

# SOMERSET ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

## TRUSTEES, OFFICERS AND COUNCIL OF THE SOCIETY 1999-2000

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<i>President:</i>	THE RIGHT REVEREND JAMES THOMPSON, BISHOP OF BATH AND WELLS
<i>Executive Officers:</i>	<i>Chairman of Council:</i> DR R.W. DUNNING, F.S.A. <i>Vice-Chairman:</i> MS H.M. BINDING, B.A. <i>Hon Treasurer:</i> K.A. JACKSON <i>Hon Librarian:</i> D. BROMWICH, M.A., A.L.A. <i>Hon Editor:</i> M. McGARVIE, F.S.A.
<i>Independent Examiner:</i>	Albert Goodman & Co.
<i>Hon Legal Adviser:</i>	Charles Palmer, LLB

## COUNCIL

**Ex-officio Members:** The Trustees, the President and Executive Officers

**Past Presidents:** MAX HEBDITCH, C.B.E., M.A., F.S.A., F.M.A., MRS MADGE LANGDON, B.A.,  
B.Phil., F.S.A., DEREK BRIGGS, F.G.S.

**Elected members** (to retire at the Annual General Meeting indicated)

2000	MRS B. LOWE, B.Sc, B.Ed, F.S.A.; S.C. MINNITT, B.A., F.S.A., A.M.A.; R.A. SETTERINGTON
2001	MRS P. CUDMORE; DR. R. DUNNING, F.S.A.; MRS P. ELLSON, B.A.
2002	MS H.M. BINDING, B.A.; R.A. CROFT, B.A., M.I.F.A.; B.J. MURLESS

**Committee Chairmen and members representing other bodies:**

MRS M.J. GITTOS (Archaeological); REVD B.W. KIRK, B.D. (Natural History); DR A.P. RADFORD,  
M.B., Ch.B., D.Ch. (Library); MS H.M. BINDING, B.A. (Local History); C.F.W. CHANTER (Historic  
Buildings); A. GREEN, M.A., DIP. ARCH. ADMIN (County Archivist); D.P. DAWSON, B.A., F.S.A.,  
F.M.A. (County Museums Officer); R.J.E. BUSH (Countryside and Heritage Board); MRS J. DAGNALL,  
M.A., D.P.S.A. (Associated Societies)

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 1999

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held in the Municipal Hall Taunton, on Saturday 22 May 1999. The meeting was attended by 47 members of the Society and apologies for absence were received from a further 12.

The Chairman, Dr Robert Dunning, welcomed members to the meeting and reported that the Right Reverend Jim Thompson, Bishop of Bath and Wells, was unable, due to a prior commitment overseas, to be present for his induction as President of the Society for 1999-2000. He looked forward, however, to being able to attend some meetings during the year and to giving his Presidential Address at the 2000 AGM. Mr Max Hebditch was thanked for his services as President during the year 1999-2000. Details were given of events to celebrate the Society's 150th Anniversary. There would be a special Garden Party for members in the Norman Garden of the Castle Hotel and plans were well underway for the conference on the Archaeology of Somerset to be held at Dillington House, Ilminster, in October. The Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st December 1998 were presented by the Hon Treasurer and adopted. The Chairmen of the Archaeology, Historic Buildings, Library, Local History, Natural History, and House Committees gave reports about their activities during the year. The County Museums Officer gave his report, which included mention of paving to be laid through the archway to allow easier access, concern about some gaps in the Rural Life collections, the acquisition of the South Cadbury Shield, and the receipt of funding for electronic cataloguing, which will make possible the publication of information on the internet. The Administrator of the Maltwood Fund reported on the grants made available during the year.

The following officers were elected: Honorary Editor – Michael McGarvie; Honorary Librarian – David Bromwich; Honorary Treasurer – Keith Jackson. Ms Hilary Binding was elected to Council in place of Lady Gass, who had resigned, and Robert Croft and Brian Murless were re-elected, to serve until 2002. Messrs Albert Goodman were elected as Independent Examiners of the Society's Accounts and Mr C. Palmer as Honorary Legal Consultant, as were members of the subject committees. The Chairman reported that Mrs Betty Cloke had been employed as Administrative Secretary, taking over some of the duties previously carried out by the Honorary Secretary. It was not planned, at present, to appoint a replacement for the Honorary Secretary. This was an experimental arrangement, under constant review. Mrs Jean Rainer, who had retired at the end of 1998 after 10 years as Assistant Secretary, was thanked for her services to the Society and presented with a gift as a token of appreciation.

The business meeting was followed by the Presidential Address given by Mr Max Hebditch, CBE, MA, FSA, FMA, entitled 'County Societies – County Museums'.