

## Reviews

Edited by ALAN TYLER

Neil Holbrook, Jamie Wright, E.R. McSloy and Jonny Geber, *The Western Cemetery of Roman Cirencester: excavations at the former Bridges Garage, Old Tetbury Road, Cirencester, 2001–2015* Cirencester Excavations VII (Cirencester, Cotswold Archaeology 2017). xvi + 158 pp., 162 figs., 31 tabs. Hardback, £19.95 [ISBN: 9780993454530].

While excavation within Romano-British towns such as Cirencester gives us information about the ‘use’ of structures such as the forum or town houses, the cemeteries help us to learn more about the ‘users’, their values, economic standing and perhaps even about the surrounding area. This handsome volume is concerned with excavations in the Western Cemetery of Cirencester outside the town walls, and along the now Tetbury Road. The project was undertaken due to the building of offices on the site of a former garage, which had yielded human remains during its construction in 1960. It was expected that with the considerable works undertaken when the garage was constructed, petrol storage tanks etc., most of the surviving evidence would have been cut into or sliced off. Happily, this proved to be only in parts of the site and the outcomes of two series of archaeological excavation in 2011 and 2015 exceeded all expectations.

The cemetery developed alongside a road or track and opposite Grismond’s Tower, a mound which may have been a prehistoric or Roman feature, either giving a certain status in terms of identity, status and ‘heritage’ to those interred across from it. The burial ground was used between the late 1st and the late 3rd or 4th centuries, and during these investigations 118 inhumations and eight cremations were retrieved (to which might be added 80 more inhumations and eight cremations from the 1960s observations). The most significant feature was a walled enclosure, too extensive to be a roofed mausoleum, of the late 1st to early 3rd centuries, and which contained in excess of nine inhumations. Tantalizingly, the walled cemetery was one area where later disturbance by the garage construction had caused problems of interpretation, and although it was clear that the centre of the feature had a focus such as a monument or tree, there was no evidence as to exactly what it might comprise. In the backfills of the walled cemetery graves evidence of pottery indicated rituals connected with incense or some other sacred material, all smashed and incorporated in the grave fill. As in the graves from within the walled cemetery, those immediately outside it contained inhumations with wooden coffins and hob-nailed boots and generally demonstrated a high degree of wealth and status. The long use of this part of the cemetery indicates a continuity of interment for some (ancestral?) group, especially as the graves must have been marked, as there was no intercutting of grave cuts; however, this is a significant feature of the whole burial ground.

The grave catalogue is a model of accessibility, welcoming both professional and interested individuals. Each set of human remains is in a numbered sequence, continuing on from the Bath Road cemetery, with an individual colour-coded plan showing grave cut, skeletal remains and the position of grave goods, which are illustrated by adjacent photographs. In the adjoining text these details are expanded with measurements, gender, description of grave goods and proposed date

of burial indicated by specific evidence from the grave. The designation of each grave is included separately in the index, allowing reference to other citations in the text. This integration of the characteristics of each grave is invaluable in setting the context for the discussion of artefacts, human remains and environmental information.

The two artefacts that caught the popular imagination were a tombstone and a small enameled cockerel. The tombstone was dedicated to Bodicacia, 27 years old at death, which was re-used face-downwards and placed over the grave of a 45–58 year-old male. This probably ensured it was left by later grave/stone robbers. It was a ‘blank’ of local stone and a product of the Cotswold school of sculptors, with the face of god Oceanus, crab claws springing for either side of his head and seaweed from his mouth (‘a masterly work of art’ according to the specialist, Martin Henig). Representations of Oceanus are a very rare find, the sea being a long way from Gloucestershire, and his appearance in mosaics at the villas of Withington and Woodchester may well be of local and wider significance that is worth further research. Unfortunately, the inscription was carved later with clumsy off-set words among other things. It has been appeared to have been later defaced, possibly by Christians. The side and rear of the gravestone were very crudely dressed and beg the question of whether it was to be positioned into a wall rather than being free-standing, and whether this was in any way connected to the empty space at the centre of the walled cemetery. The lack of mention of the name of Bodicacia’s spouse, even though we know she had one from the inscription, suggests that a memorial to him was placed nearby and also suggests a specific monument. The second noteworthy artefact was a small copper-alloy enameled cockerel, possibly a votive offering, buried with a child along with a pottery tettine (a feeder bottle). It seems that the object might have some connection with the god Mercury, the messenger of the gods and announcer of dawn, both of which might have had significance to the parents of the child for a safe journey into the afterlife and a re-awakening.

While the cockerel and tombstone are inevitably the most attractive objects, for the reviewer equally as moving is the grave of a six year-old that died possibly of scurvy, trauma or tuberculosis and was buried with three bracelets, one of glass, and five strings of beads, the longest being of 153 individual pieces. Each seems to have been buried on the child as though it was wearing them. Secondly, the grave of a female 19–24 years old buried with copper-alloy, bone and shale bracelets and armllets, one of 40 beads of bone, green, clear and blue glass or glass paste. These were probably in a purse or bag, leading to micro-excavation after being lifted as a block. These indicate a vibrant, youthful young woman.

There is a question of access to the cemetery. There is no indication of a major gate in the town walls at this point, but there is a suggestion that this might have been the original route of the Fosse Way before the town’s plan was fixed, in which case the monuments would be seen by many passers-by, and perhaps villa owners, who may have had town houses, might have preferred to have been buried here than in their own isolated rural properties. If there was a postern with a track to reach this cemetery, then privacy and exclusivity is suggested. On a wider scale, the Western Cemetery was very different from that at the Bath Gate, where there were few grave goods or coffins, little overall planning or marking of graves indicated by the inter-cutting of grave-pits. This indicates the different social status of contrasting burial grounds.

Two aspects of the report are unusual, and both indicate the professionals realizing the importance of communicating the importance, and thrill of the moment, in archaeology to the general public. Firstly, the lifting of the Bodicacia stone was planned so that the event could be broadcast on local radio in real time, and also filmed for inclusion in a regional evening television programme. The object also made the cover of a British popular archaeology magazine, *Current Archaeology*, and the American, (and international) *National Geographic*. Secondly, a poem acts as a preface to the report. The piece, by Dan Simpson, was commissioned by Corinium Museum

and concerns the cockerel, its young deceased owner (here a girl although in reality an unsexed pre-pubescent child) and the wishes of her parents for it to ease her journey. It might be argued that all archaeological outcomes involve 'informed imagination' using evidence from a site to translate the findings for particular audiences. The conclusion to the report is objectively argued and certainly for the professional, but could be accessed by interested individuals. However, the poem is at the other end of the scale, the emotional. This reviewer found the interpretation of the site enhanced by both.

This is an important and satisfying volume. It is well presented, and lavishly produced, being published just two years after the project ended. It demonstrates the deservedly professional high status of Cotswold Archaeology, and confirms its mission to share work on a wide scale in an accessible form with a wide community of people. It is pleasing also to see the volume dedicated to Richard Reece, who recorded the site as the garage was being built in 1960 and has remained a vital force in the development of Roman archaeology not only in Cirencester, but also county-wide; indeed, he has also influenced approaches to study of the Roman period nationally, and beyond.

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Chris Hayden, Rob Early, Edward Biddulph, Paul Booth, Anne Dodd, Alex Smith, Granville Laws and Ken Welsh, *Horcott Quarry, Fairford and Arkell's Land, Kempsford: Prehistoric, Roman and Anglo-Saxon settlement and burial in the Upper Thames Valley in Gloucestershire*, Thames Valley Landscapes Monograph 40 (Oxford, Oxford Archaeology 2017). xxx + 552 pp., 259 figs., 134 tabs. Hardback, £25.00 [ISBN: 9781905905386].

This volume in which Oxford Archaeology reports on its excavations at Horcott Quarry, Fairford and Arkell's Land, Kempsford is the latest in a series of Thames Valley Landscape Monographs through which our understanding of the archaeology of the Thames Valley has been transformed beyond recognition. It is a magnificent volume; produced to the highest standards on high-quality paper, full of rich empirical detail, lavish illustration and photographs, detailed scientific analyses and concise, scholarly, highly informed and fascinating discussion. It measures c.30x21 cm and weighs enough to stun a badger! Few will therefore be slipping it into their hand luggage in anticipation of devouring it on the beach during the course of their summer holidays and, partly for this reason, I doubt that many, apart from reviewers and editors, will ever sit down and read the book from cover to cover. I think that this is a shame, as it contains important and interesting work. Some will no doubt object that archaeological monographs are meant as repositories of information, not narrative entertainments, and others will counter that the dissemination and circulation of empirical and scientific information is (partly) what the Internet is for. This reviewer falls into the latter camp, and this point (of which more later) constitutes my only really substantive criticism of the volume. Typographic errors are present, as is inevitable in a work of this scale, and if that sort of thing bothers you, then you will probably have chewed all the way through the stem of your tobacco pipe by the time you have reached the end of the volume. However, I do not propose to say any more about them in this review. Apart from a brief general introduction (Chapter 1), which situates the two sites geographically and topographically and summarizes the archaeological background of the Upper Thames Valley, the volume is really two books, one on the excavations at Horcott Quarry and the other on those at Arkell's Land. Although geographically close, they are not contiguous sites and the remainder of this review will therefore consider them separately, starting with Horcott.

The excavations at Horcott Quarry (by Hayden, Booth, Dodd, Smith, Laws and Welsh) were carried out in advance of gravel quarrying in 2007 and 2008, just to the south of Fairford and to the west of the River Coln on the Second Gravel Terrace of the Thames. The excavation area was very extensive, measuring over 100 m both east–west and north–south, with a palaeochannel running the length of its eastern edge that appears to have silted up by the Middle Iron Age, or Roman period at the latest. The sheer size of the excavations, as is by now to be expected on Upper Thames Valley gravel quarry sites, have therefore afforded the investigation of a palimpsest of settlement and burial stretching from the early Mesolithic period until the 7th or 8th century AD. Mesolithic activity consisted largely of a discrete flint scatter, preserved in a natural hollow in the north-west corner of the site, although a low density background scatter of residual Mesolithic flints across the remainder of the site hints at wider and longer-term occupation. Two Late Neolithic pits near the palaeochannel, and containing grooved ware, show that occupation continued in the Neolithic period and a further three pits and a ditch, also close to the eastern limit of the excavation area, represent the early Bronze Age/Beaker period. The palaeochannel, which is argued to represent an open stream/channel at this time, continued to form a focus for activity in the Middle Bronze Age, when a burnt mound and a waterhole were constructed in its vicinity. Further to the west, an inhumation burial and a small group of cremation burials also date to this period. The earliest evidence for permanent settlement dates to the early Iron Age and is represented by an enormous swathe of postholes, which occupied much of the centre of the site and appear to have been fiendishly difficult both to interpret and to separate from early Anglo-Saxon settlement activity. In simple terms the settlement consisted of discrete groups of post-built roundhouses with the palaeochannel to their east and two large swathes of four-post structures largely to west of the houses, although with a few scatters of four-posters between and among the houses. By the Middle Iron Age the settlement had shrunk to a small group of enclosures and pits, with two associated inhumation burials in the south-eastern corner of the excavations. Roman settlement probably started after AD 100 and continued until the end of the 3rd century at least, with Roman activity again comprising settlement, including a stone-footed building, and burial including an extensive 3rd- to 4th-century inhumation cemetery within an enclosure on the eastern side of the site. In addition, there were groups of enclosures and a trackway of probable agricultural function. Early Anglo-Saxon activity, largely dating to the 5th and 6th centuries, consisted at a minimum of 34 sunken-featured buildings distributed across the centre of the excavation, a post-built hall and two corn-dryers, although there may have been many more post-built halls (three possible examples are identified), which proved impossible to disentangle from the earlier early Iron Age settlement. A discrete group of burials within the ‘late Roman’ cemetery enclosure, the northern burials, were dated by radiocarbon to the 5th to 7th centuries and were therefore contemporary with this phase of settlement, although their burial rites seem continuous with those of the late Roman group.

The excavations at Horcott are published with such a wealth of detail that it is really impossible for a review to do them justice. The following will therefore be restricted to specific points and disagreements, without any pretense of covering everything in the text. Chapter 2 consists of nicely concise introduction to the project recapping the location, geology and topography of the site and detailing the history and methodology of the excavation. A more detailed location map showing the relationship of the site to its immediate landscape would have been welcome here, although aerial photographs of the site are splendid. Chapter 3 deals with chronology, particularly the very extensive radiocarbon dating programme and especially the radiocarbon dating of the Roman and early medieval burials. The chapter aims to establish the chronology of the major groups of burials, the chronology of the settlement evidence and the chronology of the environmental

evidence. Bayesian statistical modelling is used to refine the chronology of the radiocarbon dates and the chapter therefore contains a clear and succinct summary of the stratigraphic sequence, which is very helpful in coming to terms with the volume as a whole. A figure (3.1) near the beginning of the chapter is very useful for understanding the sequence, but lacks some important labels; for example, the 'western burials' and the Beaker pits and ditch. One major reservation about the Bayesian modelling deserves comment, as the authors themselves flag it up. The model in question, described as speculative in the text, refines the chronology of the Roman and Anglo-Saxon burials and the authors state that: 'information derived from the (radiocarbon) dates is being used to constrain the dates themselves, and the model is thus methodologically flawed'. The authors go on to state that the model is only a hypothetical demonstration of what the date ranges of the burial groups would be like, if they could have been shown to form a stratigraphic sequence. This reviewer is not qualified to comment on Bayesian modelling; however, the absence of a secure stratigraphic sequence makes the model highly challenging by the authors' own admission, and it would perhaps therefore have been best left out.

Chapter 4 deals with the Mesolithic, Late Neolithic and Bronze Age activity outlined above, and this is described in good balanced detail, with excellent illustrations in both plan and section and good photographs. Some confusion over the relationship of the Beaker activity and Bronze Age burnt mounds to the palaeochannel is, however, created by a seeming contradiction between the illustrations and the text. Fig. 4.1 shows the western edge of the palaeochannel to the west of the Bronze Age features and on fig 4.9 they are shown overlying the palaeochannel fill within a Roman enclosure constructed after the palaeochannel had silted up. Meanwhile, the text suggests that the channel was still active in the Bronze Age, not silting up until the Middle Iron Age at the earliest. Chapter 5 deals with the Iron Age settlement, mostly focusing on the earlier Iron Age, and is a difficult chapter to read, no doubt reflecting the process of untangling the early Iron Age sequence itself. The text is again well illustrated and contains an interesting attempt to refine the chronological development of the settlement into a sequence of discrete house clusters. However, it also contains some very in-depth statistical analyses of features. For example, the circumference of post-rings in relation to the mean width of postholes, which could have been put online or spun off into separate papers, and the whole chapter would perhaps have benefitted from fiercer editing. Chapters 6 and 7 describe the Roman settlement and cemetery and are models of clarity, again well illustrated, with plans sections and photographs and a comprehensive grave catalogue, with several good photographs. Chapters 8 and 9 deal with the Anglo-Saxon settlement and cemetery; again in lavish detail and with admirable clarity, including detailed plans and sections of each sunken-featured building and another comprehensive grave catalogue.

Chapter 10 contains what are within the context of the volume succinct finds reports on all the major categories of finds, including worked flint, pottery, small finds, coins, fired clay, and ceramic and stone building material. These are nicely illustrated, with a combination of extensive line drawings and high-quality photographs and include all the appropriate quantified data and comprehensive discussions. Chapter 11 constitutes a brisk report on the human remains, including comprehensive analysis of pathologies and an interesting analysis of evidence for decapitation. It would have been nice if it could have been provided with more of a discussion. Chapter 12 incorporating reports on animal bone, charred and waterlogged plant remains and wood charcoal constitutes an analysis of environmental and economic evidence and is, like the finds chapter, comprehensive and contains all of the appropriate quantified data, along with good contextualizing discussions of the material. As with all of the chapters dealing with finds and biological evidence, it would have been good if more space could have been found for it, perhaps at the expense of some of the very long stratigraphic descriptions and statistical analyses earlier in the volume.

Chapter 13 is the final chapter dealing with the Horcott Quarry excavations and comprises an overall discussion. This is by far the most interesting chapter, in which the wide-ranging knowledge and impressive scholarship of the authors is finally allowed to come to the fore. My only quibble is that it could have done with a figure recapping the site plan and also placing Horcott Quarry into the context of all the other sites discussed in the text; as it is the poor reader has to turn back through nearly 400 pages of text for orientation. The discussion of the prehistoric period, presumably by Hayden, raises some interesting and novel interpretations of the wider Upper Thames Valley sequence, including the idea of a 'dispersed taskscape' in the Middle Bronze Age with a change from a shifting dispersed settlement pattern in the Middle Bronze Age to a stable expanding pattern in the Early Iron Age. A discussion of the nature of crop storage based on the evidence of the four-post structures and the idea of 'staple finance' based upon grain stores as the main driver in the apparent increasing stability of settlement are fascinating. However, perhaps too much space is given to the earlier prehistoric elements, given their relative significance, particularly the eight pages spent discussing eight Neolithic and Early Bronze Age pits, and the nature of Neolithic deposition practices more generally, which could probably have been spun off into a separate paper. The discussions of the Roman settlement and cemetery by Booth and Smith respectively are, like the respective descriptive chapters, very clear and put the evidence from Horcott Quarry into context through very comprehensive, but somehow lightly expressed discussions of the wider Upper Thames sequence, while integrating and contextualizing the specialist reports. Booth's discussion of the Late Roman cemetery, its wider context and the details of the burial rites and landscape setting is particularly subtle and interesting, whilst also very full of detail. Similarly, Dodd's discussion of the Anglo-Saxon settlement and cemetery is comprehensive and contextualizes the evidence particularly well in the context of the Upper Thames. Her discussion of the relationship between the 5th- and 6th-century settlement and 'late Roman' cemetery at Horcott in the context of the contemporary 'Anglo-Saxon' cemetery destroyed in the 19th century at West End Gardens, 1 km to the north, is particularly interesting.

The excavations at Arkell's Land (by Early, Biddulph and Welsh) were carried out again in advance of gravel extraction, this time over a longer period, between 2006 and 2011, within the eastern part of the Cotswold Water Park, immediately to the south of the already extensively excavated sites at Claydon Pike, Thornhill Farm and Coln Gravel. The excavations were again very extensive, this time occupying the first terrace of the Thames, due east of the site at Horcott Quarry and c.3.5 km south-east of Fairford. The archaeology revealed was in this case more chronologically restricted, representing settlement, field systems and a major trackway dating to the Roman period, with only a slightly unusual Middle to Late Iron Age cremation burial representing activity before this date, and no evidence for substantive post-Roman activity, possibly because of increasingly damp conditions on the Thames floodplain. The earliest activity, apart from the cremation, comprised an early Roman boundary ditch and curvilinear ditch, perhaps representing an enclosure. There were also a number of small annular 'stack ring' ditches, which could also have been early Roman in date. In the middle Roman period there was an extensive settlement enclosure on one side of a substantial trackway, with enclosed fields on the other side, and at the southern end of the trackway a strange trapezoidal palisaded and ditched enclosure, interpreted as a stock enclosure of some kind. By the late Roman period the extent of occupation had declined, and the site was dominated by a very large double-ditched enclosure, part of which was also excavated at Coln Gravel, immediately to the north.

The major value of the excavations at Arkell's Land lies in their contribution to our wider understanding of the Roman landscape of the Cotswold Water Park as a whole, and this is brought out in the excellent concise discussion, complete with contextualizing illustrations, which makes

clear the physical connections between this site and those at Claydon Pike, Thornhill Farm and Coln Gravel to its north. One thing that could perhaps have been brought out more is the possible relationship between the Roman trackways, and boundaries in the modern landscape, hinted at in the larger-scale illustrations; in particular, the kinks in the trackways leading south from Claydon Pike and Thornhill Farm, and that in the modern road from Whelford Bowmoor to the A417 to their west. The Arkell's Land report is, like that on Horcott Quarry, extremely well produced, with clear high-quality descriptions, illustrations (this time in black and white) and photographs, comprehensive finds and environmental reports and informed discussion.

A brief Google search reveals that none of the material discussed above can be found online, including on the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) website, and this brings me back to my only substantive criticism stated in the first paragraph of this review. The wonderful wealth of knowledge contained in this volume demands to be disseminated to researchers and the wider public in a way that both facilitates wider understanding and the easy use of the data for further research. Numerous elements of this volume, for example, fig. 5.3, titled 'summary of attributes of four-post structures' (a double-page spread), would have a more fruitful existence as csv files online, where they would be easily incorporated into research databases, and free up space in the text for more of the excellent discussion. However, this is a quibble, although in my opinion an important one, and the volume as a whole is tremendous, and at £25 a bargain.

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David Platt, *Roman Enclosure and Early Anglo-Saxon Occupation at Top Road, Kempford, Gloucestershire*, Thames Valley Archaeological Services Monograph 28 (Reading, TVAS 2017). vii + 130 pp., 34 figs., 26 pl., 27 tabs., 6 charts. Cardcovers, £12.00 [ISBN: 9781911228219].

The landscape of the Upper Thames Valley in which Kempford is situated is important archaeologically because of the incidence of late Iron Age, Roman and Anglo-Saxon settlements and their possible continuity. This was certainly the case at Kempford, where the site examined lay on the edge of the village. The excavation took place in 2015 and was the result of a planning application for housing, together with a sports field and social facilities. Cropmarks, geophysics and evaluation trenches suggested a typical Iron Age/early Roman landscape on the second terrace of gravels of the Thames Valley. As frequent with developer-led excavations, there were restrictions on where trenches could be opened. There was no need to excavate the playing field area and the site of the carpark needed uncovering only down to the top of the archaeological features, so the stratification will be preserved *in situ*. These factors resulted in a small area to explore with all the frustrations that this involves in tracing features over even short distances.

As predicted, there was late Iron Age and Roman activity comparable with that of other sites excavated in the Upper Thames Valley, such as Kempford Quarry, Stubbs Farm and, further afield, Claydon Pike. The Top Road site seems to have changed over time with the disuse of enclosures as the agricultural regime developed and with the pastoral dominance of cattle and, later, sheep. A possible roundhouse was detected, but being only 5 m in diameter and represented by a grouping of undated postholes cut by a later ditch, this is not a likely candidate for a settlement during this period. Interestingly, the Top Road assemblages of cereals included malt waste in the Roman period, so workers in the fields might have been drinking spelt beer at harvest time! Three sets of Roman burials were recovered, possibly in family groups, although others may remain under the unexcavated parts of the site.

The most significant feature of the site was the presence of an Anglo-Saxon hall and six sunken-featured buildings (SFBs), a valuable addition to the growing number of Thames Valley examples of settlements of this period. What were seen as of major significance were the radiocarbon dates, especially that from a food residue on a fragment of pottery from one of the SFBs. This produced a date range AD 377–476, with a 66.5% probability, although the excavator comments that this was ‘less than ideal’. However, he suggests a range AD 377–430 ‘may be the best fit’. He gives as examples several radiocarbon dates from a number of Thames valley sites, although they also have wide ranges. His preferred earlier range would put the Anglo-Saxon occupation on the Top Road site very early in the pattern of settlement, and the author suggests that there is a ‘distinct possibility that this took place well before the “official” end of Roman Britain in AD 410’. Enthusiastically, the author supports his hypothesis with: ‘certainly the early Anglo-Saxon leaders Hengist and Horsa were settled in Kent a few decades later, and this need not have been the earliest example’. However, the interpretation placed here on a single radiocarbon date is unfortunate! The range goes up to AD 476, so the pot in question is more likely to be towards the end of that range. To argue that there are any grounds for placing it before the end of Roman occupation is stretching the statistical evidence. We also need to get away from the ‘grand narrative’, especially of much later written sources (and certainly from the probably mythical figures of Hengist and Horsa), and focus on the predictably ambiguous situation suggested by the archaeology.

Anglo-Saxon settlement had clearly been established in Dorchester-on-Thames (Oxon.) by soon after AD 400, so it is not hugely surprising that small groups, possibly extended families, should find their way up the Thames. In the context of other early Anglo-Saxon settlements that have recently been excavated and published in south-east Gloucestershire and the uppermost Thames zone, such as South Cerney and Horcott, the Top Road site does not look especially anomalous, and also like this one, they end around AD 600. The author of the report adopts the now outdated position that the Britons kept the Anglo-Saxons out and the Upper Thames became a frontier zone. Whether or not anyone would have been able, or would have wanted, to keep them out would have depended on political and military circumstances, of which we have no knowledge.

Excavating a small site can be frustrating, so the reviewer’s exploration of this report was challenging. The plans are a particular problem, mainly because instead of ‘Plan One, Plan Two etc.’, we are presented with ‘Figure 4. Detailed plan (1)’, ‘Figure 5. Detailed plan (2)’, etc. This scheme clearly confused the draftsman, as there are two called ‘Figure 8’, illustrating different areas of the site, although there is a ‘Figure 9. Detailed Plan (6)’ in the text! It is difficult to identify the area where only the topsoil was stripped down to the archaeology. The only way this reviewer could make sense of the overall plan of the site was to photocopy the aerial image on the front cover taken from the north and rotate it through 180 degrees to have north at the top! On this overall plan some features have blue numerals and some red/bold red and yet appear in blue in detailed plans, i.e. the Anglo-Saxon hall. It is not clear why this distinction is necessary. There is a similar situation with the human remains, of which some 12 skeletons were recovered. On the detailed plans just six of these are identified by a red skeleton icon, three have the prefix SK, and the others are only identified by grave cut numbers. There is no obvious key as to why these are differentiated. In the text some tables have numbered features assigned to the wrong figure, and similarly the contents of tables refer to the wrong illustration. Some of the paragraphs in the text are repeated on the same page and the grammar might be improved in places.

It is good to see archaeological excavations published promptly, so that recent evidence can be compared with other sites of the same period and not end up as ‘grey literature’ held in a museum or commercial archive. There are also the pressures of ensuring that the developer has a research report for which it has already paid. However, this publication shows signs of undue haste and

an awkward structure (though it has to be said that the finds reports are up to the high standards expected of those commissioned to undertake them) and does not do justice to those individuals who excavated the site so professionally.

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Jonathan Harlow with Jonathan Barry (eds), *Religious Ministry in Bristol 1603–1689: uniformity to dissent*, Bristol Record Society Publication 69 (Bristol, BRS 2017). 182 pp., 1 map. Hardback, £15.00 + p&p [ISBN: 978901538383].

This is an ambitious book dedicated to a very distinguished historian who has given excellent service to this society and region over many years: Joe Bettey. It aims to provide details of all the clergy of Bristol churches and chapels, within and without the Church of England, who served their respective congregations between 1603 and 1689, two auspicious dates for any community in England and Wales. One marked the accession of a new king, James VI and I – who many now regard as the real saviour of the Church of England – yet the period also encompasses the reign of his son Charles, who almost broke it, while the Toleration Act of 1689 marks the end of attempts to gain comprehension after the Restoration in 1660. There is clearly much to cover here in terms of theory and practice; who were the clergy who served the churches of Bristol, what were their doctrinal beliefs, what spectrum of beliefs came to light in the city, and how did all this change over the period? How were the religious needs of this important city served? Providing material to answer these rather basic questions is by no means easy.

The volume is split broadly into two parts: the first provides details of all the known ministers who served congregations in the city, including, where possible, material on their living circumstances, wealth and family. It does this by covering the livings and then moving to discuss lectureships and the different denominations that emerged after 1640. The second, and more substantial, part ranges over material pertaining to their ministry, drawing chiefly from extracts from their printed sermons and tracts under a variety of headings touching on doctrinal beliefs. The topics include how best to give a sermon and what should be discussed, which in turn included ‘scripture as truth’, ‘providence’, ‘predestination, grace and works’, ‘death and hell’, and of course, mercifully: ‘salvation’. The two parts are supported by two appendices with very brief biographical details of the 163 ‘clergy’ identified as serving during this period, and a list of the 91 books and sermons consulted, from which extracts have been taken. Two of the people identified were women, the Quakers Anne Yemens and Barbara Blaugden. Within the 27-page introduction tables are provided on imprisonments, hearth tax returns, wills and probate material. ‘Tables’ – really simple lists – of the 18 Bristol livings and the 13 bishops who served the diocese between 1603 and 1689 are provided in the section on the ministers.

This is a very difficult book to review. The intentions are honourable: much excellent detail pertaining to religion in Bristol is provided, and this will undoubtedly yield treasure trove for those working on more neglected aspects of the period, such as the Interregnum. It also brings non-conformists and later dissenters out of the shade. The Bristol Record Society has taken a brave decision to produce a volume outside the normal mode, for this is not a standard transcription of a single source or series of related texts. It is much more of an assembly of notes towards a volume, a set of card indexes almost, and as such it will have its uses. Nevertheless, one cannot help but wonder what might have been produced upon further deliberation of the material located? More could have been made of the distribution of information which naturally favours the period after

1650. Of the 91 works consulted for extracts, only eight were produced before 1640. Much more might have been said in the introduction about the sources that underpin this work, the survival of registers, churchwardens' accounts, wills and inventories. These are touched upon in places throughout the book, and the *Clergy of the Church of England Database* figures strongly in footnotes, but the opportunity to discuss sources and their delicate handling largely goes missing.

Mention is made of the difficult context to this study. Bristol was a very poor diocese: it was badly constructed from the outset, and needed to be re-constituted in the 19th century, and worst of all it has lost most of its early modern records. More could perhaps have been made of the sheer difficulties of putting such a volume together; it is no mean feat to arrive at what might seem to be a fairly straightforward list of clergy who served the city. It is useful to be given the sketchy details we have, but this only serves to whet the appetite for more. This is essentially a work in progress, and no bad thing for that, for all record society publications are perhaps a call for others to conduct further research; the aim is not to provide a tidy monograph.

The introduction strives to provide some of the necessary background, but while the discussion is conducted in a crisp, clear and direct fashion, it fails to raise many of the questions surrounding the supply of data, problems with that data, and most of all the reasoning behind constructing the volume in this manner. This is an honest introduction, but the editors would have been forgiven much by being even more open about the problems encapsulated in taking on this ambitious project.

I write as someone who has been a literary director of a record society for over thirty years. I well understand the problems faced by editors and society councils as they weigh up the strengths and weaknesses of specific editions. I also applaud the desire to break new ground, in period coverage, themes and approaches. This volume provides a good shell with standard supporting apparatus such as a glossary and a guide to further reading. The tables mentioned indicate a laudable desire to provide an explanatory framework to what is in the second part, fairly esoteric material. Although I do not think it has gone far enough in explaining problems associated with this project, I do welcome this volume for what it does provide (which is within a strong record society tradition), namely a volume that provides excellent material to stimulate further research.

ANDREW FOSTER  
*University of Kent*

Daniel C. Beaver (ed.), *The Account Book of the Giles Geast Charity, Tewkesbury, 1558–1891*, Gloucestershire Record Series 31 (Bristol, BGAS 2017). lv + 445 pp. Hardback, £30.00 [ISBN: 9780900197932].

At first glance, the account book of a charity which owned 22 houses and gardens in the centre of a medium-sized town, distributing less than £10-worth of income to the town's poor in the week running up to Christmas each year when it began in 1564, and only just over £100 a year in meal tickets, bedding and coal in the late 19th century when these records end, might not seem a promising volume for a record series. Such concerns might deepen when it is clear that the vast majority of the entries in this substantial volume follow a standard format, listing the rental for the 22 properties with the name of the tenancy but little other detail (except in the case of an encroaching garden in Walker's Lane), then the allowances for various costs (set down in the original will of 1557) to the receiver, plus notes of any overall costs of repairs or shortfalls in rent received (again usually with very little detail, except in 1783–5, where the bills for repairs are listed individually), so that perhaps 80% of the text in each entry is identical to that in the previous

one, with only gradual changes of names, values or record. As for the charity distributed, in most years we learn nothing more than the total spent, with the exact date on which it was given out sometimes mentioned (usually around St Thomas Day, 21 December), but only for a few years is it clear how the money was distributed (the standard gift before 1800 was *6d.* in money, with some getting *9d.* or a shilling), and only for 1635–6 and 1802–3 do we have (partial) lists of the recipients. There are a few *lacunae* (one receiver, a surgeon called Arthur Wynde, disappeared from the town in 1763, and the book of accounts ‘fell into the hands of his creditors’, only being recovered in 1771), while from 1808 the detailed accounts were kept in another book, so only a summary account was entered in this one. From 1787, the rents of two other charities, donating bread to the poor, established by Margaret Hickes in 1562 and Anne Slaughter in 1620, were administered together with the Geast charity, and from 1881 all three were administered by the Tewkesbury Consolidated Charities, but the entries continue until 1891 when the 333-folio book, purchased and begun in 1571 by the first receiver, John Bartley, was finally full, having slightly outlasted the 333 years which Bartley predicted it would contain, if each year’s accounts used one folio (receipts on one side and payments/accounting on the other).

However, as Daniel Beaver’s sophisticated introduction argues, much of the interest of this volume lies in precisely the way in which the volume itself, and the process of accounting which it records, evolved over more than three centuries, and the self-conscious way in which its successive scribes (whose identities Beaver seeks to establish through their handwriting) saw themselves perpetuating an institution and looked back over its evolution, especially noting, with pride (if little awareness of inflation), the rising income from the rentals they were able to spend on the charity. Central to this process was Geast’s requirement that the four feoffees of the charity accounted annually, around 1st November, to Tewkesbury’s bailiffs, so tying the charity to the government of the town. Gradually, over the next 200 years, this process of witnessing the accounts began to expand, along with the officialdom of the town, so that in addition to the two bailiffs (briefly a mayor during the charter that applied 1684–91, and without bailiffs during a period with no governing charter 1692–8), the accounts came to be signed off by the constables and sergeants at mace from 1576 and then, from 1635, also by the churchwardens and the surveyors of the highways (or, as one scribe sarcastically noted in 1698, ‘alias neglectors of the ways’) and, from 1637, by the overseers of the poor, with the collectors of the land and window tax generally added from 1715 onwards and, from the 1740s, the gaoler, crier and beadle also being listed. Things changed drastically from 1761, when the list was cut back to the bailiffs and feoffees, plus some witnesses, and after the crisis caused by Wynde’s departure it became increasingly common for the bailiffs to be absent (though listed) with the accounts just signed off by witnesses. The receivers in this period were a series of Quaker tradesmen, who probably had little connection or sympathy with the parochial officials of the borough, but that had been the case, as Beaver notes, since the late 1680s, so the scaling back of civic oversight must have had some wider explanation, which is not given here.

The other link between the account book and the wider identity of Tewkesbury as a town lies in the comments on significant events of the year which are added to the end of the annual accounts on an occasional basis from 1588 (when the defeat of the Armada is celebrated) and with increased frequency during the Civil Wars, and then again in later periods of war or political crisis until 1795, which previous historians of Tewkesbury, such as Anthea Jones in her 1987 Phillimore study, have described as a ‘town chronicle’. These notes combined comments on national and international events (some very detailed notes on the end of the Interregnum and on the French Revolution), with records of threats to normal life in the town, including (in addition to political disputes) extremes of weather and associated peaks and troughs in corn and fruit harvests and prices, earthquakes, plague and fire (the latter two mostly in other towns, though plague-hit

Tewkesbury in 1593–4 leading to a fall in rental income). Above all, one is made aware of the constant threat posed by rainfall, both directly damaging crops including those in the Severn Ham town fields, and contributing to flooding of the Severn, which regularly affected the town. Measures to improve the town's river defences, and then the wider improvements in the town in the later 18th century, are also recorded, with one note questioning the paving of Church Street according to the plans of a London architect because it involved lowering the road's height, which the scribe predicted would increase the impact of flooding. A rush of measures to improve the town, supported by parliamentary statute, in the 1780s caused a problem to the charity, as it had to spend significantly more than its income to repair properties affected by road widening and paving, meaning that for much of the 1790s the charity was in debt and had no money to give out to the poor annually at all, just at the time when poverty was most acute, but the new workhouse had opened in 1792. When payments resumed in 1800, the decision was taken (with no explanation) to shift from gifts of money to gifts of bedding (blankets and sheets), plus, from 1838, 'tickets of 1s., 1s. 6d. and 2s. 6d. value' for bread, meat, grocery, coal and clothing. Previous trustees had occasionally commented on problems with the orderly distribution of money, but only, during periods like 1648–9, to adopt the prior production of a book naming those to whom the money should be distributed, to prevent some people getting double payments and others missing out when the house to house distribution took place.

Although Beaver has much of interest to say about the volume and its context, he is surprisingly unwilling, both in the introduction and in his editorial annotations, to explain the broader context of Tewkesbury's development as a town and how this book bears witness to this. There is valuable information here on this, not least drawn from his own excellent work on Gloucestershire before 1690, but it is scattered throughout the introduction, while the notes, though often explaining some of the international references to battles or people, generally do not explain specific Tewkesbury items, for example, the crises in Tewkesbury's government caused by charter disputes, or its electoral politics. There are no references to the History of Parliament histories of the constituency or its MPs, and the footnote on p. 316 overestimates the size of the electorate in 1754 by forgetting that each voter had two votes, so an electorate of *c.*360 for a population around 3,000 is more likely than 709, as proposed. [Ed. See Beaver's Note on this point above in this volume].

The year 1688–9 is recalled for two events; the invasion and coronation of William of Orange (highly favoured, like his Hanoverian successors, by the scribes of this account) and that 'this year a suit of law concerning the towles [tolls] of this borough was tried with the City of Bristol up at London, in which cause the Tewkesburyans carried the day. Bristol £553'. But the significance of this latter item is not explained to the reader at all. Similarly, although the identity of the scribes of each page is scrupulously noted, there are no biographical notes about the feoffees or officials named and only occasionally (mostly for the earliest people involved) do we get a sense of their occupations and other interests. Beaver argues that the 'Geast board ... offered a refuge from the battery of oaths and tests devised by successive regimes to exclude the politically suspect and dangerous from positions of authority', so creating 'a tradition of interdenominational coalitions on the board', but it would have been helpful to have this explored in more depth. Beaver repeatedly stresses the 'identification with sovereignty' involved in the references to monarchs, and ties this to the town authorities' sense of themselves as representatives of the Crown: while true, this leaves open the question of the more immediate politics of local government, as well as the (related) issue of what values each monarch was seen as embodying. Similarly, although we are given some guidance to the broader 'politics of charity', or welfare more generally, in Tewkesbury, especially in the mid 16th century and then again in the decades around 1800, it would have helped to place the Geast bequest in broader

context if we had been given a list of the other town charities and an account of how the charity was described during the repeated enquiries and reform proposals affecting charities from the 1770s onwards, leading to the amalgamation of such charities in 1881.

However, it would be churlish to conclude on a negative note. This is a thought-provoking edition of a very interesting text, and it is salutary to be able to consider the text in its entirety, and not merely in a calendared form which would lose the sense of ‘agency’ embodied in the volume, and in the trust which it documents. Although we sadly get almost no sense of the poor people of Tewkesbury that the charity was intended to relieve, and no sense at all of how they viewed the trust and its operators, Beaver’s edition succeeds in documenting ‘a kind of middling sort political agency’, recording ‘the culture of poor relief: the symbols, the signs and practices, the modes of communication whereby the distinctions between rich and poor were translated into the terms of civic culture and a single body politic’.

JONATHAN BARRY  
*University of Exeter*

Steve Poole and Nicholas Rogers, *Bristol from Below: law, authority and protest in a Georgian city* (Woodbridge, Boydell Press 2017). xi + 387 pp., 15 ill. Hardback, £70.00 [ISBN: 9781783272440].

*Bristol from Below* is a vigorous account, from a particular standpoint, of its subject of ‘Law, Authority and Protest in a Georgian City’. In a number of respects, however, it should be treated with caution by the historian.

To begin with the positive, we have here a grab-bag of true stories, some darkly comic, some tragic, nearly all highly dramatic. After an opening chapter setting the social and economic scene, we learn of processions to the gallows, hangings that went wrong and charivaris in which the populace aped the forms of law to shame those who had incurred their displeasure. We hear the tale of two young women, one clearly more street-wise than the other, allegedly abducted by a rich merchant and his army officer friend for their sexual gratification. There are riots and lesser disturbances in favour of cheap food, against turnpike tolls and the cost of the new Bristol Bridge, and others more overtly political, culminating of course in the Queen Square ‘reform’ riots and the firing of much of the City in the autumn of 1831. The style is generally readable. Good use is made of the primary sources of newspaper reports and public and private papers. The illustrations are apt and not hackneyed.

The most rewarding chapters are those dealing with ‘bread and butter’ issues. We learn that the municipal authorities were by no means unconcerned about ensuring adequate food supplies in time of shortage, but that the question became complicated as the traditional ‘moral economy’ came into conflict with growing *laissez-faire* thinking. The chapter on naval impressment portrays a complex relationship between the Admiralty, Bristol’s mercantile class and the seamen involved.

*Bristol from Below* is part of a series of academic studies, so readers are assumed to be familiar with terms of art like ‘non-clergyable’ and ‘potwalloper’, among many more. It would however have assisted if the national figures mentioned in the text, the Duke of Newcastle, Lord Melbourne and others, could have been introduced by reference to the offices they held. On page 74, we meet (apparently) two men, Addington and Sidmouth, not previously introduced. They were in fact one: Henry Addington, Viscount Sidmouth, Home Secretary 1812–22. In the course of the same paragraph, an Irish soldier called Edward Irwin mysteriously changes his surname to Swain. The publisher’s proof-readers should have spotted this, likewise ‘to lay [lie] low’ (p. 3) and the ‘principle streets’ (p. 79).

The authors' sympathies are clearly with those 'below'. This is not a stricture, for historians without sympathies of some kind would be either more or less than human. There are, however, occasions when zeal outruns discretion. The criminal activities of those opposing the turnpikes are described with a *sang-froid* which will not appeal to all; as are those of the Bristol Firemen, a sordid protection racket (which may not even have come from 'below' – its instigators were never laid to heel). Nor need a youthful aristocratic parliamentary candidate be called a 'pipsqueak'. If disorders were frequently dealt with 'clumsily and bloodily', often by the use of part-time troops or special constables, account should have been taken of the limited options available to Authority in an age before modern policing. Eyebrows will also be raised by the suggestion that the main reason for contemporaries distinguishing lawful boycotting of traders from food rioting and robbery with menaces was 'class prejudice'.

*Bristol from Below* obviously owes something to E.P. Thompson's *Making of the English Working Class* (1963), an iconic work whose thesis – that the English 'working class' was somehow 'made' during the latter part of the long 18th century – has been controversial among later historians. Poole and Rogers, indeed, show doubt at various points, notably when they suggest that Bristol artisans 'opted for the politics of interest over class' in the by-election of 1781. Much more might have been made of this; according to the Bristol Poll Books, those associated with maritime trades, for example, formed a voting *bloc* distinct from other artisans, well into the mid 19th century.

When it comes to national political issues, *Bristol from Below* suffers from three, related, defects common to histories of this kind. Firstly, the focus on the people 'below' obscures the extent to which political movements had upper-class leadership and followers among the middling sort and lower orders – were, in other words, vertical rather than horizontal. To take an obvious example, popular Jacobitism sharply declined after 1746. Less obviously, Earl Grey wrote in the mid 1820s that he did not expect parliamentary reform to come in his lifetime, or his son-in-law's. That popular 'reform fever' gripped Bristol (and other places) in 1831 was due to high political developments in London, notably the break-up of the old Pittite Tory party and the opportunity thus offered to Grey's aristocratic Whigs. The national political elite, in short, tended to make the political weather.

Secondly, because the writers of this sort of history are frequently of the liberal-left, popular protest which is conservative in inspiration is downplayed. This sort of thing has long been a problem for parts of the intelligensia; think of the flutterings in certain dovecotes which attended the rise of Enoch Powell in the late 1960s, or the Brexit vote in 2016. For his part, your reviewer cannot see why conservative movements are not as worthy of study as the radical variety.

And many of the movements of this period *were* conservative. The chapter on popular Jacobitism says little about the underpinning ideology of the divine right of Kings. Indeed, insofar as the conflict between Stuart and Hanoverian was dynastic, neither would have regarded themselves as being on the 'progressive' side. Loyalist and Tory crowds make appearances in the chapters on the years 1790–1820, but no attempt is made to analyse their motivation or ideology. Nor is any mention made of the largest popular gathering in early 19th-century Bristol, when up to 20,000 assembled in Queen Square in February 1829 to protest against the Catholic Relief Bill – a meeting which gave rise to a petition of considerably more signatures than any of those for parliamentary reform. It is by no means fanciful to see the passing of Catholic Emancipation as one factor leading to popular disillusionment with the unreformed parliamentary system.

Lastly, the influence of religion is underestimated. We meet a number of radical Dissenters, such as the Baptist Caleb Evans, but nothing is said of religious issues as a political catalyst – which they certainly were, as London's Gordon Riots of 1780 testify. There were no Gordon Riots in Bristol, but the speeches at the Queen Square meeting in 1829 pre-suppose a sound grasp

on the part of their hearers of the questions involved in the battle for what has come to be called the English Confessional State.

The above points are not new. They have been part of the currency of historical debate since the publication in 1980 of Jonathan Clark's *English Society, 1688–1832*. Clark's work was described by two eminent reviewers on its first appearance as 'breaking the mould', but, surprisingly, it is neither listed in the bibliography, nor engaged with in the text of *Bristol from Below*.

JOHN STEVENS  
*Bristol*

Allan P. Ledger, *A Moment in Time: John and Thomas Keble and their Cotswold life* (London, Umbria Press 2017). 184 pp., many b/w & col. illustrations. Cardcovers, £14.99 [ISBN: 9781910074114].

This appealing book has many strengths, introducing the reader not only to the family of one of the founders of the Oxford Movement, the Revd John Keble (1792–1866), sometime Professor of Poetry at the University of Oxford, but also to his lesser-known younger brother, the Revd Thomas Keble (1793–1875). The book is attractively and copiously illustrated with contemporary photographs, drawings and maps and it is possible to imagine the Gloucestershire that both men knew, and the parishioners whom they served, from the lucid and sensitive text. This volume would have been helped had Keble's life and ministry been placed in the context of other Gloucestershire clergyman who were sympathetic to the Tractarians. It would have been useful to refer to the work of such scholars as Professor Malcolm D. Lambert, author of *The Unknown Cotswold Village: Eastcombe 1500–1980* (1981), and others who have studied individual parishes, where the churches' fixtures and fittings and the pattern of worship were affected by the ideas of Keble, Dr Pusey, John Henry Newman and their circle. Keble as an old-fashioned High Church Tory was very much in the mainstream of many men who were beneficed in the diocese, and it is to be regretted that he is not placed in the contemporary context of the conjoined diocese of Gloucester and Bristol. This diocese was served by Dr James Henry Monk (1784–1856), who became Bishop of Gloucester in 1830 and of Gloucester and Bristol in 1836, when the dioceses were joined. It would also have been interesting to learn something of Keble's relationship with the Venerable Thomas Thorp (1797–1878), who was the Archdeacon of Bristol from 1836 onwards. While John Keble moved from Gloucestershire to Hursley in Hampshire in 1835, the Thorp and Keble families were well known to each other. Thorp, a High Churchman, was influenced by Tractarianism and by Wordsworth, and was the first President of the Cambridge Camden Society, which was founded to encourage the restoration of churches in a method sympathetic to their medieval heritage. Thorp was later Rector of Kemerton (then still in Gloucestershire) from 1839 until his death.

John and Thomas Keble served three Cotswold villages near Fairford in Gloucestershire and John Keble composed at Southrop St Peter many of his poems for every day in *The Christian Year*, which was first published in 1827 and sold, during the 19th century, over a million copies worldwide. Many editions of this work were luxuriously bound and were carried by both men and women to church and studied at home and in the gardens of their houses. John Keble entertained a number of his friends from Oxford at Southrop and Mr Ledger is not alone in believing that these visits laid the foundation stone to the Oxford Movement.

The Revd Thomas Keble, 'Tom', had a lengthy and distinguished clerical career as Vicar of Bisley, All Saints', near Stroud, which, prior to the publication of this book, had not been explored with the exception of one work, *The Younger Brother: a short biography of the Rev. Thomas Keble, Vicar of Bisley, Gloucestershire, 1827–1873* (1975) by Geoffrey Sanders. The Keble family was

drawn from the comfortable middle classes and their paternal grandfather was a brewer and a maltster. Lovers of the works of Charles Dickens will remember the dialogue in *Great Expectations* where it is explained that Miss Havisham's father was a brewer, and consequently respectable, whilst those in the retail trade were distinctly *detrop* to be received into polite society. Their father, the Revd John Keble (1745–1835), vicar for 50 years of Coln St Aldwyn's, near Fairford, lived a peaceful and fulfilled life as a parson in the 18th-century model. He educated his sons at home prior to sending them up to Oxford. John arrived in 1808 and studied at Corpus Christi College, where he became a close friend of John Coleridge, the nephew of Samuel Taylor Coleridge; an influential friendship which lasted a lifetime. He met Wordsworth shortly after his ordination in 1815 and was greatly influenced by members of the Romantic Movement. Given that the Kebles were a distinguished clerical family spanning many generations, it would have been helpful to have included a genealogical table to help the reader identify the different people mentioned in the text. It is also to be regretted that the book does not have an index, which seriously hampers its use as a work of scholarship.

There is an extensive list of appendices which sheds light on John Keble's life, his time as Professor of Poetry (1831–41) and publishes some of his previously unknown hymns and poems. They also deal with aspects of the family home in Fairford, his ancestry, Keble family wills in the Gloucestershire Archives, and the influence of Keble on the current Prime Minister's father, and by inference, on her Christian beliefs. These appendices partly compensate for the fact that the footnotes are of a more meagre nature than might have been hoped for in such a work. This book is recommended to all of those who wish to place figures from the Tractarian movement more fully into their context, and to understand more about their web of interpersonal connections, their attitudes to parochial work and their commitment to the spiritual development and growth of those whose souls had been placed in their charge. It sheds interesting light on a rural Gloucestershire which was soon to disappear, but enables the reader to use his imagination to capture something of the tranquility, isolation and the trials and tribulations of an Anglican clergyman in parishes where the majority of other people were uneducated, and where the social circle was limited.

MARTIN J. CROSSLEY EVANS  
*University of Bristol*

Maggie Shapland, *The Ups and Downs of the Clifton Rocks Railway and the Clifton Spa* (Bristol, Bristol Industrial Archaeological Society 2017). 317 pp., 425 ill. Hardback, £15.00 [ISBN: 9781908905055].

The Clifton Rocks Railway was a funicular in a tunnel through the limestone cliff between Clifton and Hotwells. The upper station was next to the present Avon Gorge Hotel; the lower opposite the steamer landing stages on the A4 Portway. Construction of the railway was funded by the publisher George Newnes, who also owned the Lynton and Lynmouth Cliff Railway; the engineer for both was George Croydon Marks. It opened in 1893. Although it carried more than 6,000 passengers on its first day, and over 425,000 in its first year, it was not a financial success. Sold in 1912 to Bristol Tramways, it closed in 1934. During the Second World War blast walls and other constructions were built in the tunnel, which was used as offices by BOAC, as a relay station by the BBC (which installed an emergency studio there), for barrage balloon storage and as an air-raid shelter. The BBC used parts of the tunnel until 1960. A charitable trust, in which the author of this book is active, and to which profits from this book will be devoted, has been formed to preserve and conserve the railway; the spa buildings are now part of a hotel.

Chapters explain the Sion Hill spring and the Society of Merchant Venturers' (SMV) plans to revive the spa; the proposal for a funicular railway by George Newnes and his involvement of Marks and the architect Philip Munro; how the railway was constructed; how it operated, failed to pay its way, was taken over, failed again and was closed; the railway's links to other forms of transport; how it was maintained; railway artefacts, generously illustrated; people's reminiscences about the railway; how the pump room and spa was developed and failed; negotiations over the wartime use of the tunnel by the BBC and others; its use for barrage balloons; its use as an air raid shelter; its use by the BBC; its neglect from 1960 to 2004 and its planning history; its subsequent conservation, restoration and preservation, in which the author has played a leading and energetic part; and a discussion of what should be preserved and why. There is a glossary, welcome because of the engineering and broadcasting technicalities – *Discworld* enthusiasts will be delighted to read that a clack valve (illustrated) was recovered from the reservoir – followed by detailed endnote references and a comprehensive index. The design is excellent.

For reasons stated in the introduction, for which readers will extend sympathy and good wishes to the author, this weighty book was produced in a hurry. That shows in the text, which contains typographical, spelling and stylistic shortcomings which a careful edit would have eliminated. A few factual errors have crept in; for example, the author may possibly have attributed to a modern firm in Surrey pumps that were from a firm long based in Cornwall. That however is small criticism in the context of a compendium of narrative and source material. It is as if the author has tried to include everything that is known and can be said about the railway and its associated spa: description, narrative, accounts, statistics, engineering details, measurements. It contains and often reproduces original documents, photographs, advertisements, oral memories, newspaper reports (most quoted in full), comment, the author's personal reminiscences, argument and explanation. It deals not only with the spa hotel and the railway, but also with their post-closure uses and the work of the volunteers, who have conserved, preserved and now present it for public view. The author has done well to avoid an indigestible farrago, and has structured the text, with a helpful analytical contents list, into understandable sections.

Although it was Newnes who promoted and implemented the railway proposal, the book brings out that the project was dogged throughout by the SMV's insistence that it serve an upper-class spa and hotel which it wanted established at the Sion Hill spring. As major landowner the SMV controlled land transactions and development, and did so in order to protect and enhance the value of its investment, which it perceived to involve maintaining the social exclusivity of the area. The SMV's misjudgement of the viability of the spa – Clifton was never going to rival Baden Baden – and the way it sought to control the development of spa and railway, hampered the railway at every stage, and contributed to the demise of both railway and spa. But for the SMV the railway would not have happened; but for the SMV, it might have succeeded.

The last chapter is historiographically the most interesting. It discusses whether the trust that looks after the railway should aim to restore it to its original condition in working order. The author concludes that it should not. The huge cost and the construction of the A4 Portway make that impossible, but she also points out that restoration could not be done without removing most of the traces of the railway's post-1934 history, including its use by the BBC, and as an air-raid shelter and for other war-related purposes. Those traces, and the vast amount of work done by the volunteers, are as much part of the history of the site as the railway itself. That has not always been the attitude of archaeologists or pressure groups, who have often contended that old buildings should be restored as far as possible to their original condition, and that more recent buildings should be removed to uncover earlier remains beneath. In Rome, in the area of the ancient forum, at least three baroque churches of historical and architectural interest and importance and aesthetic value were demolished in order to expose what little was beneath; in two cases the

outline and foundations of temples dated to republican and imperial times. Knowledge of the earlier buildings thus obtained was considered to outweigh the loss of the baroque structures, even though the latter were just as much a part of the forum's past as the earlier temples. The question arises everywhere, and will not go away.

WILLIAM EVANS  
*Bristol*

Chris Stephens, *Bristol's Australian Pioneer: the story of Robert Bush and his Bishop's Knoll WW1 Hospital* (Long Ashton, Bristol Books 2017). 319 pp., many b/w illustrations. Cardcovers, £12.00 [ISBN: 9781909446069].

This is a delightful and fascinating book put together from a variety of primary sources by Professor Chris Stephens. It has a short history of Robert Bush and his life in Australia; but mainly concerns Bishops Knoll and its life as a war hospital for Australian soldiers. Drawing from family records and recollections, the wartime magazine *Coo-ee* and other records, Professor Stephens has assembled a wide range of material to illustrate this theme: Bush's expedition in Australia before he settled on running a ranch; details of all the staff known to have worked at Bishops Knoll and all the soldiers who passed through; stories from the Magazine including activities, what happened to soldiers after leaving, and what the staff were like. In addition, he has added some news of the life of Bishops Knoll before and after the war.

Reading this was entertaining. As a person interested in Bristol at the time of the war I enjoyed the chapter on medical services of the time linking Bishops Knoll into the other war hospitals and notable people of the area.

This book depends on the Bishop's Knoll magazine publication *Coo-ee* to help bring the place to life, with stories of the patients, and their quirks and skills in such activities as the entertainments, as well as the 'news of former patients'.

This book shines a light on the life of a First World War hospital. The details are relatively unique as the records of almost all First World War hospitals and their patients have been lost. Certainly, looking at the records of the Beaufort Hospital that was Glenside hospital, the only records that exist are those of a local newspaper's weekly article; some postcards and some patients' photographs and recollections. What has been assembled on Bishop's Knoll is a treasure house in comparison.

I wish the author had been able to give more on Robert's life in Australia and his links there as well as his links in Bristol, but this is minor compared to the wealth that is here. It is also short on the later story of the house. It also suffers from a lack of a name index.

I would recommend this to anyone interested in any First World War hospital. I would also recommend it to anyone interested in this part of Sneyd Park and in the links between Bristol and Western Australia.

PETER CARPENTER  
*Bristol*

M.J. Crossley Evans and Andrew Sulston, *A History of Wills Hall, University of Bristol* (2nd edition, University of Bristol, Wills Hall Association 2017). 112 pp., 104 pl. Hardback, £12.00 [ISBN: 9781788085366].

This is the second edition of a history which has its origins in an exhibition of 1989; the 60th anniversary of the founding of Wills Hall. The subject is the first purpose-built hall of residence at the University of Bristol, itself a foundation of 1909, incorporating the earlier University College, Bristol, of 1876.

In contrast with the later halls, Wills was designed on similar principles to that of an Oxbridge college. It is quadrangular, with the central court based upon the dimensions of those that the university Vice-Chancellor (Dr Thomas Loveday) himself measured in Oxford, and has rooms off staircases (rather than corridors) again in the Oxbridge fashion. Sir George Oatley of the Bristol firm Oatley & Lawrence was its architect, and he gave it a Cotswold style, with gables and mullioned windows. Unlike the later additions, this first phase was of stone. Its site was part of the former Stoke House estate at Stoke Bishop, some 1¼ miles north of the university centre in University Road. Initially it was exclusively a male hall, deliberately well away from women's accommodation at Clifton Hill House and, after 1932, that at Manor Hall. At George Wills' insistence, it incorporated a Tudor-Gothic villa (Downside) of c.1830 built for Alfred George of the Bristol brewing family. The whole site had been purchased for the university by Henry Wills in 1922. His brother George Wills paid for the new buildings: he apparently handed a cheque to the university for £110,000. Completion was in time for the arrival of the first intake of 150 students in October 1929. One year later, the Dame Monica Wills Memorial Chapel was opened, this just to the north-east of Downside. Also by Oatley & Lawrence, it is in a somewhat austere Byzantine style.

From its earliest days, the Hall was run very much on an independent collegiate basis, headed by a Warden with deputies, a head steward, and other domestic staff known as 'scouts' (one of such for each 'house' or set of rooms off a given staircase). Formal dining took place on Fridays, a practice that was maintained, despite later pressures of numbers and antipathy from students. Much of the book is devoted to social, as much as institutional and educational history, in chapters on each of the ten Wardens. This is spiced with amusing anecdote, such as the words of the Head Steward spoken in the 1970s to the Deputy Warden at the end of a supposedly formal dinner. 'The gentlemen, if you can call them gentlemen, have finished dining, if you can call it dining, (pause) sir'. But students had, in characteristic style, misbehaved from the beginning. One lark was, after a midnight climb, to hang various items of clothing on the tower weather-vane on Downside. Another, increasingly popular after the Second World War, was to 'raid' the women's Manor Hall, on one occasion chaining the women into their dining hall. Retaliatory raids by the women saw the men's possessions being taken away and auctioned back to their original owners.

The pressures of increasing numbers of students started with having to house 80 students evacuated from King's College, London, in 1939, and later 80 Royal Navy officers from Greenwich. The compensation (for the resident male students at least) was that the latter were accompanied by some 20 Wrens. With male staff going away to war, women were introduced as replacements, so the male preserve of Wills was slowly eroded, with increasing opportunities for women undergraduates to visit and take meals in the dining hall. Of the former Wills Hall students, 32 lost their lives in the War, recorded on a memorial plaque in the chapel, unveiled in 1950. After the War, with returning servicemen seeking their suspended higher education, the average age increased to around 25, and much-needed additional accommodation was found in nearby dwellings (known as 'outhouses'), bought by the university for this purpose. But a long-term solution was only effected after starting a second quad, the first phase of which was

opened in 1962. Designed by Ralph Brentnall (Oatley's last partner), of brick rather than stone, these provided for 70 additional students. Another block, by David Hope, was added in 1989–90, completing the New Court and increasing the student capacity to 335.

Major social changes, such as the admission of women students as residents, had to wait until the mid 1980s, and for much of the 1960s and 1970s the character of student life in hall was seemingly a battle between the forces of tradition and those who felt it to be totally out of touch with the real world. The then students preferred the architecture of nearby Churchill Hall of 1946–56 – described in the most recent 'Pevsner' as '... outdated, brick with octagonal motifs ...' – to what they thought of as the fuddy-duddy formalism of Wills. Formal hall dining continued in the teeth of undergraduate opposition, but by the 1980s the mood had changed with a revival of hall-based activities and a new appreciation for the once-derided traditions. Finally, the semi-independence of the hall, with the Warden selecting each year's intake, came to a close in 2007.

Apart from the more general social and educational trends charted in some detail, this book will be of most interest to those who have been involved in Wills Hall, either as students or staff. It is scattered with character sketches, especially of the ten Wardens and the other staff, and illustrated throughout with photographs of Wardens, staff and students, the latter often in suitable costume in keeping with the lighter-hearted Hall events. Also there are pictures recording visits by assorted dignitaries, such as Sir Winston Churchill at the opening of the hall in 1929 (he was Chancellor of the University from 1929 to 1965), and the BBC childrens' television presenter, Johnny Morris in year 1992–3. For more on the architecture of Wills and the University, reference should be made to *Sir George Oatley: Architect of Bristol* by Sarah Whittingham (2011) and the *Pevsner Architectural Guide* by Andrew Foyle (2004).

MICHAEL HILL  
*Stroud*

Richard Coates, *Your City's Place-Names: Bristol*, English Place-Name Society City-Names Series 1 (Nottingham, EPNS 2017). 219 pp., 17 ill., 6 maps. Cardcovers, £14.00 + £2.00 p&p [ISBN: 9780904889963].

Can we judge this book by its cover? Perhaps, if we are ready for a welcome new look at the place-names of the Bristol area: 'reworking' what is already known, and surprising us with unexpected and sometimes humorous insights. The beautiful cover image of the Clifton Suspension Bridge leaves us uncertain where we are standing, and momentarily confused by a negative view 'through the looking glass'. Whether this effect was accidental, or whimsically deliberate, it is bound to catch the potential reader's attention!

This attractive volume, printed by 4word, Bristol, is the first of a new venture published by the English Place-Name Society (EPNS). Professor Richard Coates (of the University of the West of England, Bristol) is currently the Society's Honorary Director and General Editor, as he modestly omits to tell us on the back cover. Pinpointing a gap in the place-names market, Coates is deliberately aiming for a new readership in large centres of population: Brighton and Hove, and Leeds, are also available now in this city-names series.

Here we have names chosen from a 'greater Bristol', including the city itself. There are some 200 Gloucestershire names, 100 from Somerset, and the remaining 40-odd are from historic Bristol proper. Coates' selection is admittedly subjective: there is no coverage as far out as Aust, Bath, Clevedon or Thornbury, but Almondsbury, Backwell, Chipping Sodbury and Pensford make the grade. Much of Coates' previously published local research finds an accessible home

here, in entries as varied as Arno's Vale, Christmas Steps, The Dings, The Malago, Penpole, Sea Mills, Shirehampton and Whiteladies Road. Minor and modern names of parks, roundabouts, shopping centres and water features are discussed, as well as the expected major, historic names, including the occasional 'disused' name. Thus we go from Abbey Wood to Yeo, with a pause at Nowhere (in Stoke Gifford) and a concluding supplement on The Nails in Corn Street, Bristol.

The EPNS has been issuing county volumes since 1923, and nowadays the coverage of a single county can expand into six or seven parts. Latterly, the Society has introduced handy-sized, single-volume, county dictionaries, making short interpretations of major and historically-important names more easily available to the general interested reader. However, these single volumes continue the Society's practice of listing spelling forms, annotated by abbreviations which identify the original published and unpublished sources. This custom is recognized by historians, but can be daunting to others in different disciplines and particularly to anyone new to the topic. Hence, we can see that Coates, in his new-style city dictionary, is being helpful when he lists, for example: '*on Cumtíne* 990 Kemble: Codex Diplomaticus 675/Sawyer1362 [copied in the 11thC]', instead of the shorter '990 (11th) KCD 675', which has been the Society's preferred option. But the reader who wishes to go further in checking this source still has some untangling of Anglo-Saxon charter references to manage.

Nevertheless, Coates is trying to reduce the barriers of 'jargon'. He provides short, straightforward notes on the linguistics involved and on how to read an individual entry; and he explains where the original sources may be found in his Preface. He adds a careful narrative explanation to the all-important list of forms (when available) and supplements these by historical commentary and a useful list of secondary sources. The whole book is generally more readable and easier to follow than its predecessors.

There is one new symbol for this series –  – taking the place of the usual '(p)', which implies an early form from a surname derived from the place-name (as in '*Wrockeshale*  1225–6 Somersetshire Pleas', from Wraxall). The ground-breaking *Oxford Dictionary of Family Names in Britain and Ireland* (FaNBI), edited by Patrick Hanks and others, appeared in 2016. As it happens, Coates was the lead for the AHRC-funded project team based at UWE, Bristol, which amassed the data for FaNBI. Some of this new surname information appears in the entries for Baptist Mills, Colliter's Brook, Crews Hole, Flowers Hill and Wickham Bridge, amongst others.

More fundamentally, Coates is re-interpreting, and adding to, previous work on place-names in the area. For Bristol and Gloucestershire, Coates takes as his starting point Part 3 of Smith's *Place-Names of Gloucestershire* (published for the Society in 1964). Since the 1960s, not only have county and national archives expanded, with new catalogues and indexes available online, but increasing numbers of historical reference works, original and secondary, are available in digital format. This makes the work of collecting new information much speedier for the whole area under investigation.

Other changes have occurred in the landscape itself in the last half-century. The passage of time in Bristol and South Gloucestershire is particularly marked by the growth of new suburbs and estates. Bishopston, Downend, Henleaze and Lockleaze barely merited a line in 1964. The village of Charlton, demolished in 1946 to enlarge Filton airfield, was first 'replaced' by Charlton Mead to its south in the 1970s, and latterly by Charlton Hayes, currently being built over part of the same former airfield. On the other hand, Berwick and Elmington, both in Henbury, might be judged to be shrinking settlements.

There is no Society county survey for Somerset. Coates, therefore, depends on the existing national dictionaries produced by Ekwall (OUP, 1960), Mills (OUP, 1998) and Watts (CUP, 2004), expanded by A.G.C. Turner's 1950 Cambridge PhD thesis on North Somerset. Coates has also had sight of relevant draft entries prepared by the late Colin Turner and Jennifer Scherr for a dictionary of Somerset place-names in progress.

The reader can now find authoritative data and explanations for difficult names such as Dundry, Failand and Regil, but not the often-quoted Nempnett Thrubwell! Bristol's southern suburbs are all explained: Bedminster, Bishopsworth, Filwood, Hartcliffe, Knowle, Long Ashton and Whitchurch. Coates suggests that Penpole Hill in Shirehampton is the oldest name (apart from river-names) that he deals with in the book. On the Somerset side, he proposes that Dundry may be as old. He tentatively departs from the problematic Old English explanation and derives it instead from British Celtic \**Dūnoderkon*, meaning 'viewpoint near the hillfort', with reference to the huge Maes Knoll Iron Age hillfort at the eastern end of the ridge of Dundry Hill. When we turn to the entry for Maes Knoll itself, we learn that this apparent usage of Welsh *maes*, 'field', is doubtless an antiquarian invention. The earliest record so far is *Mays-knoll* 1791 Collinson: *History of Somerset*, probably therefore alluding to the surname May.

Elsewhere Coates uses \*\*\* to warn us against explanations which have been put forward in the past, but which can be shown to be incorrect. Bedminster does not contain a Welsh word for baptism; there is no St Keyne at Keynsham; no salt at Hallen; and no alcohol involved with Totterdown!

Some of the oldest recorded names in Old English which Coates covers are Bitton, Dyrham, Henbury, Pucklechurch, Wansdyke, and Westbury-on-Trym, all of which pre-date Bristol's first appearance. The detailed entries for Portbury and Portishead allude to the fact that Old English *port* derives from Latin *portus* and may in both cases refer to a Roman dock or harbour: Coates notes fields called Portbury in Sea Mills, where there was also a Roman dock.

Set against these oldest names in the area, we are offered modern artificial creations such as Avon Forest and Western Approach Distribution Park. Cheswick in Stoke Gifford, a misleadingly accurate-looking invention, may survive as long as the houses now established there, but hopefully the unofficial Turbo Island, in Stokes Croft, will not be needed as a gathering point for the homeless for too long.

Turbo Island, along with Ursa the Barton Bear, and Lamb Chop (by Duncan Craig for 'Shaun in the City' by Aardman Animations in aid of the Bristol Children's Hospital) are some of the unexpected illustrations which enliven this volume. Coates also includes some more traditional views to add to the evidence for Druid Stoke, Hanging Hill, Hotwells, Knowle, Pill, Redcliffe and Stanton Drew. The maps of Bitton, Kingswood, the Sea Mills estate, and the parishes within the former area of Avon are perhaps less successful on a small scale.

Further research may well turn up earlier material. Fifteenth-century forms for Woollard (*Wolwade*, *Wukwade*) are in fact available in Humphreys' *Somersetshire Parishes* (1906), as used by Coates: the second element may thus have been Old English (*ge*)*wæd*, 'ford, difficult crossing', rather than *ford*. Netham is recorded at least in 1769, on the same Bristol map as Cotham, and either may turn out to have older origins. Those with local knowledge will be able to provide new and additional commentary, perhaps including other informal names as quoted here (El Dub for Lawrence Weston; Bemmie for Bedminster). Coates in his Preface admits to doubts over his coverage of the Kingswood area: Hopewell, Soundwell and Speedwell are there, but what about Teewell Hill? We might also ask how Bristol Parkway and The Portway slipped the net.

All in all, this book should become the first point of reference for local students of place-names, citizens, residents and visitors alike. Whilst there are still public libraries in the region, let there be a loan copy in every branch! The first in the city dictionary series has introduced a modern, wide-ranging approach, whilst maintaining the high standards of the EPNS. An enthusiastic readership will help determine whether there is an appetite for this type of coverage in other parts of the country.

JENNIFER SCHERR

*Bristol*

A.R. Baker (ed.), *Corona Gladiorum*, Transactions of the Bristol Masonic Society 2015–16 (Bristol, Bristol Masonic Society 2017). 214 pp., 25 ill., 1 map. Cardcovers, £7.50 + £2.50 p&p [ISBN: 9780993040825].

This volume brings together addresses given to the Bristol Masonic Society during their 2015–16 season. The Society draws its membership from Bristol Freemasons of various Lodges who are keen to learn more about the history, traditions and philosophy of their Craft. Also included are two addresses given by members of the Society elsewhere, two addresses given in past years and a poem, *Absent Brethren*.

Many contributors are local, including the Revd Father Steven Hawkins, President of the Society for the year and until recently vicar of St Martin's, Knowle. Others hail from further afield, including guests from Maryland, USA, and the West Indies. Topics are similarly wide-ranging and include 'Mormonism and Freemasonry: Strange Bedfellows', 'Karate-Do and Freemasonry' and 'Freemasonry in Eastern Europe'.

The 2015–16 addresses to the Society are accompanied by transcripts of the questions and discussions which followed. As is often the case with learned Societies, these can form one of the most interesting parts of an evening. A former President of BGAS, Dr Martin Crossley Evans, is frequently prominent in these discussions.

To a non-Mason, such as your reviewer, the technical terms used are daunting, but such is the erudition and enthusiasm of the contributors that the reader is eager to learn more. The non-Masonic reader may wish to have an encyclopedia of Freemasonry, or failing that Wikipedia, at his elbow.

Of particular interest to our members will be a guided masonic tour of Arno's Vale Cemetery given in June 2016 by Alan and Jane Bambury, volunteers at the Cemetery. After a brief account of its history, attention focuses on a number of Freemasons buried there. These include many whose names will be familiar to students of 19th- and early 20th-century Bristol, among them Drs Alexander Fairbrother and William Bird Herapath, pioneers respectively of the use of ether as an anaesthetic and of the process which led many years later to the marketing of polaroid sunglasses; Frederick Ashmead, responsible for Bristol's first sewage system and the son of George Culley Ashmead (he of the Ashmead Maps, now reproduced on the *Know Your Place* website); and William Hort, who with his wife Elizabeth established a famous eatery in Small Street, which subsequently moved to nearby Broad Street. It is a tribute to them that although the establishment is no longer owned by the family, the present proprietors have seen fit to retain the name of 'Horts'.

Others deserve to be better known, such as William Augustus Frederick Powell, the glassmaker whose two middle names are a tribute to that prominent Royal Freemason the Duke of Sussex and who, barely of age, enrolled as a Special Constable to help defeat lawlessness during the Bristol riots of 1831; Rowland Brotherhood who moved to Bristol from Swindon, having been one of the contractors responsible for the laying of the Great Western Railway; Peter Stewart MacIver, founder of the *Western Daily Press*; and Paul James Bush, another medical man who in 1917, at the age of 60, was appointed Commanding Officer of a Military Hospital in France and retired with the rank of Colonel and the CBE.

Nor does the tour eschew scandal, most notably in the case of Uriah Alsop, the furniture maker whose involvement with two sisters, his wife and his mistress, led to him siring 15 children by the former and ten more by the latter. His masonic career was apparently shortlived! The transcript of the tour is helpfully accompanied by a map of the Cemetery and 24 inset colour photographs of individual graves.

Mr and Mrs Bambury also contribute a biographical memoir of Alan's father, Ernest Arthur Bambury (1909–99) who took over and greatly expanded his father's sheet metal business before

in turn bequeathing it to his sons, and to whose memory the volume is dedicated. As well as his masonic activities, he was for 13 years a Bristol City Councillor and a member of its Airport Committee and for 12 years a governor of Brislington Comprehensive School.

It is not clear whether this volume is readily available to non-members of the Society, but your reviewer intends donating his copy to the BGAS library.

JOHN STEVENS

*Bristol*