

THE LEICESTERSHIRE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY
THE GUILDHALL · LEICESTER · LE1 5FQ



NEWSLETTER 113 Winter 2021

Welcome to the latest edition of the LAHS Newsletter. We send all best wishes to our members for Christmas and the New Year, and hope you will enjoy our festive 'footnote'.

Contributions to future editions of the Newsletter are as always welcome at any time. These can be posted to or left at The Guildhall, Leicester, or you can email them to the Newsletter editor, Cynthia Brown, at newsletter@lahs.org.uk.

LAHS NEWS

LECTURE PROGRAMME

We are intending to continue face-to-face meetings for lectures, but this remains conditional on government policy regarding public gatherings. If they can go ahead, social distancing will have an impact on the numbers of people able to attend, and we may need to use a booking system such as Eventbrite. Updates will be communicated by email, social media, and on the Society's website at [LAHS - Lecture Programme](#), where details can be checked in advance.

Unless otherwise stated, all lectures will be held in the Victorian Art Gallery at New Walk Museum, and start at 7.30 pm. Please use the main entrance to the Museum on New Walk, and arrive in good time to avoid disruption once the lecture has started.

Thursday 13 January 2022

A recent Roman discovery in Rutland

Jennifer Browning, University of Leicester Archaeological Services

Thursday 20 January 2022 – venue to be confirmed

Joint lecture with the Prehistoric Society and the Leicestershire Fieldworkers

Kindred: Neanderthal life, love, death and art

Rebecca Wragg Sykes, School of Archaeology, University of Liverpool

Thursday 10 February 2022

Members' Evening

If you would like to present the results of your research to fellow members, please contact the Hon. Lecture Secretary, Yolanda Courtney, by email at lectures@lahs.org.uk or by phone on 0116 2120271.

Thursday 10 March 2022

The Alan and Joan North Memorial Lecture

Did the Romans have a typical East Midlands town? What makes a Roman town, with particular reference to Leicestershire and Northamptonshire?

Ian Meadows, Independent Consultant

Thursday 31 March 2022

A middle to late Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Rothley, The Grange

Rob Atkins, Museum of London Archaeology

Thursday 28 April 2022

Council housing before 1915: Hinckley and other pioneers

Paul Griffiths, local historian

Thursday 12 May 2022

An overview of investigations undertaken by Albion Archaeology in Leicestershire and Rutland

Mike Luke, Albion Archaeology

Thursday 26 May 2022

Burial and settlement around the causewayed enclosure at Husband's Bosworth

Matthew Beamish and James Harvey, University of Leicester Archaeological Services

OTHER LAHS NEWS

OBITUARIES

We are very sorry to inform you of the deaths of two LAHS members who have given long and distinguished service to the Society over many years. We would like to extend our sincere condolences to their families.

JILL BOURNE

Jill Bourne edited or co-edited the Society's *Transactions* for 20 years, a complex and demanding task that she always fulfilled to the highest standards. She was also the author of a number of local publications, notably *Place-names of Leicestershire and Rutland* (Leicestershire Museums, Arts & Records Service; 2nd edition 1981), and *Understanding Leicestershire and Rutland Place-Names* (Heart of Albion Press, 2003). She edited a number of other publications including *Anglo-Saxon Landscapes in the East Midlands: Leicestershire and Rutland before the Norman conquest*, and (with Richard Buckley) *Leicester Abbey: medieval history, archaeology and manuscript studies* (LAHS, 2006).

Joyce Lee, editor of the *Leicestershire Historian*, writes: 'I came to know Jill through LAHS committee meetings where I encountered her enthusiasm, knowledge and positive can-do attitude towards the work of the Society, As well as her outstanding contributions to the LAHS, I shall remember her especially as a great conversationalist - she was extremely knowledgeable and always very interesting. She regularly gave me a lift back from committee meetings and we'd talk for what seemed ages about editing *Transactions* and the *Leicestershire Historian*, along with many other things. I shall also remember Jill as a truly inspirational figure who did so much with her life'. A full obituary will be published in this year's *Transactions*, but we wanted to pay a brief tribute here to Jill's massive contribution to LAHS.

GEOFFREY BRANDWOOD

Geoffrey Brandwood served on the LAHS Committee as Hon Secretary (Minutes) from 1979/80, and then as Newsletter Editor from 1981/82 to 1984/5. He was a notable architectural historian and prolific author, whose local publications included *Bringing Them to Their Knees: church-building and restoration in Leicestershire and Rutland 1800-1914*,

published by LAHS in 2002 and still available; and *Men of property: the Goddards and six generations of architecture* (Leicestershire Museums, 1990), co-authored with Martin Cherry. Geoff was also Chairman of the national Victorian Society from 2001-07. His interests ranged from historic pubs to late Victorian churches, and he was the leading expert on the Victorian church architect Temple Moore. Geoff was a long-standing member of CAMRA, and his book *Licensed to Sell: the history and heritage of the public house* (Historic England, 2nd edn. 2011), traces the development of the British pub since the medieval period.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

A 'thank-you' to those members who visited and used the Library during this curtailed year, and a note of admiration and thanks to those in this Society and elsewhere who have been able to produce the books, journals, and newsletters received for the Library – as well as to those who have donated to its collections. We hope for a normal year of use when we reopen on 6 February 2022.

BOOKS

All published in 2021.

BUTT, S. Celebrating Leicester. Amberley, £15.99. Donated by the publisher.

HAINSWORTH, S. Death of Richard III: C.S.I. meets history. Text of lecture to Gresham College, London, 21 Oct. 2021 Prof. Hainsworth is at Aston University and was previously at Leicester.

HASELGROVE, J. Braunstone's humble past: life of ordinary people in a manorial parish 1522-1857. Braunstone Heritage Archive Group, £8. Donated by the Group.

HEXTALL, K. Sapcote: some snapshots in time. Sapcote Heritage Group and Heart of Albion, £9.95. Donated by Heart of Albion. www.hoap.co.uk

SMITH, M. 50 gems of Leicestershire & Rutland. Amberley, £15.99. Donated by the publisher.

PERIODICALS

Antiquaries Journal 101

British Archaeology Nov/Dec 2021

Harborough Historian 38 - includes articles on Gumley Hall, Hallaton, Slawston as well as a wide range on the town. Donated by the editor.

Hinckley Historian 88 Winter 2021 - includes article on Dr. Robert Chessher (1750 – 1830) Donated by Hinckley & District Museum.

Leicestershire Historian 57

Leicestershire V.C.H. News Summer 2021 - includes articles on Coston, Loughborough water, and further research on the town; acknowledges the LAHS research grant; reports that the Lutterworth volume is to be published in 2022 and that the Ibstock volume is still available.

SPAB Magazine Autumn 2021 - reports on the current restoration of Kibworth Harcourt Windmill www.spab.org.uk/kibworth-harcourt-mill-project

NEWSLETTERS

Kent Archaeological Society Magazine 116 Summer 2021 We exchange Transactions with Archaeologia Cantiana but have not received this before.

Lincoln Record Society News Review Autumn 2021 and Trustees' Report 2020-21.

What's On (SPAB) Autumn 2021 There is currently no regional group for Leicestershire.

NEW TITLE

The Library has a file of the Ancient Monuments Society Transactions (Vol.1 1953 to date). See LAHS Newsletter 112 p.3. From 1 Oct. this year the Society, founded in 1924, has changed its name to Historic Buildings & Places. Its magazine is to be relaunched in the autumn, so we await its arrival. www.hbap.org.uk

LEICESTERSHIRE IN UNEXPECTED PLACES continued

Antiquaries Journal has seven published Indexes from Vol.1 (1921) to Vol.70 (1990). More recent:

- Vol. 82 2002 Does Corieltavi mean “army of many rivers”
 - 93 2013 Hall and chambers: Oakham Castle reconsidered
 - 98 2018 Twelfth-century interior decoration: a discovery at Oakham Castle
- Derbyshire Archaeological Journal
- 12 1890 Hemington church with the more ancient of the Hemington deeds
 - 37 1915 Castle Donington church/Lockington church
 - 38 1916 On the Midland Circuit [Assizes]
 - 82 1962 Sir Richard Vernon of Haddon, Speaker in the Parliament of Leicester 1426
 - 111 1991 Charcoal iron industry in the East Midlands 1580-1780
 - 128 2008 Latter-Day Saints in S. Derbys. 1842-1857 (incl. parts of N.W. Leics.)
 - 139 2019 Origins of S. Derbys. (incl. parts of N.W. Leics.)
 - 140 2020 Swarkestone Bridge revisited (incl. numerous Leics. refs.)
- Ecclesiology Today
- 28 5/2002 Church building in Leicestershire and Rutland 1800-1914
 - 33 5/2004 Thoughts on the Stoke Dry fragments
 - 34 1/2005 A.W.N. Pugin and the restoration of St. Mary’s church Wymeswold
 - 35 9/2005 Romanesque churches of St. Mary Magdalen at Tixover and St. Mary at Morcott

And *The Reliquary* I hear you say? Keep watching this space.

Aubrey Stevenson, Hon. Librarian.

VACANCY FOR LAHS TREASURER

Reg Mawdsley resigned as Treasurer in August 2021, and in the interim the role has been covered by Matt Beamish. This is a key position within the Society and we would very much like it filled by an existing member. The job involves managing the Society’s accounts, timely payment of invoices, and liaising with our accountants and financial advisors. The ideal person will be organised, have some accountancy or other financial experience, and be interested in furthering the aims of the Society. For more information, or an informal chat, please speak with Matt on 07906 341997, or email him (mgb3@leicester.ac.uk), and he will be pleased to provide more information.

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED JOINING THE LAHS COMMITTEE?

If you enjoy being a member of LAHS and have some spare time, have you considered joining the Committee? There are many possible ways of contributing, along with the potential for identifying new ways of promoting the archaeology and history of Leicestershire and Rutland. The Committee meets five times a year, usually on a Wednesday in the late afternoon in the Jury Room at The Guildhall, where the LAHS Library is housed. If you are interested, please do contact our secretary Jim Butler at secretary@lahs.org.uk.

OTHER NEWS

OPEN EXHIBITION – LEICESTER MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

4 December 2021 - 21 January 2022, Leicester Museum & Art Gallery

The Open exhibition showcases artistic talent from across Leicester and the East Midlands. A variety of artworks, from paintings, sculpture, textiles, and more feature in this exhibition and are available to purchase. For information about opening hours, see [Leicester Museum & Art Gallery – Leicester Museums](https://www.leicester.gov.uk/museums-and-art-gallery/).

OTHER NEWS

LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL MUSEUMS SERVICE

THE COLEORTON TUNIC

Helen Sharp, Curator (Archaeology), writes that an extremely rare Medieval tunic, discovered near Coleorton in North West Leicestershire, has been put on display to the public for the first time in over ten years. The tunic features in the new *Cultures of Cloth in the Medieval East Midlands* exhibition at the University of Nottingham Museum, which explores the wool industry of Leicestershire, Nottingham and Derbyshire.

The Coleorton Tunic was excavated in 1988 at the Lounge opencast mine at Lount near Coleorton. Coal had been mined at the site from Medieval and Tudor times, some of the earliest evidence for this industry. The woollen tunic dates to the 16th century and is one of only a handful of surviving items of early clothing that belonged to a working person. It is displayed next to a modern replica which recreates the linen parts of the garment that have been decayed on the original. Due to the 470 year-old garment's fragile nature, it has not been displayed for around ten years. A bespoke case was made by Leicestershire Museums' Technical Officer to enable the internal environment to be closely controlled and monitored, and staff at the University of Nottingham Museum have been carefully adjusting light levels so that UV damage is avoided. Alongside the tunic, the exhibition brings together a wide variety of objects related to cloth production, trade and consumption – including tools for making clothes, brooches, buckles, and clothing. It is open until 20 February 2022, and further information is available at [News - New exhibition showcases rare clothing of the Medieval East Midlands - University of Nottingham](#)



The Coleorton tunic (above left) and a replica. Images courtesy of Leicestershire County Council Museums Service.

LEICESTER CITY, COUNTY & RUTLAND AT RISK WAR MEMORIALS PROJECT

The Leicester City, County & Rutland At Risk Memorials Project welcomes any information that can help or promote their work. If you have any details of a War Memorial you feel is at risk, or can help in any way, please contact them at mail@atriskwarmemorials.co.uk or visit the project website at www.atriskwarmemorials.co.uk.

MARKET HARBOROUGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY – 2022 PROGRAMME

Please note that the Society's has a new venue, the Methodist Church Hall, Northampton Road, Market Harborough. For further details, see [home \(marketharboroughhistoricalsociety.org\)](http://home.marketharboroughhistoricalsociety.org).

Wednesday 12 January 2022,
The 'Spanish' Flu Epidemic in Leicester
Ned Newitt

Wednesday 9 February 2022
The lost medieval villages of Leicestershire and Northamptonshire
David Burditt

GREEN PLAQUE SCHEME – LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

The most recent public vote to choose the next Green Plaque Awards from a shortlist of 12 closed on 24 October, and the six with the most votes who will be awarded a Plaque are below. There are more details about each nominee, and the Green Plaque scheme itself, at [The Green Plaque Awards | Leicestershire County Council](#).

- Frances Elizabeth Deacon, pharmacist, Harborough
- George Fox, founder of the Quaker movement, Hinckley & Bosworth
- Theodora Salusbury, stained glass artist, Blaby and across the county
- Sgt Herbert Ernest Black RAFVR, Battle of Britain fighter pilot, NW Leicestershire
- Military Stables at the Defence Animal Training Unit, Melton
- Lt Col Philip Eric Bent VC DSO, awarded the Victoria Cross, NW Leicestershire

ARCHAEOLOGY

DISCOVERY OF A RARE ROMAN MOSAIC AND VILLA COMPLEX IN RUTLAND

Members may already be aware of the discovery in Rutland of the first Roman mosaic of its kind in the UK, which has recently received national and international coverage. The initial discovery of the mosaic was made during the 2020 lockdown by the son of the landowner, who contacted the archaeological team at Leicestershire County Council, heritage advisors to the local authority. Given the exceptional nature of this discovery, Historic England was able to secure funding for urgent archaeological investigations of the site by ULAS in August 2020. Further excavation involving staff and students from the University of Leicester's School of Archaeology and Ancient History examined more of the site in September 2021. The remains of the mosaic measure 11m by almost 7m and depict part of the story of the Greek hero Achilles. There is insufficient space here to do justice to this very exciting find, but there is much more information about it at [Extraordinary Roman mosaic and villa discovered beneath farmer's field in Rutland | News | University of Leicester](#).

RURAL LIFE PAST AND PRESENT

Out-of-Print and Difficult-to-Find Books

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DEBORAH SAWDAY

Deborah Sawday, who died in October 2021, will be well known to many LAHS members as the University of Leicester Archaeological Services' (ULAS) medieval pottery specialist. She had an encyclopaedic knowledge of her subject, built up over more than 40 years, with hundreds of reports to her name, including contributions to chapters in the recently-published *Life in Roman and medieval Leicester* (ULAS, 2021). Debbie joined Leicestershire Archaeological Unit in 1974, when she was involved in excavations as part of a small team led by Jean Mellor and assisted by Terry Pearce, John Lucas, Patrick Clay and Peter Liddle. In the city, she joined the second season of work at the Austin Friars, worked on Great Holme Street with John Lucas in 1975, and on the Bronze Age round barrows at Sproxton and Eaton with Patrick Clay in 1978.



Debbie joined ULAS from the beginning, and once it became established and the number of projects increased dramatically, she was probably producing a report every few weeks. The scale of work at the Unit stepped up to a new level in 1988 when the long-awaited redevelopment of the High Street into the Shires Shopping Centre finally took off. There was an emphasis on presenting the two sites to the public, which Debbie considered a crucial and enjoyable role, and she wrote the booklet *Peep-hole to the Past* (1989) to accompany the excavations. Contrary to the way that archaeological texts are normally written, from the earliest to the latest evidence, Debbie's text takes the reader on a journey downwards, below those buildings still standing, through recent centuries to the lost medieval church of St Peter, the sack of Leicester, Domesday, the Vikings and the Saxons, and finally to the Romans and Leicester's Iron Age origins.

Debbie's expertise proved invaluable through further major excavations from the 1990s into the 21st century; but on a personal level she is remembered by colleagues as 'an amazingly colourful character, great fun to be around... a fiercely loyal friend and confidante, principled, protective, and very ready to speak her mind when the need arose. Her passing has left a huge hole in the ULAS team and in many people's lives and we will continue to miss her for a very long time to come'.

(With thanks to ULAS and Nick Cooper for permission to publish these extracts from their tribute to Debbie).

ROGER THOMAS – AN APPRECIATION

Wendy Scott, former Leicestershire Finds Liaison Officer, writes in appreciation of Roger Thomas, following his recent untimely death.

Roger was a keen amateur archaeologist and a very dedicated self-recorder with the Portable Antiquities Scheme in Leicestershire. He diligently documented every find, no matter how mundane, providing a valuable contribution to the area's archaeological record and saving me a lot of work. He made important discoveries, including a very rare plated imitation of an Arabic Dirham (PAS Ref. PUBLIC-9458AE). His systematic searching and recording revealed a very important site, that of a Viking Great Army 'camp site' on the river Trent at Catton, Derbyshire.

Being located just on the wrong side of Leicestershire's border, I jokingly berated him for finding it in the wrong place! Its location, south west of Repton, is the most southerly camp known on the Trent and sited at an ancient crossing point. It provides tantalising evidence for early Scandinavian activity in the area and being north west of Breedon may explain the 'Viking' silver ingots and gaming piece found nearby (PAS ref.DENO-3507B2, DENO-34FB88). This important find was mentioned by Dr Dawn Hadley

during a lecture hosted by the Society in January 2018. I offered to put her in touch with Roger and he had the great pleasure of showing her and Dr Julian Richards the finds and taking them to the site. His finds feature in their MSRG paper (2018) and he was delighted to be included in their latest book, *The Great Viking Army* (2021).

As well as being an exemplary detectorist he was also an extremely kind and generous man. He was ever present at PAST explorers training events and conferences, readily offering help and support. Shortly before his death in early September 2021, he contacted me to ask if I could arrange for his permissions on Council land to be transferred to a fellow detectorist, so they could complete survey work. Ever generous, he also bequeathed to me and the PAS his extensive collection of finds publications, which are now being distributed across the country. He was to have been involved in the proposed Institute of Detectorists, a very welcome voluntary organisation hoping to represent responsible detectorists, provide training, and encourage their deployment in professional archaeology. He would have been a major asset to the group, which makes his untimely death even more tragic. I will let Roger have the final word: 'Since joining a local archaeology group in 2006 this interest has developed into what may be described (and quite often is by Jacquie) as an obsession. Researching and recording finds is as much fun as the actual finding and a useful distraction from the need to earn a living by flogging old books'.

If you would like to read Roger's blog on his role as a detectorist, this is available at [Meet the Volunteers: Roger – Derbyshire \(finds.org.uk\)](https://finds.org.uk/meet-the-volunteers/roger-derbyshire).

EVENTS

GLOBAL LEICESTER HISTORY FESTIVAL:

WRITING THE HISTORIES OF MULTICULTURALISM IN THE LOCAL CONTEXT

De Montfort University, Leicester, Saturday 2 April 2022, 10am – 5pm

'Global Leicester' is part of a national history festival co-ordinated by the Institute of Historical Research (IHR), London to celebrate its centenary year. Two keynote speakers will open and close the event: Professor Panikos Panayi (DMU) on 'Leicester, London and other migrant cities in British history'; and Dr Dean Irwin on 'Simon de Montfort, earl of Leicester, and the Jews: a reconsideration'. Further details of the event and bookings can be found at www.history.ac.uk/our-century/centenary-events/global-leicester-history-festival.

VICTORIAN SOCIETY, LEICESTER GROUP

All meetings take place at Bishop Street Methodist Church, Leicester at 7.30 pm. They are open to all, but a contribution of £2.50 per person is requested towards expenses.

Tuesday 11 January 2022

The philosophy of conservation from Ruskin to 2021

Michael Taylor

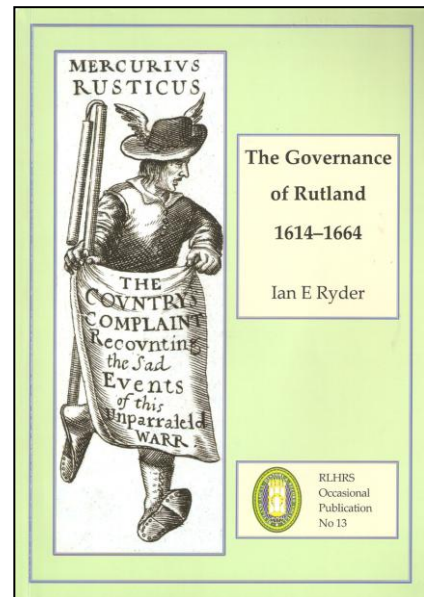
RECENT PUBLICATIONS

SYSTON IN THE 20TH CENTURY, BOOK 1 – A VILLAGE BECOMES A TOWN

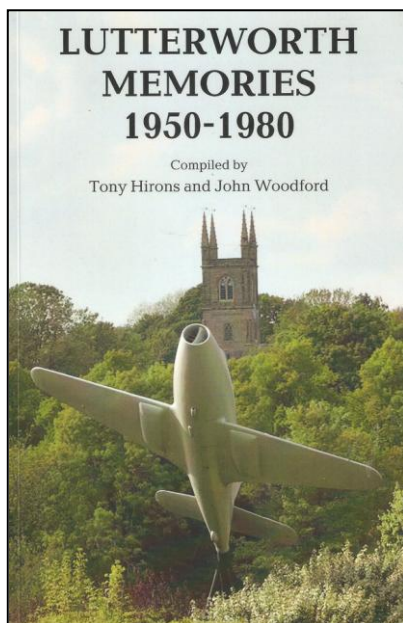
This new history of Syston was published in November 2021. It was written by Felicity Austin with Diana Smith, Ray Weston, Ray Young and members of Syston Local History Group, 246pp, illus, ISBN 9781910181935. It costs £15 and is available from Peberday's newsagents and Gamble and Hollis, both on Melton Road, Syston; Walkers' Woodyard, Fosse Way, Syston; and Syston Town Council offices, Community Centre, School Street, Syston.

THE GOVERNANCE OF RUTLAND 1614 – 1664

During the 17th century many tasks of government were almost exclusively carried out at local level. Thanks to the survival of many Rutland Justices of the Peace papers and Lieutenancy archives, Ian Ryder is able to illustrate how Rutland's ruling elite approached their responsibilities. These included managing criminal law and the poor, handling an outbreak of plague in Oakham in 1642, maintaining the county militia, and organising local and national taxation. It examines the effects of intervention by the royal government of Charles I on this established local environment, and the extent to which these placed new demands, both civil and ecclesiastical, on the county authorities. In particular, his decision to dispense with Parliament removed the traditional route for counties to express grievances. The book also analyses the effects of the Civil War on Rutland; local bureaucracy once the fighting was over, when it 'slipped back into well-oiled routines' including 'chasing up pre-war back-taxes'; and the minimal changes that followed the restoration of the monarchy. It is published by Rutland Local History and Record Society, 130pp, illus, ISBN 9780907464631, and costs £15 (£12 to RLHRS members). It can be purchased at www.rutlandhistory; in person from Rutland County Museum; or ordered from the Museum by post. A review of the book will appear in the *Leicestershire Historian* 2022.



LUTTERWORTH MEMORIES 1950 – 1980



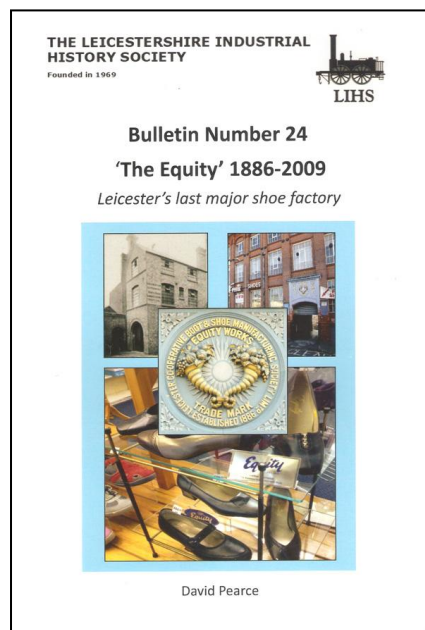
This compilation of memories by Tony Hirons and John Woodford covers a very wide range of topics from schooldays, clubs societies and sports, 'High Days, Holidays and Disasters', and recollections of local buildings that have disappeared or changed their uses over the years. For instance, Jean Hall nee Long writes of her job at Madame Blanche's, a ladies clothes shop in Church Street which was 'not cheap as it sold good quality clothing, but was very popular and had great appeal'. She recalls having to watch her p's and q's as it attracted 'a better class of customer', and describes it as 'a great loss to the town' when it closed.

As well as a description of the building itself, a section on Lutterworth Police Station includes the memories of a policeman, David Low, who was stationed there. Among these are the annual Police Ball in the local Working Men's Club, 'attended by friends and petty criminals alike'. There are also several vivid memories of the Lutterworth Flower Show, preparations for which began several months in advance. This was 'highly competitive', not least the parade of floats and the piano-smashing competition. Contributions to the book – over 70 in all - came from throughout Britain, and as far away as Canada and New Zealand. It aims to appeal not only to older residents of Lutterworth but also its younger generation and those who have moved there in more recent years. The book, 117pp, illus, ISBN 9781526208712, costs £8 and can be ordered by emailing anthonyhirons@btinternet.com.

**LEICESTERSHIRE INDUSTRIAL HISTORY SOCIETY,
BULLETIN NUMBER 24 – ‘THE EQUITY’ 1886-2009:
LEICESTER’S LAST MAJOR SHOE FACTORY**

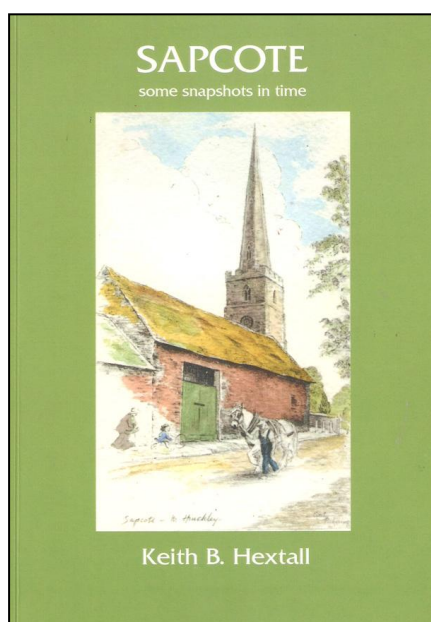
The Leicester Co-operative Boot and Shoe Manufacturing Society Limited, better known as Equity Shoes, was a workers’ co-operative with a large factory in Western Road, Leicester, founded in 1886 with start-up capital of £380. This history of the company by David Pearce incorporates a reproduction of *50 Years of Equity Shoemaking* by J.H. Plumb, published in 1936 to mark Equity’s 50th anniversary. It covers the origins of the co-operative, and some of its early struggles to become established, along with its pre-war prosperity, the effects of World War I itself, and that of the inter-war depression.

Two subsequent chapters bring the story up to date, looking first at the period from 1937 to the company’s centenary, and then at the period up to its closure in 2009, examining the wider context that led to this. Important as it was as a major producer and employer, what made the Equity unique, in the view of the historian Bill Lancaster, was ‘the fact that it came close to realising the ideal of a “brotherhood of workers”... All the workers were share-holding members...’. The book includes a DVD, *The Final Days of Equity Shoes*, produced by LIHS in 2009. It is available through the Society’s website at www.lihs.uk, price £15, 143pp illus, ISBN 9781999779351. A full review will appear in the *Leicestershire Historian* in 2022.



SAPCOTE – SOME SNAPSHOTS IN TIME

The ‘snapshots’ in this book include a wide range of photographs of Sapcote, alongside maps demonstrating how the village has changed over more than 250 years since 1778. All the images were collected by Keith B. Hextall, Chairman of Sapcote Heritage Group for many years. Keith died in 2020, and the book is a fitting and lasting tribute to all the work he did to create and archive for the future, and to encourage people to become involved in or simply enjoy the history of the village.



The photographs are arranged in the nature of ‘tours’ through different parts of Sapcote, beginning with images of Freeholt Wood and the spinney through which the 1815 turnpike road ran from Narborough to Hinckley. Among many striking images in this section are those of a well, the only remaining part of Freeholt Cottage, and the construction of the M69 motorway in progress. The Cross, Church Street and Church Walk, the River Soar and the Old Fosse Way are the focus of other chapters, while that on Leicester Road (formerly High Street) is particularly rich in ‘then and now’ images of buildings and street scenes. It also provides a record of those that have disappeared over the years. *Sapcote – some snapshots in time* is published by Heart of Albion Press (www.hoap.co.uk) on behalf of Sapcote Heritage Group, 82pp, illus, £9.95.

A HISTORICAL FOOTNOTE

A festive poem from the *Leicester Chronicle*, 26 December 1874 in the form of an advertisement for Horn's Bazaar in Carts Lane!

Old Father Christmas comes! Again he comes;
With hoary locks, and garments coated o'er
With snow and frost; he visits all our homes,
The hale old man is hastening to the door.

Old Father Christmas: Welcome from the boys.
And from the Girls a welcome too we send;
With ponderous pockets bursting out with toys,
He comes apace! But Boys and Girls attend,

And I will tell you where he gets his store
Of toys, and ornaments for all your Xmas trees.
'Tis in Cart's Lane! Yea, 'tis at number 4,
At Horn's Bazaar! Go see it, if you please.

'Tis open now from morning until night,
So Boys and Girls Just ask your kind mamma,
To take you all, and let you have a sight
Of all the Novelties at Horn's Bazaar.

The Flags and Banners, Cosaques, Conjuring, tricks,
The Christmas games (The Christmas Goose is there)
And oh what dolls, to please the darling chicks,
With pretty dresses, and such curly hair.

The Christmas puzzles, novel Christmas cards,
Wall-lights, Reflectors, Villas for the dolls,
Lanterns and Tapers, false noses for Charades,
Holly and decorations for the walls.

There Father Christmas stands amid his toys,
Ready to go wherever he is sent.
Papas! Mamas I pray take your girls and boys,
To "Horn's Bazaar," you never will repent.

I cannot tell you all you may behold.
But there are Angels bright, with moving wings
Tree ornaments in silver and in gold:
There robin sits on snow-clad stump and sings.

Then haste to see this Christmas, Grand Bazaar,
Go once my friends and you will go again,
Remember, 'tis at "Horn's," these marvels are,
And welcome waits at No. 4, Cart's Lane.

This newsletter is edited by Cynthia Brown and published by Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society. Further information about the Society, its publications and other activities can be found on its website at www.lahs.org.uk.

**THE LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL &
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Post Code:.....Telephone:.....

Email Address:.....

*(Only to be used for communicating information with members. *Student membership is contingent upon you providing the email address given to you by your educational institution).*

I wish to become a member at the rate indicated above.

I enclose a cheque/ I have paid by Paypal/ I have made a Standing Order arrangement with my bank/Please send me a Standing Order form *(delete as applicable)*.

If paying by Standing Order please either make your own arrangement with your bank/building society, or request a form from Hon. Mem. Sec. Please make any payments to Sort Code 60-60-06, Account Number 87270080.

Alternatively pay by Paypal: Payments@lahs.org.uk



Data Protection Act

I/We agree to my/our names being stored on a computer database

Signature/s:..... Date:.....

Gift Aid Declaration

Please treat as Gift Aid donations all qualifying previous and/or future subscription payments and/or donations I have made to LAHS (delete as applicable). I confirm I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April to 5 April) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities or Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs) that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand that LAHS will reclaim 28p of tax on every £1 that I gave up to 5 April 2008 and will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give on or after 6 April 2008.

Surname: Title:.....Initials:.....

Address:
.....
.....

Post Code:

Signature/s:..... Date:.....