

Society Officers for 1964

The following Officers and Members of Council for 1964 were elected at the A.G.M. on December 7th at Bakewell. The Council Appointments were made at the Council Meeting held on January 17th at Sheffield.

Chairman: Mr. H. Sarjeant	Members of Council: Mr. N. Gregory
Deputy Chairman: Mr. H. M. Parker	Mr. M. J. Luff
Secretary: Mrs. P. E. Lunn	Mr. G. Lunn
Treasurer: Mr. A. E. Wiles	Mr. A. E. Marsh
Recorder: Mr. G. Lunn	Dr. W. A. S. Sarjeant.
	Mr. M. E. Smith

Council Appointments:

Editor: Mr. M. E. Smith	Tacklemaster: Mr. P. R. Deakin
Cottage Warden: Mr. M. J. Luff	Preservation Secretary: Dr. J. A. Robey

The A.G.M. was followed by the 4th Annual Dinner at which 81 people were present. The Society's guests on this occasion were Mr. R. J. Ball of Derbyshire Stone Ltd., and Mr. R. Hazard of the Shropshire Mining Club.

Meetings:

Lecture Meeting - Friday, February 14th in Dept. of Geology Lecture Theatre, Mappin Street, Sheffield, 1.
at 7.30 p.m. at the invitation of the Sheffield University Speleological Society.
Dr. T. D. Ford will give a lecture on Speedwell.

Lecture Meeting - Saturday, February 15th at the Wheatsheaf Hotel, Bakewell
3.00 p.m.

Dr. T. D. Ford will give a talk on "Ashford Black Marble" - - visitors welcome.

Field Meeting - Sunday, February 16th, Ashford. Leader: Dr. T. D. Ford.

Meet: Junction of A.6 and old road at west end of Ashford village
N.G. ref. 190695.

Time: 11.00 am.

Useful equipment: overalls, boots, helmets and lamps.

Anyone wishing to take part in a survey team during this meeting is asked to send their name to the secretary, and to take with them to the meeting any survey equipment they may have.

Proposed Future Programme (subject to alteration and addition)

March 1st	Field Meeting	Cumberland Cavern & Wapping Mine - H. M. Parker
March 21st	Lecture	"Old Gang Mine" - A. E. Marsh.
March 28/29th	Field Meeting	Old Gang Area - A. E. Marsh. (Old Gang is in Swaledale)
April 26th	Field Meeting	Shuttle Rake - R. Steele.
May 10th	Field Meeting	Mixon area - D. I. Gill.
June	Field Meeting	Ashover area - A. E. Marsh.
July 4/5th	C.R.G. Meeting, Bakewell.	P.D.M.H.S. are acting as hosts. Field meetings will be held on the 5th, suggestions would be most welcome.

It is also proposed to hold a meeting in Oxfordshire, to visit an old slate mine which is being preserved by a local archaeological society, this is being arranged by Mrs. M. L. Oakley.

Surface Mapping

As stated in the Council's report at the A.G.M. Discussions have taken place on surface mapping and the Council feel that such a project would be best carried out by members themselves rather than by a directive from the Council. Anyone wishing to undertake such a project should contact the Secretary who will endeavour to put them in touch with others interested in the same area. The following request has been received:

"In order to extend the mapping of the mines in the Monyash and Sheldon areas, work has started on the Hard Rake and neighbouring mines. Will anyone willing to help in this project contact Dr. J. A. Robey, 217, Chippinghouse Rd., Sheffield, 7."

Stokes

Publication date March 1st, details of cost and order form will accompany this newsletter. Orders will be dealt with in order of receipt.

Bulletin - Next Issue - May

Copy day for the next issue of the Bulletin is the last day of March. Early receipt of items for consideration would be appreciated. Please send to Hon. Sec. P.D.M.H.S. c/o Dept. of Geology, St. George's Sq., Sheffield, 1.

Book ReviewsINDUSTRIAL ARCHAEOLOGY - An Introduction

by Kenneth Hudson

Published by John Baker, price: 36/-
Dec. 1963.

It is always encouraging (and slightly amusing) to find oneself several years in advance of public opinion. The P.D.M.H.S., started spontaneously several years ago with no outside encouragement from the historical "establishment", now finds itself an unexpected pioneer in a new field of study which has become known as "Industrial Archaeology". As a sign of the increasing respectability of the field, the first book introducing its problems has now been published.

The term "Industrial Archaeology", first used in print in 1955, is not ideal but seems here to stay in the absence of any remotely suitable alternative. It has however been much criticised, particularly by those to whom "archaeology" is of necessity the study of the remote past, rather than a body of skills and techniques of somewhat wide application. It is of course notorious that many archaeologists have long regarded anything post-roman as being beyond their field, and it is only recently that Mediaeval Archaeology has achieved any sort of status.

Wisely, Mr. Hudson summarily disposes of questions of semantics in a short first chapter, and gets on at once to the urgency of the problem. P.D.M.H.S. members do not need to be told of the way that the old is being swept away, unwept and unrecorded, all over the country, but it is interesting to see examples of this from elsewhere, and particularly depressing to realise that the problem is much worse where built-up areas and long established industries are concerned, than it is ever likely to be in the spacious hills of Derbyshire. Thus, the early historical monuments of the plastics industry, a mere forty years old, are already lost beyond recall.

It is encouraging to see how realistic is Mr. Williams view on the question of preservation. From the start he admits that "it is neither realistic nor desirable to try to preserve more than a small proportion of our surviving stock of obsolete buildings and equipment". In an age where sentimentalists, in archaeology as in natural history, are likely to lose the whole by making impossibly high demands, this is refreshing reading. Needless to say, the emphasis is where it should be, and after stressing that it is essential for "a representative selection of the most important items to be saved for posterity to look at", Mr. Hudson goes on to say: "What is possible on a much bigger scale, however, is to aim at photographing, measuring and describing in detail every really significant old building and piece of machinery before the demolition gangs and scrap metal merchants get near it, and to press for comprehensive lists of what remains in each locality to be drawn up and published so that proper recording can be achieved in good time."

As this is the sort of work that our society has been doing for several years, it is disappointing to find that we are not mentioned anywhere in the book. One feels that our efforts should have earned us at least a mention in chapter 3; "The Approach". This is devoted to brief summaries of various pioneer efforts, by individuals or societies, in various parts of the country, Rex Wailes and his work on windmills, and the Blaenau Ffestiniog railway, are two of the well-known examples described, and of greater interest to us is the work by Robert Clough on the "Lead Smelting Mills of the Yorkshire Dales".

After such an excellent beginning, the rest of the book is a little disappointing. A chapter on "The pace and pattern of the Industrial Revolution" gives some of the historical background, and most of the rest of the book surveys the types of remains associated with various groups of industries under the general heading "What to look for". There are chapters on "Coal and Metals", "Power", "Textiles, Pottery and Glass", "Brewing and Distilling", "Railways, inland waterways and roads", "Building materials", and "Farm buildings and the Industrial Revolution". Although some of this information is available in text-book histories, it is rarely as well laid out as here, and there is a strong emphasis on the practical side, reinforced by the excellent illustrations.

"Lead, tin, copper and zinc" receive altogether under six pages, in which Derbyshire is only mentioned once. After we are informed incisively that "the work of mining is essentially underground", it is disappointing to find no mention of the possibility of investigating other than the surface features of mines.

The last chapter on "Documentation and Recording" is interesting but brief, and there is a compact bibliography.

It would be easy to criticise this book for not being the large and comprehensive work that is anticipated eagerly by all those with an interest in this field. In fact, as the author is at pains to stress, much of the information required for such a work is not yet available, and is indeed unlikely ever to be available until the lesson of this valuable introduction is driven home, not so much to the enthusiasts as to those who are so busy destroying (actively or by neglect) the evidence of the past.

D. A. E. Spalding.

THE SPELEOLOGICAL YEARBOOK AND DIARY, 1964 8vo. 184pp. 11/6d. p.f.

published by John K. Dryden, 1 Beaufort East,
London, Road, Bath, Somerset.

(the society has a few copies of this diary in stock for re-sale)

This is the first annual of its kind in Great Britain. It consists of a preliminary section of general information followed by a diary section and finally a list of caving societies.

The Caving Safety Code, if somewhat long winded is mainly good sense though not everyone would agree that a waistline, karabiner, and whistle should always be worn or that lifelines should be used on the shortest pitches.

The next section on Caving Areas of Britain is rather disappointing and it is so generalised as to be of little actual use, though it is difficult to see how the whole country could be covered in the space of a few pages. The Chapter on Derbyshire (written by D. G. Allsop), for example, gives a lightening tour of the Peak District in 3pp. Unlike the other chapters it contains several notable spelling errors. Thus only one letter of "Knotlow" is spelt correctly and future speleologists may spend much effort searching for the lost caver of "Konathan" at "Moryash". The Mendips, Forest and Dean, N. and S. Wales, Scotland and Yorkshire areas are discussed, though why not Devon? Oddly, there are two chapters on Yorkshire, covering the same area, but neither mentions the important Casterton and Leck areas of adjoining Lancashire.

The list of C.R.O. Groups and Cave Rescue Procedure is very useful and is followed by a most excellent section on C.R.O. problems in Ireland, the section on First Aid is quite adequate and worthy of careful study.

The Diary section is the longest in the book and contains overprinted entries of notable events (e.g. society A.G.M's, Gaping Gill winch meets).

The final section is an address list of 78 British and 12 foreign caving societies giving details of membership and publications (P.D.M.H.S. has an entry on p. 162). Although incomplete a list of this nature is long overdue and in itself is a justification for the publication.

In conclusion the Speleological Year Book and Diary is very well produced, with stiff covers and expensive paper. It is well worth the money and should find its way on to most speleologists' bookshelves.

P. W. Crabtree.

New Members

The following applications have recently been approved:

R. Bridger Esq., 274, Biscot Road, Luton, Beds.
 I. J. Brown Esq., 17 Middleton Ave., Dinnington, Sheffield.
 Dr. G. B. Greenough, 22 Elmhurst Road, St. Anne's-on-Sea, Lancs.
 M. J. Walker, 5 Wheatley Ave., Ben Rhydding, Ilkley, Yorks.
 G. Wright Esq., 10 Flockton Ave., Handsworth, Sheffield, 13.

The following applications have since been received and will be proposed at the Bakewell meeting:

C. M. Binley Esq., 8 Buchanan Cres., Parson Cross, Sheffield, 5.
 P. I. Jennings Esq., 35 Barholm Road, Crosspool, Sheffield, 10.
 R. J. Haslam Esq., 113 Church Road, Urmston, Manchester.

Membership Cards

In future members will be issued with membership cards each year, on payment of their subscription. The cards for the present financial year are now being prepared.

Can anyone answer the following enquiry recently received?

If so please answer direct.

19 Moss Vale Cres.,
 Stretford,
 Manchester,
 29.1.64.

Dear Sir,

I am doing research into the Peak Forest Canal and Tramway, during which I have come across various Coal Pits connected with same.

Those in particular with which I am interested are Dolly Pit at Buxworth (2½" O.S. SK08/021830) and Shallcross Hall Colliery at Whaley Bridge (2½" O.S. SK08/011802); this latter I am interested in with regard to the Cromford and High Peak Railway.

Could you assist me in obtaining the following information - date opened and closed; owners, method of transport used, i.e. tramways inclined planes to carry coal from pit head.

I am also trying to trace any information regarding Crist Quarry at Buxworth.

Thanking you in anticipation,

I am,

Yours truly,

Brian Lamb.

News of Members

Congratulations to John Robey on gaining his Ph.D., Degree.

Congratulations also to Chris and Janet Keymes on the birth of a daughter.

Changes of Address:

M. R. Bell, 35 Farne Ave., Alverthorpe Rd. Wakefield.
 E. P. Daybell, 1 Marsh Lane, Sheffield.
 Mr. & Mrs. J. Lawson, 2 Dorset Rd., Failsworth, Lancs.

 Hon. Sec: Mrs. P. E. Lunn, 28 Kenbourne Rd., Sheffield, 7. (Tel: 50170).