



June 2019

Dear Member

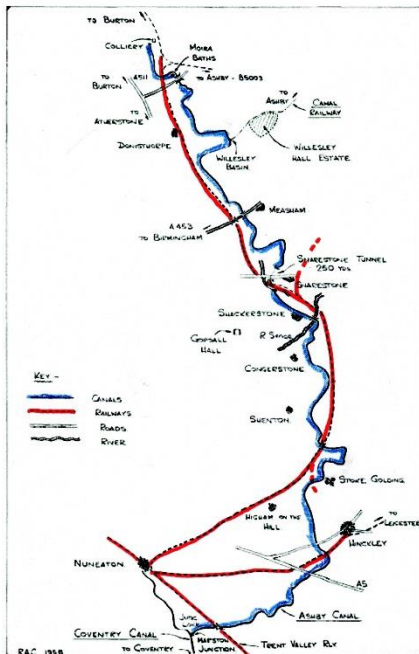
Welcome to the June newsletter, as I write this the weather is more March than June. Hopefully before I finish the rain will have stopped and the sun will be shining down. Judging by a lot of remarks our gardens must be in tip top condition right now. I hope you enjoy the Newsletters but please let me know if you think I should cover a particular topic or if you have an article to submit. We will shortly be planning for 2020, both lectures and visits, so if you have any ideas or recommendations again let me have them. I know that the Bell Foundry in Loughborough has been mentioned a few times and have added it to the list for consideration as a visit. The visit to Bradgate Park is proving popular and I already have a number of names for the Glenfield tunnel visit. I shall be opening a list for Glenfield shortly, stand by!

The 1485 Sculpture Trail artwork should be available in the Community Library from the 26<sup>th</sup> June, culminating in representatives available to answer questions between 2.00pm and 7.00pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July.

This month's issue is being sent out as a PDF (Portable Document Format) as a test, different equipment deal with Word documents in separate ways. Anything from rearranging text to inverting images and so I thought I would see if PDF was any better. Can you let me know if you need it in Word, please? Or if you have any comments to make about the format.

## Meeting Report: All Aboard the Battlefield Line.

An accurate description of our last meeting, very informative and entertaining with a lot of factual information included. Coen, Richard, and Nigel from the Battlefield Line have done a splendid job in researching and writing this lecture. The lecture charted the very beginnings of the line its links to and with the Ashby Canal, explaining how Market Bosworth fitted in with the overall picture of rail transport and the goods carried by the railway.



We also heard of a serious collision at Market bosworth. Very fortunately the two trains were goods trains and so there were happily no casualties although I suspect someone received a telling off as the line was closed for two hours, causing a good deal of chaos.

We also enjoyed seeing posters and advertisements for excursions and many of our audience could recall being taken to the seaside via the railway starting from Market Bosworth Station. We enjoyed learning about the engines and the men who operated them and of course the women. Many of the engines are long gone but fortunately some farsighted (and it has to be said) wealthy individuals saved some from the scrappers torch so that we can enjoy seeing them and hearing their song today. We had a special session just about the World War 2 Petrol dump and discovered that it was one of the largest in the country (just think what the German Bombers could have done with a stick of explosives across the Timber Fireproof, Churchill's factory and the Petrol Dump, each vital to the war effort). Something seldom mentioned in documentaries about D-Day is the importance of the Petrol Dump at Market Bosworth which saved the day on more than one occasion. Thank to Richard, Coen, and Nigel for a very fine evening indeed.

## Digitising the Archive

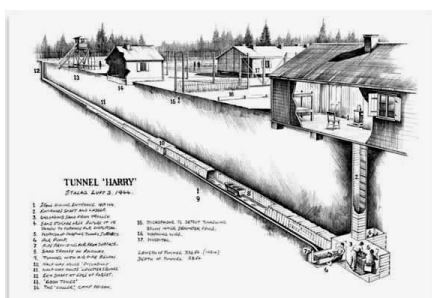


We were visited by Taz Arkate, recently from Interactive Education Solutions to demonstrate some of the equipment they provide which we will need to complete our project. Taz started his demonstration by showing a very simple piece of equipment (shown left). Once connected to a computer (laptop or desktop) any document can easily be imaged. It can then be cropped and stored ready for onward transmission to the website. Images are stored as jpegs and can be manipulated by ordinary software.

The Star of the show was undoubtedly the item pictured top right, which basks in the title of a Genee Vision GV 4100HD and is a very complex but easy to use piece of equipment.

This comes complete with a Genee Toolbar which enables the image to be altered and adjusted as required. It can cope with postcard sized documents all the way to A2. Is table or wall mounted. We were all impressed by its ability to stabilise and automatically adjust the white balance, but the most impressive factor was the clarity of the image. The neck is fully mobile and can twist into any shape necessary and easily returned to a more normal configuration. Thanks to John Wastenev for setting up the demonstration we are one step closer to our goal. We are now arranging a demonstration from iBase who provide the software for archiving and used by many leading companies, galleries, and museums. Hopefully once we have seen this demonstration we will be able to refine our project and funding bid and once completed, fingers crossed for a successful grant bid. If there are any expert grant applicants within our membership, please make yourselves known. I will report progress in future Newsletters.

## The Great Escape! 18<sup>th</sup> July 2019



Our next lecture will be in the Free Church, Barton Road at 7:30pm We will not be showing the film directed by John Sturgess and starring, amongst others, Steve McQueen, David Attenborough, and James Garner but doing something even better than that. I had the great fortune to be put in touch with Neville Hall and his Brother Michael Hall, sons of Peter Hall. Peter was a RAF Officer who was captured and held in Stalag Luft III. Peter was number 73 on the list of those given permission to escape, on that fateful night, by the escape committee. We will also hear about a lesser known event, but one of equal importance The Long March. This was the German Army's attempt to

prevent the prisoners being liberated by marching them to Spremberg in Poland. They endured freezing temperatures and 6” (15 cm) of snow and ice on a march which started on the 27<sup>th</sup> January 1945 and cost many prisoners their lives.

You will be aware that we are putting this lecture on in support of the Leicestershire & Rutland Festival of Archaeology and it has been advertised in their brochure. Admittance is free for all and for this reason, I am recommending that you arrive early. In fact, all together now, we plan to admit any Tom, Dick, and Harry.....

## Three Score Years and Ten

The Society is in the midst of helping the Free Church, our generous hosts on a Thursday evening, to celebrate their 70<sup>th</sup> coming September. We have been researching the archive and photographs showing the start of the Free Church in back in 1949. A time when many were still coming to terms effects of a world war. We need your help. Have you ever Free Church? Was it a sad or joyous occasion? How old were you taken part in the Candlelit Carol Services (I know I enjoy want your memories and experiences. It does not have to be an essay; it could be just a few lines of what it meant to you when you visited the Free Church. What you remember from the occasion. We are hoping to build a “Wall of Memories” and would love to cover a large area with thoughts, remembrances, recollections, experiences, memories....Also if you have any documents or photographs we would love to borrow them and will make sure they are returned to you safely. Please help us to help the Free Church have a wonderful happy birthday.



regular and birthday this for articles Barton Road with the visited the you? Have them)? We

You may also have heard that the Free Church are collecting the two-pint (1.3litre) milk containers (green cap, blue cap or red cap) as they have plans to make an igloo for the children to play within this summer. I understand that the Market Bosworth Community Library is collecting on their behalf and the Free Church have placed a box outside for you to leave the containers. What better example of recycling than to put a smile on children’s faces? Do try to help if you can.

## Where is it?



Thanks to Phil Tebbutt for lending us this picture. Taken in the 1990’s, it is of Market Bosworth and whilst Glynis and I think we have worked out where it is, we would like to ask you. If you recall seeing the lovely Bosworth In Bloom displays, where were they? I am not going to give any more away for now, except that it is not Warwick Lane as first thought. Good luck!

## What is it

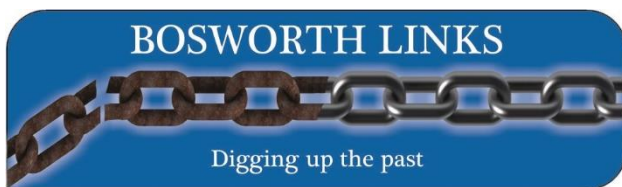


A picture given to the Society by Don Peacock of the Probus Club. We recently took the club on a Guided Tour, we were recommended by Phil Tebbutt, thanks Phil and subsequently a number of very interesting



photographs were given to Glynis for the archive. We know the picture was taken in Market Bosworth after 1920 as the war memorial can be seen on the full photograph, but can anyone

tell us the make and model of the vehicle parked outside of Branch 8 of the Nuneaton Co-op? The image has been cropped and enlarged to show the vehicle. I doubt if anyone will be able to name the four men in the picture, but we would love to know their names. We will be adding them to the website in the future so look out for news.



## The Little Dig 2019

Over the weekend of the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of July we will be digging 5 test pits and 1 trench. Once again the residents of Market Bosworth have most generously sacrificed their gardens and lawns to our project. We will be digging at two private addresses on Park Street which will not be available to visitors. We will also be digging on land owned by Britannia Hotels by kind permission of Alex Langsam, owner of Britannia Hotels. The test pit will be on the piece of land off Park Street behind that small layby type indent on the left-hand side. The pit should be easily visible as should one a little behind it and to the right. We are very grateful to Mr Langsam who gave his personal permission to Bosworth Links to carry out the digs. We are also grateful to Simon Jeffers. Simon had booked the Parish Field on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> of July for a private function for the Scouts, Cubs, Guides, Brownies, and Beavers Clubs but has very generously amended his plans to accommodate us. Whilst the Parish Field will not be available to view up to 4:00pm on Saturday it will be available to visit after then and of course on all day on Sunday.



There will be a test pit near to the entrance and a trench across the feature we found in 2017, shown left. You will recall that we found a small wall of possibly Carlton Stone, some charred material and then some small cobbles. We are hoping to be able to discover what this is. So far it could be a hearth, footpath or the remains of a burned down cottage.

Washing will take place at the Parish Hall (in the room on the left, usually used by the Post Office). We hope to set up a viewing area, but on no account must you feed the washers!.

The Dixie Grammar School are continuing to support Bosworth Links and are digging on the 26<sup>th</sup> June. Any finds will be assessed and added to information from the last two years.

Plans for 2020 and beyond are coming along nicely and I should be able to reveal more in July, certainly August.

We also hope to have enough information to decide if to go ahead with the ring ditch on the County Park, shortly.

## Contact Details

Please see the website [www.marketbosworthsociety.com](http://www.marketbosworthsociety.com) for information or email on [info@marketbosworthsociety.com](mailto:info@marketbosworthsociety.com) or if you would like to call me then 07930149408 or 01455290160. Correspondence can be sent to Market Bosworth Society, c/o 29 Warwick Lane, Market Bosworth, Leicestershire. CV13 0JU

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nigel Palmer', with a long, sweeping underline.

Nigel Palmer

Chairman