

From the *Transactions* of the
Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society

Society Pages

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Society Notes

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Hon. Reviews Editor:

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Gloucestershire Record Office, Clarence Row, Alvin Street, Gloucester GL1 3DW

Hon. Membership and Subscription Secretary:

MRS J.C. PERRY
10 Alney Terrace, Alney Island, Gloucester GL1 2RZ

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REPORT OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING FOR 1994

The 118th Annual General Meeting was held in the Apostle Room of the Cathedral of St. Peter and St. Paul, Clifton, Bristol, on Saturday 19 March 1994. Seventy-three members and several guests were present; twenty-four apologies for absence had been received.

The Hon. General Secretary presented the report of Council, which was duly adopted. The former Secretary, now Chairman, of the Committee for Archaeology in Gloucestershire presented the annual report of the Committee, which was adopted. The Hon. Treasurer presented the audited accounts. He felt that a rise in subscription rates could not be delayed much longer; the Society's subscription levels had been raised only three times since 1876 and were well below those for neighbouring county societies. In response to questions he stated that it is a principal responsibility of county societies to publish articles, reports and historical records, and that he strongly supported the tradition of this Society of keeping its subscriptions low enough to permit the benefits of membership to be available as widely as possible. The annual accounts were adopted.

In proposing Canon Brian Carne as President for 1994-5 Professor Branigan noted his lifelong interest in the history of the parishes in which he had served and his interest in conserving historic buildings. Canon Carne was elected by acclamation, and presided over the remainder of the meeting. He proposed the election of Bernard Rawes F.S.A. as President-elect, and the three existing vice-Presidents, officers and members of Council as nominated by the Council, all of whom were duly elected. In so doing he thanked retiring officers and members of Council for their work.

The retiring President delivered a thoughtful address offering alternative interpretations to some recently advanced views on the impact of the Roman occupation, accompanied by carefully selected illustrations. Members then enjoyed yet another excellent tea prepared by Mrs. Morris and her helpers.

118th REPORT OF THE COUNCIL (FOR 1993)

It is unusual to begin this report by referring to an event not part of the Society's activities. However the signal honour accorded during the year to our most cherished member cannot be permitted to pass unrecorded. On 9 July 1993 the University of Bristol conferred upon Miss Ralph the degree of Doctor of Letters *honoris causa*. Professor Peter Warren, our former vice-President, now a pro-vice-chancellor of the University, was the public orator. His elegant address perfectly captured the essence of Miss Ralph's contribution to the City and the University. The Council and the Society congratulate Dr. Ralph on this rare distinction so richly merited.

On 31 December 1993 the Society comprised 1,002 members, being 704 ordinary members, 75 associates, 89 life members, two honorary members and 132 institutions of which 50 are located overseas. The total number has dropped by twelve since 1992 but has now remained at more than one thousand for the last six years.

Since the last A.G.M. the deaths of 12 members have been notified: Miss Barbara Bailey (1972), Mrs. N.J. Byard (1978), R.J. Chamberlaine-Brothers (1973), P.A. Couzens (1970),

J.P. Dodd (1976), R.W. Emes (1959), P.I. Greening (1968), Mrs. D.A.R. Keen (1976), Miss M.B. Long (1973), M.P. St. J. Mildmay (1979), Mrs. A.M. Phillips (a recent member) and Miss Jeanette Ralph (1963). It is also appropriate to note the death of Mrs. Rosamund Gurney who had been an active member of the Society for more than 20 years until forced by ill health to resign.

The Council met four times during the year under the Chairmanship of Sir George White. The three committees which meet on the morning of Council also met four times, but, as usual, the Library Committee met in Gloucester on only three occasions.

The Library continued to benefit from the work of several volunteers, carefully directed by the Chairman of the Library Committee Dr. C. Aeschlimann and the Hon. Librarian G. Baker. As a result it is now in better shape than it has been for many years. The regular programme of binding was supplemented by specialist restoration of selected antiquarian volumes. The leaflet describing the Library and listing its runs of journals was revised and re-issued. A rare almost complete set of *Transactions* of the Woolhope Club was purchased at auction, filling a major gap in the Society's holdings of journals of neighbouring societies. The last batch of duplicate and surplus volumes was sold. The remaining manuscripts owned by the Society were transferred to the Gloucestershire Record Office on deposit, to join those already held there, and a definitive catalogue of them was produced.

The co-ordination of the listed building consent advice continued through the C.B.A. at York despite the departure of Kate Clark which caused the cancellation of the building conservation seminar planned for September. Further instances came to light of work affecting important sites for which proper planning application had not been made. The accuracy and impartiality of archaeological investigations commissioned by intending developers was brought into question at the public enquiry into the proposed landfill development at Tockington Park in North Avon. A proposal to up-rate the Cotswold Way to a national trail which would involve re-routing the path across sensitive sites, including Painswick Beacon, was offered for consultation by the Countryside Commission. Pressure by central government on local authority spending caused a restructuring of the curatorial staff at Bristol Museum, putting at risk not merely current archaeological work, but also the publication of much investigation which had taken place over the last two decades. An unfilled vacancy at Gloucester Museum aroused similar concerns. Proposals to alter the structure of local government made by the Local Government Commission posed a potential threat to countywide specialist services such as archaeology and archives. On all these and other lesser issues the Council made representations during the year, guided by the advice of the Excavations and Buildings Committee under the chairmanship of Christopher Bishop. Despite the professionalisation of archaeology in recent decades, the experience of your Council is that the county societies such as ours retain a vital role in protecting the archaeology and antiquities of our area, and with the continuing withdrawal of government funding for local authority archaeology units that role is certain to gain in importance.

Much of this activity for Gloucestershire is now undertaken through the Society's Committee for Archaeology in Gloucestershire, for which a separate report will follow in a few moments. However, the Council wishes at this point formally to thank Ian Standing, who resigned as Chairman of the Committee at the beginning of 1993, for his work in this field. It is a tribute to him that for several meetings no permanent successor could be found; Council is grateful that Mr. Kilminster, formerly Secretary to the Committee, has now agreed to be its Chairman; his role as Secretary has been taken by John Paddock of the Corinium Museum.

Volume 6 of the Gloucestershire Record Series was published in September despite unusual difficulties. During final preparation, three successive copies of marked-up proofs of the

introduction were lost in the post, the incinerated remains of the last being returned to the volume editor by the Post Office early in May. The Society's printers eventually received the final proofs on 1 August and delivered the books on 7 September. The *Military Survey* is the first volume in the Series not advertised in the inaugural prospectus, and the first to be produced by a scholar of national repute in his chosen field. Reviews are awaited with interest. The text of the 1994 volume – *Tewkesbury Churchwardens' Accounts 1563–1624* – failed to arrive in November. The first instalment eventually appeared in mid-February leaving just sufficient time to publish the volume in October, so the Society's agreed programme of publication will take place as advertised. The Series continues to attract new members to the Society. At 31 December 1993 the total of 326 members subscribing to it comprised 259 individuals and 67 institutions with, in addition, about twelve standing orders from non-member institutions. Institutional membership of the Society as a whole has increased by about 30% since the Record Series was founded.

The Editor of the *Transactions* Mr. George Boon again furnished an excellent volume. So many articles of unimpeachable quality continue to be offered that there is now normally a delay of three years between acceptance and publication. After several years as Reviews Editor David Aldred was succeeded in that role by Dr. N.M. Herbert. In addition to his meticulous labours on the *Transactions* Mr. Boon has also undertaken to see through the press Mr. Price's monograph on the results of 30 years of excavation at Frocester which will be published during 1995 jointly with the Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies. Dr. Crossley Evans again produced two interesting issues of the *Newsletter*. The Society's programme of publication is overseen by the Publications Committee now under the Chairmanship of our former President Mr. Brian Smith, which also controls the stocks of previous publications. During 1993 Miss Markwick retired as stockholder and was succeeded by Mr. Richard Smout. The Council is grateful to all those members who displayed publications at meetings or helped to sell them in other ways.

The Society's lectures and meetings programmes have continued to be well-supported and much appreciated. In the autumn Northern Section lectures had to be re-located during the temporary closure of the Gloucestershire Record Office and one lecture had to be re-arranged at short notice. Despite the disappointment and inconvenience caused to some members for which the Council proffers its apologies, these events were well-attended. The most ambitious foreign meeting so far attempted – to Greece – was a triumphant success and Mrs. Campbell and Mr. Somerville and their helpers are congratulated by the Council. The Bristol lectures have settled happily into their latest venue. Dr. Crossley Evans has almost completed his sixth full season as Bristol Secretary and can no longer continue; Council is grateful to him for arranging interesting programmes throughout that time despite many difficulties. Lists of all meetings and lectures for 1993 will be published in the *Transactions*. The Council also thanks those members, too numerous to mention, who assist the work of the Society in all sorts of ways and without whose efforts that work could not continue.

For the Society to function properly it needs to have the right people in the right posts, especially in a handful of pivotal positions at the heart of the Society's affairs. One such post is that of Membership Secretary, filled with distinction for the past ten years by Mrs. Joyce Morris who now wishes to retire. She took on those duties after a period of vacancy during which membership records had got into arrears and she patiently and efficiently sorted out the ensuing difficulties. She has dealt tactfully with large volumes of correspondence, with fluctuating exchange rates and with a change in subscription levels. Her duties also include reconciling bank statements with standing order subscription payments, monitoring the Society's cash books, receiving and analysing income from sales of publications, issuing reminders to late

payers, providing quarterly reports on membership to Council and annual statistics, and, of recent years, issuing Library membership cards. The Council is fortunate that Mrs. Jackie Perry has agreed to take on these duties.

It is fitting to conclude this report by expressing the profound gratitude of the Council and of the membership at large to Mrs. Joyce Morris for all her work over the last ten years.

D.J.H.S.

MEETINGS FOR 1993

Lectures in Bristol

- 'John Innys (1695–1778) of Redland and London and his system of Cosmography', by Dr. Helen Wallis.
 'The Roman Catholic community in Bristol in the first half of the nineteenth century', by Miss Pamela Gilbert.
 'Bristol encompassed: the life, employment and writings of Joseph Perry Distin (1844–1898)', by Dr. M.J. Crossley Evans.
 'Recent excavations on Wood Hall Moated Manor', by Mr. Simon J.N. Tomson.

Lectures in Gloucester

- 'The archaeology and history of medieval Cotswold sheep farming', by Dr. C.C. Dyer.
 'Bristol and the Civil War', by Dr. R.E. Hutton.
 'Monastic life at St. Peter's Abbey from the *Historia*', by Mr. W. Barber.
 'The Civil War in Gloucestershire 1642–1646', by Mr. Peter Bloomfield.

Field Meetings

- April 24 Abbey Dore and Treago Castle (Northern section).
 May 5–11 Guernsey, visiting Guernsey Museum, the Liberation celebrations at St. Peter Port, Castle Cornet, Victor Hugo's house, Les Fouaillages, La Platte Mare, La Varde, Dehus Dolman, Les Trepieds & Creux Dolman chambered tombs, St. Apollines Chapel, Catel Church, the Occupation Museum, Fort Grey & the outside of Vale Castle & a martello tower, the 15th-century manor house at La Rocque Balan, Duvaux Farm & Sausmarez Manor, the menhirs at St. Martins & Catel. Visits were also made to Herm and Jersey, seeing St. Brelade's Church (wall-paintings), the Neolithic site at the Pinnacle, La Hougue Bie chambered tomb, Mont Orgueil Castle & Jersey Museum.
 May 22 Salisbury Cathedral, Museum and Close; Rockbourne Roman Villa.
 June 9 Banwell and Wrington Churches (Bristol section).
 July 19–23 Wroxeter and Segontium Roman sites, Cymmer Abbey, Llanaber, Clynnog Fawr, Pistyll, Llangwnnadr & Aberdaron Churches, St. Cybi's Well, Criccieth, Carnarfon, Conwy, Harlech & Powis Castles, Portmeirion, the Lloyd George Museum, Dyffryn Ardudwy chambered tomb.
 September 11 Wells Museum, where the President gave a lecture on 'Romano-British cave use', Wells Cathedral, Wookey Hole.
 October 8–21 Greece, visiting Athens, Delphi, Olympia, Nauplion, Tiryns, Epidaurus, Corinth, Mycenae, Mykonos, Delos, Kaisariani Monastery.

Details of some of these meetings can be found in the Society's *Newsletters*.

NEW MEMBERS JULY 1993–APRIL 1994

- Baker, G. MSc, ALA, 9 Littledown Road, Cheltenham GL53 9LW
Brazier, Mrs. J. BA, Old Orchard, The Ruffitt, Littledean GL14 3LF
Bridle, D.D., Belford House, Ross Road, Newent GL18 1BG
Bright, J.B., 92 Oxstalls Lane, Longlevens, Gloucester GL2 9HX
Brobyn, J., MISM, MRIPHH, AMRSH, 18 Nursery Road, Nutgrove, St. Helens, Merseyside WA9 5PS
Butler, E.J. MA, BSc, DPhil, PhD, CChem, FRSC, 2 The Paddocks, Church Lane, Bledington, Chipping Norton OX7 6XB
- Chudley, Mrs. S., Catherine Villa, Gloucester Road, Stone, Berkeley GL13 9LA
Close, R.E., BA, MPhil, FSA Scot, 1 Craigbrae Cottage, Drongan, Ayr KA6 7EN
- Dearman, R., 1 New Cottages, Longborough, Moreton-in-Marsh GL56 0QU
Duckworth, Mrs. J.S., Moonrakers, Tait's Hill, Stinchcombe GL11 6PS
- Ecott, B., 30 Ewellhurst Road, Clayhall, Ilford, Essex IG5 0PD
- Gill, S., MA, 22 Hanbury Road, Clifton, Bristol BS8 2EP
Griffiths, C., Penycae, Llangorse, Nr. Brecon, Powys LD3 7UG
- Izod, A.V., 11 Salterley Grange, Leckhampton Hill, Cheltenham GL53 9QW
- Kennedy, Mrs. J., 13 Fosseway Court, The Fosseway, Clifton, Bristol BS8 4EH
- Lory-Allen, P.J., Laddenvean, 77 Wembdon Hill, Bridgwater, Somerset TA6 7QA
Lovell, Miss R., 22 Rosling Road, Horfield, Bristol BS7 8SX
- Middleton, Mrs. B., Flat 6, 14–16 Canynge Road, Clifton, Bristol BS8 3JX
Moore-Scott, T., 326 Old Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 9AL
- Pidgeon, Miss L., 42 Osborne Street, Swindon, Wilts SN2 1DA
Portman, D.R., Applefields House, Lippetts Way, Catcott, Bridgwater, Somerset
Powell, H.J. BSc, 101 Old Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7DA
- Rippon, S. BA PhD, Archaeology Dept, University of Reading, Whiteknights Park, Reading RG6 2AA
- Stewart, Mrs. R.J., Donnywell Cottage, Brockhampton, Cheltenham GL54 5XQ
Stoyel, A.D. FSA, 5 Lypiatt Mews, Cheltenham GL50 2QP
- Walker, Mrs. P.H. BA ALA MI InfSc, 25 St Albans Road, Westbury Park, Bristol BS6 7SF
Wickens, C.F. MA, 43 Wynyards Close, Tewkesbury GL20 5QZ

NEW SUBSCRIBING INSTITUTIONS

Bristol Record Office, B Bond Warehouse, Smeaton Road, Bristol BS1 6XN

Cheltenham Family History Centre, c/o 7 Keswick Close, Longlevens, Gloucester GL2 9JZ

New York University, Elmer Holmes Bobst Library, 70 Washington Square South, New York
100212, USA

Royal Forest of Dean Family History Society, c/o Bells Hotel, Lords Hill, Coleford GL16 8BD

BRISTOL & GLOUCESTERSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

ACCOUNTS

Income & Expenditure Account for the year ended 31.12.93

		1993	1992
<i>Income</i>			
Subscriptions		4,648	5,175
Sales of Publications		360	1,953
Investment Income, bank interest and tax reclaim		9,538	10,370
		<u>£14,546</u>	<u>£17,498</u>
<i>Expenditure</i>			
Publications			
Transactions vol. 110		9,172	9,445
Less grant towards		(188)	(324)
		<u>8,984</u>	<u>9,121</u>
Library			
Grants & subscriptions			
Berkeley Archives Appeal	250		
Misc.	<u>6</u>	256	560
Special purchases	516		
Other expenditure	1,530		
Less book sales	<u>(20)</u>		
		2,026	1,365
Administration			
Printing & Stationery	629		
Officers' Expenses	1,111		
Miscellaneous Admin.	<u>624</u>	2,364	2,488
Newsletter		1,126	797
		<u>£14,756</u>	<u>£14,331</u>
<i>Excess of Expenditure over Income</i>		(210)	3,167
Sale of Library books		-	60
General Fund at 31.12.92 b.fwd.		<u>160,188</u>	<u>156,961</u>
<i>General Fund at 31.12.93</i>		<u>£159,978</u>	<u>£160,188</u>

BRISTOL & GLOUCESTERSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Balance Sheet as at 31.12.93

	1993	1992
<i>Assets</i>		
Investments at cost	129,092	129,092
Bank and deposit balances	26,708	29,187
Debtors	924	1,435
Amount due from Records Section	4,132	1,380
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£160,856	£161,094
	<hr/>	<hr/>
representing :-		
<i>General Fund</i>		
as at 31.12.93	159,978	160,188
<i>Creditors</i>		
Amount held for Ditches (N. Cerney) excav.	338	906
Creditors	540	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£160,856	£161,094
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Investments at 31.12.93</i>	<i>Cost</i>	<i>Market Value</i>
£21,828 9¼% Exchequer Stock 1998	20,000	24,933
£10,344 9¼% Treasury Loan 1999	10,000	11,982
31,000 Charishare units	50,127	70,835
5,741 Charities Official Inv. Fund units	30,000	40,229
10,000 Edinburgh Investment Trust ordy. shares	18,965	34,350
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	£129,092	£182,329
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Notes: 1. No value is placed on the Society's library or stock of publications.
2. Income is credited as received.

RECORDS SECTION YEAR ENDED 31.12.93

	OS	NS	Total
<i>Income</i>			
Subscriptions	–	3,254	3,254
Sales of publications	125	1,153	1,278
	<u>125</u>	<u>4,407</u>	<u>4,532</u>
<i>Expenditure</i>			
Printing vol 6		5,765	5,765
Despatch		648	648
Brochures		170	170
Editorial expenses		701	701
materials for vol 8(?) (Gloucester Acta)			
		<u>(7,284)</u>	<u>(7,284)</u>
<i>Excess of Expenditure over Income</i>			(2,752)
General fund at 31.12.92			(921)
			<u>(£3,673)</u>
<i>General Fund at 31.12.93</i>			<u>(£3,673)</u>
<i>represented by:</i>			
Amount due to General Funds of the Society			(4,132)
Bank balances			459
			<u>(£3,673)</u>

Report to the Members of the Bristol & Gloucestershire Archaeological Society

We have examined the accounts of the Society for the year ended 31 December 1993 which are in accordance with the books and records produced to us.

KPMG Peat Marwick
Chartered Accountants
Bristol, March 1994

COMMITTEE FOR ARCHAEOLOGY IN GLOUCESTERSHIRE

17th Annual Report 1993

The Committee met five times during the year and discussed various matters relating to the archaeology of the County. The subject that received most attention during 1993 was the Local Government Commission's review of the County's local authority structure. Following publication of their Report in June, the Committee responded highlighting three points: our concern at the lack of any mention of archaeology in the Report; the need to ensure that the proposed unitary authorities have proper archaeological representation; our concern regarding the effects of reorganisation upon the Sites and Monuments Record and the County Record Office. The letter also mentioned the local authority museums and the Committee's strong feeling that these should receive continued support. The Commission have now recommended to the Secretary of State that there should be no change to the structure of Gloucestershire.

The Committee has also spent some time this year, discussing and updating the unpublished excavations list. This was first compiled in 1987 and is a list of excavations in the County that have never been fully written up and published. Since 1987, some of those excavations listed have been published and further information discovered about others. This made it essential to update the list and this is now ongoing. The updated version will note where publication has occurred or if no further publication is necessary. Other known unpublished excavations that have recently come to light will also be added.

The proposed upgrading of the Cotswold Way to National Trail status was discussed and a submission made to the Project Officers. We stressed that during their next planning phase, there should be detailed archaeological consultation. The proposed routes run close to or directly through a number of archaeological sites and ancient monuments and any threats to these, or opportunities to interpret them, should be fully considered. The greatest concern was the increased threat of erosion, which is already causing significant damage at sites such as Painswick Beacon.

Our regular look at planning matters and the news and views exchange provided the Committee with the opportunity to share information and raise issues of concern. After a twelve month lull, the number of planning applications appears to be increasing again, suggesting a revived economy – but threatening to the archaeology. The County Archaeology Section continue to monitor such applications, undertake desk top assessments, evaluations, watching briefs and excavations where necessary.

The Cotswold Archaeological Trust also had an active year. Their Roman Small Towns project continues and when complete, will provide an essential guide to the results of excavations at Kingscote, Wycomb and Bourton-on-the-Water.

Major excavations continued at Frocester, Wortley and Crickley Hill where it was the 25th season of digging. The first volumes of the excavation report are due out in 1994.

Annual Symposium

The 16th Annual Symposium was held at St. Michael's Hall in Bishop's Cleeve on 13 November. Sixty-three people attended to hear talks on Iron Age and Romano-British Cleeve, medieval Gotherington, Crickley Hill, garden archaeology and updates on recent work done by the County Archaeology Section, the Cotswold Archaeological Trust, Gloucester City Excavation Unit and at Wortley Roman Villa. The Gotherington Local History Society is to be thanked for its help with the organisation of the Symposium, particularly for the catering, and the Committee is again grateful to all the speakers who attended.

Archaeological Heritage Code

This leaflet was finally published in the spring and distributed to museums, the local authority planning departments, archaeology units and interested individuals. It is designed to give basic guidance on the care and maintenance of ancient monuments and archaeological sites for landowners and visitors.

Archaeological Review for 1993

This annual review of archaeological work undertaken in the County was prepared by Bernard Rawes and published in the *Transactions* (above, pp. 195–214). The Committee once again thanks Mr. Rawes for his continued dedication and hard work in compiling the Review. Contributions are always welcome from archaeologists, societies or museums.

Membership

The Committee welcomed three new members this year. Martin Ecclestone joined as the new Secretary of GADARG. Helen Okell, who is covering Guy Kilminster's work at Cheltenham Art Gallery and Museum for 18 months, attended her first meeting in March and Jill David, the new Dean Archaeological Group Representative, joined the Committee in July. Malcolm Atkin resigned from the Committee following his appointment as the new County Archaeologist for Hereford and Worcester. Mr Atkin played an active role in the work of the Committee whilst he was in Gloucester and we are most grateful to him for this contribution. There were two other changes to the membership with Stephen Ball leaving the area and Stephen Clews becoming a Corresponding Member. At the beginning of the year Ian Standing resigned as Chairman. The Committee thanked him for all his hard work in chairing CAG for six years. A successor was not elected, so at each meeting a different Chairman was nominated for the period of that particular meeting. Guy Kilminster was re-elected as Honorary Secretary. Elizabeth Bishop continued her role as minuting secretary and the Committee is most grateful to her for this continued contribution to its work.

Finances

Administrative costs for 1993 were £133.66. These were met by the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society. The Annual Symposium made a profit of £127.18. At the end of the year the Committee's balance stood at £416.95. £67.76 remains in the Mobile Exhibition Fund. Mr G. Leighton continued to assist with the Committee's financial affairs and we are most grateful to him for this help and advice.

Guy J. Kilminster
Honorary Secretary

Obituaries

DR ARTHUR BASIL COTTLE, MA, PhD, FSA
17 March 1917–13 May 1994

Dr. Basil Cottle was a distinguished medieval scholar; an antiquarian, lecturer and champion of the Church of England. He was a passionate Welshman, developing his love of rugby and the Welsh language from his maternal grandfather, who had the distinction of marketing the first international rugby union programme in 1905. Dr. Cottle was brought up in a family of Primitive Methodists, and, on his paternal side, he was the grandson and great-grandson of local preachers, who between them completed over one hundred years of service to the Church. His paternal grandfather travelled over ten thousand miles on foot, preaching the gospel in numerous chapels and mission halls.

In 1942 Dr. Cottle was baptized into the Church of England, and abandoned most aspects of his former creed, but remained a militant advocate of total abstinence. Dr. Cottle became a champion of the liturgy of Cranmer and of the Authorised Version of the Bible. He was a member of the Prayer Book Society and served successively as Church Warden of St. Paul's Clifton (the University Chaplaincy), St. George's Brandon Hill, and as Warden of St. Ewen's, which was demolished in the early 19th century but continued to elect wardens, attached to Christ Church, Broad Street. As a member of the Diocesan Advisory Committee, he championed the cause of small congregations against the diocesan clergy and bureaucrats, whose strict adherence to financial considerations often obscured their appreciation of spiritual matters. As a member of the Council for the Preservation of Ancient Bristol he championed many endangered buildings, often against rapacious and insensitive developers.

He was educated at Howard Gardens' Secondary School in Cardiff, and at University College, Cardiff, where he gained firsts in Latin and English and a second in Greek. In 1938 he took his teaching diploma and after a spell at Cowbridge Grammar School he was drafted into the army, where his poor feet and eyesight won him a place in the Army Pioneer Corps. In 1943, he was recruited by the Foreign Office to work with the 'Enigma' Team at Bletchley Park, breaking German cypher, and after VE Day was transferred to head the Albanian Section, teaching himself Albanian in six weeks, and subsequently writing a Foreign Office grammar for internal use.

In 1946, he was engaged by Professor D.G. James as Lecturer in the Department of English at the University of Bristol, where he remained until his retirement in 1980 as Reader in Mediaeval Studies. In retirement he continued to lecture in both the English and Extra-Mural Departments. As well as being a popular and committed university lecturer, he was sub-warden of Burwalls, one of the University's Halls of Residence, from 1948 until 1973.

He was well known for his many publications, which included the Bristol branch of the Historical Society's pamphlets on *Thomas Chatterton* (1963), *Robert Southey* (1980), and *Joseph Cottle* (1987), *The Penguin Dictionary of Surnames* (1967, enlarged in 1978), *The Triumph of English* (1969), *The Plight of English* (1975), which looked at the ambiguities and cacophonies in modern English, *Names* (1983), and *The Language of Literature; English Grammar in Action* (1985). Many received widespread critical acclaim and are on the compulsory reading lists for the study of English at a number of American universities.

Dr. Cottle originally intended to train as an archaeologist and never lost his enthusiasm for

the subject. He was an active member of the Folk House Archaeological Society and recently published a paper on the sculptured stonework and inscribed stones found at Keynsham Abbey (*Transactions of the Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society* 131, 1987) during the excavations of 1961 to 1985. He was elected an F.S.A. in 1979, and served as President of our Society in 1987/88. His presidential address on 'The Cult of Saints in Mediaeval Bristol and Gloucestershire' is in our *Transactions* Volume 106 (1988). His great interests were Anglo-Saxon and Irish archaeology, Mediaeval art, and the Cathedrals of the British Isles and of France. His active retirement was spent visiting all the cathedrals in France, and the draft of his book on the subject is currently being considered for publication.

His learning was always generously and freely available to scholars and laymen alike. His widespread skills enabled him to produce the world premiere of *Aella*, the tragic drama by Thomas Chatterton, the boy poet, which was produced by Colston's School on the bicentenary of Chatterton's death (1970). It allowed him to edit part of the diaries of the Welsh Nonconformist minister, Henry Maurice, part of whose itinerant journeys in Cheshire and Lancashire in 1671 were chronicled in the first account of Nonconformity in Wales. It also allowed him to write a critique of the poetry of the long forgotten Accrington poetess, Janie Whittaker (1877–1933).

On his 70th birthday, his friends, former students and colleagues recognised his contribution to teaching and scholarship by producing in his honour a Festschrift of notable and important scholarship. He was a great friend of our Society, and those of us who were privileged to attend the excursions which he organised as Meetings Secretary between 1978 and 1982 will remember them as being memorable occasions which combined little known places of historical interest, good food and good fellowship. We are all the poorer for his passing.

M.C.E.

GEORGE COUNSELL BOON, BA, FSA, FRHistS, FRNS
20 September 1927–31 August 1994

What follows is a shortened version of the funeral address by Professor William Manning, with a note on his work for the Society by David Smith.

George Boon began his professional career in 1950 in Reading Museum. There, among other responsibilities, he had charge of the great but almost totally neglected collection of material from Silchester. He stayed in Reading for a mere six years, but when he left he had made Silchester his own; cataloguing much of the collection; and, by a series of masterly excavations, opening a new phase in the study of the site; a phase which has continued, benevolently watched over by George, to the present day. His love of Silchester continued through all his years in Wales, and it was never really replaced in his affections by any other site. His books on Silchester were masterly summaries of a complex subject in which his lucid style, for he was a master of the English language, concealed a depth of learning and sheer hard work which already marked him out as one of the leading lights in his field.

Once in Wales he put his formidable energies into the work of the National Museum, to which he was devoted and whose interests he zealously promoted. He was concerned first and foremost with Roman Wales, but we should not forget that for many years he was largely responsible for the Museum's medieval collections as well. Within days of his arrival in Cardiff he had begun work at Caerleon – the site with which, after Silchester, he was to become most

closely associated, and where he has left us a fitting memorial of his work in the splendid new site museum which he did so much to create. His study of Caerleon was to culminate in his *Isca*, a fitting companion to his second book on Silchester which appeared soon after. Twenty years later both remain the corner stones of the study of those sites.

Much of George's work in Wales derived from his responsibilities in the National Museum. Typically, it would begin with the discovery of some important Roman object or coin hoard which would be taken to the Museum. At that point George took over, and a few months later a paper devoted to the discovery would appear in one of the major journals. And what a paper. No matter what the nature of the find, he would produce, not just the simple workman-like note which most of us would regard as more than sufficient, but a magisterial study, with a scholarly discussion which showed a complete mastery of all of the relevant literature in most European languages, ancient and modern. It was this aspect of his work which was almost unique among modern archaeologists, and which made him one of a distinguished line of scholars who were not specialists in the narrow sense of the word – people who know a lot about a very little – but who had a total command of most aspects of their subject, and the ability to see what was really significant about a discovery.

A glance through his long list of publications on Roman topics alone shows him writing, with equal authority, on glass, pottery, metalwork of all types, inscriptions, tile stamps, coal, Graeco-Roman anchor stocks, gold mines, the funding of Edwardian excavations; the list is almost endless. And alongside these is another stream of papers on coins of all periods – in themselves enough to establish the international reputation of any normal scholar.

His work resulted, of course, in his being involved in many societies, both numismatic and archaeological. He was particularly proud of his election as a Corresponding Member of the German Archaeological Institute, but without doubt the society which meant the most to him was the Society of Antiquaries, of which he was a Vice President. After the Antiquaries, perhaps the Cambrians were closest to his heart; he was their President in 1984.

In his dealing with others he was not concerned with the distinction between professional and amateur; what interested him was the quality of their work. He had very high standards himself, and had little time for work which did not measure up to his own criteria – the slovenly or the pretentious met with very short shrift, and fools were not suffered at all gladly. But when George detected promise in anyone, particularly in the young, he was unstinting in his support and help. All who worked with George came to appreciate what a remarkable man he was, and to develop a deep and abiding affection for him; and this was as true of the labourers who dug for him at Caerleon as of his academic colleagues. And those of us who came to know him well will retain that affection as long as we ourselves live.

His associations with the *Transactions* of our Society began at the extraordinarily early age of nine when (LXI p. 202) in 1937 he assisted with the excavations at Sea Mills which took place close to his home. Over the next 17 years or so brief acknowledgements of his help are succeeded by his own notes and reports on excavations in Bristol and at the Kings Weston Roman Villa. Perhaps surprisingly, he did not join this Society then, and after 1954 when his interests had shifted to other areas his name only appears as the author of an occasional note.

As his professional career drew to a close his connection with the Society resumed when, following an inspired suggestion from a past President, he accepted the Presidency for 1988/89. His presidential lecture will long be remembered by those present as an outstanding paper which blended, in a sparkling address, scholarly research with affectionate reflections on Edwardian archaeological activity at Caerleon. As joint editor of the *Transactions* from 1990 he immensely strengthened its archaeological content and the Society was deeply grateful when he took on the whole responsibility as academic editor with vol. CX.

During what proved to be his last four years he (in his own words) took the *Transactions* to heart, devoting the major part of his time and energy to maintaining and enhancing its quality as one of the country's leading county journals. His approach to the task can be exemplified in a single episode. 'I didn't feel happy about the section on the coins', he said of an excavation report, 'so I went and had a look at them myself and re-wrote it.' Alas, his stated wish to see all Volumes up to No. CXV to publication was not to be fulfilled. It is fitting that the present volume, the culmination of his work for the society, is dedicated to him.

W.H.M.
D.J.H.S.



**This volume is dedicated to its editor
GEORGE COUNSELL BOON
who died on 31 August 1994**