



President : Dr Rod Ambler  
Chairman : Nigel Burn  
Vice Chairman : Position Vacant  
Treasurer : Chris Hewis

Secretary : Kathy Holland  
Charity Number : 504766  
Total Membership : 704

## Chairman's Report

The year has been dominated with preparations for the joining of our Society with the Jews' Court and Bardney Abbey Trust. The merged societies would have needed a new constitution, and we had needed to revise our own Constitution in any event. The result is the draft of a new Constitution for the merged Society which comes before you for approval at the AGM.

All being well, and if the Constitution is approved, then it will then go to the Charity Commission for their approval, and thereafter the way will be clear for the two societies to join.

Anybody who has been involved with a voluntary Society will know that amended General Data Protection Regulations came into force in May of this year, with a consequent revision of our procedures, details of which have already been communicated to the membership.



*Members on the Study Tour at Acton Burnell Castle, Shropshire*



*Society visit to the Horological Museum at Upton*

At the 2017 AGM the question of Gift Aid was raised from the floor. We have pursued this, and I am pleased to report that agreement has been reached with the Inland Revenue to the effect our Journal and Past and Present do not class as 'member benefits', something which had been a major stumbling block in the past. The submission of our claim is, as they say, ongoing.

All of the sections of the Society have been active throughout the year, and all have produced some truly excellent conferences. Here I would wish to pay tribute to the hard work of both our administrative staff and the members of the individual sections. Anyone who has been

involved in putting on a conference will know just how much hard work goes on behind the scenes.

We have remembered our former member Brian Dawson who left a legacy of £4500 to the Society. The Executive committee had previously decided that this should be used in order to remember Brian rather than simply being added to our general reserves, and so £1,000 will go on the purchase of books to augment the Society's previous bequest to the Lincolnshire room at the Bishop Grosseteste University, a room which is open to all members of the Society. The balance will go towards publishing a high-quality book on Lincolnshire music, a subject very dear to Brian's heart.

We have had a number of high cost, one off expenses this year (a new server for the office computers, and legal fees for the constitution come immediately to mind), but thanks to the sterling efforts of our bookshop we shall be able to meet these expenses without drawing on reserves.

Next year the Society will celebrate its 175th anniversary. I am pleased to report that the Society reaches this auspicious birthday in good heart.

*Nigel Burn, Chairman of the Society for Lincolnshire History & Archaeology*

### Sleaford Group

A year ago the future of the group was in doubt, one reason being the difficulty in filling key offices. Thankfully, a volunteer came along to take on the vital role of treasurer. We are very grateful to Alan Jones for taking on this task. He has also brought new drive and ideas, which we hope will bear fruit. The group has been able to provide a full programme of meetings over the past twelve months and we are now looking to the programme for the coming year.

Sadly, I have to report the death of Alan's predecessor as treasurer, Dave Ellis. I would like to pay tribute to Dave's work and care of the accounts during his time in office.

Numbers at meetings are still lower than we would wish to see, despite some excellent speakers. We have been very grateful for support from Lincoln. There is a need for more communication between organisations in Sleaford

with related concerns for local history and heritage, so that they can complement each other. Whether the Sleaford Heritage Forum will assist in this we shall see.

In the meantime, we look to having officers and a committee who will take us forward.

*David Boutle, Chairman of the Sleaford Group*

### Local History

Our 2018 conference 'Fighting Monks' was a resounding success with more than eighty members and friends happy with the speakers and the venue, Banovallum School in Horncastle. Caroline Crane is now busy organising the 2019 event 'The East Coast – Beside the Seaside' which is likely to be held at The Storehouse in Skegness.



*Mark Acton with Bob Kershaw, speaker at the Brackenbury Lecture*

The team played a part in two successful bids for funding from the Brian Dawson legacy: £1000 to enable Bishop Grosseteste Library to stock suitable new titles on Lincolnshire history and £3500 towards the publication of a book on Lincolnshire folk music, customs and dance. We are also helping newcomer to the team Chris Padley in his project to digitise the county's parish enclosure awards.

We were asked at short notice to supply a speaker for the annual Brackenbury Lecture and are grateful to Bob Kershaw for a lively talk on 'Persecuted Baptists in Lincolnshire'. Subjects included in our lecture plans for 2019 are Christopher Wordsworth, Jean Bemrose and Lincolnshire food. SLHA is also to administer a study day at Christ's Hospital School, Lincoln, with the Cromwell Society.



*Reconstruction of Temple Bruer  
Image courtesy of Heritage Lincolnshire*

Pearl Wheatley is organising volunteers to sort out the collection of photographs amassed by SLHA over the years and to decide on ideal storage. She is standing down as SLHA representative on the Raithby Chapel Management Group. We are looking for a replacement. As ever we welcome new members to help us in our work.

*Mark Acton, Chairman of the Local History Team*

### **Buildings Group (RUBL)**

At Aubourn, part of RUBL's 'Trent Valley' project, editorial work on our Old Church Cottage and Hop Hill Cottage reports continued, with publication expected during 2018-19.

The main project this year was 'The Nunnery', Sixhills, undertaken with the Hainton Heritage Group. The specialist dendrochronology day-school, lead by Dr. Rob Howard, stimulated great excitement. The results have completely revolutionised our thinking about this extraordinary building, offering us clear guidance on the date when its timber-frame was originally erected (during the late 1530s) and providing us with an unexpected series of mid twelfth century dates for the inserted south end first floor. The first draft of our substantial report on work done by various surveyors at Sixhills over the past two years was presented in June at the sell-out 'Nunnery Day' based at the Heneage Arms in Hainton. Not only were we able to publicly explain the 'complete story' revealed by our recording project but we were delighted to be joined by friends from the Norfolk Building Recording Group.



*Examining the masonry at 'The Nunnery', Sixhills*

Following the RUBL-organised conference in Grantham in March 2017, the Grantham Building Recording Group held its first recording day at what is thought to be a sixteenth- or seventeenth-century building in Swinegate.

*David Stocker, Chairman of the Buildings Group*

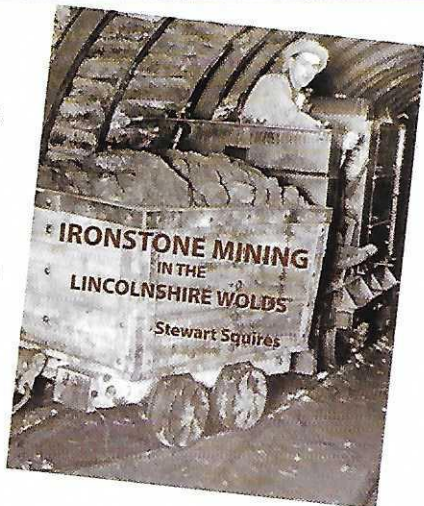
### **Publications**

A new book by Stewart Squires, 'Ironstone Mining in the Lincolnshire Wolds', was launched by Rod Ambler, SLHA President, at Caistor Heritage Centre in early December 2017. The publication received financial support from the Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service and the East Midlands Industrial Archaeology Conference, a factor which is increasingly important for our book publishing programme. Initial sales of Stewart's book are encouraging and production costs have already been met.



*Stewart Squires, Nigel Burn and Rob Ambler at the Book Launch*

The 49th issue of Lincolnshire History and Archaeology was published in October 2017. The smaller format with enlarged content (illustrated in colour throughout) has been broadly welcomed and we congratulate Dave Start and his team on the production of a journal of excellent quality.



Thanks are also due to Ros Beevers for her consistent work over many years in editing and producing our quarterly magazine, Lincolnshire Past & Present. It is universally admired and appreciated.

The SLHA website, edited by Ken Redmore and Dean Bird, gives up to date information about many aspects of the Society's activities. It houses a huge gallery of Lincolnshire photographs (nearly 6000) and through its regular news items and photos is building up a significant digital archive for the future.

*Ken Redmore Publications Committee*

## Society Trustees



*Jews' Court, Lincoln*

There have been two main issues for the Trustees in the year. These are the merger of the Jews' Court and Bardney Abbey Trust with the SLHA

together with the preparation of the new proposed Constitution. The need for latter has been brought about by the former, together with changes to Charity Commission requirements relating to the need for Trustees and the relationship between a charity and its trading arm.

The early part of the year was also concerned with Greyfriars in Lincoln, and if it could provide an alternative home for our activities. We felt that there would be significant operational and administrative disadvantages and decided, therefore, to remain at Jews' Court.

The Trustees have noted the Society's continuing financial improvements and are very grateful to the many volunteers whose hard work has brought this about.

*Stewart Squires, Chairman of the Trustees*

## Industrial Archaeology

The Annual Conference took as its theme aspects of trade and transport in Lincolnshire and it was staged in Gainsborough. Topics included trade through the port of Gainsborough, the peat railways of the Isle of Axholme and the history of Dunham Bridge.



*A ship unloading timber at Barrow Haven*

Members went on a trip to the Humber Bank to visit sites in New Holland and Barrow Haven, replicating part of an outing made in 1967. Many changes were noted. The group also visited the site of the gasworks in Barrow and the limekilns at Barrow Hall Quarry.

December saw the launch of Stewart Squires' book 'Ironstone Mining in the Lincolnshire Wolds', the culmination of many years of research into this little-known but important industry.

Team members sorted and catalogued the late David Robinson's important collection of Lincolnshire bricks and they are now seeking a permanent home for them. Fieldwork included more investigation of private water supplies. An

important collection of windmill photographs has been acquired; some 140 have been uploaded to the SLHA website thanks to the efforts of Ken Redmore.

We recall with sadness the death of John Turner who contributed much to the IA Committee in years gone by.



*John Turner (1934 - 2017)*

The Team currently has no chairman.

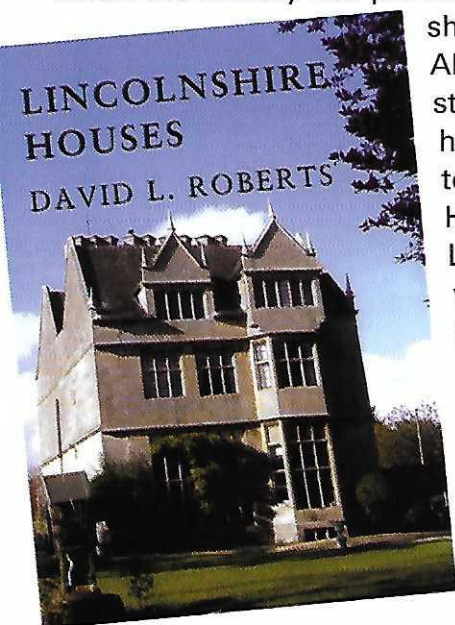
*Chris Lester, Industrial Archaeology Team*

### Book Sales

In the year to the 31st August 2018, sales in the bookshop increased by 16% over the comparable period in the previous year. The pattern of sales is tending to change. More books that are donated are being sold, while sales of the Society's publications and new books which are bought in have decreased. In 2017 the debenture of £13,860 which the Society had provided to set up the

shop was re-paid. Also, the Society's stock of publications has been transferred to Lincolnshire Heritage and in future Lincolnshire Heritage will provide funding for new publications.

The bookshop has provided bookstalls at the Society's and external events during the year including the



Heckington Show. In May we hosted the launch of David Roberts' 'Lincolnshire Houses' published by Shaun Tyas, which has proved a best seller in the shop. The Lincoln Co-operative Society donated a stock of Beryl George's 'Lincoln's Cornhill Quarter: A surprisingly rich heritage', with all proceeds to the shop.

We are very grateful to all the volunteers who work in the shop and behind the scenes. If anyone is interested in volunteering in the shop, please contact the Society.



*Celebrating Lincolnshire Day at Kirton in Lindsey*

Thank you for donations of books received to date. As ever we must continue to appeal for donations of books, maps and postcards, and we are usually able to collect.

*Eva and Nick Moore, Bookshop Managers*

### History of Lincolnshire Committee

The History of Lincolnshire Committee met a couple of times through the year, and discussed forthcoming volumes in the series. Unfortunately we have again had to go through a full year without being able to publish a volume. We have the resources, but we lack the manuscripts. Peter Chowne's forthcoming archaeology volume is in progress, and we eagerly await the completion of a volume on monastic houses by Glyn Coppack.

*John Beckett, Chairman of the History of Lincolnshire Committee*



*2017 Flora Murray Award Winners with Stewart Squires, Chairman of the Trustees*

## Archaeology

The Archaeology Team continues to be a vibrant group with a varied membership reflecting the breadth of professional and community archaeology in Lincolnshire.

The lectures arranged by the team continue to be well attended and received. In October 2017 we hosted Andy Sherman of the Coastal and Intertidal Zone Archaeology Network, who reminded us all of the fascinating coastal heritage of the county and the work being done to record and protect this ever changing landscape.



*Shropshire Tour at Jackfield Pottery, Fromebridge*

In March 2018 Gavin Speed of the University of Leicester spoke on the opportunities that development work in Leicester has presented archaeologists to increase our understanding of the Roman town. In June 2018 the University

of Lincoln's Mark Gardiner, a member of the archaeology team, delivered a fascinating talk on masonry building in 11th Century Lincolnshire. The diversity of subjects and the quality of speakers have always been a hallmark of the archaeology lectures, and the team are particularly pleased with this year's events.

The annual Archaeology Day in October 2017 was held at Christ's Hospital School and attracted nearly 150 delegates. Speakers on the day provided a range of talks on recent archaeological projects, including a keynote talk on the incredible Bronze Age finds from Must Farm in Cambridgeshire.



*Shropshire Tour at Buildwas Abbey*

Members of the Archaeology Team were also integral to the success of the Shropshire Study Tour in July 2018, with archaeological sites featuring prominently in the programme.

*Antony Lee, Chairman of the Archaeology Team*

***The Society has continued to organise a number of Family Activity Days throughout the year***



## Treasurer's Report

The Society made a loss for the year of £3,257, which is 7% of turnover.

Income from subscriptions showed a considerable increase on the previous financial year. This was, in the main, due to the efforts of our Membership Secretary in claiming outstanding prior year payments. Our special events, including day conferences and the annual study tour all contributed to annual income.

The Jews' Court Bookshop (Lincolnshire Heritage Ltd) returned a reduced surplus to Society funds. This was due to all books stocks being transferred

to the Company in order to comply with Charity Commission recommendations regarding commercial activities.

It is satisfying to see that the continuing efforts to reduce operating costs resulted in a 7% reduction in administration costs in comparison with the previous year.

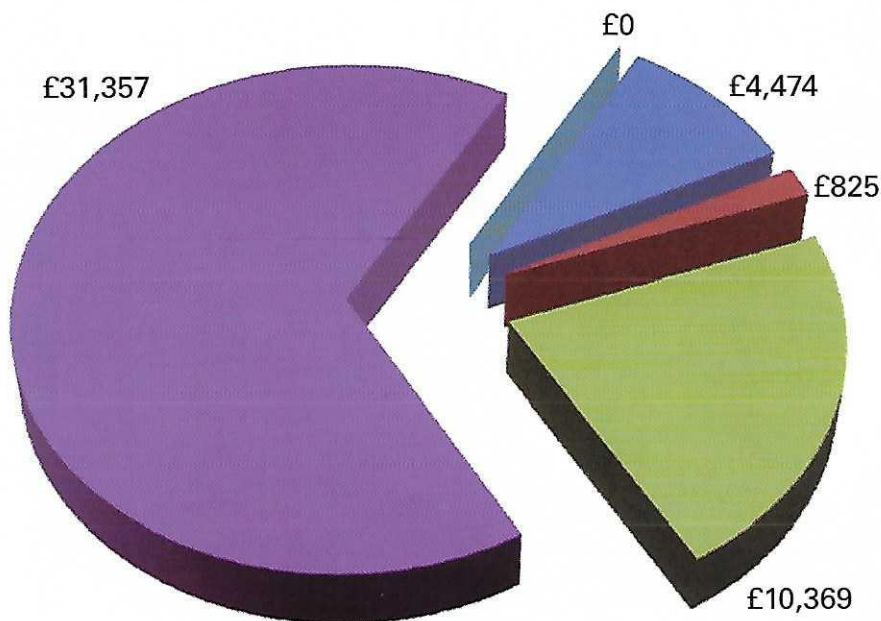
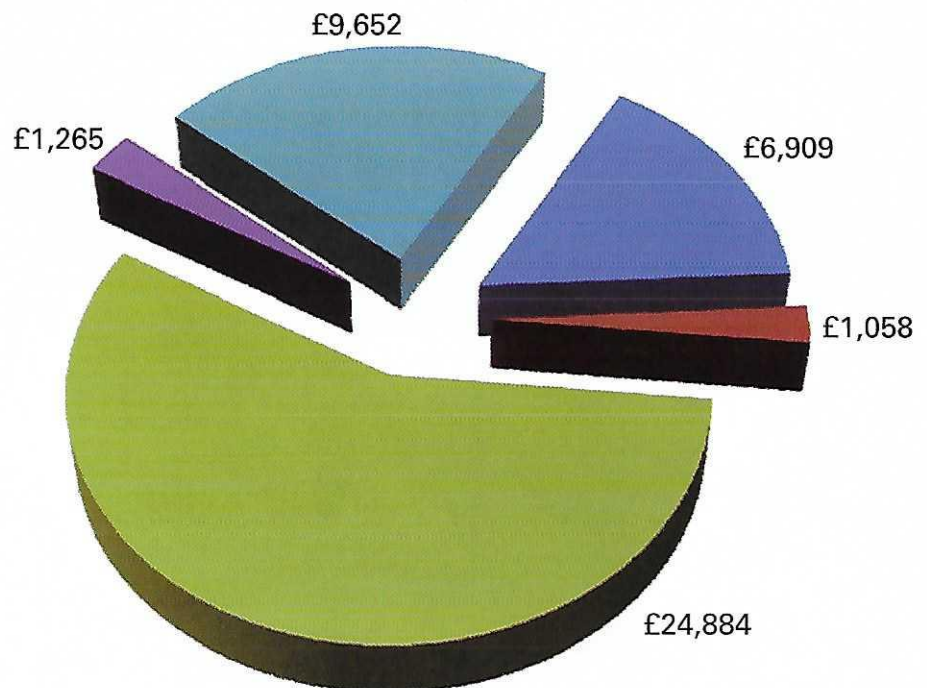
A further issue of the Annual Journal was made during the year at a cost of £3,160; no journal was produced in the previous year.

Following several years of increased annual losses, cost reductions are beginning to bear fruit.

*Chris Hewis, Treasurer*

### Total Income = £43,768

- Membership Services
- Administration
- Lincolnshire Heritage Ltd (Bookshop)
- Events
- History of Lincolnshire



### Total Expenditure = £47,025

- Membership Services
- Administration
- Lincolnshire Heritage Ltd (Bookshop)
- Events
- History of Lincolnshire