

STAFFORDSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2011

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Dr John George Latham Cole

13th March 1918 – 4th November 2010



President of the Society 1982-2003

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Editors Notes

On behalf of the Committee and our President I wish you all a Happy New Year.

As you see from the front cover we have to report the sad death of our previous President Dr. John Cole. He first appears as a Committee member in 1964-5. We have no information as to when he actually joined the Society, as the membership records only go back to 1985. He became a Vice-President in 1967-8 and Hon. Secretary in 1973-4. He was President from 1982-3 until 2002-3.

We aim to have a fuller Obituary Notice in the September 2011 Newsletter. If any Member has an interesting memory of JC that they would like to share, please send it to me either by email or post.

I am pleased to say that two members have volunteered and written articles for this Newsletter. Thank you very much and keep up the good work.

Hon. Newsletter Editor: Paul Norris pm.norris@virgin.net or Yorvik, Victoria St Yoxall DE13 8NG.

COMMITTEE 2010 – 2011

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News of Members

Dr. John George Latham Cole, M.B., F.R.C.R., F.S.A., 13 March 1918 - 4 November 2010

John Cole MB FRCR joined the society shortly after its inception and became a member of the committee in 1964. In the years that followed he became Vice President of the society, in 1967, and then in 1973 Secretary. In 1982 he became President, a role he fulfilled with the professionalism elsewhere in his public life and to the good of the society until 2003, when in partial retirement he again became Vice President. He retired from the society in 2006.

John published several short articles in our Transactions on bones found during excavations at Wall and Tamworth.

He was involved in excavations with Graham Webster in the 70's. His sites included Barnsley Park, Repton, Wall (of course), Wroxeter and St Alban's. He was involved with Jim Gould, Bert Round and Frank and Nancy Ball at Wall. He did numerous bones reports for many different groups.

He was a Rotarian and also a Church Warden at Holy Trinity in Sutton Coldfield. He was much involved in charitable giving through trusts that he and his late wife set up.

He was a man of great charm, enormous knowledge and intellectual energy and kindness. Many of us perhaps have a particular reason for remembering him – I for one do. He will be greatly missed.

James Debney

90th Birthday congratulations to Frank Ball. Together with his wife Nancy, the Balls ran excavations at the Wall Mansio site and supervised a rescue excavation on Wall Triangle in 1981-1982. For many years they represented the Society at CBA meetings and at Trent and Peak gatherings. After a busy retirement, they now live a quiet life reflecting on their achievements.

The Society's condolences go to Colin Badddeley who lost his wife Pauline in the summer of 2010. Colin was one of the team of excavators on "the top of the hill" behind Wall House in the 1960s. He was a great friend of John Cole, with whom he had many tours down the Moselle Valley exploring wineries en route.

As you have already seen, John Cole, our Past President, sadly died in November. He was a stalwart of the Society and became 'the bone man' on the excavations at Wall and at Repton, Derbyshire. In John we've lost a true gentleman and a good friend. We will remember him.

Diana Wilkes.

Many members will remember Mrs. Christiane Horton who has recently died. Always elegantly dressed and always wearing a hat, she sat on the front row and usually had a pertinent question or comment. She worked tirelessly for the charity Sightsavers and many of us saved our used stamps for her. Her grand-daughter performed a one-woman show at the Edinburgh Fringe based on her life, called "About Chrissie". Latterly, she lived at Shenstone Hall Nursing Home.

Betty Fox

We hope to publish a fuller Obituary of John Cole in next September's Newsletter. I would ask any member who has any recollections of the late John Cole, either privately or professionally, to write them up for inclusion in the Autumn Newsletter. Thank you.

Paul Norris

Discovering History and Archaeology in Cyprus

Last September I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to go to the island of Cyprus. I had never been before and spent an energetic two weeks getting to know this still politically divided but culturally and historically compelling landscape in some detail, exploring far and wide whilst staying with my daughter and son-in-law. Those of you who have holidayed on Cyprus will doubtless already know of its delights and fascination. Archaeology and history are to be found in abundance, there being much evidence of the different civilisations and cultures which sought to establish their presence and influence, going back across the millennia.

More recently, the devastating political unrest between the Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities saw the island wrenched apart during the latter half of the 20th Century. In 1960 Cyprus had gained its independence, from the British. In the years prior to this there had been the Greek Cypriot EOKA campaign of terror (1955-1959) which had sought 'Enosis' or union with mainland Greece, this not being achieved. The most critical event then occurred in 1974 when mainland Turkey, under extreme provocation following a Military coup on the island, despatched an intervention force resulting in open warfare with the Greek Cypriot National Guard (both sides saw assistance from on the one hand Turkish Cypriot Militia and on the other the mainland Greek Army). This conflict was subsequently to manifest in the political partition which is still extant to this day. The northern half (actually to be precise it's 38% of the land mass) continues to operate, entirely separately to the remainder Republic of Cyprus, as the 'Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus' (TRNC), though this state of affairs has never achieved international recognition. The Turkish and TRNC flags (each is substantially the colour reverse of the other) are to be seen flying together and displayed profusely with great political statement, right across the northern territory.

These days, since I think 2003, it is however perfectly possible when staying in southern Cyprus to cross, via passport control, to the northern part of the island, or of course vice versa. The Buffer Zone, created between the two conflicting communities, was established by the UN in the years following 1974 and not only does this divide the island as a whole, but also the largest city, Nicosia (Lefkosia/Lefkosa), where actually it's referred to as the Green Zone, all to do with the use of a green pen when the map of the Cypriot capital was drawn on (by a UN commander on the ground, pre '74 in fact)! This ongoing buffer situation (the width of it is extremely variable) means that swathes remain desolate and derelict and can result in archaeologically and historically sensitive areas being off-limits. In Nicosia, as an example, in the vicinity of the UN Sector 2 (British Sector) HQ at Ledra Palace, there are Roman remains situated in 'no-man's land' which cannot be accessed and lie waiting for a turn of events in the future when archaeologists can once again get in to get their hands on it. There is, I know, because I luckily and unexpectedly got the chance to go and have a look at it, a fine example of a Roman aqueduct running probably several hundred metres across the landscape, but which no-one can ordinarily get to see.

Elsewhere in Nicosia, the central historic area is surrounded by a substantial and magnificent old city wall, largely still intact, built by the Venetians in the 16th C, its defensive outline when viewed in plan being quite unique, resembling that of a giant multi-pointed star shape, perhaps an elaborate snowflake or cog wheel if you like. Within this old city, in the Turkish northern half, is what was the Gothic Cathedral of Agia Sofia, built between 1209 and 1326, but subsequently converted to become the Selimiye Mosque. When the Ottomans took Cyprus in 1570 they stripped this Christian (Greek Orthodox) church, refurnishing the interior to the more minimalist tradition of Islam and adding two minarets. When visiting the Mosque I had to avoid the times of prayer, 5 times per day, so as to be allowed access as a tourist. It is quite a plain structure internally in many respects, but is notable for the reorientation of the layout to align with Mecca, together with the absence of seating but instead carpeting to cater for the act of prayer.

The island's archaeology can, I should say, be traced back to the Aceramic Neolithic period, at least 10,000 years ago, although I personally had no contact with any evidence of this. Eventually, by around 1200 BC, its geographical position perhaps within easy reach of any number of developing civilisations, Cyprus was to see in succession, domination by amongst others, the Mycenaean Greeks, Romans, Byzantines, Lusignans, Genoese, Venetians, Ottomans, and, of course, the British! Remarkably, there seems to be Venetian influence on residential architecture evident to this day, especially in parts of old Nicosia.

The probable historical highlight of my stay on the island was a visit to the extensive Ancient Salamis site on the east coast, just to the north of the city of Famagusta in the TRNC. Whilst, I have to say, not comparing in size and importance to other more notable remains to be found elsewhere across the Mediterranean region, Salamis is none the less recognised as being of considerable significance, on Cyprus at least, in terms of the extent of the Roman archaeology on offer. The remains there do comprise a fine example of a more or less complete city site from Antiquity, seemingly with parts still to be properly excavated. Anyone visiting can easily spend a good half day absorbing its features, a lot of walking though necessary and, including when I was there, this can be under a searing sun! The guide books tell you to beware of basking snakes but all we saw was a sloughed skin, albeit alarming at first glance!

Salamis is recorded as an ancient city kingdom, probably under Assyrian rule, as far back as 709 BC, but which saw destruction by the Persians in 306 BC. The Romans arrived in 58 BC and the settlement was destined to flourish again. Much of what can be seen today dates from the reign of Augustus (31 BC to 14 AD) and this includes the substantial recreational complexes provided for the city's hierarchy; surviving and very impressive to see are a central court surrounded with columned arcades, off which are two swimming pools, two cold rooms, a sweating room, hot water baths and elaborate latrines. The hypocaust heating system is revealed in parts. Very near by is the Theatre and, while still impressive today, its auditorium was originally much bigger and held over 15000 spectators. The hub of the town spreads out beyond the central area, where colonnaded stone-floored streets have evidence of trade establishments and shopkeepers along their sides. Continuing on, you arrive at the Temple of Zeus. Farther on again (well beyond the timeline of Augustus by now), there is evidence of Christianity taking hold in the Roman Empire. Firstly the remains of the sizeable Kampanopetra Basilica, including a surviving intricate opus sectile mosaic floor. Secondly there is the Agios Epiphanius Basilica which is even more extensive, though perhaps awaiting more detailed modern day excavation. Both of these edifices date from the 4th Century AD. Then there is the Vouta or water reservoir, a cistern building including the remains of 36 pillars, where water was collected and stored from a system of aqueducts. Then the olive oil production facility with its stone olive crushers and oil collectors. There's more of course, but I must move on! Salamis is well worth a visit but take a hat and lots of sun screen!

Salamis, as I've mentioned, is in the TRNC. In fact much of my historical exploration, so to speak, took place 'north of the border'. On the north coast, over the northern escarpment mountain range (variously and confusingly named!), is to be found the picturesque port of Kyrenia (Girne) with its substantial harbour-side castle. In fact the latter towers over the waterfront and it is thought its ancient origins lie in a desire to defend Kyrenia from Arab raids although attempts at putting a date to its commencement have proved inconclusive, excavations though suggesting Hellenistic-Roman traces back to the 7th Century BC. Richard the Lionheart took the castle in 1191, on his way back from the Third Crusade. It then almost immediately passed to the Knights Templar and equally quickly to Richard's cousin Guy de Lusignan, so beginning a 300 year period of Frankish Lusignan domination of Cyprus (1192-1489). The following centuries saw control of Kyrenia Castle pass successively to the Genoese, Venetians and Ottomans, its structure being much modified and enlarged as time rolled on. The thick fortified ramparts are impressive; the inner ward or courtyard is in these days green and verdant, a very pleasant place to sit and drink Turkish coffee (if that's your bag!) and chill-out. The layout allows for and is conducive to occasional theatrical performance in front of an audience.

The Lusignans must have been a nasty bunch if the castle dungeon displays are anything to go by! Very little is left to the imagination when depicting torture to enemies of the state during the reign of Peter I. The chain-bound unclad manikin dummies receiving their come-uppance proving far too realistic in every sense! Beware! It'll frighten the kids, and Mary Whitehouse! Much of the rest that is to be seen in this fine ancient monument is much more edifying. It includes the Shipwreck Museum in which are the remains of a wooden-hulled trading vessel presented Mary Rose-style, i.e. in a controlled air-conditioned humidified environment; if nothing else, it's worth going in to see it if only for some relief from the heat outside! The boat dates from 300 BC and was discovered in 1967 by a local diver, much of its cargo of almonds, grain, wine and millstones being recovered at the same time, all of which is also on display, including many intact amphorae. And, there is much more at the castle I haven't got space to mention.

Back into the mountains behind Kyrenia, on another day, I drove with my daughter to visit the ruins of the Gothic structure which is Bellapais Abbey. Whilst the environs of this 'attraction' are a bit touristy, entry to the

remains of the Augustine monastery here will not disappoint. I'll perhaps not go into too much detail but what is to be seen today is a mixture of impressive surviving structure and parts lost to destruction. The founding Augustinian monks had fled Palestine following the fall of Jerusalem to the Saracen Saladin in 1187. Much of the building work was actually undertaken in the period late 13th to early 14th Centuries, during the reigns of Lusignion Kings Hugh III and Hugh IV. A bit of background to the name perhaps: Bellapais (which may look to some to be leaning towards Spanish!) is in fact a later corruption of Abbaye de la Paix. If you go there take the opportunity to eat at the adjacent open air Turkish Cypriot restaurant, for the food of course, but also the spectacular views from this vantage point down the hillside to the coast; or gaze the other way, over your 'meze', onto the Abbey's impressive cypress-lined open but cloistered courtyard.

The final principal historic site I will mention is St Hilarion Castle, high up in the northern coastal range; i.e. yet again a site to be found in the TRNC. I visited here almost at the end of my stay in Cyprus, on a day which was once again extremely hot and sunny, inevitably in the mid to high 30s. I mention this particularly at this juncture because any reader who may have been to St Hilarion will know two things: firstly, to take in absolutely everything on offer involves a significant amount of climbing, some up numerous series of steps, some in fact up fairly rough terrain, and secondly, the temperature at the 'summit' is likely to be a few degrees cooler (relatively) compared to that on arrival. To properly understand why this ancient castle site is of such interest and fascination really you need to find yourself there (so, I suggest you go, as soon as possible!), standing at the entrance low down on the hillside, looking up to the full height and complexity of the various revetment construction that awaits, this seemingly tortuously intertwined into the rising topography all the way up from the barbican at the start, to the feature at the eventual top known as the Western Tower. This is very near the actual peak of 'the mountain' which at 732m involves a climb of say 300m (i.e. from castle entrance), if you make it, to get there. Not for the faint-hearted as the last few metres effectively have to be scrambled; but the view when you succeed is astonishing! Much of the structure is not in fact apparent unless you set about the climb as parts of it, it turns out, blend into the nooks and crannies of the rocky landscape.

Similar to Kyrenia, Castle it is thought the origins of St Hilarion were as a defence against Arab invasion. It is known that Richard I acknowledged the existence of the fortress when on the island in 1191 and considerable development of the site was to follow, as at Kyrenia, under the Lusignans. In reality the castle was built in three sections, each on different levels: briefly, the first housed the garrison and workers; the second comprised basically an eye-catching Byzantine church (in fact dating from the 10th C), also royal apartments, associated servant facilities and a barracks; the third was essentially the Lusignan period royal rooms and an internal garden. For those wondering, the name derives not from St Hilarion the Great, the founder of monasticism in Palestine, and who died near Paphos circa 371 AD, but after a later little known sainted monk who is thought to have retired to the hill top to live the life of a hermit.

During my stay, Louise, Simon and I spent a weekend 'away' in the north east of the island, on the Karpas Peninsula or, as it is otherwise known, the 'Pan Handle'. We stopped at the very traditional Arch House Hotel in Dipkarpaz should anyone know it. This trip could warrant a piece all on its own! Included were a visit to Apostolos Andreas Monastery, and the ruins of the small but interesting Agios Philon Byzantine Church (with lots of lizards, big and small!), which is right next to a delightful little secluded cliff top beach bar serving 'Efes', a fine Turkish bottled beer officially only obtainable in the northern territory, unless you know how to get hold of it 'south of the border'! Ways and means!

I've not even mentioned the Troodos Mountains (where it snows in winter!) in the south of the Republic of Cyprus and a visit there to the historic hillside Greek Cypriot village of Lefkara with its colourfully painted housing (mostly bright shades of blue), a splendid Orthodox church and the local lace making and silversmith traditions, and the exquisite bijou museum there to show these off. And, if you know where to look, evidence of EOKA activity back in the 50's etched into the hillsides nearby. Nor the evidence, here and there, of Cypriot steam railways (built of course by the British) in times long gone! There is no rail network of any sort now.

I shall be going again.

Keith Billington

Staffordshire & Stoke on Trent Archive Service

The following events are being run by the SSTAS. Any Member who is interested should apply directly to them.

Handwriting for Wills and Inventories: 6 weekly sessions beginning Wednesday 19 January 2011
Led by Dr. Dudley Fowkes, at Lichfield Library, 2.30pm - 4.00pm. Course fee £13.00
Booking essential, contact Lichfield Record Office 01543 510720

A Sense of Place: sources for local and community history. 8 weekly sessions beginning
Wednesday, January 26 2011 at Stafford Record Office, 2.30pm to 4.00pm. Course fee £16.00
Booking essential, contact Stafford Record Office 01785 278380

Lichfield's History through the Archives: 3 talks by Andrew George:
Buildings in Lichfield Tuesday, February 1
Medicine and medical history in Lichfield, Tuesday, February 15
Politics and Government in Lichfield, Tuesday, 8 March
All at Lichfield Library, 2.30pm - 4.00pm
Booking essential, admission free, contact Lichfield Record Office 01543 510720

The 12th Annual Archive Day School: The Other Side of the Olympics - Culture in Staffordshire's Past.
Saturday, February 26th, 10am to 4pm at The Kingston Centre, Fairway, Stafford, ST16 3TW
Tickets: £12 to include Lunch and Refreshments. Contact Helen Legge at S.R.O., 01785 278380
Booking in advance only, limited availability.

Speakers:

Dr. Nigel Tringham:	Staffordshire Psalm Singers in the 18th & 19th centuries
Randle Knight:	Thomas Peplow Wood, Staffordshire Artist
Andrew Dobraszczyc:	Theatres in Newcastle
Kate Iles:	The amiable, unfortunate Mrs. B, Anna Seward and Sabrina Sidney
Dr. Chris Wakeling:	Staffordshire Architects

Betty Fox

New Publications

BAR 517 2010: *Birmingham Archaeology Monograph Series 5 The Great Hall, Wolverhampton: Elizabethan Mansion to Victorian Workshop Archaeological Investigations at Old Hall Street, Wolverhampton, 2000–2007* by Christopher Hewitson, Eleanor Ramsey, Michael Shaw, Malcolm Hislop and Richard Cuttler. ISBN 978 1 4073 0702 2. £35.00. vi+102 pages; illustrated in colour and black and white.

This report outlines the results of archaeological investigations at Old Hall Street, Wolverhampton, West Midlands, UK (NGR SO 916984), carried out between 2000 and 2007. The results of the archaeological work have been combined with documentary, cartographic and genealogical studies, together with finds and scientific analyses, to present a broad interpretation of the history of settlement in the area and the motives behind it. The site was the location of a moated Elizabethan mansion house, the Great Hall, which lay at the edge of the then settled area of Wolverhampton in an area that had once been part of the town fields. A documentary reference suggests that there was an earlier house on the site, but there is only limited archaeological evidence to support this. The building of the Great Hall was intended to make a clear statement about the status, wealth and prestige of its owners, the Leveson family, who were prominent Wolverhampton merchants, also involved in the early industrialisation of the Black Country. The aspirations of the family are clearly demonstrated by their construction of one of Staffordshire's most significant early brick buildings. The later history of the Great Hall mirrors that of the Black Country, for towards the end of the 18th century it was converted for use as a japanning factory, known as the Old Hall Works, artefacts from which were exhibited in the Great Exhibition of 1851. A large-scale map of 1852 gives a detailed insight into the layout of the japanning factory, which was finally demolished in 1883, an Adult Education College being built on the site in 1899. The archaeological excavations took place ahead of the redevelopment of the college. This report shows something of the process by which the Black Country attained its distinctive personality. Chapter 1 – Introduction; Chapter 2 –

Lichfield Cathedral Nave

Betty Fox and I attended a lecture by Dr. Jenny Alexander on the Lichfield Cathedral Nave at the Lichfield Visitor Centre. Her subject was the Nave of Lichfield Cathedral.

What was and is the Nave used for? In parish churches it is a meeting place, the fore-runner of today's Church Hall; the porch also served as a meeting place, a place for notices affecting the community; the porch also provided a space for the formal part of a wedding. Naves of cathedrals and parish churches can be vast spaces or very small. They all vary in size probably depending on the wealth of the local community at the time they were built.

Do cathedrals need all this nave space? It provides an area for services, with the East end being of liturgical significance; the choir provided space for monks with an uninterrupted view to the East. The Nave was normally an open space, with no altar or seating, partly used by the clergy and partly by the laity. Liturgically the Nave is unnecessary but is often used by a congregation. There is no cathedral congregation as such – people used their own parish churches – but these same people became associated with the cathedral. Pre the Reformation the nave's open space was used for celebrations, special events, masses and great occasions. Often the space was managed with an orderly one-way system and "with the weakest going to the wall" where there were stone seats for those unable to stand for a long time.

It is usual for a cathedral nave to consist of 8-10 bays (a bay is the section of an arcade between two consecutive pillars). However there is no fixed size. The current Lichfield Cathedral nave is the second on the site with a single entrance through the great West Door. The original Anglo-Saxon Church (Headda's Church of c 700) was at the east end of the current nave, approximately where the Nave Altar and platform now stand. It probably had projecting side chapels... Subsequent buildings enclosed their predecessors, a bit like a series of Russian Dolls, until we see the present three storey nave with rich ornamentation and with vault shafts coming down through everything from top to bottom.

The Norman Nave (c 1100) can only be glimpsed at the west end of the Cathedral. Transepts indicate that the Norman Nave was still standing when the later structure was erected. Buttresses are squeezed in the crossing as there is a 7 inch difference in the width of the South and North Transepts. The east end was reworked early in 12th Century and it is assumed that the Nave was finished before the West End was started. Building techniques suggest that there was a need for a front to support the vaulting.

A large restoration project was begun by the 70 year old Bishop Hackett, after the Civil War had caused much damage. In 1665 the nave roof was replaced, the original having been badly damaged when the spire was felled by cannon fire. The roof of the South Transept was lowered, hiding a Catherine window which can be seen from the outside. This was an economic measure as shorter timbers were required. In the Nave the roof vaulting is missing a transverse rib, an important support; this supporting roof was not effective (this led to changes in the roof design).

The design of the Nave follows designs used in other cathedrals. In Lincoln there are decorations in the spandrels and vaults. Lichfield has these in the form of cinquefoils and quatrefoils (spandrel = surface between two arches; vault/vaulting = arched roof, ceiling or arched like structure with ribs radiating from a central point; cinquefoil = a five lobed ornamental filling or cut-out for an arch or circle; quatrefoil = four lobed ditto). Lincoln Cathedral has bar tracery and a large West Window and Lichfield follows suit. (Bar Tracery = one of the earliest forms of ornamental stonework). The spherical triangles in the Clerestory of Lichfield's Nave are similar to those at Westminster Abbey (spherical triangles = curved sided triangles; clerestory = the upper story of a nave pierced by windows for increased light in the nave).

In 2003, excavations led by Warwick Rodwell revealed the remains of St. Chad's Shrine at the east end of the Nave, which remained important as a sacred site. It was here that the Lichfield Angel was discovered. This is thought to be the end of a reliquary containing some of the bones of St. Chad. It has been dated to the 7th/8th Centuries, a similar date to the Staffordshire Hoard and St. Chad's Gospels.

Jenny Alexander left us with much food for thought and an insight into the Nave of one of the jewels in Lichfield's crown.

Diane Wilkes.

LECTURE SEASON 2011

All Meetings are held at The St Mary's Centre, Market Place, Lichfield and start at 8.00pm unless otherwise specified.

18th February 2011

Ian Bapty

Recent Neolithic and Bronze Age Discoveries in the Welsh Borders: Rediscovering the Ancient Origins of the West Midlands.

This is a return visit for Ian Bapty who will need no introduction and his talk tonight will plunge into prehistory and include such discoveries as *The Rotherwas Ribbon* amongst others.

4th March 2011

Chris Upton

Workhouses in the West Midlands

Chris Upton's main interests lie in the Social and Cultural History of the West Midlands. Workhouses fall within this interest area. Chris has produced a number of publications not least "A History of Lichfield".

The talk tonight will introduce the Society to the Poor Law in the West Midlands, the indoor and the outdoor poor, the change from parish to union workhouses, where the workhouses were, what paupers ate etc.

18th March 2011

Matthew Fitzjohn

Iron Age Sicily

Matthew Fitzjohn is Lecturer in the Archaeology of the Iron Age. His main interests lie in the Mediterranean, particular emphasis with Greece and Italy focussing in on Sicily.

Sicily is the subject of the talk tonight and will present Landscape and Identity in Iron Age Sicily

1st April 2011

Jan Wills

Iron Age Beckford

Jan Wills is County Archaeologist in Gloucestershire managing the County Archaeological Service. Jan directed the excavation at Beckford in Worcestershire. The Beckford excavation the subject of the talk tonight was

carried out in advance of gravel extraction (a rescue dig!) revealing an extensive Iron Age settlement together with some later Roman activity.

15th April 2011

Ian Wykes

The Staffordshire Hoard

The talk tonight does not need any introduction. The Hoard has probably been foremost in our minds for the past year.

Ian (Staffordshire County Council) Leader of the County Historic Environment Team was involved along with Steve Dean (Staffordshire County Council) amongst others in the recovery of the largest hoard of Anglo-Saxon gold ever found and will present the talk to us.

29th April 2011

Beverley Rogers

The Reverend William MacGregor – Egypt Exploration Society – Collector

MacGregor was a local man (Bolehall Tamworth) and he amassed one of the finest collections of Egyptian Antiquities known. The talk tonight will touch on how MacGregor acquired the collection and examines the museum's legacy in furthering the understanding of ancient Egypt. It will also look at MacGregor's life and his involvement with Tamworth Hospital and the restoration of Tamworth Castle.

Beverley herself is a graduate of Swansea in Egyptology currently working on a PhD on Victorian Collectors, MacGregor being one her targets.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Rates remain the same as last year: Single Member £16.50; Family Member £23; Student/Unwaged (but not those in receipt of a retirement pension) £11 and were due from September 1st. You may send a cheque, payable to the Society – S.A.H.S. will suffice – to Mrs. F.E. Fox, 6, Lawson Close, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 0RX or pay at a Lecture Meeting.

STAFFORDSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP 2010/11

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I/We enclose for my/our Subscription for the year 2010/11 for Single/Joint/Student or Unwaged.

Please send to Mrs F E Fox, 6 Lawson Close, Aldridge, Walsall, WS9 0RX or bring to the next Meeting.

GIFT AID DECLARATION

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Choosing to Gift Aid the Subscription or donations you make to the SAHS will allow the Society, which enjoys Charitable status, to reclaim from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs the basic rate of Income Tax paid on the amount of those subscriptions or donations without any cost to you, the Member. It is only necessary to fill the form in once.

To do this you must be a UK Income Tax/Capital Gains Tax payer and have paid an amount at least equal to the tax the Society reclaims in the Tax Year concerned.

Declaration:

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I would like the Staffordshire Archaeological & Historical Society (SAHS) to treat as Gift Aid all Subscriptions and Donations I make from the Date of this Declaration.

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Please return to the Honorary Treasurer, Keith Billington, 4 Gainsbrook Crescent, Norton Canes, Cannock. WS11 9TN or by hand at a Meeting.

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