

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



NEWSLETTER 114 Spring 2022

Welcome to the latest edition of the LAHS Newsletter. Contributions to future editions of the Newsletter are as always welcome at any time. These can be emailed to the Newsletter editor, Cynthia Brown, at newsletter@lahs.org.uk.

LAHS NEWS

LECTURE PROGRAMME

Our online lectures have been a huge success over the last 18 months or so, and we intend to have most of our future lectures as hybrid events, where attendance can be in person, or virtual. This does need some sorting of equipment and software, and some more pairs of hands would be really appreciated. If you would like to be part of the small team that delivers the LAHS Lectures, please contact Matt Beamish (membership@lahs.org.uk) or Jim Butler (secretary@lahs.org.uk). All remaining lectures for the 2021–22 season will be held in the Victorian Art Gallery at Leicester Museum & Art Gallery, New Walk, 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 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

LAHS LECTURES ON YOUTUBE

The lecture on 'The discovery of a new Roman complex in Rutland', given to LAHS on 13 January 2022 by Jennifer Browning of ULAS is now available on YouTube at [A Roman Discovery in Rutland - YouTube](#). LAHS is supporting this very important project with a grant for post excavation analysis.

OTHER LAHS NEWS

TRANSACTIONS, VOLUME 95, 2021

Copies of *Transactions* for 2021 were sent out to all members in late January, but some members have yet to receive their copies. According to Royal Mail tracking information, they have been lost, and more copies are now being sent out. If you are still to receive your own copy, please contact Matt Beamish, Membership Secretary, ideally by email (membership@lahs.org.uk), or phone 07906 341997.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

The LAHS Library at The Guildhall has now reopened following its winter closure, and an update on acquisitions and donations will appear in the summer Newsletter. We have also been informed that the entire Guildhall now has WiFi coverage. This offers members the option of using laptops or iPads with WiFi in the Jury Room by connecting to 'The Cloud'.

LECTURE PROGRAMME 2022 - 2023

LAHS Hon Lectures Secretary Yolanda Courtney is now planning the lecture series for 2022 – 23, and would welcome suggestions from members, or possible contacts who might be willing to offer a lecture. Please contact her at lectures@lahs.org.uk or ring 0116 2120271.

LAHS TRANSACTIONS LODGED WITH ARCHAEOLOGICAL DATA SERVICE

The first batch of *Transactions* has now been lodged with the Archaeological Data Service. Volumes 2000-2019 are available to download, with all papers fully attributed to their authors, contributors and editors, at [Library \(archaeologydataservice.ac.uk\)](http://Library.archaeologydataservice.ac.uk). Volumes from previous years will also be lodged as the scans and required metadata are completed.

NEW LAHS COMMITTEE MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome back to the Committee David Howell, who served as LAHS Treasurer for several years, and David Wykes, whose many contributions to *Transactions* can be accessed by searching <https://www.le.ac.uk/lahs/publications/>. We also extend a warm welcome to two members new to the Committee. Peter Ackers is Emeritus Professor in the History of Industrial Relations at Loughborough University. His 1993 PhD was a biographical study of the links between the Churches of Christ and coalmining trade unionism in Wigan. A recent edited collection is Ackers and Reid, *Alternatives to State-Socialism in Britain: other worlds of labour in the twentieth century* (Palgrave, 2016). His local research interest is worker co-operatives and Churches of Christ trade union activists in the Leicestershire boot and shoe industry.

Elizabeth Tingle was born in Leicester and raised in Leicestershire. Her father was a policeman in the city and county, and his family came from Whitwick. After a long spell away, she returned to Leicester and De Montfort University as Professor of History in 2016. Her husband Martin is an archaeologist, and they now live in the Wolds. Her great interest is in religious history and churches, particularly of the later middle ages and Reformation, and she is a trustee of Leicestershire Historic Churches Trust. She also has an interest in landscape history and archaeology, and the history of the environment, particularly that of the Wolds.

LAHS PUBLIC HERITAGE FUND

Applications for grants are welcome from history and heritage societies and projects within Leicestershire and Rutland – see [LAHS - Research \(le.ac.uk\)](http://LAHS-Research(le.ac.uk)) for details.

OTHER NEWS

HIDDEN HISTORIES OF LEICESTER

‘Hidden Histories of Leicester’, a series of five videos compiled and presented by LAHS Hon Secretary Jim Butler, was shortlisted for the Award for Public Dissemination or Presentation in the Archaeological Achievements Awards 2021. They can be viewed through the links at [Hidden Histories of Leicester – Roman Leicester](#).

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH REFUGEES – 80TH ANNIVERSARY MEMORIAL TREE

An oak tree has been planted in Western Park, Leicester as part of a national campaign to mark the 80th anniversary of the Association of Jewish Refugees, a charity that supports Holocaust survivors and refugees in the UK. It was planted to commemorate the life of Benjamin Abeles, the renowned physicist who arrived in England as a refugee from Prague on the Kindertransport in 1939, and died in Leicester in 2020. For an obituary of Benjamin Abeles, see [Benjamin Abeles obituary | Physics | The Guardian](#).

HERITAGE WATCH IN LEICESTERSHIRE

The Leicestershire Police Heritage Watch Team, which is tasked with protecting our heritage, would like to encourage people to report any suspicious behaviour to the police: ‘This work is varied, and often includes working closely with Historic England and the Leicester diocese on church lead theft. The current focus of the team is illegal metal detecting, often referred to as ‘night hawking’, the illegal search for and removal of antiquities from the ground using metal detectors. This is done without the permission of the landowners, or on prohibited land such as Scheduled Monuments, and often occurs during the day as well as at night. It is not to be confused with responsible metal detectorists, who apply for permission to be on private land and report their finds to the Finds Liaison Officer.

‘The Heritage Watch Team would like to raise awareness of the crime of night hawking, as it is vastly under reported to the police. The police allocate resources based on a supply and demand system, and if they do not know that it is a problem they cannot task officers accordingly. For example, with the recent announcement of the Roman Villa site in Rutland, night hawking is of particular concern in the area. Any suspicious behaviour can be reported to the police by calling 101 or by reporting online through a system which is monitored at all times at www.leics.police.uk/report-online. If a crime is in progress, always call 999!

‘Rather like hare coursing, night hawking requires vehicles to be parked and left in the area of farm gates or public footpaths, and the occupants of the vehicles (if you happen to see them) would be carrying quite large bags for metal detectors and spades etc. If you spot anything like this and are suspicious of it, please do let the police know using the online tool www.leics.police.uk/report-online’. If anyone would like to contact the Heritage Watch Team, email them at heriatgwatchvolunteers@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk, or visit <https://www.leics.police.uk/news/leicestershire/news/2020/november/police-volunteers-protect-countys-heritage-sites/> for further information.

LEICESTER CITY COUNCIL HERITAGE PANELS

Leicester City Council has recently installed ten new heritage panels to tell the stories behind key historic and cultural sites across the city. These are part of the city council’s Story of Leicester project marking the people, places and events of the recent and distant

past. The most recent include the medieval Magazine Gateway, with a focus on the prisoners held within its walls, its use as an ammunition depot during the English Civil War, and its First World War role as a recruiting station; Braunstone Gate Bridge, known as Bowstring Bridge, in Western Boulevard, which carried the Great Central Railway's London to Sheffield line over the River Soar; and the development of the city centre's fire stations, which is outlined in panels at Rutland Street and Bowling Green Street. See [Latest heritage information panels take their places in the city \(leicester.gov.uk\)](https://www.leicester.gov.uk/latest-heritage-information-panels-take-their-places-in-the-city/) for information about all the new panels.

'UNEARTHED: FORGOTTEN HISTORIES'

Serendipity – Institute for Black Arts and Heritage in Leicester has been awarded a total of £759,925 by the National Lottery Heritage Fund to support the development of a regional project 'Unearthed: forgotten histories'. This will 'grow and develop an archive that reflects the rich diversity of the African and African Caribbean communities across the Midlands... and to give back hidden histories for everyone to share'. For further information, visit [Unearthed: Forgotten Histories - Serendipity \(serendipity-uk.com\)](https://www.serendipity-uk.com/)

LEICESTER CITY, COUNTY & RUTLAND AT RISK WAR MEMORIALS PROJECT

War memorials placed in the chancel of All Saints' Church in Highcross Street, Leicester, can now be viewed on the At Risk project website at [Our Resident Memorials | ARWMP \(atriskwarmemorials.co.uk\)](https://www.atriskwarmemorials.co.uk/).

FORTHCOMING 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) to celebrate its centenary year. 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'. Other speakers will include Dr Liam McCarthy, University of Leicester, on 'Finding a new "British Asian Sound": BBC Radio Leicester 1976-1990'; Shehnaz Rawat, De Montfort University, on 'Colonial legacies and postcolonial identities: Gujarati Muslims in Leicester 1970-1993'; and Mathew Morris, ULAS, 'Leicester and Roman Africa - ancient cultural diversity in the English Midlands'. There will also be tours, stalls and displays at the event. Further information at www.history.ac.uk/our-century/centenary-events/global-leicester-history-festival.

RURAL LIFE PAST AND PRESENT

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

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DESFORD STEPS BACK IN TIME THIS SUMMER



In early July, the village of Desford will be showcasing its extensive history in a unique Heritage Festival taking place over a whole weekend. The event will officially launch Desford's Heritage Trail, a series of sixteen boards around the village detailing key sites of archaeological and historical significance. The village will be divided into time zones including medieval, Victorian and the World Wars. These will be brought to life by a plethora of re-enactment groups, musicians, actors and vehicles, to allow residents and visitors to get a taste of these eras. The weekend also offers a museum of all the archives and artefacts that have been carefully preserved over many years by volunteers of the Desford and District Local History Society. The Heritage Festival takes place on Saturday 2 July and Sunday 3 July 2022, and will cater for all ages. More information can be found on social media using @desfordheritage.

MARKET HARBOROUGH HISTORICAL SOCIETY – 2022 PROGRAMME

Please note that the Society has a new venue, the Methodist Church Hall, Northampton Road, Market Harborough. A £1 door charge is made for all lectures. You can also sign up to the Society's regular newsletter and find other information about its activities at [home \(marketharboroughhistoricalsociety.org\)](http://home(marketharboroughhistoricalsociety.org)).

Wednesday 13 April 2022

Six cheeses for Cromwell – the story of Launde Abbey

Rosalind Willatts

Launde Abbey, 12 miles from Market Harborough, was founded in 1119 as an Augustinian Priory in a remote part of Leicestershire. The priory captivated Thomas Cromwell who took it for his own use on its dissolution. Rosalind will look at its history, its buildings and many of the people associated with it over 900 years.

Wednesday 11 May 2022

Oral history in Leicestershire

Colin Hyde, East Midlands Oral History Archive

Oral History is the history of ordinary people and their lives collected orally rather than by the written word. It records spoken memories of life, places or institutions from people with a shared or similar past. Colin's talk will encompass some of the recollections in the East Midlands Oral History Archive from Market Harborough.

NEWARKE HOUSES MUSEUM

The Newarke, Leicester, LE2 7BY, tel 0116 225 4980

The Leicester Blitz – the German air raid on Leicester, 19 – 20 November 1940

An exhibition created to mark the 80th anniversary of the 'Leicester Blitz' has returned to Newarke Houses Museum. The city was bombed several times in 1940 and 1941, but the raid on the night of 19 - 20 November 1940 was by far the worst – with over 100 people losing their lives. The exhibition documents that night in detail, through objects, pictures, paintings and personal stories of the damage that was done. It also shows how Leicester prepared for other air raids, and explains what happened on those nights, often in the words of those who were there. Many of the items on display – including rare uniform and

paper artefacts used by the city's Air Raid Precautions (ARP) services – have been loaned to Leicester Museums & Galleries by local historian Austin J. Ruddy. The exhibition continues until 22 May 2022. For further information, see [Whats On – Leicester Museums](#).

Sunday 3 April 2022, 2pm, £5

The Women's Land Army

A talk by Cynthia Brown

The Women's Land Army had its origins in the First World War and was reconstituted in 1939 to help maintain Britain's food supplies. At its peak in 1944 it had around 80,000 members, whose 'selfless service' was belatedly recognised in 2008 with a badge presented to those who were still alive. This talk will focus on Leicestershire and Rutland to ask who these women were, and how they adapted to work which few of them had done before - drawing on oral histories to illustrate their experiences and how they felt about them.



(Photo courtesy of Syston Local History Group)

TWO GRAVESTONES - A STORY OF REPATRIATION PART 1

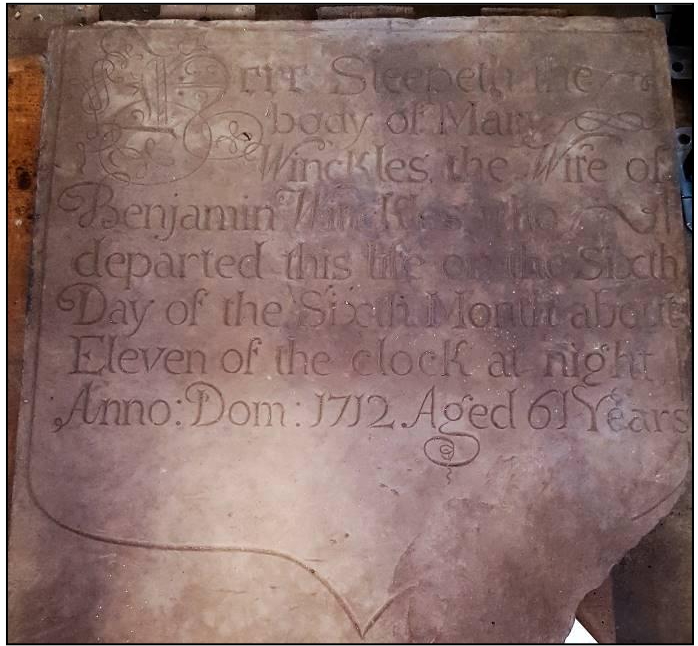
Objects about which little is known can be found in museum collections across the country. Such was the case with two gravestones which in 2020 lay in one of Leicestershire County Council's Museum Collections Team's stores, but with no record of where the stones had come from, or anything about them other than that it was likely they had local Leicestershire connections. Museum objects sometimes become disassociated with their accession numbers, which are the vital piece of information to which internal documentation, historical documents and ownership details are linked. Labels can easily fall off objects that have moved between museum stores on many occasions, which is why some objects are marked with their accession numbers. However, the gravestones in question were not labelled or marked, perhaps because they had never been formally accessioned into the museum collections.

After much searching of internal documentation, the stones were very much still a mystery and during the Covid pandemic, Curator of Archaeology Helen Sharp emailed digital images of both gravestones to Leicestershire Archaeology Collections volunteer Joyce Lee for investigation. With record offices temporarily closed, the initial research was made using online internet sources including family history websites, digital archives, and historical and village websites. In the first of this two-part article, Joyce and her co-author Alan Betteridge relate their research into the stone of Mary Winkles, who died on 6 June 1712, aged 61, the wife of Benjamin Winkles.

MARY WINCKLES

Whilst online searches for records to a likely burial for Mary and for her marriage to Benjamin proved elusive, references were found to Benjamin Winckles, the illustrious former resident of Arnesby who transferred the central meeting place of the Kilby Baptist Church to Arnesby in 1702 - where, as recorded in the Sheldon Survey, there had been a satellite congregation since 1663 (John Nichols gives the date as c.1667).

To try to discover if there was a connection between Mary and this Benjamin Winckles, the search was widened to look for Benjamin Winckles' gravestone to see if the inscription would give the name of a wife. Again, online sources proved useful, with the Leicestershire and Rutland Family History Society's Index to Monumental Inscriptions listing a Benjamin Winckles, 21st March 1732 aged 78, Arnesby Baptist Church graveyard.



Desk-based research turned to fieldwork, when a visit was made to Arnesby Baptist churchyard. The large gravestone commemorating Benjamin Winckles was found here, but there was no mention of a wife in the inscription on the visible part of the stone. Interestingly there are several gravestones in Arnesby churchyard contemporary with that of Mary Winckles which looked as if they could have been carved by the same craftsman. At this point Alan Betteridge, an authority on Nonconformity and the Baptists in Leicestershire, was contacted to ask for help. Alan was able to fill in the story:

Mary Winckles was Benjamin's wife, the Baptist minister. Neither came from Arnesby or nearby. He was born at Hothorpe (Theddingworth). His employer sent him with a marriage proposal to a rich widow in Ramsey (in the Fens). Mary declined, but said that if the request had come from Benjamin she would consider it. Benjamin and Mary married and lived on at Ramsey until 1701, even though he was pastor of the Kilby (later Arnesby) Baptist church by 1689, soon after its founder Richard Farmer's death in 1688. The Winckles together head the list of members in the earliest extant church book, c.1697.

It was most likely Mary's money that enabled Benjamin to buy a substantial plot at Arnesby and to build their own house, several out-houses, and a meeting-house at the centre of it all, first used 12 May 1702. This was the central meeting place for what was already a widespread church. It had congregations at Ramsey, Oakthorpe (Measham), Barkby, Twyford, Northampton, Kettering, Lutterworth, Sibbertoft, Mowsley and Coventry. Marriage and burials at Arnesby are scattered through the first church book until 1757. Burial records include Mary (1712) and Benjamin (1732). There are no other Winckles in the church book except Ann, Winckles' second wife, who died in 1747 aged 54 (by then Ann Harris). Both wives are mentioned in Benjamin Winckles' will in 1731. Mary mattered to the Arnesby story.

The second investigation concerned the gravestone of Elizabeth Lewis, who died 24 November 1704, aged 76 years, the wife of a John Lewis. The results of this, along with the story of the 'repatriation' of both stones, will appear in the Summer edition of the LAHS Newsletter.

ARCHAEOLOGY

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE AND WORK OF BRIAN KIMBERLEY



Brian Kimberley, who died in November 2019, was a member of LAHS for many years, and one of the earliest metal detectorists in the county to engage with finds recording - originally with the Historic Environment Record, then based at Jewry Wall, then later with Wendy Scott through the Portable Antiquities Scheme based at Leicestershire County Council Museums. He recorded a great many finds over the years, but he made a particularly significant contribution to the county's archaeology with two finds from Thurcaston parish.

His first and most important find was actually made over several years (1992–2000), only becoming apparent that it was a coin hoard midway through its discovery (see PAS record [LEIC-C6D945](#) for more detail). The Thurcaston hoard dates to the 920s and is possibly still unique. It is a mixed coin hoard containing English, Anglo-Viking and Arabic issues, which is historically very significant. It was the subject of many papers by the late Dr Mark Blackburn, who noted that the hoard demonstrated the use of a dual-economy. This was a Scandinavian practice which involved the use of coins and metalwork interchangeably, in this case English and possibly Anglo-



Thurcaston Hoard
© Fitzwilliam Museum

Viking coins being used as coins, with the Arabic Dirhams used as bullion. Its deposition at a time when Leicestershire was under English rule, having been clawed back from Scandinavian 'occupation' in 918 by the lady Aethelflaed, is very suggestive, as non-English coin use would have been illegal. The hoard also provided additional evidence for the Anglo-Viking Northumbrian coinage of St Peter. The use of these coins in the area suggests a Scandinavian population either using it as acceptable currency equal to English coin, or as bullion as they did with the Dirhams. The hoard is so significant that in the recently published *Medieval European Coinage* it is mentioned in discussion eight times!

His second important find also spoke of Scandinavian settlement with the county's first example of a silver Thor's hammer pendant. The rare pendant was found in 1993. At that time it was only the fourth recorded in England - (see [LEIC-185125](#) - a second was found near Markfield in 2020 (2020T851) - and a probable lead example from Heather in 2021). As it was found before the creation of the Treasure Act, Brian and the landowner were free to do as they wished with it. They generously donated it to Leicestershire County Council Museums and it has been displayed at Charnwood Museum ever since (see the image at the end of this article).

Brian donated part of his coin collection to his local history group, and Wendy provided them with PAS records to accompany them and delivered a talk on the history of English coinage to contextualise it for them. Shortly before his death Wendy had the pleasure of giving a lecture, attended by Brian and his family, which highlighted his best finds and his contribution to local archaeology. Following his death, Brian's family have been

sorting through the hundreds of finds and records resulting from his metal detecting - a mammoth task! Parts of the collection are currently being assessed by Leicestershire Museums and some of the more significant items will be generously donated to sit alongside other finds donated to the service by Brian over the years, ranging from pottery, tile and flint to metalwork (see photos) and Roman kiln furniture.

Outside of detecting, Brian was also a keen medal collector and rugby fan. He spent his army days in the Royal Army Ordnance Corps in Egypt and loved every second of it. He was made a sergeant and was offered a place at Sandhurst to train as an officer, but declined, choosing to return home and marry his wife Judy months later. His working background was in chemicals and in the early 1970s he set up his business, Midland Dykem Chemicals Ltd. He was lucky enough to retire early and throw his energy into detecting on a near daily basis. He leaves his wife Judy, son Gary, daughter Deborah, three grandchildren and a great granddaughter.

Almost 200 records of Brian's finds can be viewed on the PAS database at [Search results from the database Page: 1 \(finds.org.uk\)](https://finds.org.uk/results-from-the-database). These give an insight into the wide range of material collected and reported by a dedicated metal detectorist.



Thor's Hammer pendant found near Cropston
© Leicestershire County Council Museums



(Left) 17th century silver-gilt dress hook found by Brian near Rothley and kindly donated
© Leicestershire County Council Museums

(Right) Medieval horse harness pendant with blue and red enamel and trace of gilding, found by Brian in Swithland
© Leicestershire County Council Museums



Recent assessment of an item in Brian's 'junk' collection revealed it as being part of a medieval reliquary fitting with engraved praying figures (left)
© Leicestershire County Council Museums

We would like to thank Brian's family, Wendy Scott and Helen Sharp for permission to publish this tribute.

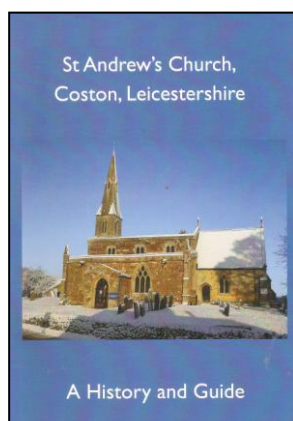
RECENT PUBLICATIONS

ST ANDREW'S CHURCH, COSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE: A HISTORY AND GUIDE

Pamela J. Fisher

Coston Church, 2021, 52pp, illus, £5

This history and guide to one of a relatively small number of churches to be Grade 1 listed by Historic England provides a chronological account from 1066 to the present, including its restoration after it was placed on the 'At Risk Register' in 2007 following damage through the theft of lead from the roof. Separate sections look at 'Music and Bells', and at the monuments that include a bronze panel in memory of Temple Crozier, son of the Rector, Rev James Crozier, an actor who died in an on-stage accident aged 24 in 1896. It concludes with a brief history of the village of Coston itself, a glossary of technical terms, and a comprehensive list of primary and secondary sources.



A full review will appear in the 2022 edition of the *Leicestershire Historian*, but in the meantime, Pam Fisher and Peter Liddle conducted a joint history and archaeology tour of the church in 2021, and hope to repeat this in July 2022 as part of the Festival of Archaeology. The booklet is available from John Cunnington, Manor Farm, Buckminster Road, Coston, Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire, LE14 2RP. It costs £5 + £2 p&p.

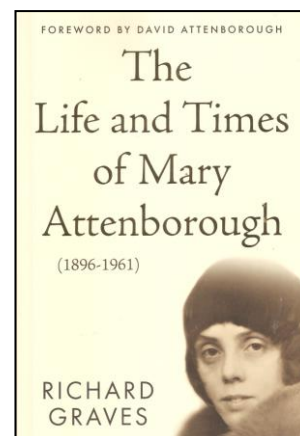
THE LIFE AND TIMES OF MARY ATTENBOROUGH (1896 – 1961)

Richard Graves

The Book Guild, 2022, 256pp, illus, ISBN 978191441148, £12.99

Mary Attenborough nee Clegg was, of course, the wife of Frederick A. Attenborough, Principal of University College Leicester, whom she married in 1922, and the mother of Richard, David and John – but this book is intended to tell her story 'in its own right'. It starts with her Nonconformist roots in Derbyshire, to demonstrate how her 'character and personality were in part influenced by the milieu in which she grew up, and also by the gifts of her own remarkable family' - not least those of her father Samuel, a pioneering educationalist. Mary's own education included a period at the Sorbonne in Paris, and the diary she kept at the time is one of several family papers on which the author has drawn for this biography.

Around half of it is devoted to her life in Leicester, to which the family moved in 1932. In his Foreword, Sir David Attenborough recalls that his mother was 'zestful in everything she tackled', from her household accounts – an 'unidentified penny could not be simply dismissed' – to her service as a local magistrate, as chair of the Little Theatre where Richard first displayed his acting skills, and the support she organised for refugee children from the Spanish Civil War, and Jewish children arriving from Germany in 1938, two of whom became part of the family itself. These and other aspects of her life, some hitherto unknown to Sir David himself, are covered in detail, alongside many interesting images. The book will be reviewed in full in the 2022 edition of the *Leicestershire Historian*.



A HISTORICAL FOOTNOTE

Buying a house can be a stressful business. Most of the Victorian middle classes rented their homes, but having first determined 'the Amount of Rent which you can afford to pay', there were many other factors to take into consideration, as this extract from the 1896 edition of the advice manual *Enquire Within Upon Everything* suggests.

293. First--Carefully regard the Healthfulness of the Situation. Find out the nature of the sub-soil on which the house stands – for example, a gravel or chalk subsoil is better than a subsoil of clay, because the former admits of a speedy escape of the surplus water in time of heavy and continuous rain, while the latter does not. Avoid the neighbourhood of graveyards, and of factories giving forth unhealthy vapours. Avoid low and damp districts, the course of canals, and localities of reservoirs of water, gas works, &c. Make inquiries as to the drainage of the neighbourhood, and inspect the drainage and water supply of the premises. A house standing on an incline is likely to be better drained than one standing upon the summit of a hill, or on a level below a hill. Endeavour to obtain a position where the direct sunlight falls upon the house, for this is absolutely essential to health; and give preference to a house the openings of which are sheltered from the north and east winds.

294. Second--Consider the Distance of the House from your place of occupation: and also its relation to provision markets, and shops in the neighbourhood.

295. Examine the House in Detail.

Having considered these material and leading features, examine the house in detail, carefully looking into its state of repair; notice the windows that are broken; whether the chimneys smoke; whether they have been recently swept; whether the paper on the walls is damaged, especially in the lower parts, and the corners, by the skirtings; whether the locks, bolts, handles of doors, and window fastenings are in proper condition; make a list of the fixtures; ascertain whether all rates and taxes have been paid by the previous tenant, and whether the person from whom you take the house is the original landlord, or his agent or tenant. And do not commit yourself by the signing of any agreement until you are satisfied upon all these points, and see that all has been done which the landlord may have undertaken to do, before you take possession of the house.

296. If you are about to Furnish a House, buy merely enough to get along with at first, and add other things by degrees. It is only by experience that you can tell what will be the wants of your family. If you spend all your money, you will find you have purchased many things you do not actually want, and have no means left to get many things which you do want. If you have enough, and more than enough, to get everything suitable to your situation, do not think you must spend all you may be able to lay out in furniture, merely because you happen to have it...

If you would like to read more from *Enquire Within*, you can access this edition free online at [The Project Gutenberg eBook of Enquire Within Upon Everything](http://www.gutenberg.org/ebooks/10000).

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 & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THE GUILDHALL, GUILDHALL LANE, LEICESTER. LE1 5FQ.
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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:.....