

# **THE THOROTON SOCIETY OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

**THE COUNTY'S HISTORY AND  
ARCHAEOLOGY SOCIETY  
FOUNDED 1897**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS  
for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017**



**Carving in Calverton Church Clock Tower**

**THE THOROTON SOCIETY OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE  
OFFICERS JANUARY TO DECEMBER 2017**

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Adrian Henstock BA DAA FRHistS

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David Bagley MA FLA, Dr Rosalys Coope PhD FSA,  
Sir Neil Cossons OBE FSA FMA, Keith Goodman BA FCA

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**HONORARY SECRETARY**

Barbara Cast BAHons \*

Little Dower House, Station Road, Bleasby, Notts NG14 7FX

**HONORARY TREASURER**

John Wilson BPharm MPhil FRSPH \*

**HONORARY TRANSACTIONS EDITORS**

*History* - Martyn Bennett BA PhD FRHistS \*

*Archaeology* - Christopher King BA MA PhD \*

**CONSULTANT EDITOR AND RECORDS SERIES EDITOR**

Adrian Henstock BA DAA FRHistS \*

**HONORARY NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

John Wilson BPharm MPhil FRSPH \*

**HONORARY CIRCULATION SECRETARY**

David Bagley MA FLA until April 2017

**HONORARY DISTRIBUTION AND SALES SECRETARY**

Robert James BA BPhil DipCG \* from April 2017

**HONORARY LECTURE SECRETARY**

David Hoskins IEng AMICE\*

**HONORARY EXCURSION SECRETARY**

Alan Langton BA \*

**HONORARY MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY**

Judith Mills BA MA PhD \*

*\*Ex-officio members of Council*

**TRUSTEES FOR THE CHARITY**

John Beckett, Barbara Cast and John Wilson

## **PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE (TRANSACTIONS AND RECORD SECTION)**

Jenny Alexander BA PhD

Professor John Beckett BA PhD FRHistS FSA (Chairman)

Professor Martyn Bennett BA PhD FRHistS

David Crook MA PhD FRHistS FSA OBE

Lee Elliott BA PgDip (Archaeol.Sci)

Trevor Foulds BA PhD FRHistS

Richard Gaunt BA Ph D FRHistS FHEA

Colin Griffin BA PhD

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Natasha Hodgson BA PhD

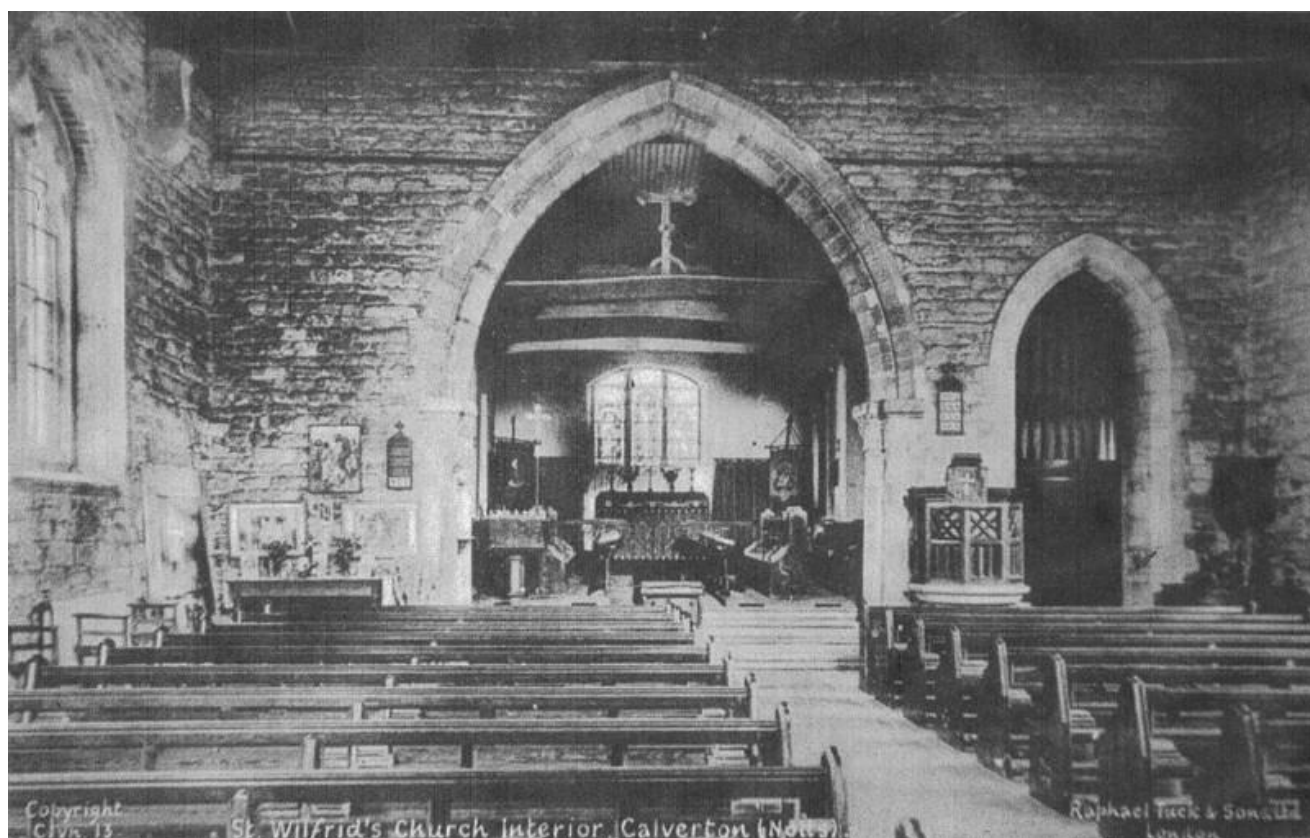
Christopher King BA MA PhD

Gavin Kinsley BA

Chris Robinson BA PhD

John Wilson BPharm MPhil FRSPH, Honorary Treasurer, Record Section

Barbara Cast BA Hons, Honorary Secretary of the Society – ex-officio



St Wilfrid's Church, Calverton, early 20<sup>th</sup> century

# **THE THOROTON SOCIETY OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

## **TRUSTEES REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2017**

### **LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

The full name of the society is the Thoroton Society of Nottinghamshire and it is governed by a constitution known as the 'Rules of the Thoroton Society of Nottinghamshire'. These rules are registered with the Charity Commissioners under number 237755.

### **OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY**

Under the rules of the Society, its objects shall be to promote and foster the study of the history, archaeology and antiquities of Nottinghamshire for the public benefit and to promote and foster public knowledge, understanding and appreciation of Nottinghamshire's history generally.

### **ADDRESS FOR ENQUIRIES**

Barbara Cast, Honorary Secretary, Little Dower House, Station Road, Bleasby, Nottinghamshire NG14 7FX. [barbaracast@btinternet.com](mailto:barbaracast@btinternet.com)

### **TRUSTEES**

The members of Council are considered to be the Trustees of the Society. Details of membership of Council are shown on page 2.

### **MAIN ADVISORS**

Bankers – HSBC Bank plc, 26 Clumber Street, Nottingham NG1 3GA

### **FUNDS**

The General Fund can be used for the general furtherance of the aims of the charity. In order to achieve the aims of the Record Section, the Society has the power to print original historical materials, records and manuscripts. The income from the Maurice Barley, Nora Witham, Myles Thoroton Hildyard and Neville Hoskins Funds is used for lectures. The Coddington Fund has generously supported the William Senior Record Series volume: the Centenary Fund is used for the Heritage Gateway and the Davis Bequest for accessibility to the Nottinghamshire Bibliography.

## **REPORT OF COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2017**

### **INTRODUCTION AND CHAIR'S REPORT**

The Society continued to flourish in 2017 and for the first time for some years saw an increase in membership, as well as excellent numbers on the excursions. If anything, attendance at lectures was down a little on previous years, but we hope that will prove to be only a temporary blip. Certainly it cannot have been because of the quality of the presentations which was exceptional.

I am, as ever, grateful to the officers for their hard work, and for keeping the Society going in the right general direction. During the year Rob James took over much of the work previously undertaken by David Bagley, and we were pleased to elect David as a Vice President at the 2017 AGM. John Wilson and Judith Mills rejigged the positions of treasurer and membership secretary in order to prevent overlap and to make both jobs

more manageable, especially with new government regulations on data management coming into force.

Although many local history societies are struggling to keep going because of membership issues and, in a few cases that I am aware of, have had to close, the Thoroton Society has reached 121 and is still flourishing, and long may that continue.

John Beckett, Chair of Council

## **PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL**

The Society's Council met three times in 2017, meeting as usual at Lenton Grove, courtesy of the University of Nottingham. Council has responsibility for overseeing the Society's business, finance and development and the Council's officers, and those representing the Society on various organisations, report to Council at each meeting. The Standing Committee, appointed by Council and consisting of the officers, meets on a regular basis and reports to Council at each meeting. It has responsibility for the day to day business of the Society, the planning of its programme and detailed consideration of initiatives such as the Geoffrey Bond Research Grant. Members of Council and its officers are elected at the AGM for a period as set down in the Constitution: it is anticipated that all members of Council will be involved in the business of the Society and, to this end, most of them take on specific roles and attend all meetings of Council.

Barbara Cast, Honorary Secretary

## **HONORARY TREASURER'S REVIEW OF THE YEAR TO 31<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2017**

If one looks only at the 'bottom line', the accounts this year look a bit sick. Receipts came to £25,208 and the expenditure was £33,273. The apparent deficit of £8,065 is due to the printing of the Welbeck Atlas and the associated memory cards. The cost of production amounted to £9,647. However, the funding for the Welbeck Atlas came from a donation from the late Eric Coddington, and the Coddington Fund covered much of the costs of preparing the Welbeck Atlas. In addition, sales of the Atlas during the year came to £2,195. So, although the accounts appear depleted, the Atlas has cost the Society's funds very little. Furthermore, sales of the Newstead Abbey book amounted to £220, and £134 came from sale of previous Record Series books. The Bookstall at our Lecture meetings this year contributed £114. We are most grateful to Margaret Trueman, Penny Messenger and Philip Jones for running the Bookstall, which is an important part of our Saturday meetings.

The Excursions made a surplus of £992, for which thanks are due to Alan Langton for his thorough work in organising these most enjoyable events. Receipts for the Spring Meeting and AGM and the Annual Luncheon almost covered the costs for these. The Special Lecture given by Professor Carenza Lewis made a useful surplus of £594. We are

grateful to Professor Lewis for giving this most interesting lecture on the outcome of the Black Death with only a modest sum requested towards her research.

The level of Gift Aid has been maintained at £1,253 and interest on our National Savings investment came to £292. Printing costs for *Transactions* were up marginally at £6,162 (2016 - £5,801). There was a considerable increase in postage this year as we now use a service provided by the printers, Adlards, who are able to do a mass mailing of the *Newsletters* and other items. At the end of the financial year, the General Fund stood at £25,100 and the Records Section Fund amounted to £41,051. The total assets of the Society were £66,151.

John Wilson, Honorary Treasurer

## MEMBERSHIP

### Membership Secretary's Report 2017

Unlike recent years, the Society's membership grew during 2017. This is partially due to a greater number of members renewing their membership at the beginning of the year (compared to previous years in which there was also a larger than usual number of resignations) and there were also many new members joining the Society.

Comparative membership numbers	2016	2017
Individual members	198	215
Individual members with record series	83	86
Associate members	58	53
Life members	5	5
Student members	5	6
Honorary members	4	4
Record series only	3	3
<b>Total individual members</b>	<b>356</b>	<b>372</b>
Institutional members	11	12
Institutional members – with record series	59	59
Institutional members – record series only	3	2
<b>Total institutional members</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>Final total</b>	<b>429</b>	<b>445</b>

Total record series	148	150
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Judith Mills, Honorary Membership Secretary

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Transactions**

Volume 120 was published in time for the annual general meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at Kingston upon Soar. The edition carried five archaeological articles and seven history articles as well as the archaeology editor's extensive report on the county's archaeological work. The articles covered the usual wide range of subjects and periods from Iron Age torcs to eighteenth and nineteenth century drainage; from mediaeval forest extensions to the route taken by the Robin Hood Rifles as they progressed around Nottingham. Other articles covered First World War nursing in the city, the scientific community and the use of gypsum plaster in the middle ages. The issue was replete with an exceptionally large number of well-chosen and appropriate illustrations.

At the publications committee meeting in November 2017 it was decided that the print run for Volume 121 could be reduced to 425 copies. At this point in time (10 January 2018) volume 121 is at the printers 4Word on schedule for distribution at the Annual General Meeting on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2018 at Calverton.

The editors would like to thank the Publications Committee for its support and especially to those members who have acted as independent readers and assessors during the year: without their learned support and insights the journal would not continue to publish articles of a high standard and originality that it does. I also wish to thank the Archaeology Editor for his continued support and hard work in producing Volume 120 and his work on Volume 121.

Martyn Bennett, Honorary Transactions History Editor

### **Record Series**

The publication in the summer of 2017 of volume 47 - *The Welbeck Atlas: William Senior's Maps of the Estates of William Cavendish Earl of Newcastle 1629-1640*, edited by Stephanos Mastoris – was well received. It is a ground-breaking edition because the printed volume - comprising very full catalogues and a scholarly commentary on the maps - is accompanied by an attractive monogrammed digital flash card. This contains full colour reproductions of over 80 maps of the Earl's estates in Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Staffordshire, Northumberland, Gloucestershire and Somerset, all of which are capable of being enlarged on screen to any desired scale. Copies of the first edition ran out rapidly and a reprint is now available for purchase at £29.50 (details from website).

The next volume - *The Nottinghamshire Churches Notes of Sir Stephen Glynne 1825-1874* – is due for publication during 2018. It is an edition of architectural notes compiled by Glynne (1807-1874), a Welsh landowner and antiquarian, during his extensive travels throughout England. The notes, in 'Pevsner' style, cover over one hundred of the



ancient parish churches of the county and are invaluable for recording features lost during later Victorian restorations and rebuilding. They were transcribed and edited by Dr Lawrence Butler, who unfortunately died before he had completed a full introduction, but enough material survives to merit publication.

*Important note to Subscribers.* The edition of the *Welbeck Atlas* (volume 47) appeared after volume 48 (*Newstead Abbey: a Nottinghamshire Country House: its Owners and Architectural History 1540-1931*) which was published in 2015. The sequence is now restored and the next publication will be volume 49.

Adrian Henstock, Honorary Record Series Editor

## **Newsletter**

This year there have four issues, as normal. The main innovation has been the use of a commercial mailing house, linked with the printers, Adlards of Ruddington, to send out the issues. This means that the packing charges have to be paid but this is offset considerably by the bulk mailing cost which just over half the price of second-class post.

After some experimentation, the format of the *Newsletter* has been more or less standardised with a colour on the front cover usually related to the contents of the issue. This is followed by a centre-spread of pictures from events. There are usually twenty or twenty-four pages in each issue, depending on how many contributions come in and how many reports of events there are. Regular features of the *Newsletter* include reports on lectures and excursions and articles by members, often with illustrations. There is frequently a 'News' section, which covers anything deemed newsworthy and related to the history of Nottinghamshire. Another section, 'Your Society', gives information on anything that affects the Society; we advertise the Geoffrey Bond Research Awards here and often there are new members of the Society to welcome. Anniversaries are covered, and there are often book reviews.

One innovation which seems popular (at least, it attracts contributions) is 'Members' Research'. Members of the Research Group are encouraged to publish their results, either as short pieces in the *Newsletter* or, where appropriate, to submit them to the editors of *Transactions* for consideration. Occasionally unsolicited contributions are received, not always from members of the Society; an example of this was received from Professor David James of the University of Southern California on Laxton in Peace and War (1900-1920) and appeared in the spring issue.

It is the editor's hope that the *Newsletter* will continue to interest and benefit the Society's membership.

John Wilson, Honorary Newsletter Editor



## PLANNING AND CONSERVATION IN THE CITY OF NOTTINGHAM

Throughout the year, the Civic Society has commented on many planning applications and holds regular meetings with the Council's Conservation Officers. These are the significant applications.

**BROADMARSH:** There has been slow progress on the long-anticipated redevelopment scheme. Following the takeover of Intu by Hammersons, further uncertainty and delay is likely for the proposals for a cinema and food court along with refurbished retailing. However, the demolition of the old Broadmarsh car park is well underway. The replacement building will include a more user-friendly and hospitable bus station with clear entrances for pedestrians, whilst the frontages to Carrington Street and Collin Street will comprise shops and cafes – a great improvement on the current blank walls. The current planning application seeks an extra storey on the height of the original car park. Significant changes to the street layout around the Broadmarsh will take place with traffic removed from part of Collin Street and an open public space created there. This forms part of the Council's proposals to make better pedestrian connections between the Southside (around the Station) and the city centre. Intu's Broadmarsh redevelopment was supposed to deliver a broad, day-lit route through its shopping centre, reminiscent of an open street, to reinforce this through route. This part of the development may be delayed awaiting the new owners' intentions. Canal Street will become the focus for public transport and through traffic will be deflected to Queen's Road south of the Station (in proposals that mirror the bus priority and limited access to ordinary traffic as in Parliament Street now).

**NOTTINGHAM SKILLS HUB:** This is a controversial scheme (with a current planning application) for the Nottingham College which was created by the merger of New College and Central College. The site, between Canal Street and Cliff Road, sits in front of the Lace Market Cliff which is currently fully visible across open, empty land. The new college would be six storeys high at Canal Street but stepped down to two storeys towards Cliff Road and aligned to preserve some of the view towards the former High Pavement Chapel from the south, and along the Lace Market Cliff from the tram route and Middle Hill. The re-creation of Sussex Street next to the tram viaduct will provide a direct pedestrian route leading towards the Lace Market via Garners Hill steps next to Nottingham Contemporary, which will be clearly visible from Station Street. The college layout would then make use of this new street with entrances and windows, generating activity and improving community safety with the constant presence of people in the area. Nottingham Civic Society has recognised the difficult balance being struck on this site with an appropriate use which would really benefit from its closeness to the tram, bus and railway stations, but its size necessarily interrupting some of the wide view now visible since earlier buildings on the site have been demolished. The Society has supported the development recognising that care has been taken to safeguard cherished views of key heritage features but have requested that the Council ensure the site's archaeology is investigated and recorded properly. Parts of the site have been water-logged since medieval times as the braided channels of the River Leen before its eighteenth century canalisation.

Whilst it seems that the new college will maintain its presence in the Adams Building in the Lace Market, other college sites – such as the Former Peoples' College on Maid Marian Way (under the Castle ramparts) - will be vacated and become (controversial) development sites themselves.

There seems to be a tall building zone developing in Talbot Street within the Canning Circus Conservation Area despite the best efforts of the Civic Society. The Council seems to be promoting this area as a student quarter with tall buildings under construction at Canning Circus and recently completed at Talbot House (adjacent to Clarendon Street). In addition, the Planning Committee has just given its blessing to another tall student building on the site opposite the Christian Centre (Nos 79-85 Talbot Street, site of a planned new 'cathedral' a decade ago) where the loss of the former school house, a characterful Victorian building, is regrettable. The character of the conservation area is changing completely here.

There hasn't been any news on a future site for the Central Library or any application to redevelop the Angel Row site as far as I know. We will keep our eyes and ears open in 2018.

Hilary Brindley Vice-Chair (Planning) Nottingham Civic Society

## **THOROTON RESPONSE GROUP**

A further representation was made regarding the fate of the remaining part of the Robin Hood Hotel in Newark. The matter was referred to the Secretary of State and the outcome awaited.

Nottingham Central Library was the subject of a letter to the City Council expressing concern regarding the fate of what is a much used and valued city centre facility with helpful and knowledgeable staff, especially in the local history library.

A letter of congratulation was sent to the City Council regarding the award of Heritage Action Zone status and the investment to be received to improve, enhance, interpret and promote Nottingham's heritage. The Society urged the Council to support the programme and to ensure the very best outcomes were achieved from this opportunity to enable radical and very necessary improvements and restoration to be made to the many conservation areas and historic buildings which are in danger of perilous decline. No response was received to either of these letters.

Members of the Society are strongly encouraged to draw the group's attention to matters concerning them. There are instances where our input has made a real difference to the outcome for our county's heritage.

Barbara Cast, Coordinator, Response Group

## **GEOFFREY BOND AND THOROTON RESEARCH AWARD**

The Geoffrey Bond Research Award has now been active for three years and continues to attract some interesting and worthwhile applications. The Society is most grateful for Mr Bond's generous support in funding this award and in 2016 it was decided by the Society to double the amount available from its own funds.

Successful applicants are required to provide a short account of the work undertaken for the Newsletter and, subsequently, they may be encouraged to write a more detailed piece for the Transactions.

In 2017 £1500 was allocated to Southwell Community Archaeology Group for their community archaeology project to research, compare and document the wall-paintings in the Saracens Head, Southwell, and £500 to Bassetlaw Christian Heritage for their project to identify, research and document information on the unique part the Bassetlaw area played in Christian history and which are held in archives, churches and orally.

Applications from members undertaking research are very welcome.

John Beckett, Barbara Cast and Richard Gaunt, adjudicating panel

## **THOROTON RESEARCH GROUP**

The Thoroton Research Group was set up to encourage members of the Society to carry out research into local history and to disseminate their findings. Two meetings were held in 2017. At the April meeting, attended by twelve members, five research projects were discussed. John Wilson began with his study of the sundial at Hodsock Priory. This had been brought to Hodsock in 1986 from St Anne's Manor, Sutton Bonington. The dial had probably been made by Joseph Thomas Wilson of Stamford. Unfortunately, the sundial is not orientated correctly so will not show accurate time. The life of Mary Ann Winfield Bannister (1897-1970) a nurse from Beeston, had been researched by Jill Oakland. Miss Bannister was born in Beeston, and Jill had come across her when researching various aspects of the history of Beeston. Miss Bannister held a number of nursing positions and served as a nurse in France from 1914 to the end of the Great War. She then moved to various other posts and was awarded a decoration for her services to nursing. Megan Doole described the East Midlands Gardens Trust Recording Project, with which she is involved. The project covers Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Northamptonshire, Leicestershire and Rutland, its object being to record all historic gardens in the East Midlands. Megan then spoke about a study of the park and gardens at Shireoaks Hall, near Worksop, the home of the Hewett family from 1546 to 1811. Ted White posed the question - was Francis, Viscount Lovel, buried at Gedling Church? Following defeat at the Battle of Stoke Field, Viscount Lovel disappeared. There have been numerous accounts of his fate by different authorities. The most plausible is that he reached Gedling, possibly severely wounded, and died there. There is a marble tomb in the church, the carvings on which are now almost illegible. There is

possible evidence of vandalism to the shield on the tomb (by a Tudor sympathiser or agent?). A recent project has used specialist lighting techniques in an attempt to render the carvings more legible and thus to settle whether this is actually Lovel's tomb. Brian Rich discussed the movement of salt, an important mediaeval commodity, starting with reference to Salterford near Ravenshead. Salt for local monastic communities may have come from either Worcestershire or Cheshire, or alternatively from salt production in Lincolnshire around the Wash. Brian circulated a number of maps which showed the routes of various mediaeval roads, and described the most likely route for the salt to have taken.

At the September meeting, there were eight members present. Elizabeth Robinson talked about the gardens at Bromley House where she had been the volunteer 'head gardener' and garden historian for many years. John Wilson then described two heliochronometers at Rufford Abbey. One had been purchased by the second Lord Savile and mounted on a pillar in memory of King Edward VII. The heliochronometer had been sold in 1938 but the pillar remained. In 2009, the Rufford Abbey authorities commissioned a new heliochronometer to commemorate the opening of the new Rose Garden. John explained that the new instrument had to be vandal-proof and could not therefore be of the traditional design. A letter was received by the society from a couple in Melbourne, Australia, who owned a large clock made by F. Gibbs of Nottingham. They asked if we knew anything about the makers. John Wilson had researched the Gibbs family who had made and sold clocks, watches and jewellery for some eighty years. Three generations of the family had been involved with the business. John Wilson outlined some preliminary investigations into the distribution of church patron saints and dedications across the East Midlands. This area more or less comprises the dioceses of Derby, Leicester, Lincoln, Peterborough and Southwell and Nottingham. Some surprising differences in frequencies of dedications had been found. A comparison had been made with the diocese of Truro, which had large numbers of obscure Celtic saints. Members suggested that comparisons be made with the North East, e.g. Durham, which might also have a large number of Celtic saints. Andrew Hamilton had 'discovered' a large painting of Wollaton Village by Jan Siberechts, dated 1697, at Birdsall House. The painting is a 'bird's eye view' and was probably painted from sketches made from the roof of Wollaton Hall. The picture clearly shows St Leonard's Church and several cottages which are there today. One is most probably Ivy Cottage, and another Stone Cottage, both of which have been surveyed by members of the Wollaton Historical and Conservation Society. Keith Fisher described several ongoing projects: further work on graffiti on lead roofs, both church and domestic; the history of the South Notts Occupation Training Centre for miners, from a badge that he had discovered in a deceased relative's possessions; a preliminary study of boat owners, masters and builders, using the Trent Navigation Gauging Tables. This interest had been sparked by Keith's discovery of a gravestone in Nottingham, dedicated to a boat builder. Trevor Lewis informed the meeting that 2019 was the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the Mansfield to Pinxton Railway. The railway had originally involved horse-drawn wagons loaded with coal, and only later in the Victorian era were steam engines used.

There would be an exhibition and various events to commemorate the anniversary. The railway was probably the first to be built and used in the Midlands.

Accounts of several of these projects have already been published.

John Wilson, Coordinator, Research Group

## **THE THOROTON SOCIETY WEBSITE AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE BIBLIOGRAPHY ONLINE**

Website statistics for 2017 show a steady decline in traffic over the year with 2,802 unique visitors viewing 10,520 pages in January, decreasing to 2,301 visitors looking at 6,547 pages in December. The most popular times for viewing the website in 2017 were the afternoon (2-5pm) and evening (8-9pm). The most viewed sections of the website continue to be 'Events', 'About us' and 'Publications'.

Most people found the website by using Google. The most unusual search phrase used last year was "1900s american-italian bricklayers old brick mill pigeon roosts" – not only does this sound like a very odd piece of research but I have no idea how the searcher found his or her way to our website!

*The Nottinghamshire Bibliography Online* continues to increase in size and now holds around 12,100 entries (Michael Brook's original bibliography published in 2002 has around 8,700). Apart from adding new entries over the year a substantial amount of time was spent adding details of 285 entries on the Southwell & Nottingham Church History Project website. It is clear that for many churches in the county these entries are the only reliable historical and archaeological sources available so it is important to include them.

Work has also started on identifying university theses on aspects of Nottinghamshire history now available online. They cover an impressively wide range of subjects, from Lucy Worsley's research on the architectural patronage of William Cavendish, 1<sup>st</sup> Duke of Newcastle to David Amos' thesis on the Nottinghamshire miners during the 1984-85 miners' strike. Information on these is currently being added to the Bibliography.

Andy Nicholson, Thoroton Society Webmaster

## **THE NOTTINGHAMSHIRE HERITAGE GATEWAY**

There were three new entries in 2017; these are on William Booth, conscientious objectors and Bromley House. They all add to the website and make it a very popular site for Nottinghamshire history information. 2018 should see new writers contributing reports on Nottinghamshire Weather and on West Bridgford.

The site receives good reviews such as; from Elizabeth Williamson, English Heritage Commissioner - "This is wonderfully, clearly designed and easy to navigate, as well as having extremely useful content"; and in Local History News - "...the site is clear, easy to

navigate, and informative...Ideally websites like this should be available throughout the country."

Denise Amos, Heritage Gateway Coordinator

## **SOCIETY EVENTS IN 2017**

### **Excursions**

2017 has been a good year for Society excursions: we have had very good attendances and we have been able to welcome some newcomers too. Our first outing on 25<sup>th</sup> May was led by Richard Gaunt and Roger Tanner, and was oversubscribed. The Society had already had a stimulating lecture on the Pentrich Rebellion given in March by Richard; this excursion toured the sites of the uprising. After coffee at South Wingfield Social Club, and a talk about the possible causes of the rebellion, we chose either a walking tour of South Wingfield or we went direct to the church by the coach. In the graveyard we were able to see names on some gravestones of people associated with the rebellion. The next stop was Saint Matthew's Church in Pentrich with its evidence of Norman architecture in the piers and the font and tower. Walking through nearby fields in lovely sunshine we looked over the expanse of the Amber valley where the rebels had begun their march to Nottingham (en route for London, as they had originally hoped). The march came to an abrupt end at the Butterley Iron Works where they were met by government troops and, by the time they reached Kimberley, most of the 1817 marchers had dwindled back to their homes. Altogether, it was a very interesting and enjoyable day, with thanks to Richard and Roger.

The visit to Lamport Hall on 10<sup>th</sup> July attracted 43 members. This very striking Hall, originally belonged to the Isham family. We were greeted by delicious coffee and home-made biscuits before touring the Hall in three separate groups, each of which had an entertaining guide. The imposing building, now looked after by a Preservation Trust, was originally built by John Webb in 1655, when Sir Charles Isham was rewarded by a baronetcy for his loyalty during the Civil War. The interior is in excellent condition, with magnificent ceilings and furniture and portraits. Through the window, we saw a display of garden gnomes, introduced by the tenth baronet, a Victorian eccentric. After lunch at Brixworth we journeyed to Hallaton in Leicestershire, to visit another fine church with Norman origins, evident in the font and tympanum and nave arches. Here we had a talk and guided tour by John Morrison. There were also some especially some windows by Kempe. Another most enjoyable excursion.

There were only three excursions in 2017, because the June slot was filled by the Special Lecture given by Professor Carenza Lewis in the State Chamber at Southwell.

Our third excursion on 12<sup>th</sup> September was first to Tickencote Church in Rutland, which is in a very small village and is in danger of being closed for services. There is evidence of Anglo-Saxon remains here, but the main item of interest is the enormous twelfth century decorated Norman chancel arch with its six-partite vaulting. The church also boasts an original font and a pre-Reformation bell, now standing on the nave floor. From here we travelled to Helpston and the finely restored cottage belonging to the

seventeenth century poet John Clare, now looked after by an efficient and devoted Trust. A talk by David Dykes of the Trust was followed by a ploughman's lunch served by village volunteers. This was a private visit and members had a free run of the garden and cottage with its exhibitions and dovecote before we walked over to the church where John Clare and his parents are buried. Here we were given a helpful talk by Chris Topper and the chance to view the delightful countryside which is so much in evidence in the poetry of John Clare. A different, but most enjoyable, excursion.

Once again in August, Dr David Knight arranged an opportunity for members to see the progress of the excavations in the grounds of Nottingham Castle. About forty members enjoyed an hour looking at what has been achieved and what sherds of pottery and other interesting items have come to light. The archaeological team has clearly worked very hard in the small window of time allowed them before having to refill the trenches once more for the winter.

Alan Langton, Honorary Excursions Secretary

### **Lectures and Presentations**

Our year started with Rev Dr Stuart Bell giving the 2017 *Nottinghamshire History Lecture* on the theme of the role of the Church of England and some Methodist Chapels during the Great War. Their portrayal of the war as a holy battle with many sacrifices was highly influential in the attitude of the troops engaged in the conflict. In February Chris King and Ellis Morgan gave a joint presentation for the *Archaeology Lecture* to update us on work being carried out by the Southwell Community Archaeology Group. We ended the winter season with the *Myles Thoroton Hildyard Lecture* when Dr Richard Gaunt related the story of the Pentrich Rebellion which, although starting in Derbyshire, seems to have had significant support in Nottingham and where the group was headed before being intercepted.

The *Spring Meeting* was held on another sunny day, this time in the village of Kingston-on-Soar. The formal meeting was followed by a short history of the village, given by Ray State, and another excellent tea. The day concluded with a visit to St Winifred's Church and the Babington Chantry in the village. This year we also held the latest of our Special Lectures in the State Chamber at Southwell, with Professor Carenza Lewis telling us how the latest investigation techniques were providing much better evidence of the impact of the Black Death on the rural communities in our area.

The new winter season began with the *Maurice Barley Lecture*, given by the battlefield historian John Cotterill, who gave us a lively presentation describing the losses, changes and attrition that took place in Nottinghamshire in 1917.

In November, our Annual Luncheon was held at Ye Olde Bell at Barnby Moor where an excellent lunch was served by the staff. This was followed by local historian Malcolm Dolby giving us a history of East Retford and its development from a hamlet to an important market town on the new, realigned Great North Road.



The 2017 *Nottinghamshire History Lecture* was given by Council member Hannah Nicholson and described the influence of the new art of printing on the political communications used in Nottinghamshire elections at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. In our final presentation of the year, Clare Hartwell used the *Neville Hoskins Lecture* to bring us up to date with progress on the latest revision of '*Peovsner's Nottinghamshire*'. Clare highlighted a number of new buildings that were being surveyed and added to the book and asked members for any information they had on their histories.

David Hoskins, Honorary Lecture Secretary

## **ARCHAEOLOGY**

### **Highlights of Nottinghamshire Archaeology in 2017**

Archaeological contractors and community groups worked on a wide variety of sites in Nottinghamshire during 2017, ranging in date from the prehistoric to the modern periods. Brief details of the more informative of these investigations are provided in this report, which has been compiled in consultation with Ursilla Spence and Emily Gillott of Nottinghamshire County Council, Scott Lomax of Nottingham City Council and Dr Christopher King, Honorary Editor (Archaeology) of the Society's Transactions. Further details of many of the projects listed below will be found in the summary of recent archaeological work in the forthcoming volume of the Society's Transactions.

#### **Bingham: Warners Paddock**

Members of the Bingham Heritage Trails Association have conducted a geophysical survey of Warner's Paddock, revealing linear and other anomalies that might relate to medieval or earlier activity. Plans are in progress for trial excavations in 2018 to characterise the anomalies.

#### **Blyth**

Excavations by Pre-Construct Archaeology in advance of a mixed development adjacent to the A1 have revealed extensive evidence of prehistoric activity, including ring ditches and hengiform features relating to Neolithic and Bronze Age funerary or ceremonial activity. Linear ditches, some yielding Romano-British sherds, are thought to form part of a rectilinear 'brickwork plan' field system

#### **Bramcote: St Michael's Church**

A watching brief was conducted by the Nottinghamshire County Council community archaeology team during construction work in the churchyard adjacent to the tower which is all that survives of the medieval church. This revealed traces of wall foundations of the demolished church, the former retaining wall or revetment for the graveyard, a brick-built burial vault, disarticulated human skeletal remains and medieval pottery, glass and other artefacts, along with handmade brick and other ceramic building material, faced sandstone and fragments of alabaster.

#### **Budby, Edwinstowe and Warsop Parishes: Thynghowe, Hangar Hill**

Mercian Archaeological Services CIC undertook further geophysical survey at this

possible Viking Assembly Site for the Friends of Thynghowe, with funding from the Forestry Commission. The survey focused upon the mound of Thynghowe, where the boundaries of three parishes converge, and an adjacent area preserving traces of a circular embanked ditched enclosure of uncertain date and function. The area inside the enclosure emerged as a very low resistance area, contrasting in this respect with a dense grouping of higher resistance anomalies to its north-east. This suggests a more extensive area of archaeological features than has hitherto been recorded; it is hoped that these will be investigated more fully as part of this long-term research programme.

#### **Clipstone: Beeston Lodge ('Clipstone Peel')**

Work by Mercian Archaeological Services CIC investigated the sparse standing remains and immediate environs of Beeston Lodge, identified previously by David Crook as the remains of Clipstone Peel, built by Edward II in 1316 as a fortified stockade. A topographic survey of the site was undertaken, combined with an assessment of available lidar data and a geophysical survey identifying magnetic anomalies that could signal building foundations. Surface finds included Roman sherds, together with slag and other material interpreted as deriving from modern cast iron production.

#### **Clipstone: King John's Palace**

Further excavation by Mercian Archaeological Services CIC's of a trench opened in 2015 revealed layers used to raise and level the ground surface when the nearby mission church was built in 1903, together with an interesting range of medieval pottery.

#### **Clipstone: St Edwin's Chapel**

Fieldwalking by Mercian Archaeological Services CIC adjacent to St Edwin's Chapel located an area of stone rubble, correlating with a scatter of medieval sherds, which it was suggested could derive from one or more medieval buildings. Subsequent test-pitting of the stone spreads revealed low densities of stone rubble which it was suggested are unlikely to signify substantial stone foundations, together with a broad range of medieval and post-medieval sherds.

#### **East Leake Quarry**

Archaeological investigations by Trent & Peak Archaeology on behalf of Cemex UK in advance of sand and gravel extraction revealed a series of linear ditches and enclosures that appear to have originated in the later prehistoric period. It appears that this boundary system might have influenced the pattern of land division in the Early Medieval period, but interpretation is frustrated by the limited dating evidence. Important evidence for domestic activity in the Early Medieval period is provided by several features, including a possible sunken-featured building and fire-pit.

#### **Farnsfield: Southwell Road**

Geophysical survey and excavations by Trent & Peak Archaeology on behalf of Bellway Homes revealed a low-density of Romano-British features, including a trackway, ditched enclosure and scattered pits. Occasional worked flint attributed to the Neolithic period provided evidence for earlier activity on the site.

**Lenton: Abbey Street**

Trial trenches were dug by Trent & Peak Archaeology on behalf of Vivid Homes within the outer precinct of the Cluniac religious house of Lenton Priory. This revealed a complex sequence of activity spanning the 13th to 19th centuries. Medieval features included possible grave cuts, a boundary ditch and pits. Numerous post-medieval pits and buried soil layers may relate to the regionally important fair site that is known to have occupied the Priory's outer precinct.

**Lenton: Gregory Street**

Trial trenching was undertaken by Trent & Peak Archaeology at the northern edge of the grounds of Lenton Priory, following demolition of the former Red Cross building. One trench revealed a short length of stone walling that may have formed part of the Priory gatehouse. The other trenches were located just outside the Priory precinct, and revealed buried medieval soil and associated areas of hard-standing which it was suggested could relate to the reclamation of boggy ground.

**Littleborough: *Segelocum* Roman Town**

Three test-pits were dug at *Segelocum* as part of a Heritage Lottery funded project led by Sturton Parish Council and Nottinghamshire County Council community archaeologists, with the assistance of Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln). These revealed undisturbed archaeological layers that could relate to Romano-British occupation, including a rough floor surface of burnt stone, pebbles and tile that was associated with animal bone and Roman pottery, a probable post-hole and a stone-filled pit. Finds analyses are in progress.

**Newark South housing development**

Excavations by Oxford Archaeology North on behalf of Urban & Civic Plc revealed extensive evidence for Neolithic and Bronze Age activity, including a ring ditch with an off-centre pit that may have contained burials and a large circular ditched enclosure interpreted as possibly a Neolithic hengiform monument reused during the Bronze Age as a funerary focus. It preserved within its interior a cluster of pits containing urned and unurned Early to Middle Bronze Age cremations. More cremations were found outside the enclosure and yielded a variety of grave goods, including an Early Bronze Age stone socketed axe, a jet plate divider, flint artefacts, faience beads and a worked bone pommel and pin. The next major phase of activity was represented by an Iron Age ditched field system and at least two foci of Iron Age settlement; the latter preserved roundhouses, pits and other features, together with a rich collection of Iron Age pottery, metal working residues and other finds. A large Romano-British ditched enclosure was superimposed upon part of the Iron Age field system. This appears to have formed a focus for occupation and industrial activity, with metalworking residues in several internal features and the remains of six exceptionally well-preserved pottery kilns relating to Roman or possibly early post-Roman activity.

**Newark: Bantymock gypsum quarry**

Further work by Pre-Construct Archaeology (Lincoln) prior to quarrying by British Gypsum revealed additional evidence for extensive Iron Age and Romano-British

settlement. Further traces were also uncovered of an associated field system that was revealed during earlier seasons of fieldwork, together with linear features indicative of Bronze Age activity.

### **Nottingham Castle: Outer Bailey**

A third season of excavations was conducted by Trent & Peak Archaeology with funding from Nottingham City Council. A dense arrangement of intercutting linear features, interpreted as bedding trenches associated with the Ducal Palace gardens, was revealed beneath deposits relating to Victorian allotments or town gardens. These later deposits continued beneath the brick foundations of a structure interpreted as a Victorian greenhouse; the latter was stratified beneath a linear brickwork surface, interpreted as possibly hard standing for searchlights placed on the site by the 42nd (Robin Hood) Anti-Aircraft Battalion before the outbreak of the Second World War.

### **Nottingham Castle: Gatehouse Bridge**

Three trenches, positioned at right angles to the gatehouse bridge, were dug by Trent & Peak Archaeology on behalf of Nottingham City Council prior to consolidation works associated with the Nottingham Castle Transformation project. These identified remains of the western wall of the medieval bridge and part of the original surface above the bridge vaulting. Remains were also recorded of a brick wall (incorporating reused medieval masonry) that had blocked a bridge arch on the western side of the bridge prior to the filling of the ditch and landscaping.

### **Nottingham: Convent Street**

Excavations by Trent & Peak Archaeology on behalf of Nottingham Trent University revealed amidst post-medieval building foundations a scatter of medieval features, including boundary ditches, pits, a possible rock-cut cesspit and a structure interpreted as the remains of a corn-drying oven. Preliminary assessment of the archaeobotanical evidence suggests crop processing and the drying of corn prior to storage, with discoveries of oats, hulled barley, free threshing wheat and rye adding usefully to our understanding of the medieval diet. Work also revealed a well-preserved cave system entered via a sandstone-cut spiral staircase and used as cellarage for the Woodlark beerhouse (recorded on the site from at least 1841). Part of the cave preserved a brick and slate slab floor sealing a rock-cut well from which was recovered a large collection of High Medieval pottery and tile.

### **Nottingham: St Mary the Virgin Church**

Trent & Peak Archaeology undertook a watching brief during excavation of a narrow c.0.5m-deep trench near the north wall of the Chapter House. This revealed beneath a modern path a layer of grave-earth cut by the grave of an adult (of which only the femora were visible). The shallowness of the grave suggests that it is likely to be 17<sup>th</sup> century or earlier in date, as much deeper burials were the norm in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, and it is likely that additional shallow unmarked burials survive in this area.

### **Nottingham: former Shell Garage, London Road,**

This area below The Cliff, which in Speed's 1610 map of Nottingham is shown as a

floodplain traversed by multiple courses of the River Leen, formed the focus of a borehole survey on behalf of Monk Estates. This revealed organic-rich peaty horizons in alluvially deposited silts and in underlying sands and gravels, raising the possibility of environmental remains with high potential for elucidating the changing environment of the Trent Valley. There is also the potential for the identification of areas of drier ground where in medieval times activities such as tanning could have been carried out (as has been observed recently at Narrow Marsh).

### **Radcliffe On Trent: test-pitting project**

Work continued in 2017 with a test pitting project aimed at elucidating changes in the village morphology. In the last two seasons 13 test pits have been dug, focused upon the village centre. Finds are still being processed but include lithic artefacts dated to the Neolithic period, medieval and post-medieval pottery sherds, and a medieval lead spindle whorl.

### **Woodborough: Fox Wood Camp**

Trent & Peak Archaeology was commissioned by Natural England to conduct a topographical and geophysical survey of an earthwork complex in Fox Wood to inform selective thinning of woodland. This was followed by trial trenching to investigate further the character of the earthworks. On typological grounds, these invite comparison with Iron Age and Romano-British enclosures in the region, and it has been suggested that they might indicate the insertion of a later squarish enclosure into a larger curvilinear enclosure. The date of the outer enclosure remains uncertain at present. The innermost ditch, by contrast, yielded pottery dating from the late Iron Age into the Roman period, with the upper fills containing pottery of mid-2<sup>nd</sup> to early 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD date. Given the quantities of animal bone that were also recovered and the discovery inside the enclosure of a curvilinear ditch and gully yielding 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup> century AD material, domestic occupation of this period may reasonably be deduced.

David Knight, Archaeology Rapporteur

## **VICTORIA COUNTY HISTORY IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE**

A small group, including several Thoroton Society members, continues to work on a group of parishes in the south of the county. With financial support from the County History Trust some research on medieval documents has recently been completed at TNA. Hopefully the volume will be ready for publication within the next two years. Particular thanks are due to Sheila Leeds for research, writing, and attendance at London meetings on behalf of the group.

Philip Riden, County Editor, VCH

## **NOTTINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION**

The Society has continued to enjoy a mutually beneficial relationship with the NLHA. Philip Jones acted as liaison during the last year, with Dr Judith Mills taking over the role from January 2018.

Two study days were held at Ravenshead during 2017 plus a number of local history forums. At the April study day, the subject of which was 'Local Political Protest', Dr Richard Gaunt spoke on "The Pentrich Rebellion: A Nottingham Affair?" whilst at the one held in October entitled 'Gardens of Delight', Dr Judith Mills gave a presentation on "Nottingham's Historic Green Space". The society also took a stand at the October meeting, where one new member was recruited and book sales totalling £141 were made.

Attendance at future NLHA activities in 2018 is anticipated and will help raise the profile of our society amongst local historians across the county and region.

Robert James, Council Liaison

## **NOTTINGHAMSHIRE BUILDING PRESERVATION TRUST**

In 2017 the NBPT celebrated the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of its founding in February 1967. A 50th Celebration Luncheon was held in the State Chamber at Southwell Minster with members enjoying a splendid lunch followed by a talk from John Beckett on the history and prominent members of the NBPT. In his conclusion John commented that "the Trust has had its ups and downs over the past fifty years, but it continues to play an important role in the conservation and repair of Nottinghamshire's historic buildings".

The new powerpoint presentation about the work of the NBPT was also presented at talks to several local groups. Each presentation was tailored to suit the particular group. Projects started in 2017 include the digitisation of the Nottinghamshire Vernacular Building Study, comprising some 5000+ index cards and photographs and this commenced with volunteer groups at Upton, Flintham and Warsop with Church Warsop. A traditional Building Crafts Fair was held at Southwell Minster in September which attracted a good number of visitors to view over 30 exhibitors displaying traditional works including stonemasons, brick pointing techniques, decorative ironwork, lime plastering, church organ makers, embroidery, glass working, mediaeval tile making, mud walling and furniture makers.

Again the development of the Robin Hood Hotel site in Newark has occupied much of the volunteers' time and we now await the results of the "calling-in" of the planning application by the Secretary of State which will hopefully finally resolve the planning application at a public enquiry yet to be organised in 2018.

A great deal of effort was made to purchase and save the derelict water mill at Rolleston with a view to restoring the mill with a viable end-use. The mill contains virtually all of the original machinery that existed when it was last used commercially as a mill. Unfortunately, despite the efforts of all involved, we were informed by the selling agent at a late date in the negotiations that an offer from a third party had been accepted by the current owner. We can only hope that a sympathetic scheme is the result, although there are many obstacles to overcome to achieve this.

The thatched dovecote at Thoroton was opened to the public during the National Heritage Open Days in September.

Funding continues to be a concern to the charity with the NBPT currently relying upon subscriptions and donations. Capital reserves continue to decrease and ways to resolve this situation continue to be explored.

Alan Wahlers, NBPT Representative

## NOTTINGHAM HERITAGE STRATEGY

The Heritage Strategy has recently entered its third year. Some of the projects continue from earlier years (notably the Nottingham Heritage Action Zone and Carrington Street Townscape Heritage scheme). There are ambitious targets for the third year of the strategy, some of which depend on securing funding from Heritage Lottery Fund and other sources. All the projects involve some element of partnership working with local community groups, historians and archaeologists. The willingness of partners to help advance these ambitions will play a large part in whether or not these projects are realised. Key objectives are:

1. Funding to be sought to enable an independent and community-driven Heritage Partnership to be put in place to support implementation of the Heritage Strategy. The Partnership will be a forum where skills, experience and resources can be shared and combined. An event was held at Nottingham Castle on Saturday 24 March 2018 to further these plans.
2. A funded project will be used to test the delivery of a Buildings Preservation Trust or similar not-for-profit organisation in the city.
3. The City's Historic Environment Record (HER) and Urban Archaeological Database (UAD) will be made available online, giving public access to over 1400 records about the city's archaeology.
4. The criteria and process for establishing a Local List for Nottingham will be formally adopted and the first Local List candidates will be assessed, as well as a project to enhance the existing list maintained by Nottingham Civic Society.
5. A Digital Heritage Platform to support the Heritage Partnership and Heritage Panel, with a crowdsourcing element to ask the community what they regard as heritage, will be outlined. The platform would include links to the local list and Historic Environment Record.

Anyone with an interest in these projects is asked to contact me for further information on [richard.gaunt@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:richard.gaunt@nottingham.ac.uk).

Richard A Gaunt, NHP Representative



## NOTTINGHAM CIVIC SOCIETY

The Civic Society continues to keep a close eye on development and planning in the city, and to speak out in defence of its historic built environment. The Society is represented on a number of local bodies, including the Heritage Strategy Panel. The Society continues to issue commendations which reward sensitive design in new or converted buildings, and has erected plaques in commemoration of sites of historical significance. One of the more memorable of the Society's initiatives this year was to unveil a plaque on Mansfield Road which commemorates Herbert Kilpin, the founder of AC Milan football club. During the year, the society moved its meetings from the Cathedral Hall to the Mechanics. Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month from October to May, commencing at 7.30pm. Lectures held in conjunction with the Thoroton Society are the Keith Train lecture (each October) and the Maurice Barley lecture (each November). Next year's speakers are Richard Gaunt (Keith Train) and John Beckett (Maurice Barley). Membership of the Society remains excellent value at £12 for individuals, £18 for joint/family and free for those in full time education. Please contact Hilary Silvester on [hilarysilvester2002@gmail.com](mailto:hilarysilvester2002@gmail.com) if interested.

Richard A Gaunt, Nottingham Civic Society Representative

## NOTTINGHAM CASTLE PROJECT


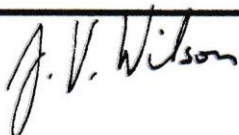

The Castle transformation project continues apace. The Castle site closed at the end of March 2018 to enable building work to begin. Most of the year has been spent in firming-up the design and content plans for the project, but new archaeological excavations have been undertaken on site, including the annual 'Dig the Castle' event, which Thoroton Society members have attended. Anyone interested in keeping up with project developments is recommended to subscribe to the monthly project newsletter at:

[https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKNCC/subscriber/new?topic\\_id=UKNCC\\_70](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKNCC/subscriber/new?topic_id=UKNCC_70)

Richard A Gaunt, Nottingham Castle Project Representative

**THE THOROTON SOCIETY OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE** Charity number 237755  
**Receipts and Payments Account for the period**  
**1 January 2017 to 31 December 2017**

<b>Receipts</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Records Section</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>2016</b>
Subscriptions	7,482.00	1,146.50	8,628.50	9,707
Next year's subs in advance	1,668.00	1,077.00	2,745.00	2,724
Sales - Record Series		2,415.00	2,415.00	594
Sales - Bookstall	113.50		113.50	160
Sales - Transactions	394.00		394.00	46
Sales - other		133.85	133.85	
Excursions	4,405.00		4,405.00	5,045
Special Lecture Carenza Lewis	1,191.70		1,191.70	
VCH award to Philip Riden			-	300
Geoffrey Bond Research Award	1,000.00		1,000.00	1,000
Legacy	1,000.00		1,000.00	
Spring Meeting and AGM	481.00		481.00	507
Annual Luncheon	1,058.00		1,058.00	1,376
Interest on NS&I account	109.49	182.28	291.77	403
Gift-Aid	1,253.15		1,253.15	1,248
PLS fees		62.75	62.75	1,166
Publication grants			-	2,995
Miscellaneous incl. donations	35.00		35.00	-
<b>Totals</b>	<b>20,190.84</b>	<b>5,017.38</b>	<b>25,208.22</b>	<b>27,271</b>

Chairman JV Beckett	
Dated 16.2.2018	
Treasurer JV Wilson	
Dated 16.2.2018	
Independent Examiner	
Dated 26/2/2018	

<b>Payments</b>	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>Records Section</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,016</b>
Printing - Transactions	6,162.00		6,162.00	5,801
Printing - Newsletter	2,240.00		2,240.00	2,169
Printing - other and stationery	346.98		346.98	686
Printing - Annual Report +AGM	288.00		288.00	395
Record Series expenses		9,647.00	9,647.00	-
Cost of Lectures	746.00		746.00	540
Cost of Thoroton Excursions	3,443.30		3,443.30	4,576
Bookings for next year	80.50		80.50	60
Cost of Spring Meeting and AGM	577.25		577.25	537
Cost of Annual Luncheon	1,104.00		1,104.00	1,376
Special Lecture Carenza Lewis	597.91		597.91	-
Geoffrey Bond Research Award	2,000.00		2,000.00	2,000
VCH award to Philip Riden			-	500
Postage &c	5,445.42		5,445.42	3,588
Website, NHG, Online Bibliography	286.37		286.37	339
Authors' Book Royalties (bookstall)			-	41
Research Group	76.00		76.00	-
Sponsorship EMHH				250
Honoraria	50.00		50.00	-
BALH including Insurance	75.00		75.00	65
Membership fees other bodies	75.00		75.00	50
New microphone system for Lectures			-	462
Misc incl bank charges	137.60		137.60	88
Refunds of subscriptions			-	189
<b>Totals</b>	<b>23,731.33</b>	<b>9,647.00</b>	<b>33,378.33</b>	<b>23,712</b>



## Account Summary

At 1 January 2017:	General Fund	Records Section	Total
HSBC current account	6,056.89		6,056.89
NatWest account (Secretary)	572.94		572.94
NS&I savings account	22,034.00	45,680.77	67,714.77
	<u>28,663.83</u>	<u>45,680.77</u>	<u>74,344.60</u>
less uncleared 2016 cheques			168.00
opening balance =			<u>74,176.60</u>
 Receipts	 20,081.35	 4,835.10	 24,916.45
plus NS&I Interest	109.49	182.28	291.77
Total Receipts	<u>20,190.84</u>	<u>5,017.38</u>	<u>25,208.22</u>
Payments	23,731.33	9,647.00	33,378.33
Surplus/deficit	- 3,540.49 -	4,629.62 -	8,170.11
 At 31 December 2017:			
HSBC current account	6,872.67		6,872.67
NatWest account (Secretary)	272.28		272.28
NS&I savings account	17,955.39	41,051.15	59,006.54
	<u>25,100.34</u>	<u>41,051.15</u>	<u>66,151.49</u>
less uncleared 2017 cheques			145.00
Closing balance =			<u>66,006.49</u>

## NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2017

### Accounting policies

#### Basis of preparation

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting standards required by the Charities Commission for the Receipts and Payments method of accounting by charities.

The requirements of the Charities Commission document CC16b (September 2010) are complied with.

#### Fund Accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted Funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements. Investment income and gains are allocated to the appropriate fund.

The only Restricted fund is the Records Section fund.

#### Incoming and outgoing resources

Incoming and outgoing resources are accounted for on the Receipts and Payments basis.

#### Resources expended

All expenditure is accounted for on the Receipts and Payments basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to the category.

Management and administration costs are those costs incurred in connection with the administration of the charity and in compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

	2017	2016
<b>Sales</b>	£	£
Record Series	2,415	594
Transactions	394	46
Books	134	-
Bookstall (net)	114	119
	<u>3,056</u>	<u>759</u>

<b>Grants</b>	2017	2016
Page grants for papers in <i>Transactions</i>	-	2,995

<b>Excursions and other functions</b>	£	£	£
	Receipts	Expenses	surplus/deficit
2016 excursions and other functions	6,928	6,489	439
Excursions	4,405	3,443	962
Spring Meeting and AGM	481	577	-96
Annual Luncheon	1,058	1,104	-46
	<u>5,944</u>	<u>5,125</u>	<u>819</u>

	2017	2016
<b>Management and administration</b>	£	£
Printing and Stationery	347	686
Newsletter	2,240	2,169
Annual Report	288	395
Postage and other admin.	5,445	3,588
Insurance	75	65
Honoraria	50	-
Membership fees	75	50
Sundry expenses	138	88
	<u>8,658</u>	<u>7,041</u>

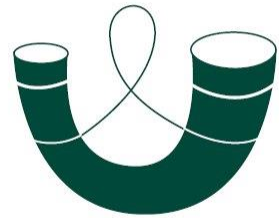
#### **Trustees' remuneration**

Four Trustees were reimbursed an amount of £741 (2016 - £2,718) in respect of expenses that they had paid out on behalf of the Society. These expenses consisted of postage, stationery, Record Section, Excursions and miscellaneous expenses.

#### **Records Section**

	£
Balance at 1 January 2016	<u>45,681</u>
Incoming resources	5,017
Outgoing resources	<u>9,647</u>
Balance at 31 December 2017	41,051

Records Section Funds are used to print original historical materials, records and manuscripts.  
Note - the Coddington Fund has now been used up in the printing of the Welbeck Atlas.



## **SPRING MEETING AND AGM**

Calverton Village Hall, Park Road, Calverton, NG14 6SA, on Saturday,  
28<sup>th</sup> April 2018, at 2.00pm

### **PROGRAMME**

Members are requested to arrive by 1.45pm in time to pick up their Transactions and to ensure a prompt start to the meeting

**2.00pm** Spring Meeting and AGM

**3.00pm** Forest Settlement to Commuter Village, talk about Calverton by Dr Tom Smith

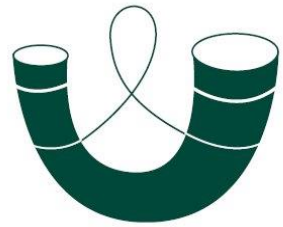
**3.45pm** Tea

**4.45pm** Visit to Wilfrid's Church (Grade II\* listed) by courtesy of the Revd Sam Hustwayte and the Churchwardens (not within quick walking distance, cars likely to be needed)

**6.00pm** Visit and meeting concludes

The Transactions will be available before the meeting

Barbara Cast, Honorary Secretary



## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The 121<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Society, as part of the Society's Spring Meeting, to be held at Calverton Village Hall on Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup> April 2018, commencing at 2.00pm

### **AGENDA**

1. Welcome by our President, Adrian Henstock
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the 120<sup>th</sup> AGM held at Kingston on Soar Village Hall, Kingston on Soar, on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2017
4. Matters arising from the minutes
5. To receive the Annual Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017, including the Honorary Treasurer's report, and a proposal by Council for the appointment of an Independent Examiner
6. To set subscription rates for the year 2019
7. Chair's remarks
8. To elect officers of the Society and members of Council
9. Other business



## THOROTON SOCIETY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018 NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICERS AND COUNCIL

Nominations for election to Council and for officers should be made in writing to the Honorary Secretary not less than 7 days prior to the AGM. Each such nomination shall be signed by two members of the Society other than the nominee and shall bear the signed consent of the person nominated. Council shall have the power to make nominations for Council and for officers at any time before the Annual General Meeting

The Constitution, Rule 24

### **Council nominates for the year 2018-2019 the following officers:-**

President	Adrian Henstock
Vice-Presidents	David Bagley Rosalys Coope Sir Neil Cossons Keith Goodman
Honorary Secretary	Barbara Cast
Honorary Treasurer	John Wilson
Honorary Transactions Editor - History Honorary Transactions Editor - Archaeology	Martyn Bennett Christopher King
Consultant Editor & Record Series Editor	Adrian Henstock
Honorary Newsletter Editor	John Wilson
<i>Assistant Secretaries as below</i>	
Honorary Distribution & Sales Secretary	Robert James
Honorary Lecture Secretary	David Hoskins
Honorary Excursions Secretary	Alan Langton
Honorary Membership Secretary	Judith Mills

### **Council nominates the following for election to Council for the year 2018-2019:-**

John Beckett, Ruth Strong, James Wright, Scott Lomax

(See separate slip for nominations to Council or as officers of the Society)

**MINUTES OF THE 120<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE THOROTON  
SOCIETY OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE HELD AT KINGSTON ON SOAR VILLAGE  
HALL ON SATURDAY 29<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2017 AT 2pm**

**PRESENT** 63 members

**1. PRESIDENT'S WELCOME**

The President, Adrian Henstock, welcomed members to Kingston on Soar and, as has become his custom, said a few words on the area in which the meeting was held. His focus was on some of the people who had owned land in the parish which, by coincidence, had both originated in the same Cromford area of Derbyshire. These were the Babingtons, eminent in 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries, and then in Victorian times the Strutts. Frederick Strutt had a particularly important influence on the county, his main contribution being that his substantial collection of books and prints was given to the newly formed Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire County Councils, this gift being the catalyst for the establishment of archives and local studies services in both counties.

**2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies had been received from 23 members.

**3. MINUTES**

The minutes of the 119<sup>th</sup> AGM held at Muskham Community Hall on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed and signed by the Chair, Professor John Beckett.

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

There were none.

**5. ANNUAL REPORT AND HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Chair presented the annual report to the meeting. It recorded the activities and undertakings of the Society and its officers over the past twelve months and graphically illustrated what a busy society Thoroton was. He noted that the report on planning matters in Nottingham would be the last from Ken Brand as he had now retired from Council: he was thanked for his most important contribution.

John Wilson, the Honorary Treasurer, went through the accounts included in the annual report, explaining the items listed. He commented on a number of items of income which included continued book sales, and of expenditure which included a new microphone system, sponsorship of East Midlands History and a matching contribution to the Geoffrey Bond Research Award.

Professor Beckett thanked Mr Wilson for his meticulous oversight of the Society's accounts throughout the year. He also thanked Martin Shaw who had taken on the role of

the Society's Independent Examiner. The President moved the adoption of the Annual Report.

IT WAS AGREED that the Annual Report for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 be adopted and that Martin Shaw be appointed the Independent Examiner for 2017.

## **6. SUBSCRIPTION RATES**

The Honorary Treasurer recommended that there be an increase in the subscriptions in 2018 mainly due to the increased cost of mailing. He proposed that the subscriptions be increased for ordinary members from £25 to £27 per annum, from £6 to £7 for associate members, Record Series members from £15 to £16 and Record Series for Ordinary members from £10 to £11 and this was agreed. Subscription rates for Institutional members would be increased proportionately.

## **7. CHAIR'S REMARKS**

Professor John Beckett, the Chair, noted that it had been another successful year for the Society and that his hope was that members had enjoyed the activities. He then offered condolences to the families of members who had died in the preceding twelve months. These included Jean Nicholson who had made a significant contribution to the Society over a number of years. Sympathy was also extended to Mary Greatorex on the loss of her husband Stanley and to Ceril Little on the loss of her husband Derek.

On behalf of Council and of members he expressed thanks to David Bagley who for more than twenty years had served as the Society's Circulations Secretary, undertaking a significant and at times arduous task with efficiency and good humour. He was presented with a token of gratitude. Council had nominated David to be a Vice-President of the Society.

Vice-President Robin Minnitt had indicated that he would step down from this position. He now lived in North Yorkshire and was, therefore, unable to be involved in the Society's affairs.

With the retirement of David Bagley, Council had approved a number of changes in the Society's circulations and mailing with Adlards of Ruddington undertaking these tasks as well as printing the Newsletter. Initially this arrangement has been agreed for a year to monitor its efficiency and cost-effectiveness. Rob James had agreed to take on other parts of David Bagley's work including distributing Transactions at this meeting.

Professor Beckett thanked the editors of the Transactions, Professor Bennett and Dr King, for another excellent volume. He was particularly pleased to see three articles from members who were not academics or professional historians as in the past such members have been reticent in offering their research papers for publication. He reminded members that, in addition to support from the Research Group, there were funds available through the Geoffrey Bond Research Award to assist with research activities.

The Welbeck Atlas, the forthcoming Record Series volume, was not able to be published in time for this meeting: it had been a complex piece of work engaging the volume editor and the General Editor in much detailed and time-consuming work spanning seventeen years. However, it was now at the printers and would be available shortly. The Society is grateful to the late Eric Coddington for funding the greater part of the cost of publication.

A key post in any organisation is the Treasurer and Thoroton had been fortunate in John Wilson. However, he had decided that it was time to retire from this position and, therefore, from the AGM in 2018 a new Treasurer would be required. Mr Wilson had developed the financial process to such a degree that the incoming officer would not find it an onerous task to take on. The Chair asked those present to consider very carefully if they, or someone they knew, would be willing to take on this role. The alternative would be to employ someone to undertake this role which would be likely to result in a further subscription increase.

Professor Beckett gave a brief resume of forthcoming events including the lecture by Carenza Lewis in June. He also reminded members to inform Barbara Cast of any planning or other matters of concern relating to the county's historic buildings or sites in order that representations could be made to the appropriate authority.

The Chair invited Dr Richard Gaunt to update members on matters in which he was involved which included Inspire and the Nottingham Castle Transformation. Dr Gaunt also explained his role in the Nottingham Heritage Panel and, especially, the recent news of the Heart of Nottingham Heritage Action Zone. Nottingham had been successful in being awarded the largest amount of finance of the ten cities which had been chosen for this new Historic England supported project. Bromley House Library would be one of the beneficiaries of this project, receiving a repair grant. Heritage at Risk would be central to the project, bringing together the city's conservation areas as a focus. Public consultation, through the Nottingham Heritage Partnership, would be another important element of the process.

Professor Beckett resumed by thanking the officers for their work during the year in ensuring that the Society operated efficiently and effectively. He also thanked those who had helped with the organisation of this meeting, especially Janice Avery and the team of caterers. Also thanked was Ray State who would be giving the talk of this village. He concluded by thanking Barbara Cast, the Honorary Secretary, for her role in ensuring that the Council was well run. The Society would be one hundred and twenty on 1<sup>st</sup> June, he said, and was still in good health.

## **8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF COUNCIL**

The following were elected:-

- President - Adrian Henstock
- Vice-Presidents - Rosalys Coope, Sir Neil Cossons, Keith Goodman and David Bagley
- Honorary Secretary - Barbara Cast

- Honorary Treasurer - John Wilson
- Honorary Editors - Martyn Bennett (History) and Christopher King (Archaeology)
- Consultant Editor and Records Series Editor - Adrian Henstock
- Honorary Newsletter Editor - John Wilson
- Honorary Distribution and Sales Secretary - Robert James
- Honorary Lecture Secretary - David Hoskins
- Honorary Excursion Secretary - Alan Langton
- Honorary Membership Secretary - Judith Mills

The following members of Council were re-elected:- Mark Dorrington, Richard Gaunt, David Knight, Hannah Nicholson and Peter Smith.

## **9. OTHER BUSINESS**

The Annual General Meeting ended at 3pm and was followed by a very interesting talk by Ray State, local historian and author, on the History of Kingston on Soar.

After tea members were invited to visit St Winifred's Church, a Grade I listed building. Mr State explained the history and significance of the splendid Babington Monument.

## NOTES

Carvings over the  
entrance to the  
William Lee Annex

