings and Queens to verderers, masons and monks, who are known to have been involved in the site's development, followed by Andy presenting the important new archaeological investigations that have been led by Mercian Archaeological Services in partnership with the modern-day 'people of the palace' – the Kings Clipstone local community.

The traditional name for the medieval ruins still standing at Clipstone, 'King John's Palace', dates only to the 18th century, and in fact John only spent a total of nine days there. Before this date the site was known as 'the King's Houses', and the earliest reference is in 1164, in the reign of King Henry II, who created the enclosed park at Clipstone. The ruins which stand today formed only one part of a much larger complex of buildings which have been revealed by geophysical survey and targeted archaeological excavations, and the documentary sources also mention a great many buildings throughout the medieval period including halls, chambers, a chapel, a gatehouse and a 'great stable' which could accommodate 200 horses, built in the reign of Edward I. Clipstone was continually visited by medieval monarchs, and seems to have been a particularly favoured residence for Edward II and Edward III. The archaeological project led by Mercian Archaeology and fully embraced by the local community has provided further fascinating insights into this important site. Field-walking, test-pitting and geophysical survey have all been undertaken, revealing a probable large boundary ditch to the west and south of the present standing remains and showing the likely extent of medieval stone buildings. The archaeological research is ongoing, and it is clear that the site of the King's Houses at Clipstone has many more fascinating stories to tell.

Chris King

26th Annual Nottinghamshire History Lecture, Saturday 14th November 2015 *Player's and its Products: A Nottingham Company and its Marketing History* Daniel O'Neill – University of Nottingham

The Annual Nottinghamshire History Lecture was devised in 1990 to provide an opportunity for new or recently qualified Historians to talk about their work. This year's talk, the 26th in the series, was given by Dan O'Neill whose PhD project used the John Player and Sons Advertising Archive, now owned by Nottingham City Museums and Galleries, to explore the role played by Player's in shaping smoking culture in the 1950s-1970s.

As Dan explained, Player's was one of the largest cigarette manufacturers in Britain and it invested extensively in marketing and advertising. In 1914, for example, it spent £60,000 on advertising; by 1930 this had grown to £680,000. Consequently the Archive comprises over 20,000 items including counter cards (displayed on tobacconist counters and in windows), free-standing 'dummy boards', a large collection of packaging material (as proto-types and for window dressing), in-house magazines (*Navy Cuttings* and *Player's Post*), and original art work produced by the Player's Design Studio. The earliest items date to the 1880s. One of John Player's innovations was pre-packed tobacco which was sold in his first shop on Beastmarket Hill. In the interwar years, Player's was one of the largest, if not the largest, employer in Nottingham. Until the 1970s, it had three large factories in the Radford area and its employees benefited from good wages and pension, a weekly ration of cigarettes, an annual bonus and a wide range of sporting and



Navy Cut cigarettes, 1928, 'Player's Please' Picture courtesy of the John Player Archive

social facilities.

A growing awareness of the dangers of smoking first came to the fore in the 1950s. Following extensive market research that revealed that most people started smoking between the ages of 15-23, a new advertising campaign, which portrayed smoking in the context of young, romantic love, was devised. Voluntary guidelines which prevented advertising aimed at the young curtailed this campaign and instead a new filter-tipped, milder (and therefore perceived as safer) and cheaper brand – No.6 – was developed. Promoting the brand was at first damaged by a ban on TV advertising. Innovative as always, the Player's Company began a lavish gift-scheme aimed at the family. Collecting vouchers encouraged brand loyalty, while the range of gifts available

appealed to both children and adults. The marketing strategy promoted ideas of leisure and pleasure so that Player's became sponsors of a range of activities including holiday camp games, beauty competitions, and sporting events, in particular Formula One motor racing with its JPS black and gold livery and one-day cricket through the John Player league.

The success of the company, in particular the No.6 brand, led to the opening of the state-of-the-art Horizon Factory in 1972 where, by 1974, 100 million cigarettes were produced every day. But the growing unpopularity of smoking and concerns about health eventually led to the contraction of the tobacco industry and mergers between previously competing manufacturers. Horizon, the last cigarette factory in Britain, is due to close in early 2016.

Judith Mills

The Neville Hoskins Lecture, Saturday 12th December 2015 From Failure to Success – the East Midlands and the Triumph of Magna Carta, 1212-1225 David Crook – University of Nottingham

This lecture is given in the memory of Neville Hoskins, a past President of the Thoroton Society.

David Crook, the speaker, is a member of the Council of the Thoroton Society and has been an editor of the Transactions. His talk was on the Magna Carta and its effect on the East Midlands .The brief peace treaty between King John and the barons, as a consequence of the 'signing' of Magna Carta, came to an end and led to an invasion by French troops. The war continued after John's death at Newark in 1216. It ended with the defeat of the rebel barons at Lincoln in 1217 when a revised version of the Charter was issued. A long period of tensions between the various factions ensued until King John's supporters from Poitiers were finally removed from their castles and offices of State. Amongst these supporters was Philip Marc, the Sheriff of Nottingham. The war was a rather protracted affair, with King John and his army travelling around the country suppressing the various rebellions. Once a rebel castle had been conquered by John's forces, it was destroyed. David showed some interesting pictures of the sites of largely unknown castles, often consisting of little more than a piece of masonry under a bush! The Magna Carta in its final form was reissued in 1225.

David gave us a fascinating insight into a period of English history that hitherto I for one knew little about.

Penelope Messenger

[See back cover for photographs – Ed]

The Maurice Barley Lecture, Saturday 9th January 2016 *Rufford Abbey in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries* Pete Smith

It was while Pete was working with Rosalys Coope on her Newstead Abbey book that he came across a picture of Rufford Abbey which intrigued him. According to the accepted building history of the house, Pete believed it must have been one of the earliest ever photographs of a country house, dating perhaps from the later 1830s. [See Autumn Issue no 81 page 14 - Ed] When he was reliably informed that the picture could not have been taken earlier than the 1870s, Pete realised that it was time for someone – and he was the obvious person, having recently retired from his post at English Heritage – to reassess the architectural development of Rufford in the nineteenth century. His research led him to conclude that a re-dating was needed of several of the major alterations, both internal and external, which were commissioned by the Savile family.

The lecture unravelled these changes. Anthony Salvin certainly worked at Rufford, adding a porch externally, and the Brick (or Great) Hall as well as the library internally. He decorated the Salon, and built the lodge gates on the A614 which are familiar to us today. What he did not do was to add the Staircase Wing, which must have been after his time. Pete suggested that it was built for John Savile, a successful diplomat, who inherited the property in 1886. The complexity of the family tree makes dating some of the alterations

problematic, and of course much of the house was demolished in 1956 having been sold by the family in 1938 and then requisitioned by the military in the war years. Pete also mentioned the motor house, now a cottage on the estate, but associated with Edward, Prince of Wales, who was a regular visitor to Rufford until his death in 1910.

Pete's findings will appear in a future article in *Transactions of the Thoroton Society*, and if you would like to know more about the Prince of Wales's visits, see Philip Jones, 'The Royal Visitor to Nottinghamshire, 1903', in John Beckett, ed., *Nottinghamshire Past* (2003), 172-85.

John Beckett

MEMBERS' RESEARCH

DR ROBERT THOROTON, THE BARRET FAMILY COAT-OF-ARMS, AND THE HERALDIC VISITATION OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE OF 1662-64.

The Society recently received an enquiry from Mr Mark White of Lindfield in West Sussex seeking information relating to a grant of a coat-of-arms issued to the Barret family who lived in the village of Thoroton near Bingham in the 17^{th} century. [See back cover for photograph – Ed.] The document had been passed down through at least four generations of his family but he had no knowledge of its origins other than the fact that Barret was the maiden name of his Victorian great-grandmother who lived in London.

Such grants-of-arms are quite a rare survival for Nottinghamshire, and this one is of especial interest in that not only was the Barret family related to Dr Robert Thoroton, but also that he almost certainly compiled their pedigree which was an essential prerequisite of such a grant. It is also unusual in that the grant was made to four brothers and their descendants rather than to a single person as was normal.

Most members will know that our Society was founded in 1898 and named in honour of Dr Robert Thoroton, who published the first history of the county - the *Antiquities of Nottinghamshire* - in 1677. Although he was a practising physician from Car Colston near Bingham, he possessed a passion for family and local history. He traced the history of his own family and was then persuaded to undertake genealogical research for some of his neighbours in the area; this eventually broadened into an interest in county-wide history.

The heraldic 'visitation' of the county in 1662-4 first brought him to the attention of the chief herald from London's College of Arms, Sir William Dugdale. He had published the first-ever English county history – of his native Warwickshire - in 1656, and he encouraged Dr Thoroton to do likewise for Nottinghamshire.

The College of Arms had oversight of all heraldic and official ceremonial issues relating to the upper classes, and the heralds made periodic visitations to selected counties to investigate claims of persons to bear arms and to call themselves 'gentlemen'. As possession of 'gentle' ancestry was almost as important as possession of a substantial estate in land or investments, genealogical research was a vital part of the process. This was particularly important in 1662 after the social upheavals of the Civil War when 'the world had been turned upside down', leaving many ancient families impoverished but throwing up numerous well-off newcomers aspiring to gentility.

Dugdale held the position of *Norroy King of Arms*, a title referring to the ten *northern* counties for which he was responsible, and he undertook a visitation of them all. He began in Nottinghamshire by holding court in August 1662 at the Castle Inn, Nottingham, then moved to the George at Newark and later at Retford and Mansfield; in all of these places he received and recorded claims to arms and examined pedigrees brought in by local families. He was thorough in his investigations and in fact some 70 Nottinghamshire men who were either claiming arms without authority or who did not wish to go to the expense of purchasing them were subsequently formally 'disclaimed' as being 'no gentlemen'. This took place at the Nottingham assizes in March 1664 by a bailiff, heralded by two trumpeters.

Dugdale relied on Dr Thoroton to research and certify at least eleven pedigrees during the period up to March 1663. As well as his own, these were mainly of neighbouring families from the Vale of Belvoir, such as the Stauntons of Staunton, the Scropes of Langar, and the four Barret brothers – Thomas, Richard, George and John - of Thoroton. The Thoroton family derived their surname from Thoroton village as they had owned

land there since the Middle Ages, although in c1517 they had disposed of their property in the parish to George Barret and moved three miles away to their other estate at Car Colston and Screveton. Dr Thoroton acknowledged kinship with the Barrets as both the mother of the four brothers and his great-grandmother were from the same family – the Owtrams of Car Colston. In the entry for Thoroton parish in his *Antiquities* he stated that 'my cousin Barrett had about 21 oxgangs' of land (c 200-250 acres?) there in the 1670s. In addition Thoroton reproduced in his book part of the Barret family pedigree which he had helped to research. The pedigree goes back to the late 1400s and shows that over the centuries Barrets were small freeholders who had married into several yeomen farming families in the Bingham, Newark and Southwell areas. Dugdale was satisfied with it and it was duly recorded in the rolls of the College of Arms. The family paid their fees and received a beautifully illuminated grant-of-arms on 12th May 1663. The arms comprised a silver band (*fess argent*) decorated with three red stars (*mullets gules*) and two smaller gold bands (*or*) against a red background containing three gold spear heads; the whole was surmounted by a crest depicting a multicoloured horse's head.

Thoroton reproduced these arms in the *Antiquities* as one of a series of 'thumbnail' sketches of arms of the county gentry. They also appear on a memorial inside Thoroton church to William Barrett, gentleman, who died aged 47 on 6th June 1706. He must have been the son of son of Richard Barret – one of the brothers recorded on the pedigree in 1662. Little is known about other contemporary family members. A Rev. John Barret (1631-1713) was rector of Nottingham St Peter's Church from 1656 but was ejected from his living in 1662 for his Presbyterian sympathies. However, he cannot have been the youngest brother John named as aged 24 in 1662 but may have been a cousin?

Dugdale remained Dr Thoroton's mentor, guide and friend, and the two men frequently corresponded over genealogical matters. Thoroton was rewarded in 1664 when Dugdale granted him a lion rampant crest to be used with his ancestral coat-of-arms. This crest had been used by another branch of his forebears of which he was very proud - the Norman baronial family of Lovetot who had founded Worksop Priory over 500 years earlier.

Adrian Henstock

THROWING LIGHT ON A SUNDIAL AT NEWSTEAD ABBEY

Newstead Abbey has a long history as a private house¹ and was owned by several prominent families. The most famous of these is the Byron family, who owned Newstead for 263 years until 1818 when the sixth Lord Byron, the poet, sold the property to his friend Colonel Thomas Wildman. The Wildman family owned the Abbey until 1860 when it was purchased by William Frederick Webb, who made many alterations and improvements to the house.

William Frederick (1829-1899) was the son of Frederick Webb and his wife Mary Shiel. Frederick, who had been in the Army, died in 1847 when William Frederick was just seventeen, leaving the latter a very wealthy young man. William Frederick entered the Army after education at Eton but did not stay long, although it is known that he served in the Crimea at some point². He resigned his commission as a captain in the 17th Lancers to go to South Africa, where he became a close friend of the explorer David Livingstone². William Frederick's younger brother Augustus, also a captain in the 17th Lancers, died in November 1854 of wounds received at the Charge of the Light Brigade. He is commemorated by a plaque in Newstead Abbey³.

There is, in the Cloister of Newstead Abbey, an unusual sundial consisting of a marble pillar with a mid-19th century bronze dial plate. The sundial once stood in the Fernery⁴, then was apparently transferred to a position in the American garden⁵, but at some point was brought into the Cloister. The dial bears an inscription:

This piece of marble, the capital of one of the smaller columns of the 'Temple of Venus' at Piraus, Athens. Presented to Mrs F. Webb by Cap^t. F.W.Gore 3rd Reg^t October 1856

The dial plate is of bronze, with a simple gnomon. The plate is inscribed with hour lines and compass directions in a fairly common pattern for the mid-nineteenth century, and a maker's mark '*Osmond Sarum*'.

The questions that come to mind are:

- who was Captain Gore?
- who made the sundial, and where?
- what was Captain Gore's connection to Mrs Webb?

Captain Gore

Captain Frederick William Gore (1825-1909) had been commissioned into the 3rd Foot (the 'Buffs') in 1846 and saw service in many war theatres, including the Crimean War. His unit was moved to Piraeus in November 1854 and stayed there until March 1855⁶. After a spell in Malta and further service in the Crimea, Captain Gore returned to England in 1856. Presumably it was during the stay at Piraeus that Captain Gore 'acquired' the capital from a column at the Temple of Venus. Captain Gore's military career took him to high rank and he retired in 1867. The following year he married Millicent, daughter of Major Robert Miller Mundy, RA, who was Lt Governor of Grenada.

Osmond Sarum

There is no sundial maker by the name of Osmond known to the British Sundial Society. However, a search of Kelly's Directory of Wiltshire for 1867 revealed two Osmonds in Salisbury (Sarum) at that time: Osmond, William, and Son, stone masons and sculptors, St John Street and Osmond, Thomas, boot and shoe maker, of St Ann Street. (The latter can of course be discounted.)

Mr William Osmond (1793-1875) was appointed Mason to Salisbury Cathedral in about 1818, and worked in that capacity for many years⁷. In addition to restoration work on the cathedral itself, he supplied many monuments for the cathedral and other churches. He was a close friend of the influential Gothic revival architect AWN Pugin. It is quite conceivable that Captain Gore asked Mr Osmond to obtain a suitably engraved sundial and mount it on the Greek column brought from Piraeus, so that he could present it to Mrs Webb. It is possible that one of Osmond's employees would have had the skill to make the bronze sundial plate and gnomon.

The Salisbury connection

There is a connection with Salisbury in that Frederick and Mary Webb lived in Wiltshire for many years, in the village of Hamptworth⁸. There is a memorial plaque to Frederick Webb in Salisbury Cathedral, made by Osmond⁹ which states:

Sacred to the memory of Frederick Webb esq of Westwick county of Durham and Hamptworth in this county. Youngest son of the late Sir John Webb Baronet; who departed this life at Brighton on the 4th of February 1846 aged 56 years.

Also of his youngest son Augustus Frederick Cavendish Webb esq., Captain 17th Lancers who died at Scutari on the 6th of Nov 1854 aged 22 years from wounds received in the brilliant Light Cavalry charge at Balaklava on the 25th of October 1854.

After Mary's death on 28 August 1860, the entire east window in the Church of St Andrew at Landford in Wiltshire was installed and dedicated to her memory. This would indicate that she had worshipped there on a regular basis for some time.

The Gore-Webb connection

So why did Captain Gore present the mounted sundial to Mrs Webb? Recently, a set of papers of the Webb family was donated to the Nottinghamshire Archives. A preliminary search of the archive revealed two documents of interest:

- a letter from Elizabeth Gore, dated 22nd April 1916, to her friend Mrs Fraser (a descendant of the Webbs), asking about the 'rumoured' relationship between their two families.

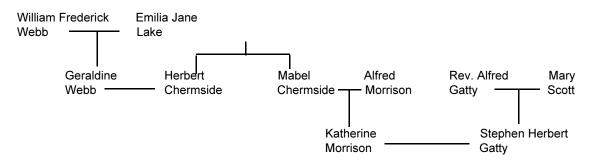
- a list of 'notes from a Bible' giving names of members of the Webb family and their dates of birth.

An internet search revealed the family tree shown on the front cover of this issue.

Captain Gore was therefore a cousin of Mrs Webb, as can be seen from the family tree. It is entirely possible that on his return from the Crimea, he gave the gift of the mounted sundial to his cousin Mary, in memory both of her husband Frederick who had pre-deceased her and of her younger son Augustus who had died at Scutari. Mary died in 1860, the year that William Frederick Webb purchased Newstead Abbey, so she would probably never have lived there. However, no doubt her son would have thought it important to bring the sundial, with its family connections, to Newstead.

The Gatty Connection

Those Thorotonians who went on the excursion to Wentworth Woodhouse last year will recall the very fine church of St Mary's, at Ecclesfield, where we stopped for coffee (see the report in the Winter issue no 82 of the Newsletter). There is a connection between the Rev Alfred Gatty (Rector of Ecclesfield for 64 years) and his wife Mary, and the Webb/Gore family. The Gattys' son Stephen Herbert Gatty married Katherine, daughter of Mabel Chermside and her husband Alfred Morrison. Mabel was the sister of Herbert Chermside who had married Geraldine Webb, the daughter of William Frederick Webb¹⁰.



Notes

- 1 Rosalys Coope and Pete Smith (2014) *Newstead Abbey a Nottinghamshire Country House 1540-1931* Thoroton Records Series volume 48
- 2 Personal Communication, National Army Museum, 2015
- 3 The plaque reads

In memory of Augustus Frederick Cavendish Webb, Captain 17th Lancers who died at Scutari 6 November 1854 of wounds received at the charge of Balaclava 25 October 1854 aged 22 years. Erected by his brother William Frederick Webb

- 4 Allen, Richard (1874) *The Home and Grave of Byron: A Souvenir of Newstead Abbey, Nottinghamshire Pub.* Richard Allen and Son, Nottingham. A copy of this work is in Bromley House Library.
- 5 A postcard, of c. 1912, clearly shows the sundial in the American garden.
- 6 Personal Communication, Tony Margrave, (2015)
- 7 A Biographical Dictionary of Sculptors in Britain, 1660-1851
- 8 John Martin (2015) A History of Landford in Wiltshire
- 9 <u>www.churchmonumentssociety.org/wilts 2(Salis).html</u> accessed 11.10.2015
- 10 Rosalys Coope (2001) *The Webb family and its ownership of Newstead Abbey, Nottinghamshire,* 1860-1925 Transactions of the Thoroton Society 105: 137-154

I would like to thank Haidee Jackson, Curator of Newstead Abbey, for helpful discussions and permission to photograph the sundial.

John Wilson

WATER PORRIDGE HALL – THE HALL THAT NEVER WAS

In our home, we have a framed facsimile of part of the first edition of the Ordnance Survey Map of Nottinghamshire. The original map was published at some time between 1824 and 1839. At the centre of our facsimile of the map is the place (at that time a muddy field) that would become our post code in the late 20th century. Close examination of the map reveals an apparent house name - Water Porridge Hall - some 2km to the east of the village of Calverton. Examination of various sources of reference on lost houses of Nottinghamshire failed to reveal a Water Porridge Hall. The name does not appear on later Ordnance Survey



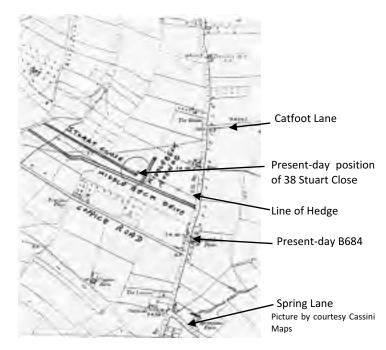
Careful research has revealed that Water Porridge Hall is not a building, but a field name¹. The Calverton village website states that '...one might visualise a mean farmer's wife feeding the sadly undernourished farm labourers with a thin gruel..'. It is easy to see how the name have been written would down the Ordnance in

Survey surveyor's notes, and then, back in the office, someone else might assume that an actual house stood there!

1 www.calvertonvillage.com accessed 15.12.2015

John Wilson

REMAINS OF WHAT MIGHT BE AN EARLY ENCLOSURE HEDGE AT ARNOLD/MAPPERLEY PLAINS



Our home, at 38 Stuart Close, Arnold, which is just below Mapperley Plains, was built in 1968 on land that had originally been farm land. The northern boundary of the property consists of a hedge, mainly of hawthorn. Some 35 years ago,



Hawthorn in the hedge in Winter. Ruler is 300mm

a tree surgeon expressed the opinion that some

of the trees in our hedge were at least 150 years old and possibly much more. This puts the date of planting of the hedge at, possibly, between 1800 and 1830. This article shows the location of my hedge on an early

map. Examination of the Ordnance Survey third edition 2 ½ inch to the mile maps (1920s) revealed the layout of the fields in the vicinity of the location of my house. Careful tracing of the modern roads (Middlebeck Drive and Stuart Close) onto this map has revealed the section of hedge that borders my garden.

The map above shows the area around Mapperley Plains on the 1920s OS map. Examination of Sanderson's 1835 Map of Twenty Miles around Mansfield shows that the field system on the 1920s map was in place by 1835. Thus, my hedge was in existence when Sanderson surveyed the county.

Sadly, most of the residents of Stuart Close have removed their hedgerow trees, so ours is one of the few stretches of the original enclosure hedge in this location which are still in existence. It will be managed carefully for the future. John Wilson

INFORMATION SOUGHT – Sir Roger Portington

Does anyone know anything about (Sir) Roger Portington, who was elected MP for East Retford in 1593 and 1597? Before this he was a JP for Nottinghamshire. I have his basic dates, and information on his and his wife's (South Yorkshire) families, and his education (Middle Temple). He was knighted by James I in 1603, and died in 1605 at Thorpe Salvin. The 7th Earl of Shrewsbury was his very good friend and there is a probable connection to Robert Greene, the playwright/poet. He was intimately connected with Worksop Manor Lodge. I would be interested to know if he has turned up in any other research about North Nottinghamshire. Please contact Megan Doole at meganandbryan@yahoo.co.uk

NEWS - 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WW2 ATTACK ON RANSOME & MARLES FACTORY IN NEWARK

The events team at <u>Newark Air Museum</u> is making arrangements for a one day event on Sunday 6th March 2016, to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the Luftwaffe attack on the Ransome & Marles bearing factory in Newark-on-Trent, which took place on 7th March 1941.

This commemoration is a joint venture between the museum and the NFS and AFS Vehicles Group; and hopefully Newark Town Hall, Newark Cemetery, NSK (TBC) and other likeminded organisations. The NFS and AFS Vehicles Group specialise in re-enacting wartime and post-war firefighting activities of the National Fire Service and Auxiliary Fire Service: see their website <u>http://nfs-afs.org.uk</u>

The commemoration will be part of a weekend of events, starting at 1:30pm on the Saturday outside the Town Hall with the reading of the names of the 41 people killed, and culminating at the Cemetery on the Monday where 30 of the 41 are buried. The museum will also be remembering the 80th Anniversary of the first flight of the Spitfire. The Rolls-Royce Merlin engines of this iconic fighter used bearings from Ransome & Marles.

The main event at the Museum will be a major Air Raid demonstration organised by the NFS and AFS Vehicles Group, who are well-known in 1940s circles for their realistic demonstrations at Woodhall Spa, Rufford, and the Newark Fire Show. The demonstration will start at 1:25pm, the actual time of the air raid 75 years ago, and the events in the aftermath of this will run all afternoon.

Further information from <u>events@newarkairmuseum.org</u>. [See photograph on back cover – Ed.]

Other events at Newark Air Museum in 2016 include:

5 March 2016 – Indoor Aeroboot / Aerojumble Table Top Sale; 48 sellers' tables all hosted inside Display Hangar 2 amongst the aircraft at the museum site.

21 & 22 May, 2016 – Tribute to the V-Force; this event is dedicated to the aircraft and personnel that flew Valiants, Victors and Vulcans. This slimmed down event includes a reunion of former V-Force personnel. Based around the museum's Vulcan aircraft, it will also feature many visiting displays and is open to the public.

18 & 19 June 2016 – Cockpit-Fest 2015 & Aeroboot / Aerojumble; this regular two-day event provides the perfect opportunity for the public to view a diverse range of visiting aircraft cockpits.

SUCCESS FOR THE SEGELOCUM ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT

A new project is aiming to unearth the secrets behind what is believed to be Nottinghamshire's largest Roman settlement. Archaeologists from Nottinghamshire County Council have been working with Sturton-le-Steeple Parish Council to improve understanding of the environment and way of life for people living in the former Roman town of Segelocum, modern day Littleborough, to the east of Retford on the River Trent.

Segelocum is thought to have been the largest of our five known Roman towns in the county, the other four sitting on the historic 'Fosse Way', which stretched from Exeter to Lincoln. Part of the town lies beneath what is currently a farmer's field. Crop marks in the field have clearly shown the outline of roads and buildings in the past and a number of items have been recovered from the site during previous archaeological work, including pots and metal objects which are stored in the Bassetlaw Museum.

Following a successful bid to the Heritage Lottery fund, the Parish Council has secured a £36,000 grant which will be used to carry out a geophysical study of the former town along with fieldwalking and digging test pits in village gardens to examine how the area around the town developed.

The geophysical work, which will include the use of specialist equipment to scan the remains under the field and construct an image of the layout of Segelocum, is set to begin next month. The fieldwalking and test pits are likely to be carried out next spring, with local volunteers invited to work alongside Nottinghamshire County Council archaeologists on the scheme.

Lorraine Horsley, Community Archaeologist at Nottinghamshire County Council, said: "This is a really exciting project which will help to lift the lid on what life was like in Nottinghamshire's largest Roman town. "Many of the previous studies on Roman life have centred on major cities or large villas, but this project will give us a fascinating insight into the lives of people from all walks of life, giving us a better understanding of where and how they lived, worked and interacted. The fact that the majority of the site is directly beneath a field makes it a perfect location because we have no subsequent development to work around. It's fantastic that the local community will be so heavily involved in this project and that they will be able to discover, with us, the amazing history that lies beneath their feet."

Karen Howard, Chair of Sturton Le Steeple Parish Council said "We are delighted that we have been able to secure funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund to support this project. We know that there is a lot of interest amongst local residents, and we are particularly pleased to receive support from the local primary schools and neighbouring Parish Councils. We are all now looking forward to getting stuck in to discover for ourselves more of the Roman heritage on our side of the River Trent" Further information about the project can be found at <u>www.sturton-le-steeple.org.uk/segelocum-archaeology-project/</u>. Volunteers will be welcomed.

370TH ANNIVERSARY OF NEWARK'S FALL TO BE MARKED BY MAJOR CIVIL WAR EVENT

The National Civil War Centre has revealed details of a major event to mark the 370th anniversary of the fall of Newark during the British Civil Wars. Re-enactors from across the UK will descend on the town on 1 and 2 May to garrison key locations, including the National Civil War Centre, nearby Newark Castle, which was a major Royalist bastion during the epic clash between crown and parliament, and Friary Park, which stands on the site of major civil war fortifications

During the last of three sieges over the bitter winter of 1645 to 46 Newark was assailed by 16,000 Parliamentarian and Scottish soldiers, desperate to destroy the staunchly promonarchy outpost. The ordeal lasted for six months and was made even worse by the outbreak of typhus and plague with a



third of the population dying. The town surrendered on the direct orders of King Charles on 8 May 1646, an event that marked the end of the first phase of the nation's deadliest ever conflict.

Michael Constantine, manager of the National Civil War Centre, explained:



Newark Castle. Picture courtesy of David Crook

"We staged a massive re-enactment last year to mark the opening of the UK's first National Civil War Centre in Newark. This spring we have refined our plans and promise another event full of colour and noise to mark the 370th anniversary. Troops will march through the historic streets, musket fire will echo through the town and there will be plenty of chance for people to try on civil war armour and learn more about this amazing period in our history. It will be another great couple of days for Newark."

Those appearing will include the Marquis of Winchester's and Colonel Robert Overton's Regiments of Foote, together with other members of the English Civil War Society and the popular History Re-enactment Workshop. There will be a tented encampment at the castle, while drill and musket displays take place at Friary Park. It is likely there will also be a wreath laying ceremony to mark the town's fall. More details will be revealed nearer the time.

www.nationalcivilwarcentre.com

WARNER'S PADDOCK, BINGHAM, SAVED!

The recent good news from Southwell was followed shortly afterwards by similar good news from Bingham. Warner's Paddock – the only remaining green space surviving in the centre of the town (not to be confused with the protected Crow Close site on the edge of the town) has also been saved from future development. Along with some 2000 acres of arable farmland in the parish it belongs to the Crown Estate, which acquired it in the 1920s on the sale of the property of the Earls of Carnarvon (inherited from the Stanhopes, Earls of Chesterfield, who had purchased it in 1591).

Warner's Paddock is ancient pasture land grazed by horses and surrounded by trees, orchards, ancient hedgebanks and wild flowers and retaining its old village atmosphere. It is in the Bingham Conservation Area and bounded on one side by an attractive sunken footpath called Jebbs' Lane - one of the 'cross lanes' which formed part of the mediaeval grid layout of the town. One corner is rented by the Bingham Bowling Club who use a converted 18th Century dovecote as a clubhouse.

The site has been threatened with development on at least four occasions over the past 40 years, each of them narrowly staved off by protests from concerned locals, aided on one occasion by the intercession of the Prince of Wales! A new application for housing was recently proposed by the Crown Estate, despite having already been granted permission to build 1000 houses over part of their farmland. This attempt to squeeze an additional 'pound of flesh' from such a small and sensitive site outraged many inhabitants, especially as the access road would have ruined the ancient lane. After protracted negotiations the Crown finally relented and agreed to rent the land to the Town Council for 21 years for a much-needed public open space.

The site is especially important because in the last two years six archaeological test pits were dug along Jebb's Lane and in the Paddock by Bingham Heritage Trails Association (BHTA) as part of a community project of digging pits in gardens all over the town. These six pits included some of the richest in Bingham, containing material from the Iron Age, Roman, Anglo-Saxon and early Mediaeval periods, suggesting the lane had been a trackway for centuries. It is hoped that now further excavations will be possible to shed further light on the town's past. **Adrian Henstock**

FRIENDS OF NOTTINGHAM MUSEUMS

The Friends of Nottingham Museums was established in 1977 to provide support to the City Council's museums and galleries in raising funds to help purchase new items for the collections, and assist in volunteer projects and work at events.

There is a regular programme of talks, visits to galleries and historic sites and all members receive a quarterly newsletter.

Our programme from March 2016 to February 2017 is as follows. Lectures are held in Studio 1 at Nottingham Castle, 2 pm prompt.

12 March	East Midlands Country Houses: Colin Groves
16 April	William and Mary Howitt – a literary marriage: Rowena Edlin-White
14 May	Half day outing to Lincolnshire Aviation Heritage Centre, East Kirby
21 May	Footpads, Kings and Highwaymen – along the Great North Road in Notts: Ian Morgan
18 June	Plans for Nottingham Castle – the Trust Chief Executive: Heather Mayfield.
16 July	Day outing to Gunby Hall and Gardens, nr. Spilsby, Lincolnshire
23 July	History of the Malt Cross Music Hall: Rebekah Wood
17 September	Bromley House Library: Carol Bairstow
15 October	Lady Arbella Stuart – The Queen that never was: David Templeman
12 November	So you think you know Nottingham, Part 3: Peter Hammond
10 December	The Christmas carol from ancient to modern: Marion Allen
14 January 2017	Isaac Newton, Part 2: Alan Lievesley
11 February 2017	Annual General Meeting (members only)

Non-members are welcome at meetings and outings on payment of an additional charge of £2 (normal entry charge to The Castle applies). For further information tel. 0115 922 1734

Membership: Non-senior citizens £14; two adults living at the same address £20. Senior citizens £12; two seniors at the same address £18. Membership applications are dealt with by Daphne Hartley, tel. 0115 9283688, and members of the Thoroton society are most welcome to join The Friends at one of their talks.

YOUR SOCIETY

THOROTON SOCIETY EXCURSIONS : 2016 THURSDAY 12TH MAY BILBOROUGH, SOUTHWELL AND WOODTHORPE LEADER : Alan Langton

The object of this excursion, the first of the season, is to explore things ancient and modern. We begin with a visit to the Church of Saint Martin of Tours at Bilborough, where excavations in the course of restoration have revealed a rich heritage of a medieval church which was in danger of being lost for ever. The project received an English Heritage Angel Award. From here we journey to Southwell for a guided tour of the restored remains of the Archbishop of York's Palace, with a light lunch, possibly in the State Chamber. Afterwards, there should be some free time to look in the Minster too. The excursion will end with a visit to the Church of the Good Shepherd at Woodthorpe, which is regarded as a fine example of a modern church architecture, and which again earned an award when it was built.

THURSDAY 16TH JUNE KING RICHARD III LEADER : Alan Langton

This excursion will look at two significant aspects associated with King Richard III. We will travel to the new Visitor Centre by Leicester Cathedral where we will have a talk by Dr Matthew Morris, who was very closely involved in the discovery of the remains of the king, famously in the car park. We will then have a tour of the new Visitor Centre, and the opportunity for lunch there or in a nearby cafe. We then travel to the site of the Battle of Bosworth, with a guided tour, a tour of the Visitor Centre, and afternoon tea.

THURSDAY 14TH JULYKIMBOLTON CASTLE AND BUCKDEN TOWERLEADERS : Penny Messenger and Margaret Trueman

Kimbolton is a late Stuart house adapted from a thirteenth century manor house. Katherine of Aragon spent the last months of her life here. It later became the home of the earls and dukes of Manchester, and is now a school. Rebuilding work was accomplished in the eighteenth century by Vanbrugh and Hawksmoor, with a Robert Adam gatehouse. There are significant paintings on the staircase. We then travel to Buckden Tower, where lunch will be provided. The building is a twelfth century fortified manor house. It was also a moated Bishop's Palace for the bishops of Lincoln, although little remains of this building. The site has been visited over the centuries by Edward 1, Henry III, Richard III, Lady Margaret Beaufort, and Katherine of Aragon. The building is now owned by the Clavedon Missionaries.

TUESDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER CLIFTON CHURCH AND SHEFFIELD MANOR LEADER : Alan Langton

The church of Saint Mary in Clifton village is mentioned in Domesday. In 1476 the chancel was enlarged when Sir Robert Clifton founded a chantry college. The church was re-ordered in 1975-9 when a pre-Reformation altar from the Kelham monastery was given. There is a stained glass window by Kempe and various alabaster tombs of the Clifton family. After coffee here, we shall travel to Sheffield Manor. This began as a hunting lodge and became a grand Tudor manor house, the home of the 4th Earl of Shrewsbury. The 6th Earl enlarged the house with a great long gallery. Cardinal Wolsey lodged here. The male Shrewsbury line died out in 1616, the estate came into the hands of the Dukes of Norfolk, and it fell into disrepair. The site was purchased by Sheffield Corporation in the 1930s and the ruin conserved. We will have lunch here, followed by a guided tour, before leaving for Nottingham.

Further details of all these excursions will be sent out during the year for members to book reservations. We do welcome friends of members also to these outings. The booking leaflets for the May and June and July excursions will be sent with the papers for the Society's Spring Meeting, and the leaflet for booking for Sheffield Manor excursion will follow with the June Society Newsletter.

THE GEOFFREY BOND RESEARCH AWARD

Geoffrey Bond, a long-standing member of the Thoroton Society, generously provided funds last year to support research into the history and archaeology of the county of Nottinghamshire (the remit of the Thoroton Society). Geoffrey's award continues for a further four years for which we are most grateful.

Last year, the first year of the award, we received some excellent submissions and it was decided that two of them should share the £1000 available, each receiving £500 to help support their ongoing research projects. One was a community project exploring through various means, including archaeological investigation, the role of Kelham in the Civil War; the other comprised research into the historic dissemination of political information and of the formation of political ideas. We look forward to reading more of their work in due course, hopefully in future editions of the *Transactions*.

Due to the success of the 2015 award, it has been decided to increase the amount available - the Society will be making a further £1000 available from its funds, making a total of £2000. This we hope will encourage more of our members, as well as other organisations and individuals, to undertake research into areas of the county's history and archaeology of interest to them and, hopefully, that we will all wish to learn more about. Again, it may well be that the amount available will be awarded to more than one project.

The terms and conditions of the award are as last year. They can be found on the Society's website and are also reproduced below. The closing date for submissions is 1st September 2016.

Barbara Cast, Hon. Secretary

Terms and Conditions for the Geoffrey Bond Award

1. Anyone, or any group, currently researching the history or archaeology of Nottinghamshire is invited to apply for financial support from the fund. Applicants, whether individuals or groups, are limited to one award per year but are not prohibited from applying for awards in successive years.

2. What can the money be used for?

i. The money can be used to support research into any topic relating to the history or archaeology of the county. This may include the acquisition of research resources, including books, photography and photocopying, and travel expenses. Applications are also welcome from individuals or groups currently working up a project on Nottinghamshire, especially where some financial support will lead to an application to, for example, the Heritage Lottery Fund, research councils (RCUK), or research charities such as the Leverhulme Trust.

ii. Awards will not be made towards the payment of fees (as in the form of fees to a university for registering for a doctoral programme, or groups wanting to employ someone, or for subventions towards the cost of publication. [Note that the Nottinghamshire Local History Association has awards for this purpose.]

3. Applications.

i. Anyone wishing to apply to the fund for support must do so on or before 1 September 2016.

ii. The application should take the form of a statement (maximum 2 pages A4) outlining the nature of the research being undertaken, plans for dissemination of the research (including by publication) and the way in which it is intended to use the award. The total sum applied for should be clearly stated.

iii. Applicants should include an indicative budget under appropriate headings (i.e. travel, reprographics, readers' fees, subsistence etc).

iv. Applicants should also include a one-page (A4) curriculum vitae in the case of an individual, or statement of purpose in the case of a group.

v. Applications should be submitted by e-mail to the honorary secretary barbaracast@btinternet.com.

Decisions will be taken by a committee of the society's Council by 30 September. Any money awarded will normally be paid by BACS transfer or society cheque on the presentation of receipts, although an upfront payment may be made in exceptional circumstances such as, for example, pre-booked travel. The grant recipient will be responsible for guaranteeing the appropriate use of the funds. It is a condition of the award that receipts are kept (for auditing purposes) and that an account of expenditure is returned at the end of the award period.

4. What will be expected of the recipient?

i. All activity associated with the award should be completed within one year (i.e. 30th September following the award), at which point a short report (maximum 2 sides A4) should be submitted, outlining the work undertaken, its outcomes, plans for dissemination (including publication) and an account of expenditure accompanied by supporting receipts.

ii. Award recipients will be expected to write a short article about their research project for an edition of the Society's quarterly newsletter, and will be encouraged to write up some or all of their research for possible

inclusion in the Society's annual volume of *Transactions* or its online Heritage Gateway. Receipt of an award does not guarantee publication, which is subject to the usual editorial processes. Recipients may also be invited to contribute to the Society's annual lecture programme.

5. Award recipients should acknowledge their award in any future publications or outputs from the research.

6. In the event of award recipients being unable to undertake the work for which financial support was granted, the award will be withdrawn.

THIRD NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGY DAY

The Society will once again be represented at the Third Nottinghamshire Archaeology Day, which will be held at the University of Nottingham on Saturday 9th July 2016.

BOOKSHELF



THORESBY: THE END OF THE MINE

This is a large format 32x24 cms, softback, 140 page book dealing with the period of closure of Thoresby Colliery, the last deep mine in Nottinghamshire. It is primarily a photographic record of the closure period with quotes from workers to augment the images. The author, Chris Upton, is a professional landscape and documentarv photographer working out of Southwell. He is an official Fuji X series photographer and has worked, amongst other things, for the Thai Tourism Authority in making images of Thailand for tourist advertising purposes.

Chris was given access to the colliery site and was able to document the surface activities, offices, workshops, stores and the colliery in general. A particularly poignant section contains portraits of several of the workers at Thoresby. The images are all monochrome, photographed and reproduced in exceptionally high quality.

This is a very important document in the history of Nottinghamshire, particularly the coal industry, and is well worth the purchase price for the photographs alone. However, it is also of importance to any local historian of Nottinghamshire as well as anyone who is interested in the story of the County.

The book is highly recommended. It costs £25 plus p&p obtained directly from the author's website at: http://www.chrisuptonphotography.com/section807424.html.

Howard Fisher

BONNIE PRINCE CHARLIE AND THE HIGHLAND ARMY IN DERBY

By Brian Stone

Cromford, Scarthin Books, 2015.pp 207. ISBN 978-1-900446-16-7 pbk £12.95

This is a highly enjoyable book which deserves a wide readership. Its main purpose is to explore the brief occupation of Derby by Prince Charles's army in December 1745. The occupation is set into a detailed

context of the history of the Stuarts, the rebellion, local and national politics and finally the invasion itself: this takes up the first five of the twelve chapters of the book before it turns to the central topic, the prince and his army in Derby. Brian Stone has made extensive use of available primary sources in order to explore the effects on the town of the presence of the invading force as well as examining some of the myths surrounding the occupation, both contemporary and those developed since. Stone explores how the town was abandoned by numerous of the more prosperous inhabitants and by the Derby Blue regiment which marched to Nottingham during the night of 3-4th December when it was realised that they alone were in the path of the prince's advancing army. Once at Nottingham, they were given control of the Nottinghamshire county magazine at the castle.

One of the strengths of the book is the vivid way in which mid-eighteenth century Derby is presented; this brings the town and its inhabitants to life and thus in turn makes the occupation real. Stone tackles the inhabitants' perceptions of the Highland Army and attempts successfully to show how the image of rough and uncouth highlanders presented by the national press was offset by some of the eye witnesses and by those whom the soldiers were billeted upon. He also explores in some detail the decision to withdraw from Derby, made on 5th December at what has reportedly been a stormy council of war at Exeter House. The book concludes with several chapters exploring the retreat and the conclusion of the rebellion with a final chapter reviewing Charles Stuart's chances of success had he advanced towards London instead of retreating. Brian Stone has included a series of useful and interesting appendices, including an analysis of the army led by the prince into Derby. Whilst the book naturally focuses on neighbouring Derby it is an important study of an event of national and international importance through the lens of a local study as Derby was albeit briefly the centre of European history. It was there that the rebellion reached its climax, and where the crucial decision to end the invasion of England was taken too. Brian Stone provides a fresh light on the discussions at Exeter House, and how the antipathy of the town and the people of the wider East Midlands played a role in decisions of national importance.

Martyn Bennett

HOMES and PLACES: A HISTORY OF NOTTINGHAM'S COUNCIL HOUSES

By Chris Matthews. Published by Nottingham City Homes 2015 £9.99 ISBN 978-0-9934093-0-1 Available from Five Leaves Bookshop, Long Row East

With this book Chris Matthews has presented us with very readable account of a part of Nottingham's social history that is all too often overlooked. The book was commissioned in the spring of 2015 and in a short space of time Chris has managed to read voluminous reports, interview the right people - officials, councillors and others - and collect the thoughts and opinions of existing tenants. The text is enlivened with photographs old and new, mainly from Nottingham City Council, www.picturethepast.org.uk and Nottingham City Homes. The statistics quoted enrich the text and are impressive. There are a few maps and, a very pleasant surprise, a full page reproduction in colour of artist Paul Waplington's *May Day Hyson Green* 1978. Each of the seven chapters has a comprehensive set of endnotes (references).

The decision to divide the narrative into seven distinct sections is most apt and helps to highlight the changing attitude of central governments to the overall concept of council housing. The seven sections are:

- 1. The Old Problem
- 2. Inter-war Success 1919-1939
- 3. Post-war Rebuilding 1945-1959
- 4. Clearance and High-rise 1960-1969
- 5. Clearance and Low-rise 1970-1979
- 6. Right to Buy, but No Right to Build 1980-2004
- 7. To Build Again 2005-2015

The chapter headings are really self-explanatory. *The Old Problem* chronicles the town, pre and post the main enclosure act of 1845 and takes us down to 1914, with just a glimmer of unsubsidised council housing.

Inter-war Success 1919-1939 gives us the twenties, the Cecil Howitt decade, then the thirties with slum clearance and with other architects building on Howitt's high standards, getting national approval!

Post-war Rebuilding 1945-1959 covers the introduction of pre-fabs, steel framed houses and, most important of all, the creation of the Clifton Estate; 6,828 houses were built there for some 30,000 residents in seven years.

Clearance and High-rise 1960-1969: Enter the sixties with central government encouraging high-rise six storeys and above. Various areas in the city, including Basford and Hyson Green were cleared to allow the erection of these towers and deck access blocks.

Clearance and Low-rise 1970-1979: The St. Ann's and the Meadows clearance areas and the 5,500 replacement low-rise houses made the biggest impression on the city's landscape. 14,800 houses were built in the decade, although about half had been started in the 1960s.

Right to Buy but No Right to Build 1980-2004: The 1980 Housing Act drove the 'Right to Buy', at varying levels of discount. The inherent weakness in the Act is shown by the figures: by 2005 only 3,200 new council houses had been built in Nottingham to replace the 20,761 council houses in the city that had been sold. Deck access and high-rise flats had become uneconomic to repair and were unpopular. The demolition of Balloon Woods in 1984 was followed by the Basford Flats, the deck access in Hyson Green and at smaller sites across the city.

To Build Again 2005-2015: To unlock extra funds the Council eventually decided to convert their traditional housing services into one of the new ALMOS - 'arm's length management services' - Nottingham City Homes. After a shaky start it now manages over 28,000 properties for the City Council, still providing those essential back up services; a programme of 'secure, warm, modern' decent homes plus better planned maintenance, by a multi-skilled repair staff. 400 new homes are due to be completed by 2017.

Finally, it is well worth quoting the author's overview on council housing: 'In Nottingham, council housing is popular and widely recognised as something that at one time or another improved the lives of countless people. It is probably safe to add that council housing marked the biggest collective leap in living standards in British history.'

Ken Brand

PUBLISHED ARTICLES NOTED

The Local Historian October 2015, volume 45 no 4

Winchester, Angus JL - By ancient right or custom'; the local history of common land in a European context Thomas, James - County, commerce and contacts: Hampshire and the East India Company in the eighteenth century

Bird, Margaret - Supplying the beer: life on the road in late-eighteenth-century Norfolk

Hughes, Frank - The cost of caring: expenditure on county asylum services in Shropshire and Middlesex 1850-1900

Young, Helen - Contributing to the community debate: understanding social change in rural Scotland during the twentieth century

Tiller, Kate - How we remember: a review article

THE THOROTON SOCIETY

OFFICERS

President: Adrian Henstock BA DAA FRHistS Chairman: Professor John Beckett BA PhD FRHistS FSA Secretary: Barbara Cast BAHons Little Dower House, Station Road, Bleasby, Nottingham, NG14 7FX email: <u>barbaracast@btinternet.com</u> Treasurer: John Wilson BPharm MPhil FRSPH email: <u>wilsonicus@btinternet.com</u> Membership Secretary: Judith Mills BAHons MA PhD email: membership@thorotonsociety.org.uk

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Individual Ordinary membership £25.00 Associate member (at the same address) £6.00 Student/Under 21 £6.00 Individual Record Section membership £15.00 Combined Ordinary and Record Section £35.00 Institutional Ordinary membership £25.00 Institutional Record Section £20.00 (non-UK £24)

RESEARCH GROUP

Meets twice a year. Contact for details: John Wilson email: wilsonicus@btinternet.com

RESPONSE GROUP

The Society seeks to respond to matters of historical and conservation concern which arise in the County. If members become aware of such matters please contact the Group Co-ordinator, Barbara Cast - contact details above.

VICTORIA COUNTY HISTORY

A group of researchers continuing the VCH of Nottinghamshire. For information and to join the group contact the County Editor, Philip Riden at philip.riden@nottingham.ac.uk.

PUBLICATIONS

The Society publishes an annual *Transactions* volume which is distributed to all members. The Record Section volumes are published from time to time and are distributed to members paying the extra subscription for this Section. They are also available for purchase by other members and the general public. Quarterly Newsletters are circulated to every member.

LECTURES

Lectures, unless stated otherwise in the programme booklet, are held at the Nottingham Mechanics, 3, North Sherwood Street, Nottingham, NG1 4EZ, commencing at 2.30 p.m. with the Bookstall open from 2 p.m.

DEADLINES for Newsletter items are 1 February, 1 May, 1 August and 1 November of each year. Copy should be sent to the EDITOR, John Wilson, 38 Stuart Close, Arnold, Nottingham NG5 8AE Email: <u>wilsonicus@btinternet.com</u>

Items can be handwritten or typed in Word format, either suffix .doc or .docx. Pictures, diagrams and maps are all most welcome to illustrate an item. Images can be submitted on CD, DVD, as an email attachment or sent for scanning. Preferred size 300dpi JPEG. Images will be adjusted to suit the publication.

All copyright remains with the author and photographer. No item may be reproduced without the express permission of the author and Newsletter editor. Due regard for copyright issues must be given when sourcing items for illustration. Acknowledgement of authorship and photographer will be given where this information is known. All views expressed in the Newsletter are those of the author and not necessarily shared by the Thoroton Society, its officers or Council members.

THE THOROTON SOCIETY IS A REGISTERED CHARITY No. 237755.

The Newsletter is printed by **Adlard Print**, The Old School House, The Green, Ruddington, Nottinghamshire NG11 6HH <u>www.adlardprint.com</u> tel 0115 921 4863



Barret of Thoroton Grant of Arms 1663 – see article by Adrian Henstock

Photographs relating to the report of the talk by David Crook:

Clockwise from the right - King John's Great Seal, the Salisbury copy of the Magna Carta, Skegby Manor House, Croxton Abbey







Members of the NFS and AFS Vehicles Group pictured with their Austin K4 Turntable Ladder at Newark Air Museum in 2014 - see article on Newark Air Museum © Newark Air Museum



