



December 2019



Dear Member

I hope that your Christmas plans are coming together, shopping completed, wrapping completed and thoughts are now turning to spending time with loved ones and family over the next few days. Hot on the heels of Christmas is the New Year and it is around this time that we look ahead but also reflect, on what will become the Old Year (and probably, not before too long, the good old days). Your committee would like to share their highlights of the last year with you. I hope that you will agree that, as a Society, we have had an interesting and varied year.



### Highlights of the Year 2019



#### **Ingrid Davison**

A big task this year was re-homing the archive material to its permanent new room. In advance, we needed a range of archival boxes with stacking strength, acid free wallets, labels, and tissue paper to name but a few. There seemed to be plenty of cupboards, shelves and drawers which was just as well as the table was piled high and the floor full of boxes. Initially, a lot of decisions had to be made regarding organisation and appropriate storage of articles. With all hands-on deck and week by week, we gradually worked our way through all the piles, together with help and advice from Bosworth Society member, Margaret Howard, a former librarian.



A highlight of this task was making discoveries and getting side-tracked by, for example, local stories, old maps, and photographs. It prompted many interesting conversations. The work is ongoing, and we are getting ready for the next stage.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

#### **Robert A. Leake**

Looking back over the year there were several highlights for me. The first was the uncovering of several graves in the churchyard, revealing long forgotten burials. This process, by mainly members of the Society, actually started in November 2018 but continued into the Spring of 2019. Many local families and visitors to the churchyard will be pleased to see the names of their ancestors from many generations ago uncovered.

The Archive Room has been an ongoing work site throughout the year, checking and recording what is there and preparing for eventual digitalisation. I have not been much involved this year but members have been meeting in the room on a regular basis and it is often a scene of great activity. Real progress is being made! Well done to them all!

I enjoyed the guided walk in Bradgate Park and of course the afternoon tea which followed, but I was so sad to miss the visit to Glenfield Tunnel. I last visited that location in September 1968 when the Glenfield Station building and platforms were still there and I was able to walk through the tunnel. If I remember rightly the railway line was still in place. Another visit is certainly well overdue and I am hoping that another trip will be organised in the future?



Finally, I must thank all members for their appreciative comments following ‘*Those Radio Days*’ in September, recalling memories of old radio programmes and their themes. Nigel wrote a particularly glowing report [*was he actually there I wondered?!*] and as a direct result of that a reader of this magazine made contact and I now have a booking for a venue in January!

Well, they were a few of my 2019 highlights to report. May I end by thanking Nigel and the Committee for all their behind-the-scenes work for the Society and wish everyone a Joyous Christmas and a Happy, Healthy New Year.

### **Marion Lambourne**

Looking back over the year there have been many highlights for me, both visits and speakers. Who could not have been impressed by the talk “The Great Escape” by Neville Hall about his father’s experience as a prisoner of war? What amazing courage and bravery these men showed. The visit to the Glenfield Tunnel was quite an eye opener and told a fascinating history of the railways in Leicestershire.

After all the many hours of work by Ingrid, Nigel, and myself I was delighted to see the revised Town Trail Guide in print and pleased to see it is selling well

Celebrating 70 years of Worship at the Free Church in Barton Road, Market Bosworth, it seemed an appropriate time to reminisce about events and people connected with the church. Together with Ingrid and Glynis we started to document its history.



**The Free Church will be holding an Open Morning on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2020 to which you are welcome to view the displays of all the archive material that has been gathered over the last few months.**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

### **Glynis Oakley**

One of my personal highlights of the year was the visit Ingrid and I made to the Market Bosworth Railway Station on the occasion of the 50 years celebration of the opening of the Battlefield Line from Shackerstone to Shenton, passing through Market Bosworth. At the entrance to the car park we enjoyed the sound smell and steam of two traction engines. Then we passed into the engine shed where there was a large model steam train display, much enjoyed by the young and old alike. Paul Mason, standing on the platform, showed us the 50



years plaque before we climbed onto one of three steam locos running that weekend to Shackerstone. In the ticket office Coen Bos was showing his absorbing video presentation of the line which included information on Bosworth and the petrol dump. (*link available here folks NP <http://marketbosworthsociety.com/latest-news/>*) Before returning to Bosworth we enjoyed a cream tea in the Victorian Tea Rooms.

Fortunately, the weather was kind and all three stations had plenty of visitors. It proved to be a very interesting afternoon and it was a credit to the Battlefield Line volunteers who had worked very hard on this event.

### **Beth Dawes**

I am afraid I have managed to miss quite a few meetings/outings this year but so glad I did not miss the talk by Peter Hall whose father was in Stalag Luft 111 during “The Great Escape”. Which was a real highlight for me. We have all seen the film and know the tragic end but to hear about it almost first-hand with all the details and ingenuity by those involved was unforgettable.



And I always enjoy Robert’s events - great fun.

I am looking forward to the talk by Richard Knox, his talk about Leicestershire castles was very enlightening to me - never knew there were so many! And obviously intrigued by March’s talk - wonder if I am related. If so, not keen on the “flawed” bit! Also, it is wonderful to finally relieve Glynis of the huge weighty Archive and to finally have a great accessible home for it.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

## **Martyn Andrews**

What a wonderful year this has been for MBS. I feel honoured to have been a finds collector during this year's Bosworth Links dig as I was able to see all the test pits in action together with the people involved. Also, the September meeting with Robert Leake's presentation of These Radio Times was very enjoyable.

But to give readers a view of something else, here is an extract from documents gratefully donated to MBS archives. A collection dating from about the 1790s to the 1830s concerning the work of the Overseers of the Poor of the parish of Market Bosworth has been received which includes three Apprenticeship Indentures. The handwriting is sometimes difficult to read. It took two Churchwardens of the Parish together with two Guardians and Overseers of the Poor and with the consent of two Justices of the Peace for the County to place a 'Poor Boy' as an apprentice. One dated 4.6.1834 reads To bind the said child apprentice to James Kinsett of the Parish of St Martins in the Borough and County of Leicester whose residence and establishment in trade at which it is intended that such child shall be employed are within a distance of forty miles from the said parish of Market Bosworth until such child shall come to the age of twenty one years. *The child was aged 15.* Also includes apprentice in the art, trade or mystery of a taylor shall and will teach and instructor cause to be taught and instructed in the best way and manner that he can; And shall and will during all the term aforesaid find, provide and allow unto the said apprentice , sufficient meat, drink, apparel, lodging, washing, and all other things necessary and fit for an apprentice.



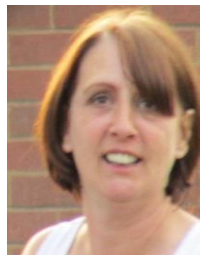
Also includes the apprentice faithfully shall serve in all lawful businesses according to his power, wit, and ability, and honestly, orderly, and obediently demean and behave himself.

Another Indenture pf 28.5.1811 puts apprentice to Thomas Bradbury, Taylor, and Draper of Market Bosworth. The third of 28.9.1791 is to Thomas Sansom framework knitter of Hinckley.

Merry Christmas!

## **Lynne Palmer**

I have enjoyed the lectures and the visits. I have learned something interesting from each of them and found them highly entertaining. Who will forget the "Role of the Barber Surgeon in the Wars of the Roses" as an example? But I really enjoyed the visit to the Glenfield Tunnel. It was interesting to hear about the reasons



for the tunnel and the rapid growth of the population of Leicester. We think that population growth is a recent phenomenon but not so. It was interesting to hear about the life of the tunnel and the different uses it had been put to. I also had to smile when I thought about all the people above going about their daily tasks with us all walking below their feet. The Co-op put on a splendid cream tea afterwards and made us very welcome, which just made the whole experience something special to be remembered. I enjoy helping to organise these events and am really looking forward to next year.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

## **Nigel Palmer**

Where do I start? I have enjoyed all our lectures and visits, not always for the same reasons. I found Eddie Smallwood very entertaining and I hope that Steve has recovered from his surgery well enough to enjoy Christmas. Three Coins in a Fountain was interesting as I learned a lot about Holy Wells a subject, I knew little about previously. Similarly, with the Leicestershire Fire Service and both delivered by people local to Market Bosworth. I am eagerly awaiting a treat later next year when we will hear a more localised history, but I must not reveal too much of that here. "The Great Escape" was a real highlight, it contained so many ingredients. Seeing the Free Church full to the brim and raising over £100 for the Red Cross made it an incredibly special event. I enjoyed learning about the Glenfield Tunnel and marvelled as I walked along the tunnel at the engineering and that although the tunnel was dug out in sections there were only a few signs of a mis-match when joining the sections together. I imagined the trains in full steam struggling along with a full load, snorting, and whistling as they went. I imagined too my Paleoanthropic ancestors staring down at me

from that outcrop of rock in Bradgate Park as they napped their flints to make tools and weapons. All brought to life brilliantly by Peter Liddle MBE. I loved Robert's lecture, I could remember most of the tunes and some of the programmes, but must have been incredibly young at the time, ahem.

I was delighted and pleased to welcome back many of the volunteers for Bosworth Links as we held a mini dig in July. It was lovely to see so many familiar faces, with by now familiar smiles as they helped to reveal even more of our shared history. If you have not yet taken part, why not make it one of your New Years Resolutions? We would love you to share in time travel and have a lot of fun doing so.

Thank you for supporting The Market Bosworth Society and being a member. Without you none of this would have been possible. I hope we can carry on for many years to come. Do please share your experiences with your friends and neighbours and invite them to come along and join us.



The ink on next years programme of events is all but dry and I think your committee have helped me to put together an even better list of lectures and visits, should that be possible. We also have a visit from an especially important person to look forward to in 2020 but shush for now!

Merry Christmas and a Very Happy New Year!

## Favourite Views and Vistas

I realise that asking for you to look out your favourite photographs of the beautiful views and vistas around Market Bosworth just before Christmas was not great timing. Hopefully, you will have the task in mind and will get to it when you can. When the family are over and digesting their lunch what a good time to dig out the family album and enjoy some of the lovely memories these albums contain. At the same time, you could look out your favourite views and vistas. You might even get your family to help you to rank them in order, ranking photographs is not an easy task. These photographs will be extremely helpful as the Neighbourhood Forum work on their revisions to the Neighbourhood Plan which will have to be completely reviewed by 2025.



You can send your photographs to me or any committee member. Please let us know if you would not like to share them on the website. You can email them, use We Transfer (free and safe), use the uplink facility on the website or simply hand deliver them.

If your photographs are not electronic and you do not have access to a scanner, do not worry. Drop your photographs into me or any member of your committee and we will arrange to scan them onto the website for you and make sure we return your photographs safely.

I will start us off with one of mine. Lynne and I walk our dogs along Sutton Lane on most days. This is one of my favourite views. I love the way the sun illuminates the corner with the promise of sunshine ahead. This was taken on my phone, no special equipment needed. Please do submit your photographs. The uplink facility I added is here: <http://marketbosworthsociety.com/favourite-views-vistas/> and is actually a competition facility.

You will need to register and enter a password on your first visit but after that you will simply log in (it actually recognises me and logs me in automatically). The data mask (as it is known) is not that clear (we are using the free version and to tidy it up will require us to purchase the professional version). I have attached a separate page with this Newsletter of instructions. If you get stuck, then send me an email or give me a call. Once loaded one of the admins will have to review the images and make them available on-line. This is to protect the

website from outside interference. We may have a competition, later, if you would like. Let me know, but we will need a few more uploads first. Please do take part, I would love to see your favourite photographs. If you do not have access to the internet at home do remember that the Market Bosworth Community





Library have access to the internet and are incredibly happy to help. I have been asked to point out that you will need to register as a member to use the computers. To do that you will need to complete an application form and will need some ID (driver's licence or a credit card)

## **Next Meeting**

Our next meeting will be on the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2020. We will be welcoming Richard Knox back as our guest speaker. Richard started 2019 with his excellent lecture about the “Castles of Leicestershire”. This time he is going to tell us about the “Tactical Battle of Bosworth”. We all know the outcome of the Battle, but do we know how it was fought? Richard gave a short appraisal of the tactics and events at a recent Rose Laying Ceremony and he has developed that especially for us. Do please get if you can. It will be in the Free Church, Barton Road and will start at 7:30 so please be seated by then. Feel free to bring a friend or relative along with you. Guests are very welcome for a small fee of just £3.00, not bad for a chance to hear a lecture specially created for the Society. It would be really great if we could have as many members present as possible to support Richard.

## **February Meeting**

Apologies for the mistake in last month's Newsletter, obviously my copy checker was asleep (as indeed they are most months) but the February Lecture “Baxterly Pit Disaster 1882 – Death of my Ancestor” by Eddie Smallwood will take place on the 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30.

Martin Peters CEO of Leicestershire promotions will be joining us at that meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> (and not the 29<sup>th</sup> as stated last month) at 7:00pm. Martin wants to bring you up to date with progress of the 1485 Art Trail. Please come along and hear what Martin has to say and ask any questions you may have.

## **Here are the details of FREE lectures and events.**

### **‘Places of memory; history expressed in bronze and stone’**

**Dr Anthony McIntosh**

**Date:** Monday 13th January 2020, 7.30pm

**Venue:** Market Bosworth Library

**Parking:** On street

Public monuments and sculpture teach us about history. They are erected to commemorate people or events, to celebrate them, and often to record sacrifice; they mark places on the landscape, and offer an opportunity, for people living in the present, to learn about the past. They can become places where local communities carry out rituals, and create memories, and through this they can provide ways in which we develop what we call a ‘sense of place’ and often a sense of ‘community identity’.

As part of our local landscape, they also contribute to a sense of familiarity with our surroundings, not just for people who live nearby, but also for people who visit our villages, towns, and cities. In many ways, just like ‘The Angel of the North’ in Gateshead, public monuments and sculpture can thereby become powerful symbols of the places we call home.

This presentation explores ways in which the physical presence of public monuments and sculpture can transform the simple spaces, in which we live, into places, by providing opportunities for thinking about our past, for creating new memories in the present, and for strengthening community identity.

### **Lecture with renowned historian and author Dr Michael Jones**

**Date:** 18th January 2020, 7.30pm

**Venue:** St. Peter's Primary School, Market Bosworth.

**Parking:** On Street

Join Dr Michael Jones, renowned historian and author to hear about Richard III and the Battle of Bosworth. Bosworth 1485 is one of our most famous battles, marking the death of Richard III and the beginning of the Tudor dynasty. But could its outcome have been different? Military historian Dr Michael Jones looks at the recent discovery of Richard's remains and the archaeological finds on the battlefield and puts them within a broader context: how King Richard hoped to defeat his rival claimant, Henry Tudor.

There will be a selection of books by Dr Michael Jones available to buy on the evening.

### 1485 legacy trail taster walk

**Eddie Smallwood**

**Date:** ~~RESCHEDULED DATE:~~ 25th January 2020 9:00 am – 2:00 pm

**Venue:** Meet in the Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre car park at 9.00 am.

**Parking:** In the Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre car park which is chargeable.

Meet local historian Eddie Smallwood in the car park of the Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre at 9.00 am for a walk which is approximately 8KM in length. Walk around the area of the 1485 Battle of Bosworth and visit churches connected to the battle, including Sutton Cheney, where Richard III is reputed to have prayed, and Dadlington where some of the dead from the battle are buried. Hear the story of the battle and learn about the lives and deaths of those involved. Find out about the sculptures planned for those sites which will tell the story in iconic works of art. The walk will finish back at the Bosworth Battlefield Heritage Centre at around 2.00 pm. The walk is suitable for adults and children over 12 years of age. Dogs are not permitted.

### Creative textile activity (No ticket required, just drop in)

**Jacqui Gallon**

**Dates:** 14<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> January 2020 10.00 am-4.00 pm.

**Venue:** Market Bosworth Library

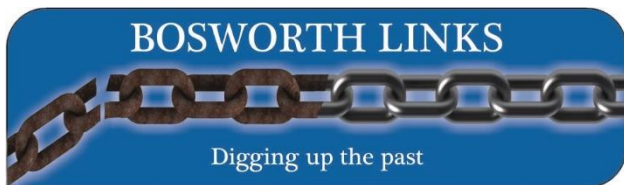
Work with artist Jacqui Gallon to create a large community textile work of art based on the Battle of Bosworth. No sewing experience is required and both adults and children are very welcome to join in. Pop into the library at any time between 10.00 AM-4.00 pm on the dates shown to have a go, and add your piece to this wonderful community project which will be displayed at the Battlefield Heritage Centre during February and March.

### Christmas Lights Switch On

Once again, this year Brian and Glynis kindly opened the Forge and Edd Robinson (Farrier) was working the forge as it was intended to be worked. We had a lot of visitors who enjoyed looking at some of the posters the Society had produced during the year and browsing our publications. We sold several books, served many mince pies, and litres of mulled wine to the visitors the cost of which was met by donations by the visitors. Thanks to Michelle and John for helping the Society team.



We are lucky to have Brian and Glynis who appreciate the history and heritage of The Forge and in doing so make it available to visitors. The children found it exciting when Edd sent sparks flying whilst I suspect the parents were only glad of an opportunity to stand next to a warm fire. Overall the “Lights” event was another great success and our thanks go to the organisers who made a fantastic job of putting it all together for everyone’s enjoyment.



A few weeks ago, we submitted our initial enquiry form to the Lottery Heritage Fund. As you know we plan to extend Bosworth Links to the neighbouring villages. We want to see if there are similarities or differences in the development of those villages. We also want to engage with the local communities as we did when we dug in Market Bosworth. We will be looking to engage with the residents but would also like to reach out to clubs and societies to join us. If you happen to know of any club or society (The Scouts, Young Farmers, gardening clubs, youth clubs, social clubs) please mention the project to them and give them our contact details. There is a Facebook page as well as the Society website. We would love to hear from anyone who wants to be involved. It is a fantastic project and everyone who took part in the earlier digs had a great time, learning new skills and meeting new friends.

I received (just yesterday) a very positive email from Mark Humphries at the National Lottery Heritage Fund asking us to move forward and submit our full application. We will now have to set about completing the full application form and then hopefully, fingers crossed our plans will become a reality. It is getting exciting!

**And Finally....**



I hope to see you at The Free Church Open Morning on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2020, together with the other lectures and events mentioned here.

Thanks again for supporting the Market Bosworth Society.

Please accept my best wishes together with those from your committee for a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Prosperous and Peaceful New Year.

**Contact Details**

Getting in touch to donate to the Archive, to answer or to ask a question could not be easier. 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 or simply contact one of the Committee members.

Nigel Palmer,  
Chairman