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RUTLAND BUILT ENVIRONMENT AWARDS 2013

The George Phillips and Tony Traylen Built Environment Awards are presented annually by the Society in conjunction with Rutland County Council in recognition of a significant contribution towards conserving or enhancing the built environment of Rutland.

Now in its 35th year, the George Phillips Award is for a recent new or refurbished building or development. The Tony Traylen Award, introduced in 2007, is for the renovation or conservation of an historic building. Judging is undertaken jointly by the Society and Rutland County Council.

Edward Baines, President of the Society, was master of ceremonies for the evening on 30th January at Oakham Castle and the awards were presented by Tim Clough, the Society's Hon Editor, and former curator of Rutland County Museum.



Preston Manor House

The 34th George Phillips Built Environment Award was presented to the Manor House, Preston to recognise the

restoration carried out by Jim and Marylyn Strachan and its significant contribution towards conserving the built environment of Rutland. Recent tree-ring dating of the house has shown that it was built in the 1630s, and it retains many of its original features, particularly the fine range of stone mullion windows.



Jim and Marylyn Strachan of Preston Manor House with their George Phillips Award certificate and plaque

14-14a Church Street, Oakham, now partly occupied by L'Oliveto Restaurant, was commended for repairs following a fire on the premises.



14 - 14a Church Street, Oakham, and Andrew Bussey with Paul Thomas of Smithers Purslow who managed the restoration project



Also commended were Emmeline Cottage and Rendle House, two new houses in the gardens of Langham Old Hall, for integrating the buildings into the landscape and preserving the setting of Old Hall.



Emmeline Cottage and Rendle House in the grounds of Langham Old Hall



Jill Armstrong, owner, and Robert Weighton, architect - Langham old Hall houses

The cottage at 45 High Street, Ketton, was the winner of the Tony Traylen Award for the

restoration work carried out by owners Martin and Zoe Smith. They said, 'We were honoured to be nominated for the awards and even more delighted when it was announced that we had won! Our ethos has been to restore the historic integrity of the building. All too often historic properties are given bland, modern interiors, with superficial exposing of 'character' features. We wanted to create a true period atmosphere by using paint colours favoured by the Georgians and by furnishing the house with old furniture and antiques. It has all been done on a minimum budget, with lots of things being bought on eBay, and with us doing a lot of the work. We are very pleased that our vision has now been recognised through this prestigious award.'



45 High Street, Ketton, and the owners, Martin and Zoe Smith with Tim Clough

The presentations were followed by a talk on *The Lost Buildings of Rutland* by Robert Ovens. A long standing Member of the Society, Robert took the audience round the County for a wide-ranging look at some of Rutland's buildings which have been demolished since they were recorded on early photographs, drawings and maps - including railway stations, water mills, windmills, churches and stately homes.

EMAIL CONTACT WITH SOCIETY MEMBERS

An ever-increasing number of members are able to communicate by email and we would like to use this method to keep in touch with you. It is quick and easy, and helps the Society to keep costs to a minimum.

Email addresses will only be used by the Society to distribute information on Society matters. They will not be used for any other purpose, or passed on to any other individual or organisation.

If you agree to this, please send an email to allow@rutlandhistory.org giving your name and brief address in the subject line. Also, if you have changed your email address recently, please let us know the new address by the same method.

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS AND RENEWAL

Membership Subscriptions are due on 1st May 2014. The current rates are unchanged as follows:

Individual Membership £14

Family Membership £16

Institutional Membership £16

Overseas Supplement (all grades of membership) £5

If you pay by standing order, please ensure that it is up-to-date and that it reflects the rate relevant to you.

Debit and credit cards can now be used for on-line membership renewal. See 'Membership Application & Renewal' on the Society's website at www.rutlandhistory.org, or visit www.genfair.co.uk.

JOINT MEETINGS PROGRAMME

Rutland Local History & Record Society (RLHRS) and the Friends of Rutland County Museum & Oakham Castle (FRCMOC).

Please note:

- Open meetings are now normally held on the third Thursday of each month at Rutland County Museum or Oakham Castle, but there are exceptions so it is wise to check the programme for dates and venues.
- The programme year is from January to December.
- Any changes to the advertised programme and additional information on specific events will be given in the 'Events' section of the Society's website

The remainder of the 2014 programme:

Thursday April 24th at 7.30pm

Venue: Rutland County Museum

Stamford Civic Society - and its challenges in the 21st century

Presented by Gwyneth Gibbs

Stamford Civic Society was formed in 1962 to lobby for the conservation and preservation of the town, while also looking to its future prosperity. Gwyneth is Chair of the Stamford Civic Society and will describe their achievements and the challenges that they currently face.

Thursday May 22nd at 7.30pm

Venue: Rutland County Museum

RLHRS Annual General Meeting. Followed by:

From Deer to Fox - The Hunting Transition and the Landscape, 1600-1850

Presented by Mandy de Belin

This talk looks at the transition from deer hunting to fox hunting that occurred between the 17th and 19th century, and its relationship to the Midlands landscape. It questions the traditional explanation that the change was caused by disappearance of woodland and consequent reduction of deer population. Instead it seeks an explanation from the impact that the breeding of thoroughbred horses had upon the sport.

Thursday June 19th at 7.30 pm

Venue: Rutland County Museum

Provision for the Poor

Presented by Dr Elizabeth Hurren

Details to be announced - see the Society's website (www.rutlandhistory.org)

Thursday July 24th at 7.30 pm

Venue: Oakham Castle

Anglo Saxon Archaeology in Leicestershire and Rutland

Presented by Peter Liddle MBE

Part of the Festival of Archaeology programme.

Saturday August 9th at 7.30 pm

Venue: Oakham Castle

The Tennants Lecture

Furniture from the Time of William III and Queen Anne

Presented by Dr Adam Bowett

Dr. Bowett, a leading expert on English furniture, will be talking about late 16th and early 17th century furniture, especially that made by Gerit Jensen for William and Anne. There will be a charge for this meeting.

Saturday September 20th

Village Visit to Ketton

Venue: Ketton Church Hall

More details and a booking form will be circulated to members in August.

There will be a charge for this meeting.

Thursday September 25th at 7.30pm

Venue: Rutland County Museum

Flore's House in Oakham

Presented by Nick Hill

Nick Hill will talk about Flore's House, built in 1378 and extended in 1407, which still stands in Oakham High Street. He has carried out extensive research and published two articles on this notable building. His talk will also include a little about the Flore family, particularly Roger Flore, the Rutland MP, who was elected Speaker of the House of Commons in 1422.

Thursday October 23rd at 7.30 pm

Venue: Rutland County Museum

In Foreign Fields

Presented by David Humberston

David has researched the involvement of Rutland and Leicester soldiers and seamen in WW I and will talk about the personal experiences of a number of them, based on correspondence and war records.

Thursday November 20th at 7.30 pm

Venue: Rutland County Museum

Launde Abbey and the Reformation

Presented by Canon Michael Wilson

Canon Wilson will discuss the history of Launde Abbey and how it was affected by the Dissolution of the Monasteries at the time of Henry VIII.

There are no meetings planned for December 2014.

ANOTHER RUTLAND RECORD AUTHOR COMMENDED

For the third time in recent years the author of an article in *Rutland Record* has earned an accolade in the British Association for Local History's (BALH) annual awards for local history. This time Dr Ian Ryder, who wrote about the state of education in early Victorian Rutland in *Rutland Record* 31, was a runner-up in the awards for research and publication in a society journal.

Ian Ryder, who is the Society's honorary treasurer and attended the BALH summer meeting in London to receive his commendation on June 8th 2013, said, 'I was delighted that my article was found to be worthy of mention in these awards - and reconciled to being a runner-up given that the title of the winning article, from the *Hexham Historian*, was "An Irish gent and his strumpet: the story of Hercules Burleigh" - that would certainly be hard to beat!'

Ian's article is based on the report of a committee of the Manchester Statistical Society on the state of education in the county of Rutland in 1838. Following earlier studies of education in the great industrial conurbations of Manchester and Liverpool, the Manchester society selected agricultural Rutland as a contrast. Ian interprets the Manchester society's findings, which detailed the numbers of children attending school and the types of school available - from dame schools to charity

schools, Sunday schools and 'superior private and boarding schools'. The Manchester society's report, which is included in the article, contains tables setting out the numbers of pupils and schools, the subjects taught, and the conditions in which the classes were held, with a separate section relating to Sunday schools. What may come as a surprise are the numbers of schools involved and of children attending - what may be less surprising is that eleven of the 50 dame schools were described as 'disorderly'! The nineteenth century was an era of enormous social change, with the growth of education one of its key developments; Ian's article places Rutland firmly into that context.

Tim Clough, the Society's honorary editor, said, 'Ian's article on education in Rutland is full of local references and gives a fascinating picture of what the county's schools were like at the opening of Queen Victoria's reign. We are so pleased that the work that Ian put into preparing the article has been recognised in this way, and of course delighted that for the third time in the last few years the *Rutland Record* has been mentioned in the BALH's annual awards - against competition from local history publications across the country'. Earlier winners were Tony Squires in 2006 for his article on the medieval park of Ridlington, in *Rutland Record* 23, and Nigel Richardson in 2008 for his account of Uppingham's typhoid outbreak in *Rutland Record* 26.

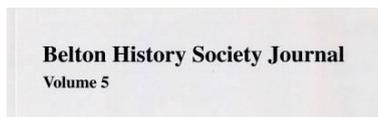
Alan Crosby, BALH's editor, said that there are certain county societies which have the winning combination of very high standards of research and publication. Warwickshire, East Yorkshire and Rutland are all very different but they regularly attract BALH's attention.

BOOK REVIEWS

Belton History Society Journal, Volume 5

Edited by Audrey and Philip Walker
Published by Belton History Society
Available from local bookshops. £9.50

Belton History Society has been in existence for 13 years and in that time this small but active local history society



has organised lectures and exhibitions about their corner of south west Rutland. Their occasional journal has gone from strength to strength and the latest volume, volume five, was produced at the end of 2013. Following on from previous successes, volume five surpasses the others in its breadth of coverage in 27 articles covering a range of topics

concerning Belton, Allexton, Wardley and Leighfield.

The articles range from a history of the Great Fire of Belton in 1776 through to some photographic essays on the celebration of the Silver Jubilee in 1977 and Belton's change of name day in 1982. In between are some interesting pieces on earth toilets, bakeries, crime and punishment, transportation, Belton workhouse, the Baptist Chapel legal disputes and local inquests. A considerable portion of the work is taken up by segments on the history of Lambley Lodge and College Farm. Much of the material is drawn from local memory and a fair proportion from the archives of the local press. The editors have not been reluctant to include smaller articles on a variety of topics and this has strengthened the interest in the publication as it has included material that would otherwise be lost or disregarded with the larger articles.

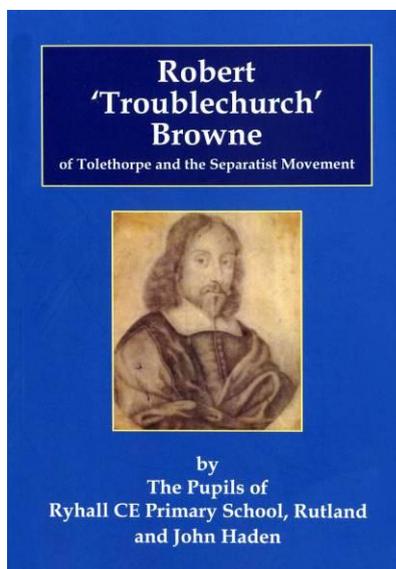
Generously illustrated with relevant photographs and successfully edited by Audrey and Philip Walker, this publication should be of interest to any person with some knowledge of the area or indeed anybody with an interest in the social history of the village during the last 200 years. It is an exemplary publication showing how much can be achieved by a local history group drawing on the archival expertise of some members and the oral and remembered folk history of others. Handsomely produced and printed, this volume should be a model for any village local history society which is thinking of producing a journal. It is a credit to the editors, contributors and the Belton History Society as a whole.

Hilary Crowden

Robert 'Troublechurch' Browne of Tolethorpe and the Separatist Movement

By pupils of Ryhall CE Primary School and John Haden
Published by Barny Books
ISBN: 978-1-906542-61-0

This volume represents the work of the pupils in Years 5 and 6 from Ryhall Church of England Primary School who



have explored in depth the life of local hero or villain (delete as appropriate), Robert Browne.

Browne was a member of what had been in the fifteenth century Stamford's most prominent family, and was a descendant of Christopher Browne, who had set himself up as a member of the landed gentry at Tolethorpe Hall, just

outside the town. Born around 1550, he was educated at Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, and, the pupils suggest,

came under the influence of the distinguished radical theologian, Thomas Cartwright, whose lectures he attended. Browne's unwillingness to seek ordination after his graduation suggests that his views seem already to have been radicalised and, after a spell of teaching, he returned to the Cambridge area in 1578. It was clear that by then Browne had become one of that small number of Elizabethans who had rejected both the royal supremacy and the authority of bishops, believing that each congregation should control its own affairs. He moved to Norwich, where along with another Cambridge graduate, Robert Harrison, he developed the concept of separatism, 'Brownism' as it became known to contemporaries. He attracted the hostility of Bishop Freke of Norwich, who sought the assistance of Browne's relative, Elizabeth's chief minister Lord Burghley, to curb his activities.

Browne was certainly lucky that Burghley was able to intervene on his behalf. (In contrast, his fellow separatists Henry Barrow and John Greenwood would be executed in 1593). When the going in Norwich became too tough Browne and Harrison decamped to Middelburg in the Netherlands, which already had a reputation for accommodating religious radicals from England. The pupils have done particularly well in piecing together Browne's activities in Middleburg, including the publishing of radical tracts; Browne fared better than two of those, Elias Thacker and John Copping, who tried to sell his books in England. They were executed. It was perhaps in the nature of separatism that disputes should arise among its practitioners. After one such dispute in Middleburg, Browne and Harrison decided to try their luck in Scotland, where Browne hopelessly misjudged the situation. Scottish Presbyterians might have shared his theological views; they did not, however, share his views on church organisation and, after a short period of imprisonment, Browne left the country and returned to England.

After once again falling foul of the authorities, Brown was in effect given the choice of conforming to the Church of England or remaining in prison. To the dismay of his followers he chose conformity, and for a time he contented himself with teaching at St. Olave's School in Southwark. However, London was a centre of gathered separate congregations, to which Browne naturally gravitated. In the circumstances Burghley thought it expedient to get him out of London. Fortunately for Browne, his brother was able to present him to the living of Little Casterton, so, for a short time, he returned home, before moving to the living of Achurch cum Thorpe Waterville in Northamptonshire, a living which was in Burghley's gift. Quite how conscientiously he fulfilled his duties as a country parson must remain a matter of conjecture; the pupils suggest that much of the time he was ministering unofficially to a gathered congregation in Thorpe Waterville. He retained the living of Achurch for over forty years. Sadly, however, the end of his tenure in 1633 was touched by tragedy. Arrested at the age of around of 83, he seems virtually to have welcomed imprisonment. Perhaps he looked forward to some sort of

martyrdom. Certainly, by the reign of Charles I the Church of England in general, and perhaps the diocese of Peterborough in particular, was no place for a man of Browne's views. Unsurprisingly, perhaps, imprisonment for a man of his years proved fatal.

Browne remains a significant figure in the Elizabethan Church. As the acknowledged founder of separatism, he spawned a force which would become powerful on both sides of the Atlantic. It was his fellow separatists who established the colony of Massachusetts in 1620 and, for a short time during the Cromwellian period, separatism, or independency as it became known, was the dominant religious strain in Cromwellian England. Browne was thus a very significant Rutlander. The children of Ryhall Primary School have done him an excellent service in re-asserting the importance of his career. In the process they have shown just how valuable the study of local history can be in developing the historical imaginations of the young, especially in demonstrating how important the interaction can be between the local, the national and, indeed in this case, the international.

Mike Tillbrook

Uppingham & the Villages Through Time

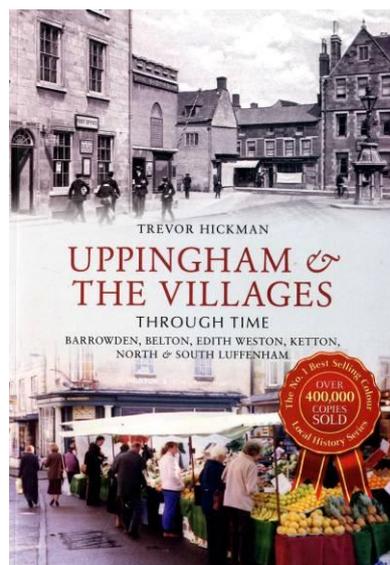
By Trevor Hickman

Published by Amberley Publishing, Stroud

ISBN 97-1-4456-1760-2

96 pages, paperback, £14.99

Trevor Hickman's enthusiasm for the history of Leicestershire and Rutland is well known locally and so any



new title from this author always attracts attention. This nicely-produced volume from Amberley Publishing's 'Through Time' series is in the same vein as many other such books which contain reproductions of historic photographs, sometimes, as here, combined with recent views (in this case, mostly from 2006), but one of the attractions of this

series is the use of full colour throughout, which enables us to appreciate the carefully-applied tints often to be found on old postcards. Also, improved printing techniques here generally bring a sharpness to the historic views which has sometimes been lacking in books like these and better reflects the skills of the original photographers: but of these unfortunately, as so often, we are told nothing even though in many cases their names are recorded on the postcards.

The title of the book, even with its sub-title enumerating some of the villages concerned, doesn't really reflect its geographical range since in fact it extends all the way to Ryhall and the Castertons - not villages that one would normally associate with Uppingham which after all lies near the southern extremity of the county. This means that in the case of many villages we are only treated to one or two photographs where perhaps we might have expected more, and often the more recent views are those of public houses: in fact, a better sub-title might have been 'Rutland pubs I have known'!

The format of books like these means that the extent of information that can be contained in the captions is limited. This makes them hard to write accurately and concisely, and precludes the possibility of giving references to sources unless there is a more extensive general introduction; thus several line drawings from the Rutland volumes of Victoria County History remain unacknowledged. Sometimes a single caption is used for two photographs, which doesn't always work well since the heading may not sufficiently reflect the content of each of them. However, the captions do contain much information about dates and individuals (incumbents, publicans, stationmasters, shopkeepers), although where dates are attributed to individual views these may be on the basis more of the postmark than the actual photograph. Occasionally, where the present tense is used, there can be traps for the unwary reader: on p30, for instance, Normanton Hall was [1900] the home of the Earl of Ancaster, and on p95 Uppingham School's Boer War memorial hall had then [1916] been renamed the Concert Hall and Gymnasium - now it is the Uppingham Theatre.

More careful editing would have averted a few typos and some errors, such as the mis-spelling of Martinsthorpe on p20 or the reference to Little Casterton on p5 when Great Casterton is meant, and might perhaps have resulted in a different or less repetitive selection of views. One does wonder why there are two nearly identical recent views of the Kingfisher Inn, Preston, or so many views of Uppingham Market Place, given that many more varied early photographs of the various villages do survive. In one instance, on p91, the wrong photograph has been used: the lower view in fact shows the old schoolboys' studies in the school quadrangle and not Constables on Leicester Road. Fewer images of the school's boarding houses would have sufficed, even if those of Meadhurst bring a wry smile to this reviewer's face since he spent (mis-spent?) many terms in the study and dormitory block shown.

Despite such reservations, this volume is a useful addition to the Rutland bookshelves because it does contain some particularly interesting photographs. Of these one might mention just two which merit further investigation. On p45, there is a view of the Glaston Coffee Tavern in 1905, with a motorcar outside bearing a Rutland (FP) number plate - if this could be read on the original, its owner could be traced in the vehicle registration archives in the Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester & Rutland. On p41, there is an

intriguing view of Barrowden with a LNWR train on the viaduct over the Welland - surely not 'a goods train ... travelling along' the railway since it is clearly posed with the driver, fireman and others facing the camera, and with another man standing on top of an unfinished structure, perhaps a water tank, on the right; the viaduct all looks very new - what does this photograph commemorate? One would rather like to know.

Tim Clough

Note: A companion volume in the same format - **Oakham & the Villages Through Time**, also by Trevor Hickman (ISBN 97-81-4456-1687-2) - was published by Amberley in August 2013

The Syston and Peterborough Railway: The Midland Railway cross country line described and illustrated.

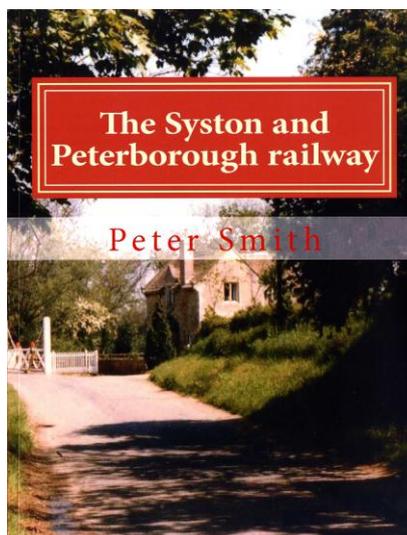
By Peter Smith

Published by CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform

First published 16 Nov 2013

ISBN-13: 978-1493769759

122 pages, paperback, £12.95



This book describes and illustrates the Midland Railway cross country line from Syston to Peterborough, with photographs, track plan and building drawings. It is the first book devoted entirely to this railway, which has been undeservedly overlooked for so long.

The Syston to Peterborough Railway Act was passed on 30th June 1845, and the line was opened to passengers on 1st May 1848.

This first railway line through Rutland had much distinctive architecture and many of the smaller stations were so little used that they remained largely unchanged until they closed. The line remains in use today, not only as a link between Leicester and Peterborough, but also as an essential part of the route between Birmingham and Stansted Airport. It is busier than ever, particularly with freight traffic. However it did suffer under the 'Beeching Axe', losing Ashwell, Manton, Luffenham and Ketton stations. Oakham is now the only station in Rutland.

I was delighted to be told about this book because I have an interest in steam trains, but more particularly because, as a schoolboy, I travelled this line twice a day for four years in the late 1950s - from Luffenham to Oakham and return. I wasn't aware of it then, but these were some of the last days of steam. My journey to school would today be a steam enthusiast's dream. Having cycled from near Glaston, I caught the Uppingham to Stamford

two-carriage push-pull train, which we called 'The Doz', at Uppingham Station. This then took me, at a very sedate pace, first to Seaton, where we had to wait for a connection on the Rugby to Peterborough line, then on to Morcott and Luffenham. Here I changed to the Peterborough to Syston train for the rest of my journey to Oakham. Happy days! Peter Smith's well researched and illustrated book brings back many happy memories of these times, as well as being a very interesting read. There is a good accompanying website too.

Robert Ovens

LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND WAR MEMORIALS PROJECT

Leicestershire County Council has been compiling an online archive of information on war memorials and casualties in Leicestershire and Rutland since 2009, but needs more Rutland records.

The project website at <http://warmemorials.leics.gov.uk> is an on-line archive database which includes images, information, and links relevant to Rutland. There are many gaps to be filled so if you are thinking of researching your local war memorials and casualties, or are already doing so, the project team would like to hear from you. The team can also help with material for and promotion of local WW1 centenary events.

All conflicts are relevant to the archive, not just the Great War; the earliest record is currently an effigy of 1421 in Bottesford Church, dedicated to a casualty of the Battle of Bauge in France.



The triptych memorial at Belton church which records the names of Belton men who served in WW1

Whilst war memorials erected at the end of WW1 in or near churchyards tend to predominate, there are many other memorials relevant to the project. These include plaques,

triptychs, churchyard monuments and headstones, lichgates, clock bells, rolls of honour and stained glass windows. Also of interest are war memorials which are associated with buildings and institutions, such as Non-Conformist Chapels and Sunday Schools, local schools, halls, factories, Post Offices, Co-ops and even roads and streets. Most of these are recorded on photographs which can be recent or old, such as old picture postcards - the

dedication ceremonies of many WW1 memorials were recorded in this way.



The unveiling of Exton War Memorial on 4th October 1922 (Jack Hart Collection of Picture Postcards at RCM)

You can also sign up to receive War Memorials Project and WW1 centenary newsletters from the project by emailing warmemorials@leics.gov.uk and asking to be added to the mailing list.

For further information contact: Elizabeth Blood, War Memorials Project Officer, Leicestershire County Council, Room 400, Penn Lloyd Building, County Hall, Glenfield, Leicestershire, LE3 8RA. Telephone: 0116 3056187 Email: warmemorials@leics.gov.uk

STAMFORD HERITAGE FAIR

The Society had a stand at the first ever Stamford Heritage Fair on 19th May 2013. It was held in Stamford Arts Centre ballroom and organised by Jean Orpin and Sue Lee of Leo Specialist Tours.



The Society's stand at Stamford Heritage Fair

This unique event brought together many of the area's principle historical organisations from Stamford, South Lincolnshire and Rutland, including Men of The Stones, Langham Village History Group, Lyddington Manor History Society and the Council for British Archaeology. There

were also demonstrations of projects such as the All Saints Sundial and the Stamford Heritage QR (Quick Response) Codes (QR Codes are scanned into a Smartphone to provide information on the heritage site).

Added colour and entertainment were added by the presence of a band of Vikings (armed to the teeth) and a medieval dance group who performed several times during the day.

The Society's stand was 'manned' by a rota of members, and included membership information, the full range of the Society's publications, a display highlighting the Society's activities and a PowerPoint presentation showing old picture postcards of Rutland.

PRESTON VILLAGE VISIT

The Society's 2013 Village Visit was to Preston where 80 members, guests and local inhabitants enjoyed an afternoon of local history which included two talks, a rolling PowerPoint presentation on the history of Preston and a leaflet guided historical walk round the village.

The first talk was *Archaeology in the Easement: Sites discovered in the 1996 Wing to Whatborough Hill pipeline excavation* by Matt Beamish, an archaeologist working for the University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS). Matt spoke about the archaeological discoveries made along the route of the water pipeline which was excavated in 1996, particularly in the parishes of Launde, Ridlington and Preston.



Among the guests were David Armstrong, Lord of the Manor of Preston, and Debby Angus, Lord of the Manor of Ridlington from Sydney, Australia

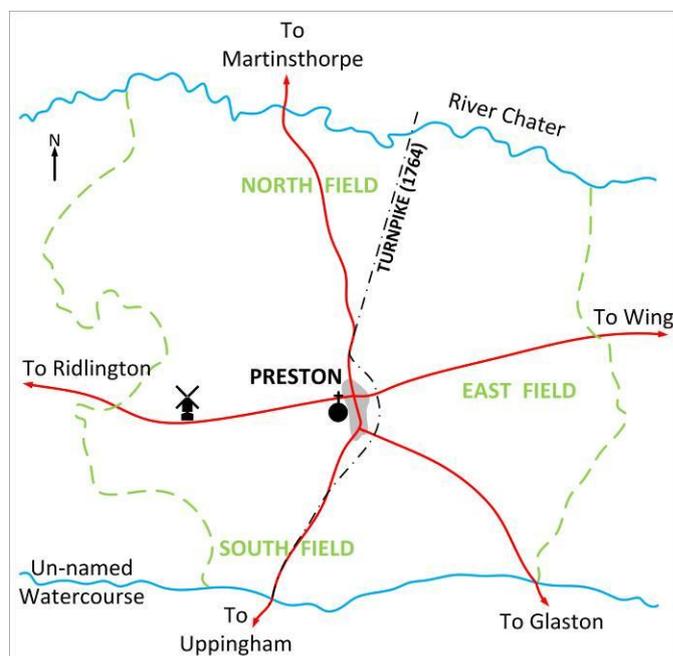
In the second talk, Nick Hill gave an overview of the architectural development of historic buildings in Preston, including case studies of buildings in the village which have recently been examined. Nick has been working on the survey and analysis of Rutland houses for many years.

PRESTON AND THE CIVIL WAR

Vanessa Doe

Preston parish records at the Record Office for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland (ROLLR) contain a most interesting collection of taxation returns which have survived from the Civil War period. They begin with the demand for Ship Money by Charles 1 in 1635 and end with the tax raised by Charles II to disband and pay off the army following the restoration of the monarchy in 1660. This unusual collection of 48 manuscripts has been carefully preserved in a scrap book which also contains documents relating to the Poor Law in the 17th and 18th centuries. Following on from the Society's Village Visit to Preston in September 2013, Vanessa Doe takes a closer look at this collection of Civil War documents and, together with information from parish records and wills, she also investigates the relative wealth of important members of the community during this period.

Preston is a typical Midlands nucleated settlement, standing at the centre of the parish and surrounded by 1,207 acres of farm land. In 1801 the population was 266. The Hearth Tax return of 1665 records 50 households in the village indicating a population of about 220. The fabric of the village, its roads, houses and open spaces, was probably, in 1801, little changed since the Civil War period.



The greatest change was to the road system. Preston village stands on a ridge, sloping on its northern side down to the River Chater. This ridge carried an ancient route from Leicester towards Stamford, entering the parish of Preston from Ridlington in the west, past the windmill and down a narrow lane near to the church. It probably continued across the present Main Street, along Cross Street, and then eastwards through Wing. The route was eventually superseded by a road through Uppingham, the main market town in the south of the County, and an important crossroads.

Communications between Oakham to the north and Uppingham to the south also affected the layout of the village by creating an important north-south alignment along Main Street. The present A6003 was originally the turnpike road from Nottingham to Kettering, built in 1764, by-passing the village to the east.

Until the Enclosure Act of 1773, Preston villagers farmed the land in the strips of the three open fields. As shown on the map, these were North Field bounded by the river Chater, South Field bounded by the boundary stream with Ayston parish, and East or Seik Field between Preston and Wing. By the 17th century, well before the main Parliamentary Enclosure, there were several old grass closes in Preston, the largest of which was Hall Close, a grass field divided in two and containing about one yardland or thirty acres. There were also old enclosures known as 'Gatehouse Close' and 'Inholmes', but there are no surviving maps or surveys indicating their location or size. It is interesting to note that a manorial survey of 1595, now in Northamptonshire Record Office (NRO), mentions a guildhall in the village, but there is no trace of it today.

Preston Civil War documents include warrants for raising money for various causes, mainly in connection with payments to the army. The names of villagers who were assessed together with their contributions are a rich source of information regarding the economic status of Preston inhabitants in the mid-17th century. They were assessed according to the amount of land they held (typically between one and three yardlands) and the number of animals they owned. For example, in March 1654 they were paying 4s 8d a yardland, 4d per cow and 8d per score of sheep. In December 1654, they were paying 8s 8d a yardland.

The December 1654 account for the levy at 8s 8d a yardland

| | | | |
|---|----|-----|----|
| William Sheild Esq | £2 | 14s | 2d |
| Anne Swann | | 15s | 2d |
| Thomas Sheild | | 15s | 2d |
| Antony Tompson | | 13s | |
| Mary Sewell | | 8s | 8d |
| Henry Ireland | | 8s | 8d |
| John Swann | | 8s | 8d |
| Mark Sheild | | 3s | 4d |
| Andrew Rudkin | | 12s | 6d |
| Thomas Rudkin | | 12s | 8d |
| Thomas Rudkin | | 2s | 2d |
| Elizabeth Pulford | | 4s | 4d |
| Gabriel Mayor clerk | £1 | 10s | 4d |
| William Warde | | 15s | 2d |
| John Ireland | | 13s | |
| John Scott | | 15s | |
| Robert Walker | | 13s | |
| The remaining villagers paid 1s or less | | | |
| There were 32 taxpayers in all | | | |

A transcribed extract from the Levy Account for Preston dated December 1654 (ROLLR DE 2461)

The Preston tax returns also show that in the 17th century the important local families from the sixteenth century, the Irelands, the Sheilds, the Rudkins, the Thompsons and the Sewells had been joined by up-and-coming families such as the Walkers, the Andrews and the Scotts. Their relative wealth can be deduced from the assessments and it can be seen that William Sheild contributed as much as fifty per cent more than any of the others in most of the returns. On many occasions even William Ward, William Sheilds brother-in-law, who by most standards would be regarded as a wealthy man, usually paid less than half of William Sheild's return. His son, Edward, was to become a lawyer, was knighted and became Attorney General in 1693.

There were about thirty regular taxpayers in the village. During the Civil War and its aftermath, increasingly large sums were demanded of them by the Midlands Association to finance Cromwell's measures to maintain the army and navy. There is no sign that these taxes met with any serious resistance. The warrants issued to the village tax collectors were, however, often accompanied by dire warnings. 'Fail not at your peril' was often stated as was the threat to take and sell the goods of non-payers and throw the culprits in gaol. There were, as far as is known, no such 'offenders' in Preston.

It is clear from these documents that the one man who stood head and shoulders above his contemporaries in wealth and prestige between 1640 and 1660 was William Sheild. He and his family lived in the largest and most imposing house in the village, now known as the Manor House.



Preston Manor House in 1910
(Jack Hart Collection of Picture Postcards at RCM)

In the Rutland Hearth Tax return of 1665 it is recorded as having fourteen hearths, far more than any other property in the village. William Sheild's will in 1673 indicates that he purchased the house, formerly two tenements, from Anne Swann and John Swann, the wife and son of Richard Swann, Rector of Preston and headmaster of Oakham School who died at Oakham in 1648. William Sheild was baptised at Preston in March 1606. In November 1629 both he and his younger brother Thomas married into the Ireland family, although their brides were from different branches. William married Elizabeth, the elder sister of Edward Ireland, the man who

later became an important contributor to William Sheild's prosperity and success. Thomas married Ann, the daughter of Thomas Ireland, a glove maker.

William and Elizabeth had three daughters, Elizabeth, Ann and Eleanor. They also had twin sons William and Richard, but they died in infancy in 1636. Elizabeth's brother, Edward Ireland, died in 1641, unmarried and with no heir. Although he was only 24 and from a relatively humble background, he was styled 'gentleman' and left over £1000 in cash to be distributed after his death. His chief beneficiary was William Sheild, his brother in law and executor, to whom he left 'all my freehold lands, copyhold lands' and 'all my messuages, cottages, houses, lands tenements and hereditaments with their appurtenances in Preston'. It is no surprise therefore to find William Sheild as one of the richest men in Preston in the second half of the 17th century.

It is thought that Elizabeth, William's first wife, died in the 1640s. After her death, William Sheild married again, choosing his new bride from one of the most powerful families in the area during the Interregnum and Civil War. She was Mary Claypole from Northborough near

Peterborough. Through the marriage of Mary's brother James Claypole to Elizabeth Cromwell, the youngest of Oliver Cromwell's daughters and his favourite, William Sheild as Elizabeth Cromwell's brother in law forged a strong link with the Cromwells and the Republican cause.



Statue of Oliver Cromwell in Whitehall, London

This link also helped to enhance his reputation both in Preston and the wider county community. William and Mary Claypole married at Northborough in 1650. During the next decade, as he became increasingly well established, she bore him eleven children. Eventually, through his support of the Republican cause, he was invited to sit as one of the Members of Parliament for Rutland where he took part in both the First (Sept 1654) and Second (1656) Protectorate Parliaments.

The Preston Civil War documents begin with the demand for Ship Money by Charles 1 in 1635. There is a copy of the warrant, issued by the king, without Parliamentary authority, for the collection of this tax. Charles maintained that raising ship money was his royal prerogative. Its initial purpose had been to provide sea defences for coastal towns and it had been raised early in

the century with few problems. The first of the three demands for ship money in 1630s only applied to London, but a year later this warrant was issued for raising the tax on the whole country. As was customary when raising taxes on a county basis, the Sheriff of Rutland, Sir Francis Bodenham of Ryhall, was put in charge of raising the sum allocated to Rutland. This was £1000, considered sufficient to pay for a ship of 100 tons. He summoned a meeting of all the village constables in the Hundred of Martinsley and instructed them 'to call unto you some discreet neighbours ... to confer together as to the most equal and indifferent way for the assessing of the said sum'. They were to take copies of the assessments and levies made by the Overseers of the Poor, as well as other assessments made in their communities, including provision for musters. In addition they were to provide names of traders who were accumulating 'great sums of money' and who 'live privately'. This information 'under your hands fair written on paper' was to be delivered at the Crown in Oakham on 21st September 1635 (ROLLR DE 730/3). As their part of the county share, the Constables were to collect £19 in the village of Preston. All the villagers were to be assessed 'except the Parson and his estate which I reserve to myself'. The demand was made on the 9th October 1635, and the money was in Sir Francis' hands by the 24th October. His receipt for the money from Preston was £24, £5 more than the assessment, possibly accounted for by the levy raised on the parson and reserved for Bodenham's own use.

There is an account of the collection of ship money for the following year in *Rutland Magazine* by the new sheriff, Sir Edward Harrington of Ridlington. In this case overpayment and any money collected from those who should have been exempt by poverty had their contributions returned. Lord Campden was asked to carry the money raised to London, it having been originally taken by 'a man' who, unable to find Sir William Russell, a tax collector for the Royalist cause, had brought it back 'to his great hazard'. Transporting the collected money to London was hazardous, particularly in winter, and Lord Campden resolved that 'no profit or reward' would make him do the same again.

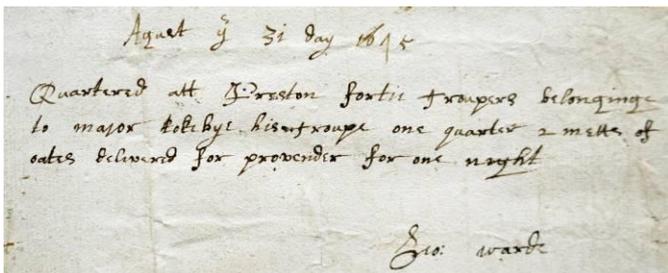
In August 1642 the king raised the Royal Standard at Nottingham, calling for troops to defend the country against the Scots and war broke out not only between England and Scotland but also between the King and Parliament. The Civil War from 1642 found both Royalist and Parliamentary forces dependant on the countryside for provisions for soldiers and their horses, the money and provisions to be collected locally and handed to the local commanders. The Midlands Association, a committee of local gentry, was set up by Parliament in 1642 to coordinate the collection of local taxes and organise the provisions for the army. In January 1643 the commander of the army in the Midlands, Henry Grey, Lord Grey of Groby, marched on Oakham and seized the munitions held in the garrison at Oakham Castle. After this the garrison and its munitions were moved to Burley on the Hill which

then became the main Parliamentary stronghold in Rutland. Grey continued to harass supporters of the King in Rutland. Later in the same year he marched on Exton, expecting to be able to capture Lord Campden, but he had escaped. He then marched to another Noel estate at North Luffenham and during the attack on the Hall much of the village was burned. By 1645 most of Rutland was supporting the Parliamentary armies, and after the fall of the Royalist stronghold at Belvoir Castle to Parliament in the winter of 1645 there was little resistance in the area to the organisation provided by the Midland Association on behalf of Cromwell's troops.



The Battle of Naseby by an unknown artist. The victory of the Parliamentarian New Model Army, under Sir Thomas Fairfax and Oliver Cromwell, over the Royalist army, commanded by Prince Rupert, at the Battle of Naseby (June 14th 1645) marked the decisive turning point in the English Civil War (Wikipedia)

The Preston Civil War documents show that from 1645 supplies were required, both as cash from the levies and provisions raised in the villages, for the needs of specific local troop commanders. At Preston in March 1645, the villagers, led by Mistress Swanne, the parson's wife, provided barley, malt, cheese and bacon probably for a passing troop, perhaps Captain Vere's, who also received a quantity of oats from the village constable. In June that year the village was commanded to send four quarters of 'oats, beans or pease' to Hallaton for the use of Colonel Matthew Shered's (Sherrard's?) regiment. In August forty troopers under Major Rokeby were quartered in Preston.



Preston Parish Archive (ROLLR DE 2461)

The cost of the provisions supplied came to £15 10s 10d and in June 1646 the leading inhabitants of Preston wrote to the Rutland members of the Midlands Committee,

James Harrington, Christopher Browne, John Osborne and Evers Army, to inform them of their outlay. No repayment was forthcoming, however, and in 1653 Thomas Sheild of Preston, gent, wrote again to the Committee to point out that a receipt, or 'ticket of public Faith' had been issued by the committee to the parish on 18th June 1646. The full sum nevertheless was still 'wholly due and unpaid'.

The billeting of troops and the way provisions for them and their horses were taken was often resented, although there is no sign of serious resistance in Rutland as there was elsewhere. A letter in the Barker Mss at ROLLR makes clear the problems of widow Walcott of Uppingham in 1649. She had had a soldier billeted in her house for whom she had to find 'half a crown' weekly for his keep. She pleads with Abel Barker of Lyndon Hall that she is unable to continue this arrangement and asks that he try and persuade the Captain to fetch her unwelcome lodger away 'that I may be eased of this burden'. Another document (in ROLLR DE 730) makes clear that the Rutland members of the Midland Association were aware of problems caused by billeting. In May 1645 John Osborne and John Hatcher, members of the Midland Association and based at Burley, wrote to the constables of Gunthorpe concerning their wish to 'ease the county of billeting and free quarter of soldiers' but still imposed a tax of £4 18s for the support of the army for one month to be taken to the Garrison at Burley.

By 1648 the King had been captured by the Scots and the first episode of Civil War was drawing to an end. The future now depended on negotiations to try and reach a settlement with the King, but these failed and after a brief return to military activity Charles I was captured, tried and executed in January 1649. The death warrant was signed by, among others, Lord Grey of Groby.

After this, in Rutland, as the Preston Civil War documents show, it was clearly becoming more difficult to raise the money needed to maintain the army throughout the country, now at war with the Scots and the Irish, and in addition to attend to the usual needs of the local community for poor relief. The plague had visited Oakham and Barleythorpe and as a result the 'collection of taxes had been neglected'. The Preston constables were urged to keep the levies coming in for the benefit of the poor, as ordered by the Justices of the Peace. The village, in 1648, was charged with raising 9s 10d for the poor. In 1649 the levy, at 8d a yardland, was specifically allocated to the Gaol and House of Correction in Oakham. Twenty four villagers paid this tax which raised £1 0s 9d. Later in 1649, another tax was raised, this time, as usual, for the army. The first quarter in May 1649 brought in £10 8s 8d. In September £5 6s 5d was sent from Preston to Mr Robert Edmonds, probably the Collector for the Midlands Committee as 'due for the armye'.

In 1650 the levy at Preston was again for the army when a tax at the rate of 6s 8d per yardland was ordered. It was payable in instalments quarterly. William Sheild, now by far the wealthiest man in the village, paid £1 18s in each

instalment for his land. Mr White paid 15s and the rest of the villagers paid 10s or under. In April the assessment was altered to include cattle. The tax was levied at 6s 8d a yardland and 4d a cow. William Sheild, still paying well above the rate of the rest of the community, contributed £2 8s 3d to this tax. Of the other villagers, William Ward and John Scot paid 18s each, and John Ireland and the remainder paid 13s or less. In October Preston raised 29s 2d for 'solgers pay' at 9d a day and at the same time contributed £3 4s 5d for 'colors and drummes'.

In 1652, when the Preston constables collected £35 3s, it was to be taken to John Greene, gent, of Market Overton, the head collector for the Midland Association. In 1655 the tax, by order of Parliament, went for 'the relief of mariners and maimed souldiers' in the Marshalsea, the infamous debtor's prison and House of Correction in London, presumably being used as accommodation for the wounded. It raised 12s in Preston and was taken as instructed to Richard Sharpe in Wing.

In the 1650s there were many factions in Parliament and gradually it became clear that governing the country through Parliament alone was no longer possible. In 1653 Cromwell was persuaded to become head of state and to rule as Lord Protector of the Commonwealth, which he did, with reluctance, until his death in 1568. He was to be styled 'His Highness' and ruled with a Council of Ministers including the heads of the armies.

In 1656 Cromwell's new title was used on the warrant to the people of Rutland authorising the provision of funds for the Government in taxes. In that year Preston raised £17 16s 9d on instructions from his Highness and the Council, to be delivered to the Receiver, Peter Woodcock, gent, at his house in Caldecott. The same amount was collected again in 1657 and delivered to Peter Woodcock 'the younger' in Caldecott. His receipt confirms this. In 1658 the last tax raised by the Commonwealth for the armies and navies was delivered again to Peter Woodcock and his receipt shows Preston raised £10 6s 1d.

The Restoration of the monarchy took place in May 1660 when Charles II returned from exile in Holland. The first step in the return to normal life after the Restoration was a warrant issued in 'his majesties name' for the collection of £140,000 for the 'compleat disbanding of the whole army and paying the same and part of the navy'. Peter Woodcock's receipt shows Preston paid £6 18s 8d for two months tax as their contribution towards the national sum raised in Rutland.

In this short article it has only been possible to highlight some of the more interesting facts contained in the collection of Civil War documents from Preston. Combined with parish registers, Poor Law records, wills and Hearth Tax returns, there is a good opportunity for further research into the families living in Preston in the 17th century.

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HILARY'S PUZZLE CORNER - A MYSTERY HOUSE

Hilary Crowden is offering a box of chocolates to the first person who correctly identifies the house in the photograph below. It is from a picture postcard which was posted in Oakham to Barleythorpe Hall in 1904.



Elizabeth Bryan offers the following comments:

The ground floor of this house is of a different material, probably stone and partially rendered or washed. The first floor is of a later date and perhaps there is evidence of a string course. The building has undergone considerable alteration - see the differing windows on the ground floor, but very interestingly the larger window appears to have blind case, rare on such small houses and likely to be late Victorian or early 20th C rather than later.

And Tim Clough adds the following:

Brick chimneys are interesting: mirror image, two pots at one end, single one at the other, reversed on the back range. Light iron railings along the garden frontage. Telephone pole in background suggests it's on a corner. Good ground floor stonework looks like ironstone, not limestone.

Answer, please, to secretary@rutlandhistory.org, or by post to Hilary's Puzzle Corner, RLHRS, Rutland County Museum, Catmos Street, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6HW.

STEWART AINSWORTH - TIME TEAM



In September 2013 Stewart Ainsworth returned to Oakham Castle to deliver his *Recent Landscape Studies* talk to members of RLHRS and FRCMOC. A trained surveyor, Stewart was formerly with the Ordnance Survey and later with English Heritage. He is well

known as the landscape archaeologist with Channel 4's Time Team - referred to within the team as their 'lumps and bumps man'. He had already been to the Castle with Time Team when they came in June 2012 for one of their three-day digs to try and find out and explain what is under the turf, particularly in the bailey area.

Stewart reminisced about his many years working on Time Team projects and the archaeologists (and others) involved as well as giving an overview of the Castle dig findings. He also presented his view on the early development of Oakham as a settlement based on the study of maps and inspection of the town layout from a helicopter.



Stewart Ainsworth with the Time Team horseshoe at Oakham Castle

OAKHAM FLOODS IN 1922

The Jack Hart Collection of Picture Postcards at Rutland County Museum (RCM) includes these three interesting postcards of Oakham floods in 1922. Although not together in the collection they are clearly by the same photographer; taken on Monday August 7th following a recorded rainfall of over 4" (100mm) the previous day.



The photograph on the first postcard (above) (RCM 2002-6-1504), like the other two, was taken at the start of Cold Overton Road, near the level-crossing. The houses in the background are clearly identifiable on the OS Second Series 25" map of 1904. They have long since been demolished and the site is now partly occupied by Tim Norton's garage.



The photograph above (RCM 2002-6-1508) was taken from almost the same spot, but this time we are looking along Cold Overton Road, away from the level-crossing. Note the horse-drawn carriage with a few people aboard braving the floods, and it's probably still raining, or raining again, given the attire of the onlookers.



Clearly the photographer had a sense of humour when adding "OAKHAM" ON SEA to this photograph (RCM 2002-6-1508), and so had the person who sailed a model boat on the floodwater!

THE DIARY OF SARAH OGDEN (1842-51)

Sarah Ogden (1817-95) was a daughter of Benjamin Cort, a prosperous iron founder of Leicester, and was brought up in a fine 8-bedroom house in Welford Place. Her diary starts with her marriage in 1842 to her first cousin Benjamin Cort Ogden, an employee of a Leicester bank.

The bank's collapse the following year, however, led to Ogden's appointment as manager of the Stamford, Spalding and Boston Banking Co. in Uppingham, where they lived for the next five years. In 1848, he opened a branch of that bank in Grantham, where they settled. Sarah's diary ends in 1851 when they were living at 18, High Street, Grantham with a groom and two servants. The

Ogdens were a prosperous middle class couple, had no children and were Strict Baptists; the diary gives a vivid picture of their social life in Leicester, Uppingham and Grantham.

The diary has been transcribed and annotated by Nigel Webb, a great, great, great grandson of Sarah's father.

Uppingham historian Peter Lane has kindly provided, as an appendix, a commentary and notes on individuals appearing in the diary for the Ogden's' period of residence in Uppingham.

The Diary of Sarah Ogden is now available for downloading and reading on the Society's website at <http://www.rutlandhistory.org> under 'Local Research and Resources'. Alternatively, readers can go directly to the article via <http://www.rutlandhistory.org/sarahogden.htm>

WEBSITE - LOCAL RESEARCH AND RESOURCES

The Diary of Sarah Ogden is just one of many interesting items that can be accessed via the 'Local Research and Resources' page of the Society's website. Here is the full list as at March 2014:

- Archdeacon Edward Irons' Medieval Village Notes
- Days of Shaking - 17th century families
- Indenture of Ruth Falkener of Uppingham, 1734
- Matkins - The archive of the Oakham printer
- Oakham Union Minute Book 1864-1868
- Population of Rutland Parishes 1795-2001
- Royce Papers - The Archive of the Oakham estate agent
- Rutland Enclosure Awards - List of dates
- Rutland Gentry in the reigns of Henry VI and Edward IV
- Rutland Nonconformist Chapels
- Rutland Quarter Sessions Minute Book 1747-1777
- Rutland Schools - The Parochial Returns of 1818 & 1833
- Sarah Ogden's Diary 1842-51
- Sources of Information
- Waltham Agricultural Society's dispute with Richard Westbrook Baker

OBITUARIES

Squadron Leader Alfred William Adams (Fred) 1919-2013

Fred Adams, aged 94, died on September 1st 2013. His son Denis has prepared the following obituary:-

Fred was born in Corby Glen Lincolnshire on 14th August 1919 with his twin brother Charles (Smiler). They both qualified by scholarship to go to Kings School Grantham and from there into the RAF as Apprentices at Cranwell. Charles became Aircrew as a Navigator and Fred became a Radio and Communications Technician.

In 1938 dad worked on early RADAR under Barnes-Wallis and others and then in 1939 he was sent to North Africa to maintain Aircraft communications for the RAF over there. In 1943 he returned to UK and married Olive in February 1944.

I (Denis) was born in May 1946 followed by my three brothers; John 1949, Stephen 1951 and Geoffrey 1952. Dad served in Malaya and Singapore during the Confrontation and served at many stations around England mainly on Guided Weapons and Radio and Communications technology. He retired in 1975 and started a full retirement as an Archaeologist, Church Warden and local and family historian!

Elaine Jones continues:

Fred and his wife Olive, who sadly died in 2006, set about joining the Rutland Field Research Group for Archaeology and History. They were among the early founding members, the Group having been formed in 1971 because of the impending development of Rutland Water. Fred and Olive were instrumental in the survey and excavation of the, now drowned, shrunken medieval village of Nether Hambleton.



With the Water levels rising, Fred then proceeded to direct the excavation of the Whitwell shrunken medieval village. The 'dig' was one of the few amateur volunteer excavations still going in the 1980s - new improved, more 'professional' techniques were now the order of the day. As such, the

'dig' provided one of the few opportunities for novice archaeologists to gain field experience. We would dig on Sunday afternoons in high summer - like the 19th century parsons of old. On sunny days someone would go and buy ice-cream from Whitwell Post Office two fields up - I remember Elsie Green, big Jo Ecob, Maureen and Jack Dodds, and "Happy" Day. We all enjoyed Fred and Olive's hospitality, Olive was a wonderful cook and Fred ran the garden, all higgledy piggledy, where everything grew and happy chickens wandered freely.

But people grow old and when in 1993 the Field Research Group merged with the Rutland Local History and Record Society, Fred and Olive were elected Honorary Members. Fred published annual reports of his work in *Rutland Record* and a summary of his excavations of the *Medieval Settlements at Nether Hambleton and Whitwell* were eventually published in 2007 by Tim Clough in *The Heritage of Rutland Water*, compiled and edited by Robert Ovens and Sheila Sleath.

Denis Adams and Elaine Jones

Catherine (Kate) Maria Don 1953-2013

Graham Don writes:

Kate died too young at 59 in Peterborough City Hospital following an illness that deteriorated rapidly. She had been diagnosed with SLE (Lupus) in the early 1990s and an

operation for breast cancer in 2010 with the subsequent chemotherapy, had not improved her health.

Kate was born at Preston in Lancashire, the oldest child of Peter and Sheila Simm. She had a brother Rob, and a sister Alison who predeceased her. Her father was an art teacher and her grandfather a member of the Royal Scottish Academy. Kate's family moved to Stamford in 1967 where Kate started at Stamford High School. She was very sporty and enjoyed netball. At Durham University she was captain of the University Netball team with Full University Colours. She also played squash and enjoyed wind surfing. Academic work came easy; she was capable and soaked up information like a sponge. At Durham she studied for a general arts degree specialising in Anthropology, Chinese Civilisation and Indian Civilisation and was awarded a first in BA (Hons) and also a University prize on completion of her degree.



Kate in fieldwalking gear at North Luffenham in November 2005 (Elaine Jones)

Kate first met her husband Graham when they were both at school in

Stamford. Graham was already at Durham when Kate chose a course there. They married in 1976. Kate was a trainee nurse and Graham a trainee chartered accountant. As one of them had to get a 'proper job' Kate joined NOP as a field controller. Later she joined Taylor Nelson and worked her way up to become Managing Director of their Services Division.

In 1987 they bought a weekend holiday cottage in Market Overton and in 1989 Kate decided to leave the London 'rat-race' and buy the village shop. Eight months later they swapped the shop for their home in Cordle Way. Kate now had time to develop her own interests. Besides archaeology, she was Secretary to Market Overton Cricket Club for four years and became a member of the Rutland Cricket league committee. She served as a Market Overton Parish Councillor and was an active volunteer at the Citizens' Advice Bureau in Oakham for many years. In her time off from 'service', Kate liked watching horse racing on TV, was an excellent cook and enjoyed listening to opera. When she won three sets of dictionaries solving the 'Independent's crossword, she decided not to send in her winning entries anymore!

Elaine Jones writes:

I first met Kate in October 2001 when she had been invited by the University of Leicester to organise an

archaeological field walking survey of the Romano-British town at Thistleton, and I was asked to participate. The following season, in October 2002, Kate joined my field-walking team surveying around Ayston and Uppingham - she walked with me until 2009 when, debilitated by Lupus, the cold wet winters on Beaumont Chase proved too much.

In 2002 Kate took on the Chairmanship of the Rutland Local History Society's Archaeological Team and sat on the Society's Executive Committee - positions she retained until her death. She was an active volunteer at the Museum helping to create many of the current exhibitions and was also on the Executive Committee of the Friends of the Rutland County Museum. In addition to her museum and fieldwork, she gave lectures, exhibitions and visited many of Rutland's primary schools.

As a tribute to her Thistleton study, she received the 'Miss Linford Award' for the best amateur archaeological project submitted to the Leicestershire Museums Archaeological Fieldwork Group in 2003. She published annual reports on the Society's Archaeological Team in *Rutland Record* from 2004 to 2009 and in 2007 her chapter on 'Brooches, Bathhouses and Bones - Archaeology in the Gwash Valley' was published in *The Heritage of Rutland Water*. In 2009 she wrote and published *Market Overton - a walk through times gone by*.

Debbie Frearson writes:

Kate was my mentor when I volunteered at Rutland County Museum as a mature student, and she invited me to join the Field Walking Group to widen my scope and meet like minded people. She soon became a firm friend; we would share terrible jokes whilst walking in the bitter wind looking for that elusive artefact. This shared sense of humour continued throughout our work at the museum, combined with a strong work ethic and sense of fairness. Kate's extensive archaeological knowledge never ceased to amaze me; her expertise always emerged during mutual debate rather than 'teacher/pupil' format. This was a great skill and immediately put everyone at ease. Last year, 2013, she encouraged me to take my Masters in Archaeology, as always this encouragement was with discretion and firmness, a skill that made me think it was my idea in the first place. What a void she has left. Kate loved life - her sparkle, her ability, and her warm positive support and friendship to those of us who knew her will not be forgotten.

Graham Don, Debbie Frearson & Elaine Jones

Sir David-Davenport Handley, of Clipsham Hall 1919-2013

The Friends of Rutland County Museum have been greatly saddened to learn of the death of their long-serving Vice-President, Sir David Davenport-Handley. Sir David was amongst the group of influential Rutland enthusiasts who helped to set up the Friends of the Museum in 1959, and indeed he chaired their first meeting. He remained a faithful supporter of the Rutland County Museum and its Friends, and although not able to attend their meetings in recent years he was still in office as a Vice-President and

regularly made a point of sending his good wishes at their Annual General Meetings.

The participation of Sir David Davenport-Handley and other Rutland notables in the process of setting up the Friends of the Museum was an essential preliminary to the



opening of the Museum, which took place ten years later in 1969. The opening ceremony was performed by HRH Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, and I'm sure he would have been instrumental in making the arrangements for her visit. Throughout my time at the museum, Sir David was always a welcome and interested visitor, one of those people who were

generous in their encouragement and willing to support the museum and its activities in whatever way they could.

The Friends of the Museum extend their condolences to Sir David's family and remember his fundamental contribution to their success and that of the museum with gratitude.

Tim Clough, Vice-President FRCMOC

Air Chief Marshal Sir Jock Kennedy

1928-2013

Sir Jock Kennedy lived in Manton and held the position of Lord Lieutenant of Rutland between 1997 and 2003. He



served for many years as President of the Friends of Rutland County Museum and was still in office at the time of his death in 2013.

Sir Jock was born in Hawick, Scotland, on May 19, 1928. In 1946 he served his National Service in the RAF as an airman and then attended the RAF College at Cranwell. A talented pupil, he was awarded the Philip Sassoon Memorial Prize for best all-round cadet.

Soon after graduating as a pilot, Sir Jock flew Hastings aircraft in the Berlin Air Lift in 1948-49, the first major crisis of the Cold War. Fifteen years later he flew supplies into Zambia following the Southern Rhodesia Prime Minister Ian Smith's Unilateral Declaration of Independence in 1965.

Sir Jock was appointed CB (Companion of the Order of the Bath) in 1978 and KCB (Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath) in 1980. He served as Air ADC (aide-de-camp) to The Queen from 1983 to 1986.

His final appointment was with the Air Force Board as the Air Member for Personnel. He retired in 1986 and became an active controller of the RAF Benevolent Fund.

LYDDINGTON MANOR HISTORY SOCIETY (LMHS)

2014 Events Programme

Talks are held at 7.30 pm in Lyddington Village Hall. Entry is £1 for members, £2 for non-members and free for children. All are welcome.

Wednesday May 7th

Annual General Meeting, followed by:

Living in the Bede House

Presented by Dr Elizabeth Hurren

The local conditions in which paupers were living in the Bede House at Lyddington.

Wednesday June 4th

Kill or Cure - A Dose of Medieval Medicine

Presented by Elizabeth Jordan

The Black Death, the 'Four Humours', astrology and the signs of the Zodiac, phlebotomy, and diagnosis using the conjunctions of the planets.

Saturday July 12th, 19th and 26th

Festival of British Archaeology

A programme of guided walks in the Manor (Lyddington, Caldecott, Stoke Dry and Thorpe by Water) will be announced later.

Wednesday August 6th

Bypassing History

Presented by Philippa Massey

Transport over the ages. A look at how people travelled and carried goods, and how the infrastructure has affected the local area.

Wednesday September 3rd

The Field Names of the Manor

Presented by Dr Richard Jones

What the local field names mean and what they tell us about farming and agriculture in the Manor.

Wednesday October 1st

An Introduction to the Conservation of Stained Glass

Presented by Derek Hunt

Derek Hunt has been a practising stained glass artist for over 24 years and is a Fellow of the British Society of Master Glass Painters; he is also an accredited stained glass conservator.

Wednesday November 5th

The Drovers

Presented by Mary Weston

How sheep and cattle were driven on foot from Wales through the Welland Valley to the London markets.

Wednesday December 3rd

The Wounds of Richard III

Presented by Professor Sarah Hainsworth

How the wounds found on Richard III's skeleton have been examined and how these have been related to possible weapons.

Please check the LMHS website for any changes to this programme - www.lyddingtonhistory.org.uk

Many thanks to all the contributors to this issue. If you would like to make a contribution or suggest an idea for the next issue, please contact me by email at rfovens@yahoo.co.uk.

Robert Ovens