

MARKET BOSWORTH SOCIETY

March 2016

Dear Member

Welcome, to what is my first newsletter since becoming your chairman at the Annual General Meeting on the 17th March. In stepping down, I'm sure you will agree, that Peter and Sheila have left a large gap which Beth and I will work hard to fill. For my own part I am very conscious that I am not yet fully competent (I am consciously incompetent, for those who have an interest in these things) and hope that you will forgive and forget any mistakes I make in the early days. I hope to grow into the role and become as valuable to the Society as was Peter. Here is what Eric Colley said on behalf of the committee at that meeting:

Thank you for attending today. As you will know, the Chairman & Secretary, Peter & Sheila Loseby are stepping down from their roles in MBS after 3 years, and I would like to mention 1 or 2 points about their tenure & to thank them for their work in their roles.

Three years ago we were losing the Chairperson and the committee were looking forward to a difficult time, as we contemplated what we could do to reinvigorate the Society. We were all short of new ideas and looked around for someone who could lead us with direction of projects, etc. Peter & Sheila had helped us previously with the project "Memories forged in MB", had attended several of our talks etc., and were interested in the Society. Glynis approached them & after working some magic, they joined us, with Peter agreeing to be Chairman, voted in that year. This was the start of a revolution in the running of the Society & the committee. We all had direction on our areas of effort and a clear idea of our aims as a society. Not only that but Peter did most of the secretarial work of recording meetings and, unbelievably we had the minutes of the meetings, the same evening or first thing next day. Not content with that, Peter took on the extra role of advising Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council on planning applications in the Market Bosworth area, if they threatened the Conservation Area. Peter & Sheila also stood in for any committee roles as needed for the members with problems such as holidays or absence and when I was having tests for memory problems, took over my role on a continual basis. Peter had advised us that he considered his tenure as Chairman would be no more than 3 years and then he would be stepping down to allow someone else to chair. Sheila likewise has done an excellent secretary's role, & then a few weeks ago we were dismayed when Sheila broke her ankle, putting her out of action, we hope it repairs soon. To anyone who feels they might be able to help with this role there is plenty of help from us available. Both Sheila & Peter have lifted the profile of the MBS to a new level, but can we keep it there? We might with help. We have a generous offer of help from Nigel Palmer of Market Bosworth and the committee are recommending Nigel for Chairman. Nigel has shown a willingness to help the Society in any way or role. Martyn Andrews has offered to serve on the committee and has helped us with wife Susan in the past, so the committee is thanking Martyn in anticipation.

Eric Colley. Committee member, on behalf of the committee. March 2016. rev 2.

Sheila and Peter both received gifts in thanks for their work for the Society, they also given a card made by June Colley which was very well received by both Peter and Sheila.

Your new committee is:

Chairman: Mr Nigel Palmer 07930149408 or nigel_palmer.mbs@btinternet.com,

Vice Chairman: Mr Robert Leake on 01455 290020 or r.leake@btinternet.com

Treasurer: Mrs Marion Lambourne on 01455 290978 or lambournem@dixie.org.uk

Secretary: Mrs Beth Dawes 01455 290214 or elizabethdawester@gmail.co.com

Archivist: Mrs Glynis Oakley on 01455 290348 or Glynisoakley100@gmail.com

Committee Member: Mr Eric Colley on 01455 293354 or cwindward@aol.com,

Committee Member Mrs Diane Coleman 01455 290933 or brucediane64@gmail.com

Committee Member: Mr Martyn Andrews 01530415126 or martyn.f.andrews@gmail.com

Please don't forget that if you attend a talk which would be of interest to the other members to let the committee know. Also if you know or hear of anyone with a good story to tell (ideally a historical one with local connections) we would also like to hear about that too.

After the AGM, David Woolerton entertained us with a talk entitled "The History of Bowling in Market Bosworth" David took up bowls after ending his cricket career and has gone on to represent Leicestershire in over 76 matches and has captained the Leicestershire Over 60's indoor team. David explained that the popularity of bowls resulted in it being banned by law to all but the royals and the gentry. He traced the development of bowls from 1299 to the modern day, interweaving the world history with Market Bosworth history. Bowling still represents excellent value for money. Full playing membership is only £60 per year at Market Bosworth and social membership is just £5.00. Each year the Bowling Club raises money for charity. David kindly asked us to send his fee to Miracles to Believe In, a charity based in nearby Newbold Verdon, which supports children with Autism throughout Leicestershire. David also expressed a wish that the former Ladies Bowling Pavilion be preserved and as I type this, plans are being made to examine the work required. Watch this space!

Next month's meeting, 21st April, 2016 will be by Peter Liddle OBE and titled "The Rise and Fall of a Medieval Village" 7.30 at The Free Church, Barton Road. You will certainly not wish to miss this one, it promises to be a fascinating insight from a highly respected archaeologist. Pete has worked in Leicestershire Archology for over 40 years and is an Honorary Visiting Fellow at the School of Archology and Ancient History at Leicester University. He was awarded his OBE for services to community archaeology. Peter looks at archaeology of Leicestershire villages from their creation over 1000 year ago when an earlier landscape of Anglo-Saxon farmsteads was swept away by the re-planning of the landscape, to their heyday in the early medieval period together with their slow decline from the 14th century onwards. Peter promises to introduce some new evidence from field walking and test pitting in surveying villages. Test pitting is something that our local schools have expressed an interest in. This may be of interest to some of our younger citizens. I am sure you will agree that this will be a very interesting evening.

Finally, as you may have read in the minutes, the committee has again (for the 6th year running) recommended that the membership fee remain unaltered. This proposal was accepted unopposed and if you have not already renewed £9.00 for a single membership and £14.00 for a joint membership represents excellent value. You can renew your membership at the April meeting or by contacting a committee member.

Nigel Palmer

Chairman