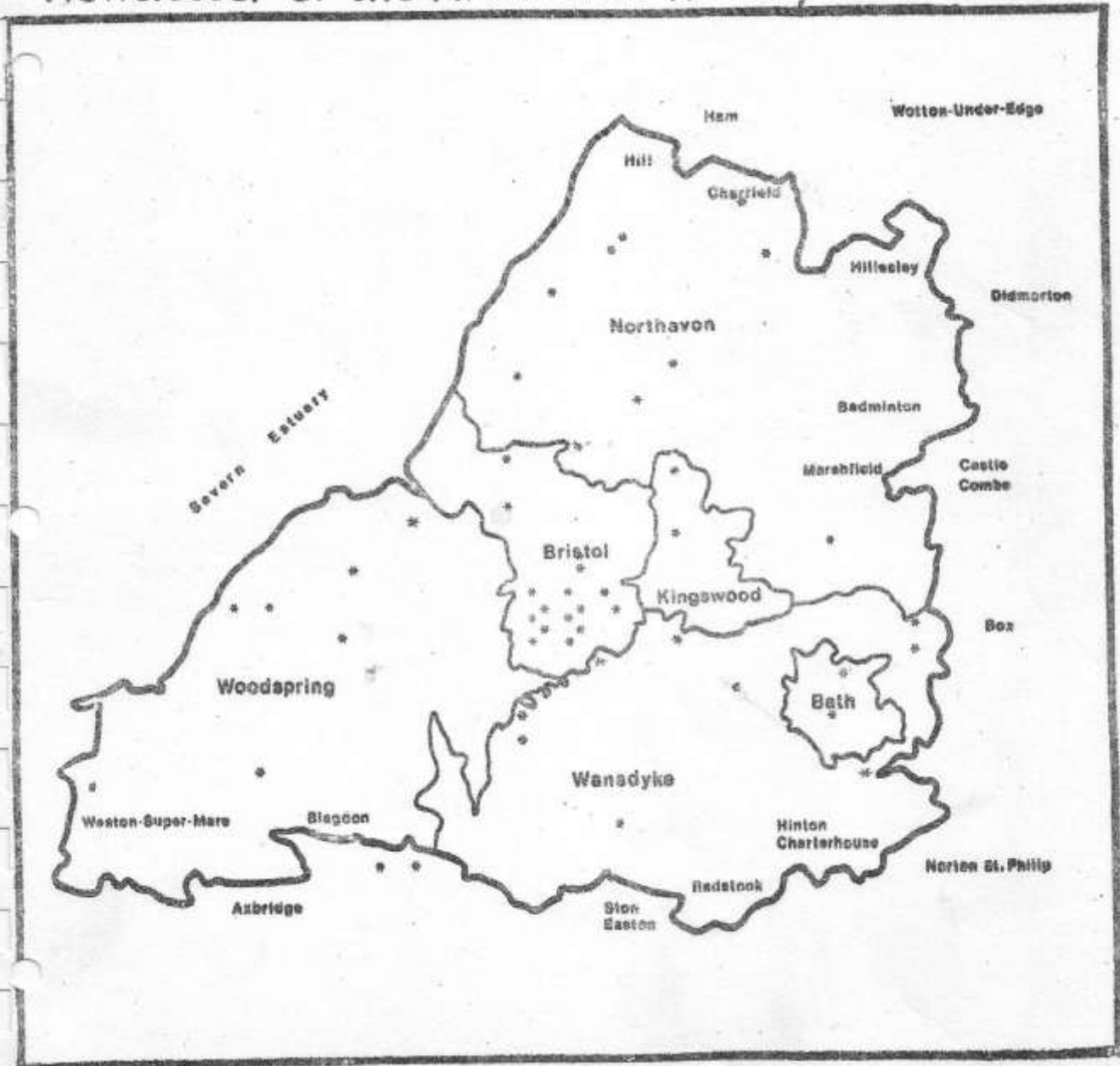




# QUEST

Issue No. 7

Newsletter of the Avon Local History Association



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COPY DATE FOR NEXT ISSUE: 31 JULY 1978

EDITORIAL

QUEST 6 contained an unacceptable number of errors and this was partly due to our haste to circulate details of the Blake Committee. We hope that this edition is a considerable improvement. Corrections of the worst mistakes are included in this issue and the article by Mrs Laysell on "The Hotwell Spa" has been retyped. My apologies to both contributors and readers.

Many readers will be very sorry to learn from Fred Rapsey that he is leaving the county and therefore resigning from the ALHA committee. He has contributed such a lot to the ALHA that he will be greatly missed and I should like to thank him for all his hard work for the ALHA as well as his regular contributions to QUEST. I am sure his articles have been enjoyed even by those who thought they had no interest in Heraldry, and I am very glad that he promises to continue his series on "Heraldry from the Avon Area".

In a previous editorial I described Fred Rapsey as the 'editor's ideal contributor', and I feel most fortunate to have found another in Jeff Spittal. He has contributed a further two articles to this edition, the second part of his entertaining talk for the Thornbury Exhibition on "Bristol Popular Lectures" and an equally easily read and most useful article on the Public Record Office.

My thanks also to those who contribute to 'News from Local Societies'. Two particularly interesting reports in this issue are from Clevedon Civic Society and Nailsea Local History Group. You may also notice that Filton Historical Research Group is busy recording the immediate past by making a collection of Jubilee Year material. Finally, may I also draw your attention to the Joint Local History Exhibition being held by Downend Local History Society and the Kingswood and District History Society for the week 22-29 April at the Zion Chapel Schoolroom, Kingswood. It will be well worth visiting and there may be other activities provided by the Kingswood Arts Festival to distract other members of the family!

Sue Barrance

Mr. Peter Gilliat, committee representative from Avon Education Department, has recently sent me a most interesting report on "The Local History Classroom Project 1975-77".

After the introduction, there is a delightful quotation from A.A. Milne's "Winnie the Pooh" to illustrate "the way the project has gone about its work". It fits most local history projects well!

"Hallo", said Piglet. "What are you doing?"

"Hunting", said Pooh.

"Hunting what?"

"Trading something", said Winnie the Pooh very mysteriously.

"Tracking what?" said Piglet coming closer.

"That's just what I ask myself. I ask myself what?"

"What do you think you'll answer?"

"I shall have to wait until I catch up with it", said Winnie the Pooh.

ORGANISATIONS AND SOCIETIES IN CORRESPONDENCE WITH A.L.H.A.

Almondsbury Local History Society  
 Avon Archaeological Council  
 Avon & Bristol Association of Teachers in History  
 Banwell Society of Archaeology  
 Bath & Camerton Archaeological Society  
 Batheaston Society  
 Bathford Local History Group  
 Bristol and Avon Family History Society  
 B.A.R.G. (Bristol Archaeological Research Group)  
 Bristol Civic Society  
 Bristol & Gloucestershire Archaeological Society  
 B.I.A.S. (Bristol Industrial Archaeological Society)  
 Bristol Museum  
 Bristol Branch of the Historical Association  
 Bristol Peoples Publishing Project  
 Bristol Records Society  
 Chew Valley Local History Society  
 Clevedon & District Archaeological Society  
 Clevedon Civic Society  
 Clifton & Hotwells Local History Group  
 C.R.A.A.G.S. (Committee for Rescue Archaeology in Avon, Gloucestershire & Somerset)  
 Corston & Newton St. Loe Local History Group  
 Crookern & Pill District Society  
 Downend Local History Society  
 Doynton Local History Group  
 Filton Historical Research Group  
 Frampton Cotterell & District Local History Research Group  
 Freshford & District Local History Society  
 Gordano Valley Society  
 Hanham Folk Centre (History Section)  
 Keynsham & Saltford Local History Society  
 Kingswood & District Historical Society  
 Malago Archives Committee  
 Nailsea Local History Group  
 Northavon (Thornbury) Archaeological Group  
 North Somerset Archaeological Group  
 Olveston Parish Historical Society  
 Sodbury & District History Association  
 Somerset Archaeological & Natural History Society  
 Somerset Records Society  
 Temple Cloud Womens Institute  
 Society of Thornbury Folk  
 W.E.A.  
 Westbury-on-Trym Local History Society  
 Weston-Super-Mare Branch, Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society.  
 Winterbourne Local History Group  
 Whitchurch Local History Society

NEWS FROM LOCAL SOCIETIES AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS

CLEVEDON CIVIC SOCIETY LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Since March 1977, the Group has taken up many new projects; members have finished work on one project and found another has taken their fancy straight afterwards - a pleasing state of affairs. The tracing of the Tithe Map of 1838 is complete, and dyeline working copies can now be made. New transcriptions are being made of old leases held at Clevedon Court, which relate to fields on the Map - thus land holdings can be traced back 300 years, because the Enclosures at Clevedon only covered the land not already divided up into fields, a very small area. Where land names have changed the leases can often still be linked, because it was the practice to put at least the previous two tenants' names in the document.

Work on the history of Clevedon's Fire Brigade is almost complete now, and work has begun on the social life and entertainments the town had to offer and the growth and changing function of its shopping areas. Shops, as opposed to workshops, only sprang up when the tourists discovered the town during its development as a spa in the early 1800's, and many are still run by the families who started them.

With the move of Church records over a hundred years old to the Somerset Record Office, work is in progress on the summarising and transcription of two sets of Church documents. Material relating to Christ Church from its foundation in 1638 to 1878 has been summarised, and a copy lodged with the Vicar of Christ Church. The first volume of the Parish Register of St. Andrews Church, 1727-1812, has been transcribed and almost completely typed out. A history of the Methodist Chapel is in progress.

The Group is keeping a file of its completed work and possessions, which, it is planned, will become the basis for the first of our booklets on Clevedon. We have maps on loan in the local library, and some photographs and small items of interest on loan to Woodspring Museum. An index is being built up of local history items in the South Avon Mercury and other papers and magazines.

Mr. Roger Ashley of Bristol University Extra-Mural Department gave the Civic Society a very successful talk on our behalf entitled Somerset Country Houses. The Jubilee was celebrated with a Local History Treasure Hunt around the Conservation Area - Radio Bristol followed the course, but got lost in a low ale-house by all accounts. Judges, marking the papers at the end of the course, were kept busy not answering various frustrated entrants who had missed only a few awkward clues! Results were of a very high standard. A local group of Playgroup mums listened with interest to a talk called Clevedon on the Map, which dealt with reasons why Clevedon grew from the valley upwards, and some of its old farms and fields.

As always, the year seems fuller when activities are telescoped in this way, but we hope to have an even more busy time leading up to our March 1979 bulletin!

Jane Lilly, Secretary, Clevedon Civic Society Local History Group.

DOWNEND LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Secretary: Mrs. P. Jones, 77 Fouracre Road, Downend (Tel. Bristol 561633).

- April 25th - Tour of Gloucester Cathedral led by the Cathedral Architect, beginning at 7.30. p.m.
- May 2nd - Work Evening at Whitfield Tabernacle Cemetry
- May 16th - Walk Around Clifton (7.30. p.m. from the Green in Clifton).
- June 17th - Day Excursion to Sherborne Abbey  
10. a.m. start from Lincombe Barn, Downend.
- June 24th - Walk around Doynton with members of the Kingswood Society.  
Meet in car park opposite Council Offices, Kingswood at 2. p.m.

DOWNEND LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

&

THE KINGSWOOD & DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY

will hold a Joint Local History Exhibition as part  
of the Kingswood Arts Festival

April 22nd - 29th                      Open daily 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.

at the

ZION CHAPEL SCHOOLROOM, GRANTHAM ROAD, KINGSWOOD.

FILTON HISTORICAL RESEARCH GROUP

Mr. W.L. Harris, Hon. Secretary

The Group has had a most interesting winter season which was closed with a talk on I.K. Brunel, given by Mr. E. Gadd at Filton Folk Centre.

During the summer two local excursions are planned. The first is a walk round old Bedminster, led by Mr. R. Cleeve and the other is a boat trip round the City Docks.

It has been decided to compile a folder of events in Filton during Jubilee Year. The response for material has been extremely encouraging and a most interesting collection of accounts and photographs is anticipated.

KEYNSHAM & SALTFORD LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

Hon. Secretary: Bob Milner, 14 Chelmer Grove, Keynsham. (Tel. Keynsham 3802)

- 17th May - Milward Lodge, Bristol Road, Keynsham.  
16th/17th century building, formerly the 'King's Head Inn'. Recently a window frame from this period was discovered hidden behind the external wall plaster. The visit will include the ancient well in the grounds. By kind permission of the occupant, Mr. P.J. Gower-Grane, who will show us around.

21st June - Cumberland Basin - Bristol.  
 Members who enjoyed the tour of the Central Docks area last September will be glad to know that Mr. John Powell will also conduct this one. The tour starts and ends at 'Novia Scotia Place'. Proceed as if visiting the SS Great Britain but continue westward along Cumberland Road, turning off at the Basin and along Avon Crescent. Novia Scotia Place is then the only turning on the right before Merchants Road bridge is reached. START 7.p.m.

16th Sept. - Roman Villa and Iron Age Sites.  
 Meet at Blaise Castle car park in Kingweston Road for a tour of sites at Kingweston Downs and the villa at Kingweston. This tour is a 'follow-up' to the recent talk by our Chairman, Mr. Charles Browne, on 'Romans in the Avon Valley, and who will also be conducting this tour. START 3.00. p.m.

Non-members are very welcome - charge 15p. No charge for children accompanied by adults or for Keynsham Civic Society Members.

Confirm ALL visits from posters in box outside Keynsham Public Library.

KINGSWOOD & DISTRICT HISTORY SOCIETY

3rd May - Archaeology & Planning in Avon.  
 talk by Mr. R. Iles, County of Avon Planning Department.  
START 7.30. p.m.

7th June - Visit to Castle Farm, Marshfield.  
 Meet in Car Park opposite Council Offices, Kingswood.  
 Please inform Secretary if you are interested in buffet supper at a local inn afterwards by May 3rd.  
START 7.00. p.m.

24th June - Walk around Doynton led by Mr. R. Kent.  
 Meet in Car Park opposite Council Offices, Kingswood.  
 Please bring light refreshments. START 2.00. p.m.

8th July - Visit to Barrs Court Moat, Sally-on-the-Barn & St. George's Church, Hanham Abbots, led by Mr. M. Southway.  
 Meet in Car Park opposite Council Offices, Kingswood.  
 Please bring light refreshments. START 2.00. p.m.

5th August - Walk around Lansdown led by Mr. I.H. Dearnley.  
 Meet in Car Park opposite Council Offices, Kingswood.  
 Please bring light refreshments. START 2.00 p.m.

All indoor meetings will take place at Kingswood Community Centre, High Street, Kingswood.

Visitors - 20p - Members 10p

For further information telephone Secretary at Bristol 675303.

WESTBURY-ON-TRYM LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

Programme Secretary: Mrs. Layzell, 39 Henbury Court, Station Road, Henbury.

April 14th - Mr. Harry Dommett - The History of Bristol and Nailsea Glass.

May 12th - Miss Williams - The City Archives.

June 9th - Mr. Horseman - Campanology.

Meetings are held at 7.30. p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Fridays in the month at Eastfield Road, Adult Education Centre, Westbury-on-Trym.

Visitors Welcome.

WORKERS' EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION

The District Secretary, WEA Western District, 17 Princess Victoria Street, Clifton, Bristol. BS8 4BX.

The following information on Holiday Courses organised by the WEA has been included in this issue, even though it is late to book, as some readers may be interested to know of the opportunities offered.

6 - 13th May - BLUE WATERS HOLIDAY PARK, SEATON, DEVON.

Accommodation is in chalets for 2 to 6 people. They have heating, bathroom, kitchen (electric cooker & fridge) and T.V. There is a well stocked food store and small cafe on site and other shops and restaurants nearby. Blue Waters has two heated swimming pools, a childrens play area and a table tennis and snooker room. In the evenings, we shall arrange some informal educational activities but there will also be a full range of entertainment, with 2 bars, and band and disco .....

WEA courses will be held mainly in the mornings. While they are on, there will be an organised programme of activities and games for younger children and limited nursery and playgroup facilities for toddlers. In the afternoons, you can enjoy Seaton and its neighbourhood as a family.

Charge for a chalet (NOT including food) from Saturday to Saturday - £40 for up to 2 adults (with 1 child free)

£2 for each additional child

£8 for each additional adult (over 18)

Individual applicants willing to share a chalet should write for details of special arrangements.

Among the courses offered are:-

**MEN AND THE SEA** (Tutor: Norrie Hearn BA) Illustrated talks and a visit to Exeter Maritime Museum to study the great days of sail and the early days of steamships.

**THOMAS HARDY AND THE WEST COUNTRY** (Tutor: Bob Johnson MA) Thomas Hardy's life and writings were shaped by the part of the world he grew up in. Some of his work will be read and discussed and compared with other West Country fictions such as 'Poldark'. Visits to Hardy's birthplace, etc, will be arranged.



**AROUND SEATON** (Tutor: Ted Mason) The area around Seaton is full of interesting places - stone circles, burial mounds, hill forts, ancient churches and historic houses. There will be many visits designed to learn how people have lived in the area throughout the ages.

22nd July - 5th August - **DORSET SUMMER SCHOOL, COLLEGE OF EDUCATION WEYMOUTH**, Dorset Institute of Higher Education.

The College is a well-appointed complex of buildings close to the sea-front. Weymouth is a pleasant and historic seaside resort set in the beautiful County of Dorset. Opportunities will be provided in the timetable for visits to places of interest in the area.

Students will be accommodated in single study-bedrooms (h & c). There are a few two-bedded rooms for married couples. The general facilities and food at the College are very good there will be a common room and bar available.

The charge for the School (inclusive of full board and tuition) will be £58 for one week or £112 for two weeks.

The charge does not include the cost of field visits which are planned for some seminars, but it is hoped that these can be arranged by the use of private cars (on a petrol-cost sharing basis).

APPLICATIONS to either the District Secretary, WEA Western District, 17 Princess Victoria Street, Clifton, Bristol. BS8 4BX, or the District Secretary, WEA London District 32, Tavistock Square, London WC1.

#### FIRST WEEK

**Village Life and Labour:** Tutors: Bob Johnson, BA and David Parker, MA.

Beginning the week with the annual Martyrs' Rally at Tolpuddle, we shall study social and economic changes in rural life from the Tolpuddle transportations to the present day. Novels and memoirs will be discussed including Dorset material in writers such as Hardy.

**Prehistoric Dorset:** Tutor: Edmund J. Mason, F.R.I.C.S.

Dorset is rich in prehistoric monuments, stone and earthen circles and 'camps', and a whole variety of Neolithic and Bronze Age burial mounds. These will be studied against the background of British prehistory and field visits made to representative sites.

**Dorset Landscapes- Field Project:** Tutor Robert Emmett B.Sc.

We shall study one Dorset parish in depth - the whole group taking part in a field survey (employing easy-to-use techniques), to learn more about the landscape and how it has developed; and, as a by-product, joining in a truly co-operative venture.

**The Englishmans Holiday - 1600-1900:** Tutor: Steven Blake, B.A. Ph.D.

The Changing habits of the English on holiday - from fashionable Spas and the 'Grand Tour' to 'all the fun of the fair' at the Victorian seaside. The development of Weymouth will be studied and visits made to Dorset's other Regency and Victorian resorts.

**Men And The Sea:** Tutor: Norman Hearn B.A.

As at Seaton.

#### SECOND WEEK

**The Englishmans Holiday - 1600 - 1900:** Tutor: Steven Blake B.A. Ph.D.  
As above.

Dorset Landscapes: Tutor David G. Evans, B.A. F.R.G.S.

Dorset provides an attractive setting for field-study of many aspects of physical and human geography. This seminar will include field-visits to study Dorset landscapes, both natural and man-made, villages and towns, including Shaftesbury, Bournemouth, Dorchester and Poole. (N.B. NOT a repeat of the 1976 seminars).

Mid-Victorian Britain: Tutor: Eric Wallis, B.A.

This period was one of relative prosperity and social calm. But many reforms were carried through, in public health, in education and in parliament. Under the surface new forms of political thought were springing up. We shall study them in detail.

Thomas Hardy: Tutor Robert Johnson M.A.

Hardy created his Wessex from the raw materials of Dorset and the western counties. We shall discuss the social and cultural realities of Hardy's times and his response as poet and novelist (studying especially 'The Mayor of Casterbridge' and 'Tess of the d'Urbervilles').

Iron Age and Roman Dorset: Tutor: John Bestwick B.A.

This course will examine all aspects of life from around 1000 B.C. to after 400 A.D., by illustrated seminars and by visits to the Iron Age hill-forts of Maiden Castle, Hod Hill and Hambledon Hill, and to Dorchester and other Roman sites.

#### NAILSEA LOCAL HISTORY GROUP

There are notable advances in the affairs of the Nailsea Group these days, for the membership is approaching the hundred mark, and the monthly meetings are well attended.

An excellent talk was given by Mr. A. Rome F.R.I.B.A. entitled 'Nineteenth Century work in Local Churches', the members were enthralled by the detailed information of church architecture and the strings of anecdotes about the remarkable Victorian church architecture.

The Annual General Meeting on the 13th February, duly re-elected the existing officers: Miss A.J. Atkinson, Chairman; Mr. P.C. Wright, Hon. Secretary; Mr. S.D. Phillips, Hon. Treasurer; Mrs. M.L. Hewett, Programme Secretary; Mr. H.E. Dommett, Research Secretary and A.L.H.A. representative. It was then the meeting welcomed Mr. B.J. Greenhill as the first President of the Society. Mr. Greenhill a respected local historian of long standing is now 90 years of age and delivered a brilliant talk. Mr. Jack Hart a member of the Society, born and bred in Nailsea, was presented with a gift celebrating the success of his booklet 'Nailsea between the years 1910-1918' and Mrs. Hart in turn was thanked for her gift to the society of a tapestry banner of the societies insignia which is now displayed at every meeting.

A feature of the publications arising in the Society is that in addition to the booklets written from time to time there is a newsheet called the Nailsea Pennant which concentrates on smaller items of interest and a larger regular series devoted to papers written by members called 'The Nailsea Heritage'. Publications are now produced by Mrs. Hetherington.

Mrs. Betty Nicholls, another member who has specialised on Parish Registers, delivered an interesting talk "They lived and worked in Nailsea". A feature of her work is the correspondence evolving from enquiries as far apart as

Canada and Australia. Several people after contacting the Society about their family origins have followed up with a visit. Thanks to a concentrated programme of research, it is now easy to find information for them at the Nailsea Archives.

Mrs. Nicholls and Mr. Douglas finished the card indexing of the parish registers. Mr. Wright completed his card indexing of the Nailsea Surveyor of Highway Account Books 1843 and 1855. He prepared a card for each site mentioned year by year together with the number of days employed on each project and a description of the type of work. He prepared a second card for the name of each person and on this he indicated in the section of the book in which the name could be found, whether employed by contract or by day labour, and their daily rates of pay over the years of the study. He also listed rates owing and empty houses by the highway.

Mr. Dommett completed an analysis of the Tythe Appropriation Account Books for the same period.

Congratulations to Michael Glasson on his first prize in the A.L.H.A. Essay Competition Section I - 15-18 years.

Mr. H. Dommett, Nailsea Local History Group.

#### Heraldry from the Avon Area - No.4

##### MILITARY HERALDRY

The original purpose of heraldry was and continues to be identification. It has developed from the shield to what is known as a 'logo' - a symbol. Examples are the British Rail symbol, Barclay's Bank's eagle and the strutting golden cockerel of Courage's Brewery. These are immediately identifiable and with two million adult illiterates (if governmental figures are anything to go by) they are needed.

A development of heraldry is the military badge. Each distinct unit wears a particular badge that indicates its history, function or individuality, and sometimes, with luck, all three. The principal badge that is represented in Avon is surely that of the Glosters - the Gloucestershire Regiment (1). This regiment, formed from the amalgamation of the 28th (North Glos.) and 61st (South Glos.) Foot in 1881, is one of the three or four that have survived unscathed since that time, escaping amalgamation with the Royal Hampshires by the skin of their teeth. The 28th (Gibson's Regiment) was raised in 1694 and the 61st (Elliot's) in 1756. They have won the second largest number of battle honours in the army, and are associated with Avon by the link with the old 61st as well as having a large number of battalions in both Wars from Bristol and South Glos. The 4th Bn. was the lineal descendent of the Bristol Volunteer Rifles of the Napoleonic wars, and prior to final disbandment at the end of the war saw final service manning 3.7" AA guns on the top of Purdown. Colston's School Cadet Force, raised in 1916, was affiliated to this old 4th (City of Bristol) Bn, and wears the Glosters cap badge to this day. The Glosters were famous for two main reasons. In 1801 they fought against Napoleon in Egypt, back to back, for which they were allowed also to wear a 'back badge' (2) on their headdress. In 1951, in Korea, as part of the Commonwealth Brigade of the UN forces against Communist aggression, they withstood heavy attacks by Chinese forces on the Injin River, and were awarded the US Presidential Citation, the ribbon of which is worn on the top of both sleeves. It is like a unit VC.

Badges of Military Units associated with Avon County



[NOT TO SCALE]

*R. Day*  
1978

The other regular infantry regiment associated with Avon is the former Somerset Light Infantry (Prince Albert's Own 13th Foot), now amalgamated with four other LI regiments to form The Light Infantry. The original badge (3) consisted of a stringed bugle, with Prince Albert's monogram between, surmounted by a mural crown and the word 'Jellalabad'. LI status was a mark of distinction, and the SLI achieved it in 1822. It involved a change in the organisation of the red-coated infantry of the time, from line tactics to a more individual and camouflage - and sharpshooting-based strategy. Also they were re-equipped with rifles as opposed to muskets. In the first Afghan War, the SLI held the town of Jellalabad and greatly distinguished itself in the campaigns in Burma and Afghanistan, and was awarded the royal distinction of being linked by Queen Victoria with her husband. Many battalions were raised in both wars, and the regimental museum at Taunton is well worth visiting, as it is based in the original Depot.

The Yeomanry Regiments are the Royal Gloucestershire Hussars(4) and the North Somerset Yeomanry (5) which was amalgamated with the 44th Royal Tank Regiment in 1956(6), having been a signals unit for four years. 44 RTR (7) was formed from 6th Bn. Glosters (1) in 1938 on conversion to armour. They are now signallers again but keeping yeomanry traditions alive. RGH, whose cap badge is worn by Avonhurst School, Clifton, was formed when in 1834 the several independent troops in the county formed themselves into a regiment and offered command to Henry Marquess of Worcester, who became the seventh Duke of Beaufort, whose crest is the main part of the badge, which is surmounted by the ducal coronet. It always amuses me that the coat-of-arms of the Beauforts is the Royal arms, surrounded by a bordure. This signifies bastardy. The Beauforts are descended from John of Gaunt and his third wife, Katherine. According to Atkyns, "His Issue by his last wife were called Beauforts, from a Castle in Anjove in France, where they were born, and a particular Act of Parliament made them legitimate, because they were born before their Intermarriage. Such can one learn from heraldry! The present duke is Hon. Colonel of the Regiment. Yeomanry are Volunteer Cavalry.

Most Cadet Forces take either the badge of the local regiment or sport their own. Colston's School used to wear a dolphin, but now wears the Gloster badge, like most North Avon cadet units, whilst Clifton College (8) keeps its own but wears Royal Engineers collar badges, being descended from 2nd Gloucestershire Engineer Volunteers (Militia). Most Southavon units are badged to the descendant of the SLI, The Light Infantry(9), which keeps the bugle from the SLI but has a red backing, which is a relic of the American Rebellion, in which the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, with which the SLI amalgamated in 1959 to form the SCLI, beat the rebels at the Battle of Brandywine Creek in 1777. When the rebels made threats against the DCLI, they dyed their heretofore white hackles red to make them more obvious targets to the enemy!

It can be seen that military heraldry is a fascinating subject and worthy of considerable study and interest. Many of the records are deposited at Record Offices, as far as I know, but still more are with the Regimental Headquarters in Taunton and Gloucester, and personal approaches are recommended for best results. The Glosters, in particular, have published much material including an excellent book 'Cap of Honour', by D S Daniell at £4.40, which can be had from RHQ Glosters, 13 Carne Place, Gloucester.

If anyone has a badge, button or medal he or she is unable to identify, I would be glad to assist if it is sent to 9 Arley Park, Cotham, Bristol 6 with return postage stamps/cash. I have masses of reference material and a good collection of my own. Also, I would be willing to buy certain items of general military interest and receive any items that may be cluttering up a loft - uniforms, weapons, pamphlets - any ephemera that serves to illustrate the life of the fighting man. I also use this material in the

classroom, so please don't think I would either flog it or lock it away for I would do neither.

This is my last article as an 'Avonian' and I am resigning my post on the Executive Committee of ALHA as PRO, because in September 1978 I am moving to become Headmaster-Designate of Nowton Court School, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, where I can be reached as I shall live in school accommodation. I still have a fair amount of material on Avon Heraldry, and I shall continue to subscribe to and write articles for QUEST if that is acceptable. One item to come, just to annoy the planners, will be a map of Avon Hundreds!

Lieutenant Fred Rapsey, Gloster CCF.

THE LOCAL HISTORIAN : Vol. 13, No.1

Published quarterly for the Standing Conference for Local History by the National Council of Social Service, 26 Bedford Square, London.

Articles:

'Local or regional history - or both?'	J. D. Marshall
'Chichester - documenting a city.'	R. R. Morgan
'The Victoria County Histories'	Ralph B. Pugh
'Photographs as historical evidence'	Norman McCord

From the Secretary's notes -

The Local Studies Group of the Library Association was formed in December 1977 and already has a membership of about 400. Anyone interested in its work can obtain further information from Hon. Secretary, Brian M. Hall, Department of Librarianship, Birmingham Polytechnic, Birmingham B42 2SU (Tel. 021 - 356 6911 Ext. 302).

A Domestic Service Survey is being carried out by the Local History Committee of the Society for Lincolnshire History and Archaeology. Anyone interested in the design or results of their questionnaire could obtain further information from Mr. T. Leach, Westgate, Sleaford, Lincs. NG34 7PL.

Among the books reviewed :

Continuity and Change: Personnel and Administration of the Church of England 1500 - 1642 edited by Rosemary O'Day & Felicity Heal  
(Leicester University Press, 303pp., 1976) £7.50

Discovering Church Architecture by Mark Child  
(Shire Publications, 64pp., 1976), 50p

Discovering Chapels and Meeting Houses by David A. Barton  
(Shire Publications 64pp., illus., 1975), 50p

Wiltshire and Somerset Woollen Mills by Kenneth Rogers  
(Pasold Research Fund, 1976, 265pp., illus.), £6.50

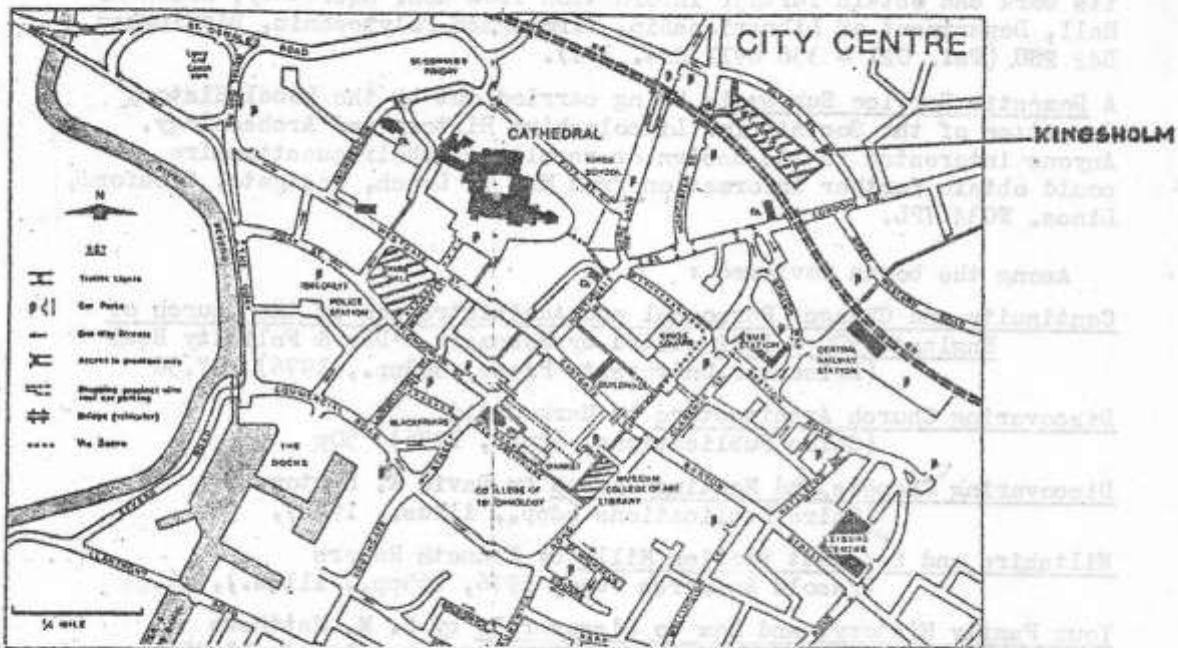
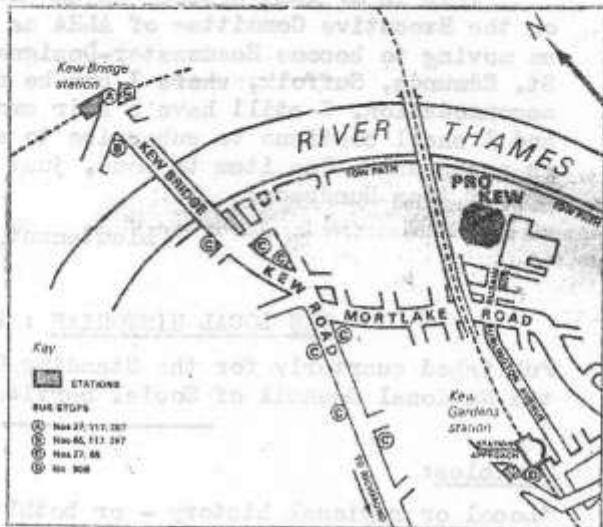
Your Family History; and How to Discover It by C. M. Matthews  
(Lutterworth Press 1976, 144pp., illus.), £3.95

Medieval Settlement edited by P.H. Sawyer  
(Edward Arnold, 1976, 358pp.), £19.50

Also among books listed and written by members of BIAS -  
Victorian and Edwardian Windmills and Watermills from Old Photographs  
by J. Kenneth Major and Martin Watts (Batsford, 1977), £3.95

RECORD OFFICES ON THE MOVE

The new location of the  
PRO at KEW



The new site for the Gloucestershire Record Office at Kingsholm

GLOUCESTERSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

The new building at Kingsholm will have a larger all-purpose searchroom with more display area in wall-boards and show-cases. There will be separate small rooms for microfilm and microfiche equipment and a lecture room seating about 30 people. Two most welcome new facilities will be a carpark and a typing room.

Not all the records will be moved. Local authority records from the mid-nineteenth century will remain at Shire Hall. These include the records of the County and District Councils, the Petty Sessions, the Quarter Sessions, the Highway authorities, Coroners, School Boards and Boards of Guardians.

The building should be completed in October and it is hoped that the move will begin before the end of that month. It will mean the closure of the Record Office for approximately one month.

The full address will be: Gloucestershire Record Office, Worcester Street, Gloucester GL1 3DW.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

The following information about the new building was printed in the Local Historian:-

"NEW PRO: Since 1939 the archives of central government which are selected for permanent preservation have been the responsibility of the Public Record Office. The public records comprise many millions of documents of varying shape and size extending as far back as 1086, when Domesday Book was compiled. Today they occupy some eighty miles of shelving. Every year new accessions amounting on average to one mile of shelving are taken into the Office. More than two-thirds of the records are now based in the new building at Kew, Richmond, Surrey, which was opened officially by the Lord Chancellor on 23 November 1977. The new building - the most up-to-date in the world designed specifically for archives - is intended to provide a secure and controlled environment for the records and a rapid service for readers in well-equipped and comfortable surroundings.

The first building erected for the Public Record Office was in Chancery Lane, London, on the former Rolls Estate, an historic site for long associated with records. Built in stages during the nineteenth century, it was full only a few years after its completion. Since then, additional space for storage, offices and reading rooms, has been provided in a number of buildings in London and elsewhere. Henceforth the public records will be concentrated in two locations, Kew and Chancery Lane. Lists are available of the records kept at Kew and at Chancery Lane. Enquiries should be addressed to the PRO, Chancery Lane, London W.C.2. (Tel: 01-405-0741).

Visitors can reach the new building from central London by train to Kew Gardens Station (London Transport District line and British Rail North London - Broad Street/Richmond line) and to Kew Bridge Station (British Rail Southern Region from Waterloo); and by bus. The relevant bus numbers are shown on the sketch map."

At short notice, Mr. Spittal has very kindly produced a most useful article on the PRO with invaluable suggestions on further sources of information, which is printed on pages 16-18.



THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE AND ITS RESOURCES

Go down to Kew in lilac-time, in lilac-time, in lilac-time  
Go down to Kew in lilac-time (it isn't far from London)

Kew is also nearer to Bristol so we may hope that the Public Record Office, which is at present taking the poetic advice of Alfred Noyes, may receive visits from more local historians working in our part of the West Country. There should be fewer problems of traffic congestion to hamper a visit and there are certainly more facilities for enjoyable relaxation in the botanical gardens adjacent to the new Public Record Office building than exist in the neighbourhood of the old one in Chancery Lane. This will however remain open since not all of its stock is being transferred. A list is available, free, of records being moved.

Nevertheless, it may well be that Kew will remain a place more often recommended for a visit than actually visited. Descriptions of the Public Record Office as a 'national repository' and series of records cited by their Latin titles in the footnotes to scholarly articles hardly encourage the timid to overcome their timidity. So far as one can judge, there is not the same degree of public reluctance to rush the portals of the British Museum. It might have done a lot for that institution to have had Karl Marx as a former reader. Since he got inside the way must have been made easier for countless others who believed (rightly or wrongly) that their researches carried forward under the high-dome of the reading-room would eventually produce work of more value to mankind than "Das Kapital".

But it is just as easy - indeed easier since you do not have to prove a genuine need - to get into the Public Record Office as it is into the British Museum. The trouble arises with a foreboding of mystification and bewilderment once you have been admitted.

If certain fundamental questions are answered about the contents of the Public Record Office, some of this apprehension might be lessened. For example, questions such as 'what kind of information is contained in the national records' or 'is there at least a brief list of the contents of the Public Record Office available'?

The second of these two questions must be dealt with first because it is a delight to report that you can get the answer free. All you have to do is to go to the Stationery Office shop in Wine Street, Bristol and ask for their "Sectional List 24 (British National Archives)". It is revised regularly and will not cost you a penny. Inside on page 4 you will come across an entry for the most up-to-date full guide to the contents of the Public Record Office.

This is:-

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE: Guide to the Contents of the Public Record Office, 3 vols., 1963-1969.

The three volumes include legal records in volume 1, state papers and departmental records in volume 2 and, in volume 3, documents transferred to the Public Record Office from 1960 to 1966. If you want to know more about this particular publication, how to use the information it provides, and, at the same time, something about its three predecessors (all still useful to some extent) you should look up an article by L.C. Hector entitled "Guide to the Contents of the Public Record Office" which appeared in "The Amateur Historian", vol.6, no.2, 1964, pp.45-48.

Cont/.....

### THE HOTWELL SPA

A transcript of a talk given by Mrs. Doreen Layzell to the Westbury-on-Trym Local History Group.

Tonight I am going to talk of the original spring which gave its name to the Hotwell Spa, but it is as well to remember that there were other springs.

The warm spring's existence, milky white and of a temperature of seventy-six degrees, was known as far back as the 15th Century. William Worcestre, the 15th century Bristol Topographical Scholar, refers to it in his account of the Clifton Gorge and St. Vincents Rocks. But he does not enlarge on its curative qualities.

In the 17th Century it became better known. In June 1630, one John Bruckshaw obtained a forty-year licence from the Crown, not only to dig in the rock of the gorge for gold, silver and crystal, but also to "take in" the Hotwell water and to make baths for the use of those who frequented the spring.

In the calendar of the State Papers, Domestic Series, appropriate to the reign of Charles I, is this entry:-

"Petition of John Bruckshaw to the King. Has found a fountain or spring of water issuing from a high rock adjacent to the sea, in the Western Part of the Kingdom, which cures many diseases far beyond any known bath in the Kingdom. It lies between high-water and low-water mark. Prays licence to make a wall between the spring and the sea, and to search and dig in the rocks for minerals".

Its popularity from then on must have been considerable for in 1634 three cavaliers from Norwich who stayed in Bristol on their tour of England reported a "good store of company".

These cavaliers were a Captain, a Lieutenant and an Ancient - all three were of the Military Company of Norwich. They gave an account of their travels through 26 counties which took them seven weeks. This is what they had to say of Hotwells:-

"By the Hauens Channel we found a strange Hotwell which came gushing and pouring out of a mighty stoney rocke, into the stream so nigh thereto, by a rocky, and steep winding and craggy way, near 200 slippry steps, which place when the tide is gone now wants good store of company to wash in this well, and to drink that warm medicinable water, and for its rarity, diverse carry some away with them.

Right over against this well on the other side of the river, and out of as high a rocke as the other, there falls at that height into the same stream, another spring as cold, which is a strange contrairitee in so small a distance, for one single ship at a full and high water, may safely saile into the harbour which is between these two high and rocky perilous hills, with a skilful and expert pilot.

When we had felt and tasted the rare excellency of these waters, we mounted up againe, and for the space of an hour or two, layd aside our commanding postures, and turned pioneers, to dig and delve for some glittering bastard diamond stones which that hill plentifully afforded."

Cont/.....

G. Wickham Legg, who edited the accounts of the travels of the above says that 2 grains of sulphate of soda to a pint of water was the main ingredient, and that Bristol Diamonds were quartz crystals.

About this time Dr. Samuel Ward who was master of Sidney Sussex College at Cambridge from 1610-1643 anticipated a later practice and had Hotwell water sent to him to drink away from its source. It is as well to note, that differing from Bath, bathing in the water was of little significance and another difference was the bottling of water for sale not only in other parts of England and on the Continent, but in the West Indian Colonies. This must have been a considerable item in the output of the Bristol Glass Works. Patrick McGrath, in his book on Bristol in the 18th century quotes from London Newspapers of the period who were displaying advertisements like the following, and I quote:-

"Famous Bristol Hotwell water, fresh from the well will be sold and delivered to any part of the town at six shillings per dozen bottles. These bottles are of the largest size, and by the extraordinary favour of the winds arrived but last week, eight days from Bristol, the common passage being a month or six weeks."

Advertisers seem to have always been able to have tongue in cheek where money is concerned. The water was also cried in the Bristol Streets.

In 1677 Queen Catherine of Braganza, the wife of Charles II visited Hotwells giving it the respectability of royal patronage.

In a few more years, the water came to be recommended for the complaint diabetes. This came about in an extraordinary way. About the year 1680, two or three noteworthy persons died of the complaint, but a Mr. Gagg, a baker of Castle Street, dreamed one night he drank of the Hotwell water, and was mightily refreshed by it. In the morning he was so impressed by his dream, that he decided to try the water and to cut a long story short, according to him he was cured in two to three days. This one instance got so mooted abroad that the water came to be believed as a cure-all for diabetes.

Vincent Waite in "The Bristol Hotwell" says that in its earliest days it was supposed to be beneficial just for "hot livers, feeble brains, and red pimply faces". Sir Robert Atkyns in the "Ancient & Present State of /Great Britain" Gloucestershire"(1712) and Daniel Defoe in his "Tour through the Whole Island of / in 1724, refer to it as a cure for diabetes. By the time, early in the 18th century that this was noted, local and commercial enterprise had taken over.

Back in 1676, the Bristol Society of Merchant Venturers bought the moiety of the Manor of Clifton which included Hotwell. They were no doubt aware of the spring's possibilities. In 1687 they leased the well to two tenants for no more than £2 a year. In 1695 the well was leased for 90 years, and at an annual rent of £5 to Charles Jones, a Bristol Soap Boiler and Thomas Callow Hill, a Draper.

Cont/.....

It was stipulated that they were to build a Pump Room, plus lodging houses, and to lay out walks giving better access to the well. This was to be done all for £500, so it is not surprising that the Pump Room, which served its purpose all through the 18th century was an unimpressive barn like building projecting from the river bank over the steep tidal mud, so as to enclose the spring and screen it from the tidal Avon.

In 1723 according to a satirical sketch of the time, the Bristol Hotwell was already attracting fashionable company. The Duchesses of Kent and Marlborough were there and it refers to a Sir Buckley who sired children at fourteen and was a valetudinarian by forty.

For a full understanding of the spa in the 18th century it must be remembered that it was a Summer Spa (April until end of September) and didn't overlap the season at Bath. Farleys Journal reported arrivals at the two spas, and we know that tradesmen who did business at Bath in the winter, could transfer to Hotwell in the summer. Clientele of both resorts were much the same, yet the lists of arrivals suggests that more of the aristocracy went to Bath.

Most weeks, in the lists of names of people visiting Hotwells in Felix Farley, "etc" is frequently given so an exact figure is not possible. But well over seven hundred are named between 30 April and 5 October 1776. Lodgings must have sprung up fairly quickly but there was a time lag between the Spa's early social popularity and its major architectural expression. In 1727 work had started on Dowry Square. As worship in the Parish Church of Clifton meant a journey of two miles or to the equally distant Cathedral, a chapel known as the Down Chapel was built and finished in 1746. Mrs Strangways Horner of Dorset giving £50 was top subscriber, while the Marquis of Granby, after whom Granby Hill was named, contented himself with 2 guineas.

Later in the century, for those who didn't survive in spite of their attendance at the Spa, a strangers burial ground was arranged (this was half-way up the hill to Clifton Church).

Peak period for the Spa was between 1760 and the year 1785. As Sketcheleys Bristol Directory put it in 1775, the water was by that time taken for varied complaints which included diabetes, dropsy, scorbutic maladies, dysentery, cancer and venereal disease. Ailments of the lungs, kydneyes and bladder are specially mentioned. By now and in the end more controversally it was recommended for consumptives. Six glasses of the water was the total consumption a day.

But all was not pre-occupation with health. Diversions were the essence of a summer stay at Hotwells. It was a time when gentlemen made the grand tour but ladies never, so the scenery was no doubt of great charm to them. The Avon at high tide was of considerable scenic beauty and there were river picnics - some times with music. There were also trips as far as the site of present day Avonmouth or to Portishead; or they caught the Rowham Ferry to Long Ashton where, according to Vincent Waite, scrumptious repasts of strawberries or raspberries and cream could be had.

Then for the energetic there were walks, rides or drives. Quite possibly, those who went there for the water, which according to reports was all too often polluted, may have got far more benefit by the time spent in the good air on the Downs. And just as fashionable visitors to Bath enjoyed the surrounding scenery, they enjoyed the view to South Wales from the vantage points of Kingsweston or the Gothic Tower of Blaise Castle.

Cont/.....

Hotwells had its literary associations. Chatterton the boy poet was sufficiently inspired by the romantic scenery to write his poem Clifton and Smollett wrote Humphrey Clinker in 1771, a satirical account for a mere fortnight by Matthew Bramble and his party. In this novel one male character says there is an awful stink and slime everywhere and another character describes a profusion of beautiful flowers and an enchanting variety of moving pictures. Probably the truth lay between the two, because one character had gout, and the other was violently in love, and so the condition of each coloured their outlook.

Fanny Burney's Evelina came out in 1778. These two gave something of the literary fame which Sheridan and later Jane Austen bestowed in the same decade on Bath. From Fanny Burney, one gathers the visitors were refined, if at times affected and artificial, but they did delight in the Theatre. Hotwells was thus important for the blossoming of the Bristol Stage. The first theatre to serve Hotwells and the Bristol public was opened in 1729. It was sited in an area which is now Jacob Wells Road. Thirty-seven years later, in 1766, the Theatre Royal was built largely modelled on Drury Lane. The large capacity was no doubt determined by bookings from visitors to Hotwells, and the two seasons coincided. When in 1778, a royal licence entitled the Theatre to be called the Theatre Royal, the patronage of 'Persons of Rank and Fortune on account of their taking the medicinal waters' was given as a reason for this concession.

In 1785 the Pump Room was improved and a colonnade with elegant little shops was built. But it wasn't long before an irreversible decline overtook Hotwells. The new tenant in 1790 had to pay a high rent and the increased charges deterred visitors. But more important was the growing controversy over the effectiveness of the water as a cure for consumption. This was challenged by a local physician Dr. Beddoes, who set up his institution in Dowry Square, but who preferred to live in Upper Clifton. It was his verdict which was the final cause of the collapse of the Spa.

A lesser authority but one especially interesting to us in Westbury-on-Trym, is Robert Southey who influenced by the climate of opinion of Dr Beddoes and his followers, and writing under the lovely pseudonym of Don Manuel Alvarez Esprietta held the water to be of no use to consumptives, and mentions the rather dreary sight of ailing people gasping for their last breath of air.

In 1822 Mr. Bolton attempted to revive the Spa. In 1867 the New Pump Room was demolished and the Hotwell Point was removed. The Spring was enclosed and piped to a grotto. A pump was set up in 1877 - but there was a query as to whether the water was from the original spring. Nevertheless, this was still in use up to 1913. Attempts have been made to find the original spring. There were borings in 1913 and again in 1925. The only reminder left to us is the colonnade now in sad decay.

Doreen Layzell  
Westbury on Trym Local  
History Group

(For references please see overleaf)

REFERENCES

1. James Dallaway - Antiquities of Bristol in the Middle Centuries.
2. State Papers, Domestic Series 1629 - 1631.
3. A Relation of a Short Survey of 26 Counties observed in a seven week journey begun on August 11th 1634 by a Captain, a Lieutenant, and an Ancient ..... of Norwich, ed. L G Wickham Legg (1904).
4. Characters at the Hotwell, Bristol in September 1723 - author unknown.
5. Patrick McGrath - Bristol in the 18th Century.
6. Felix Farley's Bristol Journal, 1 June 1776.
7. Felix Farley's Bristol Journal April to October 1776.
8. Sketchleys Bristol Directory 1775.
9. Vincent Waite - The Bristol Hotwell.
10. Sir Robert Atkyns - Ancient and Present State of Gloucestershire 1712.
11. Daniel Defoe - Tour Through the Whole Island of Great Britain, 1724.
12. Chatterton - Clifton, a poem.
13. Tobias Smollett - Humphrey Clinker.
14. Fanny Burney - Evalina.
15. Essay by Bryan Little in the Essays in Bristol and Gloucestershire History - the Centenary Volume of the Bristol Archaeological Society.
16. Arrowsmiths Dictionary of Bristol.

- 2 -

At the beginning of Section II of "List 24" there appears a list of "Public Record Office Lists and Indexes". These give more details about local information in the particular collections than the three volume 'Guide' can provide. Remember that these are published indexes only, and that their range is supplemented by other similar publications issued by the "List and Index Society" which are photographic reproductions of unpublished Public Record Office indexes. The Headquarters Library of the Avon County Library Service at College Green, Bristol, holds files of both series.

Lists and indexes may excite curiosity but they do not always inspire confidence to go and tackle the originals. One book which does do this for anyone beginning work in the Public Record Office is:-

GALBRAITH (V.H.): Introduction to the use of the Public Records, Oxford Univ. Press., 1934. This is still being reprinted and appears in the current Oxford University Press catalogue at a price of £1.80p. It is a good investment for anyone, a work written by a friendly scholar who was well aware of the outwardly intimidating nature of the material he described and therefore anxious that nobody who read his book should be left unprotected against the pitfalls of practical research. If you read this book you will soon feel at ease with its author. The same writer, later in his career, produced another book:-

GALBRAITH (V.H.): Studies in the Public Records, Nelson, 1948 which, since it is an account of the history of the public records and of the means devised (or sometimes left totally undevised) for their custody, is a little more 'difficult' but is still fascinating. In this book Professor Galbraith explains something of the purposes which the records were meant to serve and how they were compiled. Similar information is also provided in a popular style in chapters 5 and 6 of:-

WEAVER (F.J.): The Material of English History, Nelson, 1938 which appeared in the "Discussion Books" series issued by Nelson during the nineteen-thirties and which were for a long time the staple nourishment of many Workers' Educational Association classes. Unfortunately Weaver's is now one of the books in that series most difficult to purchase. The present writer was extremely pleased to get his copy, albeit slightly damp-stained, for only twenty pence from one of the dustier bookshelves in the old cinema at Hay-on-Wye.

A good book to read in order to get the sense of record turned into living history is:-

BAGLEY (J.J.): Historical Interpretation, vol.1, Penguin Books, Harmondsworth, 1965.

There has been at least one subsequent re-printing of this work in which Bagley's purpose is primarily the interpretation of national history. Yet national history, as his book demonstrates quite clearly, is capable of significant illumination by local examples.

Cont/.....

If you want to find out more of what the public records contain and the kind of information they may give you (that is to try and answer first of those hypothetical questions I proposed earlier) you could still perhaps do no better than read:-

COX (J.C.): How to write the History of a Parish, edn.5.rev., George Allen & Sons, 1909,

particularly the eighth and ninth chapters which deal with the medieval period. A lot of the other material in Cox's little book has of course been up-dated and augmented over nearly seventy years but those chapters are still useful for telling you in plain language what documents like Hundred Rolls, Patent Rolls, Feet of Fines, or Placitae Foresta and all the rest of them with their menacing Latin names are all about. You may find it easier to procure the modern revision of Cox's book by R.B. Pugh who has recently retired from the general editorship of the Victoria County History. The reference here is:-

PUGH (R.B.): How to write a Parish History, Allen and Unwin, 1954, an excellent guide to all branches of local history research. You must not however be dispirited by his assertions at the beginning of the book that Latin and palaeography are essential for anyone who wants to write a parish history. Every bit as essential is the oldest inhabitant who will talk to you and perhaps may not be able to read or write.

If you feel that I still have not answered the really important question 'what do these records look like and how do I set about interpreting them' that is only because the provision of such information can best be given as a brief bibliography at the end of this contribution to "Quest". There appeared in the "Amateur Historian" mostly during the 'fifties' a whole series of articles which did that particular job very well. They are often accompanied by photographs and by translations of the relevant parts of the text illustrated. In the ensuing bibliography authors' names have been omitted in the interests of saving space. The abbreviation "A.H." is to be interpreted as "Amateur Historian", and "L.H." as "Local Historian", the same journal's later title. The numbers underlined are volume numbers and part numbers, date of issue and page numbers follow.

Articles on the Public Records published in A.H. and L.H.

Army Officers' Records, A.H.6, no.6, 1965, pp. 192-197  
 Chancery Proceedings, A.H.6, no.8, 1965, pp. 254-259  
 Church Goods' Inventories, A.H.7, no.7, 1967, pp. 219-222  
 Court Rolls, A.H.4, no.3, 1959, pp. 98-100  
 Feet of Fines, A.H.1, no.1, 1952, pp. 5-8  
 Forest Law, A.H.3, no.7, 1958, pp. 305-307  
 Hearth Tax Returns, L.H.11, no.7, 1975, pp. 385-389  
 Hundred Rolls of 1279, A.H.5, no.1, 1961, pp. 9-16  
 Inquisitions Post Mortem, A.H.1, no.3, 1952/53, pp. 47-51  
 " " " A.H.6, no.7, 1965, pp. 235-242  
 Lay Subsidies 1290-1334, A.H.3, no.8, 1958, pp. 325-328  
 Lay Subsidies after 1334, A.H.4, no. 3, 1959, pp. 101-109  
 Letters Patent, A.H.1, no.2, 1952, pp. 47-51  
 Memoranda Rolls, A.H.5, no.8, 1963, pp. 242-246  
 Ministers' and Baliffs' Accounts, A.H.1, no.4, 1953, pp. 112-117  
 Plea Rolls, A.H.1, no.5, 1953, pp. 155-158  
 Poll Taxes of 1377, 1379 and 1381, A.H.3, no.7, 1958, pp. 271-278



CORRECTIONS to QUEST 6

The article by C. F. Spittal, "Gloucestershire Dialect Word-Lists", has a misleading omission which spoils the sense of the first part of the second paragraph. The beginning of the second paragraph should have read:-

"Every bit as essential as 'O.E.D.' (originally, may I respectfully point out 'N.E.D.' or "New English Dictionary") is the "English Dialect Dictionary" compiled by Joseph Wright and issued in six volumes....." The words "is the "English Dialect Dictionary" were completely left out after the second closing parenthetical mark.

My apologies to Mr. Spittal for making nonsense of the opening of his very excellent article and I must also apologise to him for the omission of his name from his other article, "Bristol Popular Lectures Part 1 (1891-1915)". I am sure that he did not take offence but it may have been an inconvenience for readers.

There were a number of smaller errors in Mrs. Layzell's article on "The Hotwell Spa" and a new copy should accompany this Quest.

There was one further, rather comical, error in the list of lectures organised by BARG in association with the Extramural Department. The lecture given on 23rd January was about Crickley, not 'Prickley Hill'. There is a very well produced pamphlet published by the Crickley Hill Trust in association with Gloucestershire County Council entitled "Crickley Hill and Gloucestershire Prehistory", written by Philip Dixon and Patricia Borne.

COUNTY NEWS

INDIVIDUAL ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP - The following is an extract from the minutes of a meeting of the Societies of the A.L.H.A. held on Friday, 10 February, 1978.

"There was provision in the constitution for individual membership, and representatives at the meeting agreed that this category be established, suggesting a subscription of £1 which would cover the supply of QUEST and other occasional mailings. A resolution to this effect would be proposed at the AGM when societies had consulted their members as to whether any restriction should be placed on membership where people lived in an area covered by an existing society."

HANDBOOK

Pre-publication price of the Handbook will probably be £1.25 (and certainly not more than £1.50). The ordinary price will be £1.95 to £2.50 or more. Pre-publication orders must be with the ALHA office by 30 June, and an order form is enclosed for you to complete. It is hoped that the Handbook may be published by mid-September. Please make sure you place your order before the end of June.

ALHA PUBLICATIONS

John Moore and Tom Crowe have submitted a proposal to the Executive Committee, which is given overleaf, on suggestions for future publications of ALHA, and your comments would be appreciated, as would any suggestions you or your group may have.

COPY DATE for the next issue of QUEST is 31 July 1978. The Editor will welcome details of forthcoming events, news of Societies, articles and comments. Communications should be addressed to Mrs Sue Barrance, 120 Manor Lane, Charfield, Wotton-under-Edge, Glos. GL12 8TN. Tel: Falfield 572. All other correspondence on Association matters c/o Avon Community Council, 17 Whiteladies Road, Bristol 8. Tel: Bristol 36822.

### A.L.H.A. PUBLICATIONS

We believe that the ALHA should publish, for the benefits of its members in the first instance, source material for the study of Avon County. Additionally, the Association should aim to publish learned papers in the same way that other County Societies do.

In the case of source materials we propose that these be published in sufficient quantity to cover the pre-determined requirements of members with only a small over-run. Copies would then be priced to cover costs. In this way the financial burden to the ALHA funds would be limited to providing a "bridging loan" to pay printing bills and other costs.

We have prepared an initial list of possible publications. The subjects are listed below, in no particular order of priority. Publication would depend on firstly finding someone prepared to do research for the topics chosen, secondly on an indication from societies that there is a market for any given type of material and thirdly, time. Naturally, we should need to consult with other organisations who may be considering publications to avoid duplication of efforts.

It is a fairly long list and could easily take 30 years to publish. However, there are probably many omissions and we would be grateful to hear members' views on other possible topics, and also on the subjects which should be given priority.

In anticipation that a Publications Sub-Committee will be established, work has already started on the first of what could well become six volumes of Probate Inventories (item 1 in the list).

#### Listing of Possible ALHA Publications of Source Material for Historical Research in the County of Avon and other possible ALHA Publications

1. Probate Inventories - Pre 1650 and excluding Bristol.
2. Index to surviving newspapers - which papers exist, for what dates and where are they?
3. Listings indicating the whereabouts of all surviving Parish records.
4. Wills and Administrations.
5. Completion of Bristol Apprentice Registers (continuing the abandoned work of the Bristol Record Society).
6. Marriage Licences - Bristol/Glos. and Bath/Wells.
7. Extracts - Avon references in the London Apprentice Registers (from 1711).
8. Listing of Manorial and Estate records.
9. Selected Manorial Documents in translation.
10. Saxon Charters - translated and with boundary points mapped.
11. Domesday (for Avon) introduction and explanation.

12. Index (to be updated) of relevant theses and dissertations by University Students.
13. Catalogue of Avon Maps.
14. Listing of enclosure awards relevant to Avon.
15. Hearth Tax assessments for the County.
16. Early Tudor subsidies.
17. Index of local friendly societies and their surviving records.
18. List of early insurance policies for Avon, down to 1850.
19. Translation of selected ecclesiastical records.
20. Preparation of handbooks on "methods" in local history.
21. Glebe terriers.
22. Extract from the Somerset list of Bath and Wells ecclesiastical records.
23. Parish listing of selected ecclesiastical records.
24. Cost of living index for Avon.
25. Provisional listing of "Roman" place names.
26. Listing of all known old photographs and drawings of Avon.
27. The Poor Law Union records and records of other ad hoc statutory authorities (sanitation, highways, etc)
28. Local edition of Avon Poll Taxes (1377-1381).
29. Listing of Avon reference in parliamentary Blue Books.
30. Listing of relevant references in Annals of Agriculture, Journal of the Bath and West etc.
31. Edition of Local Hundred Rolls and Quo Warrantio records.
32. Local extents for debts and Crown debtors.
33. Lists of Avon recusants and puritans.
34. Avon place names - an introduction.
35. Catalogue of available air photographs for Avon.
36. Catalogue of business and transport records.
37. County tabulations - by Parish on (a) literacy and (b) baptisms and burials (statistics).

38. Local references to disease, disasters, famine, etc.
39. Church dedications and old parish boundaries.
40. Avon handlist of Directories, Poll Books etc. and their whereabouts.
41. Historical records - examples of documents and their uses.
42. Trades Union and political party records.
43. Local government records.
44. Schools and other educational records.
45. Selected regional studies - when available. These would be papers prepared by local historians working on the history of the County.
46. Monastic cartularies etc.
47. Guide to printed and manuscript census records for Avon.
48. Civil registration records.

John Moore/Tom Crowe

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

As an individual interested in (i) Local History in general and (ii) pursuing my own associated thing, I found Issue 6 of QUEST covered two of the points which often frustrate me.

1. Availability of QUEST to individuals - despite an attempt to have regular posted copies and not wishing to form a one-man local group or join an established group, I find that my source of a QUEST is much as its name implies - a search. I would heartily support an individual membership scheme and a regular copy therefrom.
2. Recognition of individuals' activities - I believe there must be many persons throughout the County who are deeply interested and involved in "doing their own local history thing" whether it be research, recording or collection. Because such persons are often, by choice or circumstance, not members of a larger more informed group (and if QUEST is not readily available), many of the events that would be of interest are not known about. Conversely many of these individuals' local knowledge, talents, collections etc. are unknown to groups who could draw upon such in their own workings. Could not one or two members of the ALHA Committee be responsible for an interface between these two sides? I believe that such a move would allow the "aims and objections" of ALHA to reach down to more grass root levels than at present. Perhaps such a move would encourage more individuals to play active roles in the compilation of data and information, and perhaps by giving assistance in possible publications a greater "association" would result?

Yours faithfully,

Harold A. Lane  
9 Lower Chapel Lane, Frampton Cotterell.

BLAKE COMMITTEE TO REVIEW LOCAL HISTORY

The Chairman sent the following letter on behalf of the Association incorporating many of the points submitted by affiliated societies:

27 February 1978

The Rt. Hon. Lord Blake,  
Committee to Review Local History,  
26 Bedford Square,  
London WC1B 3HU.

Dear Lord Blake,

Committee to Review Local History

As Chairman of the Avon Local History Association, hereafter ALHA, I have pleasure in submitting the views of this Association to your committee. This follows a full discussion at the last meeting of the Association, and some of our constituent societies will be making their own submissions in addition, as will the Extra-Mural Studies department of the University of Bristol, which is also represented on the Association.

Problems of a new county

We are particularly conscious of the needs of local history in a new county created under the 1973 reorganisation of local government, as it will clearly take time, quite possibly decades, to create a spirit of loyalty and attachment to the new county, and as the previous organisational development we inherited was very uneven. In South Gloucestershire (the new districts of Kingswood and Northavon), we took over a local history organisation at county level in good running order from the Local History sub-committee of the Gloucestershire Community Council: there were several flourishing old societies at local level, and others had been set up more recently in the wake of extra-mural courses run by Bristol University. In the urban areas of Bristol and Bath, there were also some well-established societies, though there was no "umbrella" organisation. In North Somerset, however, (the new districts of Wansdyke and Woodspring) there was no specific county organisation from which functions could be inherited, and at local level local history societies were thinner on the ground.

As a 'new county' organisation, we have had to start from scratch, with no accumulated reserves of money, experience, tradition and loyalty, and the lack of these facilities has from the outset hampered our operations to a considerable degree, despite the enthusiastic effort put in by those who founded ALHA. No doubt these are problems also faced by other 'new county' local history organisations, but we feel that they do pose special difficulties quite apart from the other problems, detailed below, which are probably of wider application.

### Existing functions of ALHA

- (a) Co-ordination of local societies for their mutual benefit, through
  - (i) regular meetings
  - (ii) annual exhibition
  - (iii) 'Quest' - county journal appearing three times per annum
- (b) Assistance to individuals (Associate Members) and societies:
  - . advice service by correspondence and in columns of 'Quest',
  - visits to societies by officers and Executive Committee members
- (c) Common Servicing
  - (i) secretarial and administrative services
  - (ii) 'Avon Local History Handbook' - to be published in the autumn of 1978
  - (iii) other publications
  - (iv) publicity and pressure-group activities
  - (v) projects of general use (e.g. indexing of local records and newspapers.)

### Future work

It seems to us that both at county and local level (i.e. town or parish) the principal need can be summed up in one word - money. Without money it is difficult to maintain our existing activities, much less expand these or diversify into new fields. Although we appreciate that it is a little difficult to make a case for national support of a minority activity on grounds of demand, we do believe that a strong case can and should be made on cultural grounds, for support of local history at the same scale (or greater) as is now made in support of archaeology. We are aware, of course, that archaeology has special claims because much of its potential evidence is threatened by destruction; but much local historical evidence is also threatened by loss:

- (i) oral evidence - by death
- (ii) documents in private possession (e.g. household accounts, diaries, business records) by destruction through ignorance or neglect of their historical importance.

The latter situation is exacerbated in Avon because the County Council does not have the money to set up a County Record Office, and there is a considerable danger that, in the absence of a C.R.O., the official records of the local government bodies superseded in 1973 are also at risk of destruction through lack of official supervision. The Bristol Record Office, admirable though it is, has no powers of supervision outside its own district, except in the case of ecclesiastical records within the diocese of Bristol, for which it is the officially designated Diocesan Record Office.

Apart from these general considerations, we would like to comment in greater detail on what we could do better or on a wider scale with more money, using the categories outlined above under Existing Functions of ALHA.

- (a)(ii) Our activities under this heading could be expanded to everyone's benefit if more money could be spent on publicity in particular, but also to a lesser extent on facilities. An attractive venue greatly assists participation by the public, and this may well entail expenditure on hiring space that is beyond our present or estimated resources. Furthermore, greater expenditure on publicity to reach the general public would undoubtedly pay dividends in terms of increased public attendance and therefore interest, increased revenue for ALHA and growing memberships of our constituent societies. Under present circumstances, however, we simply cannot afford to make a loss and can therefore budget only for limited expenses which experience shows can be recouped easily.

.../.

(a)(iii) and (c)(iii) Although we now have a well-established journal, 'Quest', which not only pays its way but also generates considerable interest, there is no doubt that it would reach a wider readership, expand circulation, and again generate greater public interest, if it could be presented in more attractive printed format, as is the case with the corresponding 'Local History Bulletin' produced by the Gloucestershire Community Council. Although it is very likely that such a changeover would pay off in the medium term, the risk of loss in the short term is unacceptably high, given our lack of financial reserves.

Similar considerations preclude any early production of other publications (apart from the "Avon Local History Handbook" which has been separately financed by donations, advertising revenue, and an 'earmarked grant' from the Development Commission) which on academic or 'service' grounds would be desirable, e.g. lists and indexes to local records and possibly local histories of a suitable standard. Several of our constituent societies have specified that one of their outstanding needs at local level is help with publication, both in the form of professional advice and in assistance with publication costs. With regard to the latter, it is often the case that publication sales may cover their costs over an extended period of sale, and may indeed even make a modest profit, but this can only be achieved if in the meantime the printer's bill, due for settlement at most a month after publication, can be met by certain individuals putting their hands in their pockets for the amount required, and hoping that they will eventually be repaid. Particularly in a period of substantial inflation, this necessarily means a loss in real terms to the individuals concerned.

It has been suggested that one way in which printing and publication costs could be reduced is the setting-up of regional printing units by consortia of county organisations to reduce overheads and optimise throughput with proper organisation, professional help (both of printers and historians) and financial backing. We believe this is feasible and worthwhile. The existence of a Local History Press able to produce by a variety of methods according to the estimated demands (or the subsidisation of presses already specialising in local history, e.g. Phillimore & Co., or the Moonraker Press) would stimulate local groups to engage on worthwhile work with a definite possible publication in view at the end, and overall might be expected to break even or make a small profit to be ploughed back.

(c)(i) We are indeed fortunate that our central secretariat is housed in the offices of the Avon Community Council, who provide us with secretarial and administrative services on a 'materials cost' basis. We recognise that the items not charged for (secretarial time and overhead costs) represent a heavy burden on the Community Council, and if we were to be charged on the 'total economic cost' basis, we could not even continue our present level of operational service, if indeed we could continue at all.

(c)(iv) It is impossible to expand these aspects of our services without far greater publicity expenditure on, for example, posters, shop-window displays and advertising. On the related matters of advisory services (section (b)) to local societies and individuals, we are totally dependent on the unpaid, voluntary services of a few professional historians, the demand for whose services could quite easily reach unacceptable levels in the foreseeable future. Were we able to offer such experts a consultancy fee, we could more easily call on their services without risking either overworking them or embarrassing refusals to help further.

.../.

(c)(v) Finally, there are many other activities which we would like to initiate at a county level on projects of general utility which no one local society could possibly sustain on its own. We have in mind the preparation of detailed indexes to certain local records and to local newspapers, projects which are already operating elsewhere and which would be useful to all local societies and individual local historians if carried through to fruition in Avon. We are in Avon already exploring the possibility of initiating a pilot project under the Job Creation Programme but this may be abortive because of lack of accommodation and supervisory staff. Problems of staff-turnover are also inevitable under the JCP and, again, separate funding is the real, indeed the only answer in the long run: 'ad hoc' expedients such as the JCP offer at best only temporary palliatives not real solutions.

#### Other recommendations

Although it is not the function of ALHA to involve itself in the detailed 'nuts and bolts' of local history at local level except in a purely advisory capacity, many of our local societies have asked us to stress the needs which they have in common. These include:

- (1) The provision of more lectures and research courses by the Extra-Mural Department of Bristol University, possibly leading to a Certificate or Diploma in Local History. We understand that the latter proposal is under consideration by the department, which is already running a similar course in Local Archaeology and Fieldwork in Landscape History, but lack of staff precludes its implementation in the near future. Lack of full-time staff and inadequate money to employ more part-time tutors are also the obstacles to the provision of more lectures and research courses.
- (2) More professional help for local societies, especially new societies or those wishing to undertake serious work on their localities. Apart from the occasional gratuitous visit, this is not presently possible, nor feasible; the labourer is worthy of his hire if more than the occasional visit is envisaged. Even covering travelling expenses for a lecturer, let alone fees, can be a strain on small societies' budgets, and although many professionals do offer their services free or at reduced fees, it is hardly fair to expect them to do so for long.
- (3) The possible inclusion of an Open University Course on the Sources and Methods of Local History which could be taken without involvement in a full degree course. This may well not be possible under the Open University's existing degree-structure.
- (4) The preparation and regular updating of a list of research projects in progress or completed on local historical topics, both by post-graduate university students (this is covered nationally by the annual lists of the I.H.R.) and by training-college students and others (which are not so included).
- (5) For some local societies, the provision of secure storage-space, if nothing more, is an urgent necessity, as the results of work on documentary sources and of fieldwork and the presentation of physical remains accumulates. For other societies, even a place to meet and work may present difficulties, since the provision of usable space may well be scarcest where it is most needed. Local authorities and others with the requisite space should be urged to make it available rent-free or at nominal rents to bona-fide societies.



- (6) Access to archives held in public institutions needs to be improved drastically (this is not a criticism of existing offices who do their best with extremely limited resources):
- (a) photostat charges are often unnecessarily high by comparison with other institutions; this is especially true of the Public Record Office, whose service is in any case appalling in both quality and time.
  - (b) Record Offices should be open on evenings and Saturday mornings (at least) when the ordinary amateur user can hope to use them, otherwise for many potential local historians the opportunity to work on records is simply denied them.
  - (c) the establishment of an Avon County Record Office should be the first priority (see above).

In addition, the historians, both professional and amateur in ALHA, feel there is a strong case to be made for the transfer into an Avon C.R.O. of records held at Gloucester and Taunton, where this can be done without disrupting archive groups. This is clearly impossible in the case of official 'old county' records, but many deposits of private records, parish records, and some official records (e.g. Poor Law Union and local government records) could be transferred en bloc. If this were done, travelling costs would be greatly reduced and more time could be spent in the study of record evidence by local historians.

In conclusion, we would wish to emphasise one problem and one belief. The problem is that common to many rural activities, namely concentrating enough people at a particular point to facilitate the provision of resources which it is uneconomic and inefficient to dissipate in penny packets among very small villages and hamlets. It is neither practical nor desirable for every place to have its local history society or its local history course, given the low maximum number of possible attenders at meetings. The concentration of interested people and facilities, however, would only be possible if a much more adequate public transport system, or an acceptable substitute such as cost-sharing of private transport on a legally permissible basis exists in the countryside then is now the case. Otherwise, effectively, in these areas local history is confined to car-owners and their personal friends.

The belief is that local history is an activity which is valuable to the community not simply in terms of a leisure time pursuit (though increasing leisure in the future is likely to present both a social challenge and an opportunity for local history to grow), but as an academic and cultural pursuit of value to the nation as a whole. Many additions to the corpus of historical knowledge have been and will be made by local historians, both professional and amateur, and many valuable historical hypotheses have originated in initial observation and analysis of local information. To the locality, local history should be a pleasure, but to the country as a whole it should be a duty, since in many respects national history is the sum of its parts, i.e. the history of its constituent localities. For this reason, we hope your Committee will urge on government both national and local the desirability of greater financial support for local history, subject of course to proper accountability, and on local government the provision of increased facilities, especially in Avon the creation of a County Record Office and the making available, where needed, of adequate space at rents which local societies can afford.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN S. MOORE  
Chairman, ALHA

BRISTOL POPULAR LECTURESPart II: The Inter-War Period

Based on a lecture given at A.L.H.A. Exhibition at Thornoury on Saturday, October 22nd 1977 by C.J. Spittal

When the Bristol Popular Lectures re-commenced in October 1920 a significant shift of interest soon became apparent in the design of the programmes. Cultural concerns of audiences became divorced from established patterns of social behaviour and socially fostered intellectual interests. In short simple science and familiar authors were to be displaced by what was immediately newsworthy or else culturally derivative of activities not permitting direct personal involvement or practical verification by experiment.

A remarkable degree of interest in the workings of experimental wireless alone belies the final part of the foregoing general statement. It may be taken as the exception to the one general rule of a drift towards fantasy and cultural disengagement unknown before the holocaust of 1914-1918.

Lectures given on travel were much more closely identified with exploration as well as absorbing much of the interest in natural history and history, when not concerned with the exploits of the war just ended, became largely identified with politics and current affairs. Before 1915 twenty-four lectures out of 141 delivered from 1891 had been devoted to travel and current affairs (about 17 per cent) but between the wars fifty-one out of 107 lectures delivered to March 1938 (nearly 48 per cent) were devoted to those subjects.

Soviet Communism (there was at that time no competitive variety on offer) was a matter of continuing concern. In January 1923 Mrs. Philip Snowden was invited to lecture on her travels "Through Bolshevik Russia" and Professor Wertheimer felt that he should make exceptional efforts to ensure a satisfactory evening for her audience. Accordingly he addressed a letter to the Chief Constable of Bristol in which he pointed out that on previous occasions when Mrs. Snowden had spoken in public her lectures had been interrupted "by extremists who sympathised with Bolshevism" and giving his opinion that the best way of preventing any such outbursts in Bristol would be to have a constable on duty in Unity Street who could be summoned inside the auditorium if necessary. The Chief Constable could not, under existing legislation, agree to the second part of these proposals and pointed out that the regulation of good behaviour amongst members of the audience must rest primarily with stewards inside the college. Upon receipt of this reply Professor Wertheimer wrote another letter to the Society of Merchant Venturers:-

"We do not of course engage 'chuckers-out' for these Popular Lectures", he wrote, "but no doubt I could arrange for some students to be present who would be delighted to help in this way". Today there is no need for administrators of higher education establishments or Heads of Departments to consider any such formal invitation to students! The Professor's final hope was that the assistant porter who, although not "physically powerful", could be relied upon to achieve the necessary regulation of public order by laying "his hand upon the disturber's shoulder and asking him to leave — following the method used in the House of Commons". It was perhaps as well that Professor Wertheimer, who was to die the following year and be succeeded as Principal by Professor Andrew Robertson, did not live to learn of Oswald Moseley's Olympia rally of 1936 or the Grunwick picket-line of 1977,

Anti-communism in the ranks of the clergy apparently constituted no such threat to public order and no special measures were taken the next year when Dean Inge came to Bristol to lecture on Revolutions. His audience of 751 was the largest of that season. By the end of 1936 there had been three more speakers on Russia (one of them being Sir Bernard Pares, author of a best-selling 'Pelican Special' on the USSR), one on Spain, one on Mustafa Kemal, the founder of modern Turkey but, rather surprisingly, only on Germany. A lecture on Italy in 1932 was glibly advertized in the college prospectus in advance of its delivery - a practice which began in 1929 - as a "graphic and interesting picture of the new Italy under Mussolini."

The coming of broadcasting after the war had a two-fold effect upon the content of lecture programmes. Professor Wertheimer had introduced the subject in 1912 but with the establishment of a national service after the war cat's - whisker receivers displaced microscopes in the parlours and garden-sheds of scientifically-minded Bristolians. Although they were not delivered within the series of "Bristol Popular Lectures" mention must be made of two talks on "How Wireless Works" given in the academic year of 1922/23 by the vice-principal of the Merchant Venturers' Technical College, W.A. Andrews, whose enthusiasm for his subject is still well-remembered by amateur radio enthusiasts in Bristol today. For the only time on record the number of those seeking admission to the Great Hall at Unity Street exceeded the seating accommodation available and a repeat lecture had to be arranged. The total audience present during these two lectures was 1309 and they heard a remarkable prophecy that "in fifty years wireless sets would be of the dimensions of writing bureaux and contain a screen on which coloured representations would be received and have no outside aerial."

Radio also stimulated popular interest in musical appreciation. During the years 1922-1924 audiences at Unity Street listened to H. Walford Davies on Melody and on The Mind of Beethoven and to Sir Henry Hadow on The Structure of Musical Composition. The titles sound technical and formidable but reference to the early volumes of the "Radio Times" will remind us that, in those days, sonatas, symphonies and concertos were regularly analysed 'over the air' before their performance. Perhaps it was the repeated piano practice demanded of Victorian and Edwardian youth that ensured a latent adult ability to comprehend advanced theory. The average attendance at these lectures was 599.

Post-war lectures on literature showed no such tendency to concentrate the minds of audiences. Here there was clear evidence of that cultural disengagement of which I have already spoken. An increase in light journalism and gossip-mongering socialite magazines meant that Bristol, like most of Britain's major cities, inevitably became more aware of metropolitan literary life, and, as sales of books (particularly light fiction) increased, the social activities of writers became more newsworthy. Instead of a concern for literature itself there developed a distinctively middle-class interest in literary affairs. The ex-officer man of letters was a popular choice to lecture. St. John Ervine came to Bristol in 1931 to speak on Plays, People and Books. This was not 'kitchen sink' writing or bedroom stuff (better left to Ben Travers) but that of the best room in the house and the larger the house the better. "Ian Hay" (in reality John Hay Beith) whose "First Hundred Thousand", an account of Kitchener's First Army written from the viewpoint of the serving soldier, was a contemporary best-seller arrived at Unity Street in 1922 to tell The Truth about Authors. John Drinkwater, closely associated with the 'Georgian' (or, as it was sometimes dubbed "Week-End") movement in poetry delivered a Talk on Poetry in 1927 and Hugh Walpole (author of the immensely popular pseudo-historical "Herries Chronicles") arrived in December 1933 to speak on Life and Literature. Such an act of reconciliation was demonstrably overdue.

Travel and natural history coalesced in some of the lectures arranged during the 'twenties and thirties'. By the mid-twenties all interest in popular science as good lecture material had disappeared; the small stage of the hedgerow and garden pond had given way to grander Dramas from the Wild a lecture delivered by Captain Oliver Pike in 1927 for which the usual provision of lantern slides was augmented by "kinema film" illustrations. There was hint of the blood-thirsty about Wild Animals I have Known by Ernest Thompson Seton (1936) and more than a hint in Hunting Dragons in Komodo and exploring the Coral Laccadives by Mr. Denis Palmer, the well-known explorer of unknown islands for the "Wide World Magazine" a lecture delivered in 1938.

Adventure had to be contemporary. Only a Mr. P. Escott North achieved any kind of a popularity for a vanishing past with his lectures on the American mid-west delivered during the 'twenties' and his appeal was no doubt assisted by his habit of lecturing in full cowboy costume and by the local fame he appears to have achieved by organising rodeos in Shirehampton. During the nineteen-thirties Africa and the Far East became the most popular areas for travel lectures. The escapist appeal cannot be overlooked and there is little doubt that the films accounted for some of it. It is not difficult to see more than a coincidental connection between the box-office attraction of "The Lost Horizon" filmed from James Hilton's book in 1937 and two lectures given at Unity Street in the same year — Six Months in Lhasa—the Forbidden City and From Peking to India by Caravan.

Newspaper and radio coverage of mountaineering expeditions (Auden and Isherwood explored the significance of their appeal in "The Ascent of F6" produced in 1937) also played a part in shaping the lecture-programmes to meet popular taste. Whymper on the Alps was replaced, as the unconquered peaks became further distant, by F.S. Smythe on the Himalayas. In 1930 Smythe came to lecture on The Kanchenjunga Expedition. The following year he was a member of the successful attempt on Mount Kamet and returned in 1932 to lecture on that. These lectures attracted the biggest audiences of those years at 514 and 614 respectively.

War-time reminiscences such as Heligoland and its Secrets (1929) or The Blocking of Zeebrugge (also 1929) might be expected to have won popularity. The note of adventure also characterised a few lectures on still achievable acts of endurance such as sailing Round the Horn before the Mast by a Mr. Claude Muncaster in 1935 or Voyages in Clipper Ships ("the pathos of the vanished beauties of the sea with their towering piles of snow-white cotton or flax canvas" as the resume of the lectures for 1931/32 had it), the subject of a Commander F.A. Worsley. A new interest in Archaeology, on the other hand, was a more useful by-product of the contemporary headline stories in the newspapers. This science may be said to have largely 'come of age' during the nineteen-thirties and was much identified in the public mind with My Leonard Woolley, still to be knighted but nevertheless very much the Sir Mortimer Wheeler of his day. He gave two lectures at Unity Street; the first in 1933 was on Ur in the Time of Abraham and in 1934 he returned to speak on "Social Life in Ur". Although the social pressures of newspaper-headlines partly forestalled the enterprize of the organisers of the "Bristol Popular Lectures" during the inter-war period it is worth remarking that their prescience still showed. When Pelican Books began publication in 1937 Sir Leonard Woolley's "Digging up the Past" was amongst the first half-dozen titles listed.

The "Bristol Popular Lectures" ceased upon the renewal of world war. After that war ended the media of newspapers, radio, film and later television, which had previously been the latent incentives to self-education came to disseminate its content. In addition the political programme of a Labour Government began the process of extending opportunities for higher education more widely throughout the community and that development inevitably began to turn Heads of university departments more and more into administrators. Burdened with such duties it often became increasingly difficult for them to keep in touch with their own students let alone the general public. Most of those who sought an outlet for

\* / theatres of the natural history world such as were displayed in

their teaching skills outside the universities and colleges of further education could easily reap lucrative satisfaction by appearing on the small screen and the lack of direct contact between them and the general public has only been partially filled by the great growth of extra-mural tutoring, a difficult and necessary business but one somewhat more prosaic and utilitarian than the displays of instructive eloquence and accumulated learning which brought the public of Bristol into the Great Hall of the Merchant Venturers Technical College during the final decade of the last century and the early years of the Twentieth.

C.J. SPITTAL  
26.2.1978

NAILSEA GLASSWORKS - an Interim Report

by H.E. Dommett

At Nailsea there was a glassworks, a fact unknown by many inhabitants in this newly developed town. It was a fact known by the older folks, indeed many as children risked their necks in the ruins of the buildings, because, from its closure in 1873 until World War II it was arguably the greatest eyesore and largest adventure playground in Somerset. Even in death, much of the rubble from the works is still performing a service, that of hardcore under an airfield runway. However, the offices, the drill hall of the Somerset Volunteers Company recruited in the glassworks, fragments of factory buildings the ruins of the winding house and many of the glassworkers dwellings remain.

Books about the glassworks exist; B.J. Greenbill produced one amongst many he wrote on 'Nailsea History'; Sir Hugh Chance (a descendant of William Chance a partner of John Robert Lucas the founder) wrote articles for 'Collectors Circle' and an author K. Vincent wrote quite recently a book called 'Nailsea Glass'.

From each could be found information about owners throughout the period 1789 - 1873, works organisation, finance, commodities and glass technology but they obtained their information from limited source material because early correspondence, books of accounts of the glassworks and colleries, including abstracts of balance for the years 1827 - 1828 were destroyed in a World War II blitz.

I searched for a new angle and discovered photographs of the ruins taken thirty years after closure. The buildings were in severe decay, but with enough structure to produce reasonable impressions of how they appeared during their working life. Besides the production of eleven views for working purposes, six drawings were accepted for the Pilkington Glassworks Museum archives. At this time another Nailsea member, Trevor Bowen, quite independently of myself had been thinking on similar lines and he bettered my efforts with a brilliant model. He had been able to trace a plan of the works at closure, each building labelled with its manufacturing identify. Still working independently Trevor and I tackled the interpretation of the mysterious labels into glassmaking processes and this we achieved by reading every book on the history and technology of glass we could find.

Trevor, however, is a B.I.S. member much better qualified than myself for further industrial study, so I looked again for another angle. I felt that advances had been made in the knowledge of the works, but what of the workers themselves. How did they work? How did they play? Indeed how did they worship? What was their impact on the life of the village? I decided to concentrate on the investigation of these questions.

Reading the books on glassmaking history, I was impressed how the writers especially those with direct links in manufacturing all reflected a deep affection for the industry. Each stressed the pride of craft, the discipline and organisation of the glassmaking teams. But this clashed with a description of Nailsea Glassworkers of the late 18th Century by Hannah More. She reported:

"nineteen houses in a row containing in all near 200 people  
The work of a glass house is an irregular thing, uncertain whether by day or by night, not only infringing on man's rest, but constantly intruding upon the Sabbath. The wages high, the eating and drinking luxurious, the body scarcely covered but fed with dainties. The high buildings of the glass houses is ranged before the doors of their cottage. The great furnace roaring, the swearing, eating and drinking of these half dressed black looking things gave it the most horrible appearance. One if not two joints of finest meat were roasting in each of their hot kitchens, pots of ale standing about and plenty of early delicate looking vegetables. We were in our usual luck respecting personal civility which we received even from the worst of these creatures, some welcoming us to 'Botany Bay' others to 'Little Hell' as they themselves shockingly called it."

My first investigation of the 'creatures' was centred on the Nailsea Archives. The Examination Papers of the Settlement Act for the early period proved very interesting for I discovered three bulk settlements 1786, 1798 and 1816. The first 1786 consisted mainly of coal mines moving from the Somerset Coalfield to the 'new' mines at Nailsea. Those of 1798 and 1816 were comprised of 'Glassmakers' or 'Glass Labourers' - terms which must have offended the craft conscious sensitivities of the men although they dare not show it on their faces during the examination.

The analysis proved enthralling for results indicated an inbuilt jungle drum network. Although a high proportion had been apprentices in Bristol others came from London, Dumbarton, St. Helens, Stourbridge, all established glassmaking areas; one man born in Dublin arrived in Nailsea after spells in Dumbarton and Newcastle.

A listing was prepared carrying the name of the worker, the name of the firm of apprenticeship, the terms of apprenticeship (invariably 7 years) and terms of contracted employment often another seven years. In addition the birth parish of the worker, the parish in which marriages were solemnised, the maiden names of the wife, and the issue from the marriages was also available. Inconsistencies did occur probably due to lapses of memory of workers in the dating details.

Large families appeared to be the exception, one listed a family of six children but most were only one or two. There was evidence of a certain amount of education but to what extent is not known, but approximately one half of the workers could sign their own name on the settlement papers.

In one of the glassworking books a writer mentioned the tradition of the craft skills of a father being passed only to sons. An instance was quoted of a nineteenth century strike being called because the son of a deceased glassmaker had been apprenticed. Although the stepfather was working in the firm as a yard foreman, he was not a glassmaker and unacceptable to the trade. I decided to test the tradition from a wage sheet of Warren's Glassworks 1768, Settlement Lists of 1798 and 1816, and the census of 1851. Many surnames evident in each seems to substantiate the statement, but further research is needed to prove linkage.

Further information from the settlement papers indicated an influx of agricultural labourers and covenant servants whose wages in the late 18th century averaged between £4 and £5 per annum. One man worked for nothing on the promise made by his employer that the farm property would be left to him on the employer's death. It was not possible to establish their work mode in Nailsea, but from the numbers of intake it is assumed a change from domestic and agricultural labouring to industry had taken place.

During this operation, Denis Smart and his wife, both Nailsea members, completed a card index of the 1851 census and extracted a listing of glassmakers resident in Nailsea. This was comprehensive for it contained names, ages, family relationships, addresses and operational names such as blowers, founders, cutters, etc. The aim to list as many of the workers as possible throughout the life-span of the works is progressing. The period 1788-1816 is covered by the Settlement Papers. The period 1851-1883 can be covered by perusal of the 1851, 1861 and 1871 census returns. Careful exercises based on the Tythe Map, Tythe Appropriation Accounts, and Late Books can fill the spaces between the census years, and project back to 1843. The main problem will be in tracing names in the period 1816-1843, the search being directed then to directories, parish registers, newspapers, the Registrar of Friendly Societies and Archives.

A mass of information is emerging from the research which in turn triggers further queries. It was known that at one time the glassworks produced glass and alkali. Evolving technology had rendered the use of kelp as an alkali uneconomical. New equipment was installed sometime after 1827 and lasted until the massive works at the Netham, Bristol in the 1840s rendered the Nailsea operation uneconomical.

During this period the supply of sulphur imported from Sicily was denied to British manufacturers, and the material was then produced by extraction from native resources. An eyewitness speaking at the turn of the century claimed that a sulphur factory existed in Nailsea. The site of the factory, whether inside or outside of the glassworks is yet to be discovered. From another source it was discovered that pond drainage had uncovered excellent quality clay. Although unsuitable for the manufacture of the glassmakers pots, it was not wasted. A small pottery section making kitchenware existed until the clay either ran out or the glassworks closed.

Another fascinating story that needs verification is that seagull eggs from Lundy Island were once supplied to the glassworks. This, on reflection, may be true, perhaps access to kelp beds off Lundy might have been conditional on the purchase of eggs. The eggs were probably eaten like snails for medicinal reasons.

The question of glassworkers' health is important because a reference to 'Glassmaker's Palsy' was discovered. The working conditions in a cone must have been appalling, especially in the founding stages. Excessive heat, smoke from the furnace and fumes from the chemicals must have reached high pollution levels. During one period, the alkali process belched neat hydrochloric acid from the factory chimney. This is evidenced by a reference to the daughter of an Exciseman who lived near the works suffering the effects of the fumes.

There is so much more to be discovered and the research will last for years. It may result in the writing of a book; on the other hand the results will be available for future historians. My satisfaction comes in the thrill of discovery and an ever-deepening respect for the workers of the past. The 'creatures' by their own efforts became skilled glassworkers, and the brilliance of the men who developed the industry from Nailsea led to the establishment of such giants of the glassmaking industry as Chance Brothers of Birmingham and Hartley's of Sunderland — but then, that's another long, long story, equally as fascinating.

CIVIC TRUST: GRANTS FOR INTERPRETING THE HERITAGE

Carnegie United Kingdom Trust, in association with the Civic Trust, is launching a three year programme of grants, totalling £10,000, to assist local amenity societies in the provision of facilities which will give residents and visitors a richer insight into the history, character and resources of their areas.

Eligible to apply for grant will be all local amenity societies registered with the Civic Trust. New Societies formed during the Heritage Interpretation programme will be eligible for grant in the normal way. Grants will normally meet up to 50% of approved projects, with an upper limit of £1,500. In particularly interesting schemes, however, which could be valuable as models, these limits may exceptionally be waived.

Among interpretive media are town trails, conservation area guides, wall sheets, display boards and cases, vantage point keys and pocket heritage centres in such buildings as town halls, libraries, churches and railway stations.

The ideas behind the scheme and more details of the kinds of projects which might be undertaken by local amenity societies will be given in an illustrated manual compiled by the Civic Trust to be published in May 1978, 'Interpreting Our Heritage', which will cost about £2.75.

Further information may be obtained from the Civic Trust,  
17 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AW, or by telephoning  
Arthur Percival on 01-930-0914.

Applications should also be submitted to this address.

Readers may be interested to consider the 'five important thoughts' underlying the Heritage Interpretation Programme:-

1. That no-one can plan properly for the future without understanding the past (including the recent past) and the present.
2. That most communities are far richer in architectural and historic interest than is usually supposed.
3. That the nation's story is easier to bring to life if it can be seen reflected in local events, changes and trends; and conversely that the urban fabric can throw telling light on the nation's social, economic and political evolution.
4. That structures from the past, including the recent past, are a particularly effective means of giving present and future generations a better understanding of their forbears.
5. That once people have a better insight into the character of their own communities they are better equipped to intervene when they sense a risk of some blunder being made and to play a constructive part in improving what needs to be improved.



ORDNANCE SURVEY REVIEW COMMITTEE: INVITATION TO SUBMIT EVIDENCE

On January 17th, 1978, the Secretary of State for the Environment announced the establishment of a Committee with the following terms of reference:

"Taking account of the views of users and other interested parties, in the context of national surveying and mapping needs, to consider and make recommendations about the longer term policies and activities of the Ordnance Survey and ways of financing them".

The Secretary of State has asked the Committee to report, if possible, early in 1979.

Interested organisations or individuals are invited to submit evidence to the Committee. This should, in the first instance, be in writing, but the Committee may later seek supplementary oral evidence in some cases.

Written evidence should be sent to the Secretary to the Ordnance Survey Review Committee, Mrs. J.M. Williams, Room 1105, Becket House, 1, Lambeth Palace Road, London. SE1 7ER, by 31st May, 1978, or earlier if possible. Potential witnesses may obtain factual information about the Ordnance Survey from the Committee's Technical Secretary, Mr. R.A.G. Powell, Ordnance Survey, Romsey Road, Maybush, Southampton. SO9 4DH.

Notes for Guidance

In 1938 the Ordnance Survey was given the task of overhauling the basic surveys, which had been constituted on a county basis, and reconstructing them on a national basis. By 1980 this resurvey programme will be completed, and it is hoped that the present Review will assist in establishing guidelines for the work and financing of the Ordnance Survey in the 1980s and 1990s.

The Review Committee will welcome evidence on all relevant issues affecting the future role and objectives of the Ordnance Survey. These include the scales, content and quality of its maps; survey control; research and development; the marketing of its product; user needs; consultative procedures; effects of technological developments; alternative methods of presenting information (eg digital); together with the wider questions of its structure and finance. Some illustrative questions are listed below:

1. What kinds of information should the Ordnance Survey provide?
2. What developments, whether regulatory, scientific, or technical, may there be during the period under review of which the Committee should take account?
3. What criteria should underlie the Ordnance Survey's pricing and investment policies? To what extent should the costs of Ordnance Survey services and products be met by the taxpayers?
4. To what extent is there unnecessary duplication of surveying and mapping effort?
5. What should the Ordnance Survey's commercial and marketing policies be?
6. What should be the standards of accuracy and completeness adopted by the Ordnance Survey in its mapping and surveying work?
7. What factors should determine the rate of revision of different map series?
8. Is there a continuing need for Ordnance Survey to produce national series of maps and, if so, at what scales should these be produced?
9. What should be the arrangements for Ordnance Survey consultation with users and others?
10. How far do the present maps and services meet present needs?

It seems an appropriate place to bring to the attention of those readers who would like to know all there is to know about OS maps -

J. B. Harley - Ordnance Survey Maps: A Descriptive Manual  
(Ordnance Survey, Southampton, 200 pp., folio, 1975)

#### BOOK REVIEWS

##### The Inside Story of the Smyths of Ashton Court

Text compiled by Anton Bantock

Edited by Ian Lillington

Produced by the Malago Archives Committee, Bedminster Down School.

24pp., A4 size, 30p (or 39p by post).

Available from: 42 St. Peter's Rise, Headley Park,

Bishopsworth Library.

131 Queens Road, Bishopsworth.

Bedminster School (Mr. Bantock)

Any regular subscriber to the 'Malago' magazine will enjoy this latest publication of the Archives Committee. As usual, it has been excellently produced on a small budget. The text, the layout, the art work, the typing, the photographs, have all been thought out and put together with the care necessary to capture a young audience. It is nevertheless a story for all ages. Some concessions are made to the fashions of the young by enlarging the possibility of ghosts and buried treasure - but perhaps adults enjoy these too? Having enjoyed the anecdotes and the pictures, the reader is left with a clear outline of the foundation and decline of the family fortune.

##### History of Bristol's Suburbs by F. C. Jones and W. G. Chown

Edited, illustrated and published by Reece Winstone F.R.P.S

136pp., 78 photographs, (1977) £2.60

Bristol's Suburbs in the 1920's and 1930's - written, illustrated, designed and published by Reece Winstone, F.R.P.S. (1977) £3.35

Both books can be obtained from the author at 23 Hyland Grove,

Bristol 9.

In his 'History of Bristol's Suburbs', Mr. Reece Winstone has reprinted the articles of his old friend Frederick Charles Jones (1892 - 64) which were written for various local newspapers between 1927 and 1932. The sixteen articles, now chapters of the book, each cover a different suburb - Stoke Bishop, Sea Mills and Coombe Dingle, Redland, Horfield, Ashley, Purdown, Stapleton, Fishponds, Redcliffe, St. George, Kingswood, Hanham, Brislington, Knowle, Bedminster and Abbot's Leigh. The text for the final chapter is taken from a very different source, the manuscript account by William Gordon Chown (1885-1973) of the village of Brislington as it was at the beginning of the century when Mr. Chown was a post office messenger boy. The first paragraph of the chapter suggests that Mr. Chown was writing in 1970, so that the ensuing detailed tour, road by road, building by building, must seem a prodigious feat for a man of 85.

Unless you are singularly well acquainted with the locality, Mr. Chown's essay makes difficult reading. By contrast, Mr. Jones articles were beautifully put together and well suited to the entertainment of

the casual newspaper reader while introducing him to the history of each locality. However, although the first part of the book is far more easily read, the second may prove more useful to those with a particular interest in Brislington or for anyone endeavouring to encourage the elderly to record their memories. This final chapter makes an interesting comparison with the pamphlet reviewed below.

Mr. Reece Winstone describes the second volume as an extension and complement to the first. Each of the 229 photographs are annotated but there is no further text. As Mr. Reece Winstone confesses in the introduction to the first book, his 25th publication, he has still about six and a half thousand photographs unpublished in his collection. Despite his intimations of 'advancing years' and 'slowing down of activities', there seems every likelihood that there will be further reviews to be written of many new volumes added to Mr. Reece Winstone's collection.

The Nailsea I Knew 1910 to 1918 by Jack Hart

Published by Nailsea Local History Society (1977) 60p

This 17 page pamphlet is available from The Secretary, 5 The Perrings, Bristol BS19 2YD.

Unlike Mr. Chown's memories of Brislington at the turn of the century (part of the review above), Mr. Hart does not give a detailed description of Nailsea during the Great War but he gives a sense of what it was like to live in the place at the time.

Many things familiar today were in their early stages of development and Mr. Hart brings out the interest and wonder which seems very much part of his generation. How many children today would run to see an aircraft - even Concorde?

"One day an aircraft landed in a field on Mr. Prideaux's farm in Lodge Lane. We ran as fast as we could down Golden Valley, getting to the field just in time to have a look round it before it took off. My word! That was a thrill; it was the first most of us had seen at close quarters. A year or two later another landed behind Mizzynead Farm around mid-day. We went over to see it after dinner, consequently we were late for school. I cannot remember our punishment. I expect we were kept in after school to do lines."

Memories are difficult to organise into a written text suitable for publication but this is an attempt well worth reading.

BRISTOL INDUSTRIAL MUSEUM

- a new museum to house the technology collections -  
opened on 17th March, 1978

in M-SHED, PRINCE'S WHARF

Opening hours Sat. to Wed. 10 a.m. - 12 noon, 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.  
(Closed Thursdays & Fridays)  
Admission Free

Societies interested in a talk on CARTOGRAPHY, please contact Mr. Harold A. Lane at 9 Lower Chapel Lane, Frampton Cotterell, Bristol. (Telephone Winterbourne 778708).

The talk with visual presentations takes 45 to 75 minutes and covers the history of map making briefly and techniques for producing decorative parish maps based on the Tithe Maps of about 1840. Mr. Lane now has a collection of more than 30 maps.

SOME PARISH OFFICERS

From English Local Government (Longmans Green & Co. 1906)  
by Sidney & Beatrice Webb, Book One, Chapter 2.

Church Wardens (Page 65)

"Nothing is so profitable to these gentlemen", Defoe had pointed out in 1714, "as parish repairs. If the Church is new beautified, painted or whitewashed, whit! They come upon you with a Church Rate; and where £200 has been expended, £1,200 shall be collected; for Mr. Churchwarden will strive hard, but his daughter shall be £1,000 the better. Nay there are some parishes where Churchwardens, though they went in as poor as rats, have come out too rich ever to be poor again. And yet every booby is willing to eternise his name with an inscription to tell the world in what year he put the parish to an unnecessary charge, so that there is always something to be done to the Church to please the vanity of the Churchwarden."

Overseers of the Poor (Page 67)

"I well recollect", said an Assistant Poor Law Commissioner in 1833, "the case of a farmer, who some years since was appointed Overseer of a small parish in the country, who, not being very conversant with the rules of arithmetic, kept his accounts in a pair of boots, putting into one the money he had received, and into the other the acknowledgment for the sums which he expended. When he appeared before the Bench of Magistrates to swear to his accounts at the end of his year of office, he stated how he had kept it, and why he was satisfied that it was correct; and the Bench passed and allowed his account accordingly."

Surveyors - The Webbs quote from A. & W. Driver General View of the Agriculture of Herefordshire (1794)

"The ridiculous farce of appointing one of the parishioners annually (at no salary) to enforce from his relatives, friends and neighbours, a strict performance of a duty which probably he never discharged himself; and from which, by showing lenity to his neighbours, he will expect to be excused in his terms when they shall respectively succeed him in the office of Surveyor."

Can anyone supply any local examples?

RESULTS OF ALHA ESSAY COMPETITION

We are pleased to announce that the winners of the 1977 Essay Competition were:

- Class B (under 18):
- Section I (15-18 years)
- 1st prize      Michael Glasson of Backwell Comprehensive School on the History of Backwell Hill House.
- Section II (15 and under)
- 1st prize      -      Mary Bettey & Rebecca Strahan of Compton Dando Primary School on the history of Compton Dando.
- 2nd prize      -      William Martin of Bedminster Down Secondary School on the history of Bishopsworth Manor.
- 3rd prize      -      Clare Rossi & Sally Antill of Bedminster Down School on the A-Z of Ashton Court.

No prizes were awarded in Class A (adult) or Class C (group entry)

AVON LOCAL HISTORY HANDBOOK

You will be pleased to hear that the 160 page handbook, edited by John Moore, and containing the following chapters with an extensive bibliography is now scheduled to be published in the autumn.

1. Local History: Ends and Means (J.H. Bettey, J.S. Moore)
2. The Rural and Urban Landscape (J. Haddon)
3. Population and the Structure of Local Society (J.S. Moore)
4. Agriculture (G. Davis, J.S. Moore)
5. Trade, Transport and Communications (W.E. Minchinton)
6. Industry (R.A. Buchanan)
7. Housing and the Standard of Living (J.S. Moore)
8. Local Administration and Politics (J.S. Moore, M. Williams)
9. Church and Chapel (R.W. Dunning)
10. Education (R.B. Hope)
11. Leisure and Recreation (J.H. Bettey)
12. Public Opinion and Popular Beliefs (J.S. Moore)

The publishers are prepared to offer a substantial pre-publication reduction on orders from affiliated societies, and these must be received at this office by the end of June . . .

Affiliated societies may order any number they require for their members. It is estimated that the full price will be over £2, and the pre-publication price £1.25, although these are subject to alteration by the publishers.

To: Avon Local History Association, 17 Whiteladies Road, Bristol BS8 1PB

ORDER FOR PRE-PUBLICATION COPIES OF LOCAL HISTORY HANDBOOK

I/We would like to order ..... copies of the Avon Local History Handbook at the pre-publication of £1.25. (I note that this price is subject to alteration by the publishers) The money will be paid on delivery.

Name of Society .....

Name and address of Secretary .....

.....  
.....

THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED TO THE ALHA OFFICE BY 30 JUNE 1978

AFFILIATIONS & DONATIONS 1978-79

The financial year of the Avon Local History Association, and consequently the annual subscriptions, runs from 1 April to 31 March, and it would be helpful, therefore, if societies who have not done so could forward their subscriptions or donations for the year 1978-79 as soon as possible.

You will recall that the scale of affiliation fees is as follows:

For clubs with up to 50 members	-	£1.50
For each additional 50 members	-	50p
Up to a maximum of £5		

The person named on the form as your correspondent will receive one copy of QUEST quarterly, together with any other periodic mailings, and the minutes and agenda of general meetings of societies.

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To: Avon Local History Association, 17 Whiteladies Road, Bristol BS8 1PB.

I enclose a cheque/P.O. for the amount of £..... as an affiliation/  
donation to ALHA on behalf of the .....  
Society for the year 1978-79. (Cheques to be made payable to ALHA)

Our correspondent is: .....

.....

.....

.....

Signed ..... Date.....

RENEWAL OF SUBSCRIPTIONS TO QUEST

All subscriptions to QUEST expired with No. 6, and although we have received a number of renewals in response to the circular letter of 1 March, the information is printed below to remind those societies and individuals who have not renewed to do so.

There will be four issues this year and the charges are as follows:

One copy of each issue (@ 12p + 10p p&p)	88p
Additional copies of each issue (@ 12p + 5p p&p)	68p

Societies ordering in bulk who can arrange to collect their order from this office may deduct the cost of postage and packing, but should give their contact's daytime telephone number so we can notify him/her when the issues are ready. An order form is given overleaf. You may either pay in advance for the whole year (which we would prefer if you can manage it) or for each issue when received, but it is important to send in your order now so that we know how many copies to print.

ORDER FORM FOR QUEST  
(See page 39 for details)

To: Avon Local History Association, 17 Whiteladies Road, Bristol BS8 1PB.  
Please send me .....copies of each of the next four issues of QUEST  
commencing with No. 7.

Name ..... Daytime phone .....  
(if collecting)  
Address.....  
.....  
.....

Society ..... Affiliated YES/NO

I enclose a cheque/PO for £      crossed and made payable to ALHA,  
being payment for the year/issue no. 7

Signed..... Date.....