

# SOMERSET ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

## TRUSTEES, OFFICERS AND COUNCIL OF THE SOCIETY 2003–2004

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| PATRON:               | Lady Gass   |
| CUSTODIAN TRUSTEES:   | Lady Gass, MA<br>Revd Brian Kirk, BD<br>Professor John Coles, PhD, FSA<br>Steven Pugsley  |
| PRESIDENT:            | Professor Mick Aston  |
| EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:   | <i>Chairman:</i> Hilary Binding, BA<br><i>Vice-Chairman:</i> Tom Mayberry, MA, DipAA<br><i>Hon Secretary:</i> Alex Maxwell Findlater, BA, ACA, FSA Scot<br><i>Hon Treasurer:</i> Trevor Bedford<br><i>Hon Librarian:</i> David Bromwich, MA, ALA<br><i>Hon Editor:</i> Peter Ellis, BA, FSA, MIFA |
| INDEPENDENT EXAMINER: | Mr Roger Ford,   |

## COUNCIL

|   |   |
|---|---|
| EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS:   | The Custodian Trustees, the President and Executive Officers                      |
| PAST PRESIDENTS:  | Mrs Pat Hill-Cottingham<br>Lord Rees Mogg<br>Dr Robert Dunning, FSA               |
| ELECTED MEMBERS (to retire at the Annual General Meeting indicated) |   |
| 2004  | Anthony Bruce, MSc<br>Penny Cudmore<br>Pat Ellson, BA<br>Adrian Webb              |
| 2005  | Bob Croft, BA, MIFA<br>Revd Brian Kirk, BD<br>Brian Murless                       |
| 2006  | Barbara Lowe, BEd, FSA<br>Stephen Minnitt, BA, FSA, AMA<br>Anita Sims, RIBA, IHBC |

Barry Lane  
Christopher Sidaway, BA

COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS REPRESENTING OTHER BODIES:

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <i>Archaeological:</i>          | David Baker, MA                          |
| <i>Historic Buildings:</i>      | Mary Ewing, MSc, RIBA                    |
| <i>Library:</i>                 | Dr Roy Haines, MA, DLitt, DPhil, FRHistS |
| <i>Local History:</i>           | Tom Mayberry, MA, DipAA                  |
| <i>Natural History:</i>         | Pat Hill-Cottingham                      |
| <i>County Museums Officer:</i>  | David Dawson, BA, FSA, FMA               |
| <i>County Archivist:</i>        | Tom Mayberry, MA, DipAA                  |
| <i>Somerset County Council:</i> | Robin Bush                               |
| <i>Associated Societies:</i>    | Jean Dagnall, MA, DPSA                   |

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2003

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at Edington Village Hall on Saturday 17th May 2003. The meeting was attended by 58 members and apologies were received from a further 21.

The Chairman announced that the apologies of the President Elect, Professor Mick Aston, had to be added to the above. As many members already knew, he had been taken seriously ill a couple of months previously. He was much better but was not able to attend the AGM. He was looking forward to participating in Society events in the coming year.

Hilary Binding reported that the Future of the Castle Working Group had been pro-active and re-active. 2007 and the end of the lease of the Castle to Somerset County Council was coming upon us very quickly. The latest report from the consultants employed by SCC was expected at any time.

A particular concern was the involvement of young people of all ages – children and younger people in their twenties, for example. We need to find out why they are not coming to meetings, etc. Presentations had been made to Council and these were to be followed up. Council had also been considering the breadth of the Society's aims and interests.

Hilary Binding thanked Betty Cloke, Alex Findlater, and Tom Mayberry for their support during the year. She also recorded her thanks to Keith Jackson for his work in looking after the Society's finances. He was completing his term as Treasurer but was not able to attend the AGM.

The Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st December 2002 were presented by Alex Maxwell Findlater on Keith Jackson's behalf and adopted. The Society had made a deficit of £3,000, the reasons for which were various. Savings had been made in some areas, whereas expenditure had increased in others. There had been a small charge for *Proceedings* in the previous year and this year's accounts showed a more realistic charge. A new photocopier/printer had been purchased and as depreciation was calculated on the reducing balance method, the figure for depreciation was therefore very high this, the first year. This had been partially offset by the production in-house of one newsletter. In 2003 this should produce a break-even position.

An election was held to determine the four elected members on Council for the period 2003–2006, and a member to fill the vacancy for the two years to 2005. Barry Lane, Stephen Minnitt, Christopher Sidaway, Anita Sims were elected for 2003–2006, and Barbara Lowe for

the two years to 2005. There had been a tie for this vacancy and Tony Settington withdrew to save the necessity of a further vote. He was thanked for his past service on Council.

The Chairmen of the Archaeology, Historic Buildings, Library, Local History, Natural History and Publications Committees gave reports about their activities during the year. These had included the annual archaeological symposium in November, a walk exploring the WW2 anti-invasion defences near Donyatt, visits to seven houses and nine churches, a bid for lottery funding for the purchase of computer equipment to enable a photographic archive project, covering tens of thousands of Somerset's historic buildings, and the donation of a set of architectural books by Mr G Gillespie.

The County Museums Officer gave his report, which included information about maintenance work on the Castle, year 4 of the programme of documentation of the collections, work on two rare skeletons of the Plesiosaurs in the Society's collection, the large increase in visitors since November 2002 when the museum was able to open free, and thanks to the many Friends and volunteers. Sandy Buchanan paid tribute to Frank Hawtin, who set up the Schools Museum Service, one of the major educational achievements of the Society. Mr Hawtin had died in March, at the age of 90.

A report of the grants awarded from the Maltwood Fund this year had been distributed to all present. The Chairman drew attention to the varied spread of fields where grants have been awarded.

The following officers were elected: Chairman – Hilary Binding; Vice-Chairman – Tom Mayberry; Hon Secretary – Alexander Maxwell Findlater; Hon Treasurer – Trevor Bedford; Hon Editor – Peter Ellis; Hon Librarian – David Bromwich. Mr Roger Ford of Grove Lodge, Coat, near Martock was elected as Independent Examiner of the Society's Accounts.

Betty Cloke read the Somerset Record Society report by Dr Robert Dunning, who was unable to attend the meeting. Members received volumes 87 and 88 towards the end of last year, and volume 89 was in the press.

Mrs Pat Hill-Cottingham then gave an interesting and entertaining talk entitled 'Extraordinary, Exotic and Enchanting – a personal view of wildlife'. This was a miscellany, illustrated by slides, of anecdotes and information about plant and animal species from around the world which have fascinated Pat for a lifetime. She highlighted the importance of biodiversity and maintaining the gene pool in a changing world for both survival and aesthetic reasons.

## ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY 2003

*Compiled by D. BROMWICH*

### DONATIONS

|  | <i>Donor</i>        |
|--|---------------------|
| Alford, E.M., <i>The fair maid of Taunton</i> (Seeley, 1892)   | Mrs B.J. Lowe       |
| Amussen, S.D. & Kishlansky, M.A., <i>Political culture and cultural politics in early modern Europe: essays presented to David Underdown</i> (Manchester U.P., 1995) | D. Bromwich         |
| Barrett, J., <i>The grave slabs of Flat Holm and Steep Holm</i> (J. Barrett, 1998)   | The Author          |
| <i>Bath History</i> , vol.9 (Bath Archaeological Trust, 2002)  | The Publisher       |
| Bedingfield, G., <i>The Refectory, Congresbury</i> (Congresbury History Group, 2003)   | The Publisher       |
| Blaylock, S.R., <i>Archaeological observations ... St Catherine, Bath</i> (Exeter Archaeology, 2003)   | The Publisher       |
| Bowyer, M.J.E. & others, <i>Action Stations</i> , vols 1–9 (P. Stephens, 1979–85)  | B. Teague           |
| Boyce, P.A., <i>Beckington Baptist Church, 1786–1986</i> (1986)  | The Church          |
| Boyles, C., <i>The book of Withycombe</i> (Halsgrove, 2003)  | The Author          |
| Butler, R. & Green, C., <i>English bronze cooking vessels and their founders, 1350–1830</i> (A. & V. Butler, 2003)   | The Publisher       |
| <i>Butterflies of Somerset</i> (Somerset Butterfly Group, 2003)  | The Publisher       |
| Clery, P., <i>The wealth and estates of Glastonbury Abbey at the dissolution in 1539</i> (Curlew, 2003)  | The Author          |
| Davis, F., <i>Shepton Mallet</i> (Tempus, 2001)  | The Author          |
| Enright, D. & Watts, M., <i>A Romano-British and medieval settlement site at Stoke Road, Bishop's Cleeve</i> (Cotswold Archaeology, 2003)                            | B. & G.A.S.         |
| Evans, W., <i>Abbots Leigh: a village history</i> (Abbots Leigh Civic Society, 2002)   | The Author          |
| <i>Folk Life</i> , vols. 1-32 (1963–93)  | R.A. Croft          |
| Frampton, R., <i>Shadows in time: images from the West Country</i> (Churchill, 2002)   | J. Hall             |
| <i>From the ground up: the publication of archaeological reports</i> (C.B.A., 2003)  | The Publisher       |
| Gardner, K.S., <i>A 'squabble' of archaeologists</i> (K.S. Gardner, 2003)  | The Author          |
| Gosling, G. & Berry, L., <i>Around Chard, Crewkerne and Ilminster</i> (Tempus, 2002)   | The Authors         |
| Haines, R.M., <i>The church and politics in fourteenth century England</i> (Cambridge U.P., 1978)  | The Author          |
| Haines, R.M., <i>King Edward II</i> (McGill-Queen's U.P., 2003)  | The Author          |
| Howell, B., <i>Beercombe: a brief history</i> (Beercombe History Group, 1999)  | The Publisher       |
| Hudson, H., <i>The new Wedmore chronicles</i> (H. Hudson, 2002)  | The Author          |
| Jamieson, E., <i>An early medieval manor house and landscape at Kilve</i> (English Heritage, 2003)   | The Publisher       |
| Janes, R., <i>Pensford, Publow and Woollard</i> (Biografix, 2003)  | The Publisher       |
| Lowe, B.J., <i>Decorated medieval floor tiles of Somerset</i> (S.A.N.H.S., 2003)   | Own publication     |
| McPherson, J., <i>The life and work of Thomas Hawkins, FGS</i> (unpublished script)  | Mrs C.<br>McPherson |

- Map of Roman Britain* (Ordnance Survey, 1956) Anon.  
 Odlum, M.J., *The history of the church and village of Spaxton* (M.J. Odlum, 1974) Mrs M.M. Bulleid
- The parish of Moorlinch with Stawell and Sutton Mallet and the parish of Greinton* (1975) N. Corcos  
 Peddie, J., *Alfred the good soldier* (Millstream, 1989) R. Lovibond  
 Quinnell, N.Y. & Dunn, C.J., *Lithic monuments within the Exmoor National Park* (R.C.H.M.E., 1992) N. Corcos  
 Roberts, B.K. & Wrathmell, S., *An atlas of rural settlement in England* (English Heritage, 2000) Anon  
 Rowe, J., *St Peter's Church, Catcott* (1992) N. Corcos  
 Scrase, T., *Medieval town planning: a modern invention?* (Univ West of England, 2002) The Author  
 Sivier, D., *Anglo-Saxon and Norman Bristol* (Tempus, 2002) The Publisher  
 Stokes, P., *Ashwick: coal, ale and pasture* (Mendip D.C., 2002) The Author  
 Tatton-Brown, T. & Munby, J., *The archaeology of cathedrals* (Oxford Committee for Archaeology, 1996) D. Bromwich  
*Ten centuries of Devon's archives* (Friends of Devon's Archives, 2002) Anon.  
 Terrell, R.C.T., *St Andrew's Church, High Ham* (1993) N. Corcos  
 Walsh, P., *Three local [Highbridge] pioneers* (P. Walsh, 2002) The Author  
 Warren, D., *James Gillingham, surgical mechanist & manufacturer of artificial limbs* (S.I.A.S., 2001) The Author  
 Watkins, G., *Stationary steam engines of Great Britain*, vols 6 & 7 (Landmark, 2003) A.P. Woolrich  
 Watkins, G., *Traction engines and other portable engines* (Landmark, 2003) A.P. Woolrich  
 Wilson, P., *The archaeology of Roman towns* (Oxbow, 2003) R.A. Croft (lecturefees)  
 Wright, B., *Somerset dragons* (Tempus, 2002) The Publisher

## PURCHASES

- Abdy, R., Leins, I. & Williams, J., *Coin hoards from Roman Britain*, vol.11 (Royal Numismatic Society, 2002)
- Altringham, J.D., *British bats* (Collins New Naturalist, 2003)
- Ayres, J., *Domestic interiors: the British tradition, 1500–1850* (Yale U.P., 2003)
- Ballance, D.K. & Gibbs, B.D., *The birds of Exmoor and the Quantocks* (Isabelline, 2003)
- Braut, G.J., *The roll of arms of Edward I*, vols 1 & 2 (Society of Antiquaries, 1997)
- Castleford's Chronicle*, vol.2 (Early English Text Society, 1996)
- Chynoweth, J., *Tudor Cornwall* (Tempus, 2002)
- Davenport, P., *Medieval Bath uncovered* (Tempus, 2002)
- Emmet, A.M. & Langmaid, J.R., *The moths and butterflies of Great Britain and Ireland*, vol.4, parts 1 & 2 (Harley, 2002)
- Greatrex, J., *Biographical register of English cathedral priories of the province of Canterbury, c1066–1540* (Clarendon P., 1997)
- Guide to the classification of medieval ceramic forms* (Medieval Pottery Research Group, 1998)
- Henig, M., *Roman sculpture from the Cotswold region* (Oxford U.P., 1993)
- Knowles, D. & others, *The heads of religious houses in England and Wales*, vols 1 (940–1216) & 2 (1216–1377) (Cambridge U.P., 2001)
- Neal, D.S. & Cosh, S.R., *Roman mosaics of Britain*, vol.1 (Northern Britain) (Illuminata, 2002)
- Ratcliffe, D., *Lakeland: the wildlife of Cumbria* (Collins New Naturalist, 2002)
- Rendell, S. & J., *Steep Holm's pioneers* (S. & J. Rendell, 2003)
- Riley, A.M. & Prior, G., *British and Irish pug moths* (Harley, 2003)
- Waring, P. & Townsend, M., *Field guide to the moths of Great Britain and Ireland* (British Wildlife Publishing, 2003)
- Wroe, A., *Perkin* (Cape, 2003)

SOME ARTICLES OF SOMERSET INTEREST IN NON-SOMERSET PERIODICALS  
RECEIVED DURING 2003

Compiled by D. BROMWICH

- Abdy, R. & Minnitt, S., 'Shapwick Villa, Somerset', *Coin hoards from Roman Britain* 11, ed. R. Abdy, I. Leins & J. Williams (Royal Numismatic Society, 2002), 169–233.
- Andrews, D.D., 'Navestock, St Thomas, the Waldegrave vault', *Essex Archaeology and History* 3rd series 33 (2002), 450.
- Ashdown, P., 'Glastonbury and the shroud of Christ', *Downside Review* 121(424) (July 2003), 171–196.
- Bradley-Hole, K., 'Where unicorns dare to tread: gardens of Cothay Manor', *Country Life* 196(31) (1st August 2002), 64–69.
- Brown, P.S. & D.N., 'Sick and convalescent visitors in a Victorian seaside resort: Weston-super-Mare', *The Local Historian* 33(2) (May 2003), 83–98.
- Bryant, E.A. & Haslett, S.K., 'Was the AD 1607 coastal flooding event in the Severn Estuary and Bristol Channel due to a tsunami?', *Archaeology in the Severn Estuary* 13 (2002), 163–167.
- Chapman, H.P. & Van de Noort, R., 'High-resolution wetland prospection, using GPS and GIS: landscape studies at Sutton Common (South Yorkshire), and Meare Village East (Somerset)', *Journal of Archaeological Science* 28(4) (2001), 365–375.
- Edmunds, E. & others, 'The ammonite biostratigraphy of the Lower Lias 'Armatus Bed' (Upper Sinemurian - Lower Pliensbachian) at St Peter's Field, Radstock, Somerset', *Proceedings of the Geologists' Association* 114(1) (March 2003), 65–96.
- Foard, G., 'Sedgemoor, 1685: historic terrain, the 'archaeology of battles' and the revision of military history', *Landscapes* 4(2) (Autumn 2003), 5–15.
- Grove, J.C., 'Reclamation and utilisation of the Upper Axe valley during the Roman period', *Archaeology in the Severn Estuary* 13 (2002), 65–87.
- Harte, J., 'Ruth Tongue, the storyteller', *3rd Stone* 41 (Winter 2001/2002), 16–21.
- Lane, B., 'Gooseland in the Upper Axe valley, Somerset', *Archaeology in the Severn Estuary* 13 (2002), 139–145.
- Leach, P., 'Shepton Mallet: a roadside settlement on the Fosse Way', *The archaeology of Roman towns*, ed. P. Wilson (Oxbow, 2003), 137–44.
- Luxford, J.M., 'Auro et argento pulcherrime fabricatum: new visual evidence for the feretory of St Dunstan at Glastonbury and its relation to the controversy over the relics', *The Antiquaries Journal* 82 (2002), 105–24.
- Luxford, J.M., 'A Leiston document from Glastonbury', *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology and History* 40(3) (2003), 278–88.
- Newton, A. & Randall, R.D., 'A Devon and Somerset bramble ... revived', *Watsonia* 24(3) (February 2003), 443–446.
- O'Connor, R., 'Thomas Hawkins and geological spectacle', *Proceedings of the Geologists' Association* 114(3) (August 2003), 227–241.
- Rippon, S., 'Making the most of a bad situation? Glastonbury Abbey, Meare and the medieval exploitation of wetland resources in the Somerset Levels', *Society for Landscape Studies Newsletter* (Spring/Summer 2003), 5–8, also in *Archaeology in the Severn Estuary* 13 (2002), 133–138.
- Rippon, S.J. & others, 'The use of soil analysis in the interpretation of an early historic landscape at Puxton in Somerset', *Landscape History* 23 (2001), 27–38.
- Robinson, E., 'Field meeting: winter on the Somerset coast, 14–16 February 2003', *Proceedings of the Geologists' Association* 114(4) (November 2003), 375–379.
- Yearsley, G.G., 'Rev. Charles Samuel Pollock Parish (1822–1897)', *Orchid Review* 111(1250) (March–April 2003), 102–106.