



# Lambley Historical Society

NEWSLETTER NUMBER 5

JANUARY 2008

[www.lambleyheritage.co.uk](http://www.lambleyheritage.co.uk)

## 2007 - a very good year - 2008 even better!

### Message from the outgoing Chair

2007 was a good year in which the Society completed most of its projects and provided an interesting programme of talks and visits.

### Visits and talks.

It was a year when we spent a delightful summer's evening at Elston (although a thunder storm developed just as we headed off for the pub!)

It was also a year when we returned to Winkburn Hall for a very hospitable tour of the house and church with the owners - the Craven-Smith Milne family.

And despite venue problems and cancellations during the year, we enjoyed entertaining talks from Chris

Weir, Gareth King, Jenny Alexander and Michael Harrison (who, in fact gave us two excellent, illustrated talks when he gallantly filled in for a cancellation at the last moment)

### Projects.

Following on from the successful creation of our website [www.lambleyheritage.co.uk](http://www.lambleyheritage.co.uk) came the 'Living in Lambley' book (see Jackie's article inside) created by our own Archive Team and distributed free to all households in the Parish by Lee Scudder of the Dumbles Group and his team - thank you Lee.

We took part in the Lambley Dumbles Celebration Event which included the School Centenary Celebration in June.

### Pingle Field Survey

The geophysical survey carried out by Lambley Historical Society with assistance from members of the village community has been completed. An area of approximately 1.62 hectares (4 acres) was investigated using resistivity techniques.

The results show a number of substantial anomalies which probably represent buried masonry relating to medieval structures. There is also evidence that the earthen bank enclosing the fishponds is stone faced for rigidity.

An interim report is being compiled for inclusion in the Notts.County "Sites and Monuments Record"

In 2008 LHS hope to carry out some further geophysics work in an attempt to add more detail to the current results. However the technique employed will be very different from resistivity. We will be using an instrument known as a "Fluxgate Gradiometer" This instrument records small variations in the earth's magnetic field caused by human activity. This technique is much faster than resistivity as there are no probes to place in the ground. **Alan Morris**



We finally completed the Pingle Field Survey although it is probably fair to say that that the survey has raised more questions than it answered! Further work will follow on - see article on left.

All of the projects and events were funded by the Local Heritage Initiative and supported by the Friends of the Dumbles Group.

### 2008

The new year's programme is printed in full on the inside page. Hopefully there is something of interest for everyone. The committee work hard to try to avoid too much repetition and keep the outings and talks practical and within budget! However, we are always pleased to have new ideas and one that we are considering at

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# Programme for 2008

28<sup>th</sup> January 7.30 pm

**Annual General Meeting**

Lambley Village Hall

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18<sup>th</sup> February 7.30 pm

**Jill Elizabeth Sparrow will tell us about "The Fryers of Denby" from Victorian times to the late 1930's.**

Lowdham WI Hall

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17<sup>th</sup> March 7.30 pm

**Sarah Seaton will give us a Powerpoint presentation on the subject of "Common Lodging Houses in Nottingham 1850-1950".**

Lowdham WI Hall

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28<sup>th</sup> April 7.30 pm

**David Templeman will give us an illustrated talk on "Mary Queen of the Scots – the Captive Queen 1568-84".**

Lowdham WI Hall



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Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> May  
2.00 pm-4.00 pm

**Guided tour of the British Geological Society at Keyworth, Nottingham. At the BGS, Keyworth**

16<sup>th</sup> June 6.00 pm

**Guided Roof Tour at Lincoln Cathedral**

Lincoln Cathedral



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15<sup>th</sup> July 6.30 pm (Tuesday)

**Meet at Millgate Museum at 6.30 for a talk and 7.00 pm for a guided walk of the Millgate area of Newark.**

Millgate Museum, Newark

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15<sup>th</sup> September 7.30 pm

**Robert Hammond will speak to us on "Evacuation in Wartime Nottinghamshire"**

Lowdham WI Hall

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20<sup>th</sup> October 7.30 pm

**Adrian Henstock will be talking to us about "Turnpike Roads".**

Lowdham WI Hall

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17<sup>th</sup> November 7.30 pm

**Ted White will return, this time to talk to us about "Gedling House".**

Lowdham WI Hall

## BRANCHING OUT!

### **Tracing Your Family Tree**

Perhaps this year you got a book on tracing your family tree this Christmas? Or perhaps it's something you always wanted to do? Well it can be a fascinating pastime though it can also get very frustrating! You find you can get back to about 1841 (the first census) but then your ancestors seem to go into hiding! Sometimes there is a gap in the records or they are impossible to track back to a particular parish. This can be a problem as the 1841 census returns only give a county as a place of birth and not an individual parish. Sometimes you can't even get off the starting blocks and it's actually the last 100 years that are the problem! At this point you might just have to check some details out with your relations to make a start. With two world wars in the last century and constant migrations of individuals and families in pursuit of better jobs and lives across the oceans, things can get difficult.

In a short article it is impossible to give a comprehensive introduction to all that is involved in tracing our family tree but there are a few thoughts that might be worth bearing in mind. If you can find the time - do...

Read a book on family history – it will pay-off in the long run

Try to attend a class on family history. Organisations like the WEA often put on courses and they are run by 'the people who know.'

Get together as many birth marriage and death certificates you can – these are the building blocks for going back in time with you family connections. The BMDs are a result of Civil Registration, introduced in 1837, for recording all 'events, regardless of a person's religion. The indexes are on fiche at the archives up to the 1960s and at the Archives you can get the

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# LIVING IN LAMBLEY

## An account of the development of a booklet

"Let's put the photographs from the Lambley Historical Society (LHS) archive into a booklet which will be accessible to Lambley residents" someone said. "It will be a permanent record of village life in the 20<sup>th</sup> century" And so the project was born.

The duly designated 'Archive Group' comprising Jo Ellis, Eric Dove and me (Jackie Mansfield) volunteered to give it a whirl, with the help of Ann Crooks who was appointed as our Artistic Director.

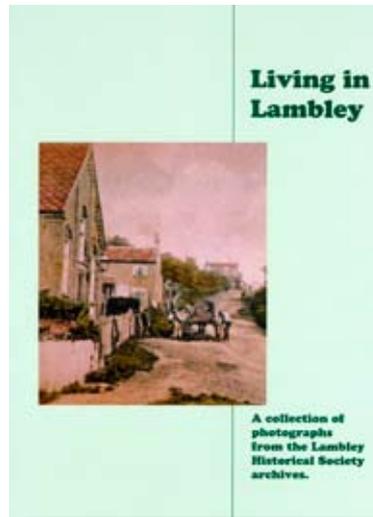
So, where to begin? We had the technology; we had a CD Rom containing all the LHS archive pictures; we had a budget specified by the Heritage Lottery Fund and lots and lots of enthusiasm and ideas. We also had a timescale in which to work but we had little or no experience of where to begin or what to do next. Help!

The first step, we decided, was to consult an expert, so we approached Ann and she soon put us on the right trail. The learning curve was about to begin. Ann introduced us to a whole new vocabulary, including words like 'perfect binding' weight of paper, high gloss and matt etc.

So far, so good. Next step – the Archive Group began to meet on a weekly basis to map out a format for the booklet. We found that the photographs could be organised logically into four groups which we then used as chapters in the booklet. From the beginning we decided to let the photographs speak for themselves so we kept the text down to a minimum. Timescale was important; the booklet had to be produced by April 2007 to meet the terms of the Lottery Grant and it was already July 2006. Ever optimistic we thought we would have it finished and at the Printers by Christmas. (Slight hiccup in the learning curve!)

Gradually the chapters began to take shape; we enjoyed organising the photographs round our themes and, by Christmas, we had more or less completed the rough draft.

This was when the learning curve really took off. It is one thing to produce a rough draft but quite another to polish it to the required standard for printing. This is where Ann came into her own. With Eric's help she designed the layout and translated our scribbles into workable text, suitable for publication. We had long discussions over the covers of the booklet



– which colour looked best? Should we use half card or something else? what about the actual layout of the covers? The process seemed endless and April was fast approaching.

The final stage was having the document proof read and here we hit another snag. There are different schools of thought about the use of commas! I came to the conclusion that wars had been fought for less! Eventually a consensus was reached and Eric and I visited the Printer to see our labour of love roll off the press – in time to meet our April deadline.

Is our learning curve now complete? Probably not – there is much still to learn, but overall the experience has been very worthwhile. My enthusiasm is undimmed but it is now tempered with the reality of experience. Like most tasks, it is essential to put in the ground work before beginning, to be consistent and work in a logical and orderly manner whilst actual performing the task and to make sure that the finished product is as perfect as you can make it. All we can say about Living in Lambley is that we did our best and we hope you enjoy reading it.

**Jackie Mansfield**

*Eric at the Celebration Event - always on the lookout for new material!*



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the moment is a trip to the newly re-vamped St Pancras Station and maybe a look at the British Library next door. More details will follow if there appears to be enough interest.

### **Thank you**

It has been my privilege to chair the Society for the last five years and I have thoroughly enjoyed the challenges, the involvement and the comradeship. My chairing has been made easy with the support and guidance of our excellent committee and you, the members.

Special thanks to the Archive Team along with Ann Crooks for the huge effort they made with the book project; also thanks to John Garton and John Smith for enthusiastic support with the website and all things technical and of course huge thanks to Celia and Alan for keeping things 'together'. Also, not forgetting our President, Chris Weir - for being our brilliant 'Guru'.

Although I am now stepping down to give someone else a go, I hope to continue contributing to the Society for some time. I thank you all for your friendship and support. **Roger Crooks.**

### **Society in credit:**

I am pleased to report that the Lambley Historical Society accounts are in credit for 2007.

In addition to the annual subscription, the society income has been increased with the sale of the New Lambley Book. We hope that this will continue to be a welcome source of income over the long term. The book is advertised for sale at £5 on the LHS website.

The Society's funds have also benefited from the LHI Grant, which has been used to promote the LHS projects and meetings with the local community.

Membership has held steady at 25. New members are always welcome and will be given the New Lambley book ( £5 ) free of charge!

So please, encourage relatives and friends to come along to our enjoyable meetings and join the society for £5 (effective first year subscription).

As always your suggestions are welcome as to how we could supplement our income.

Accounts and Treasurer's report will be presented at the AGM.

**John Smith LHS Treasurer.**

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index entries on ancestry.co.uk via the computers in the search room. The actual certificates are held by registry offices though they can also be obtained by post or on-line. But be prepared to pay!

Please talk to your relatives and gather as much pertinent information as you can. It will all help to piece the jigsaw of family links together.

If you get back to the census (the returns can be viewed for every decade from 1841 up to 1901 – they can only be viewed after 100 years – try to take copies so you can double-check spellings and other facts at later dates. The census returns are on fiche at the Archives/Central Library or can be viewed at the Archives on ancestry.co.uk for free (copies currently cost 15p per page).

Check-out parish registers of christenings, marriages and burials. This is where it will help hugely if your ancestors lived in one parish.....but often they moved around. This is where you may need time to do research. All surviving registers for every parish in Nottinghamshire can be seen on microfiche at the Archives up to 1900 and some are now copied up to 1950. Any page can be copied on a fiche reader printer in the search room. But please don't forget to ask if there are transcripts or indexes (the Nottinghamshire Family History Society has indexes of some registers on CDs – copies are at the Archives.)

Please don't forget that your ancestor may have been nonconformist. Again at the Archives you can check surviving chapel registers. These are mostly on fiche before 1837.

### ***Some Lambley Family History Sources***

If your ancestors are from Lambley there will be a wide range of sources you can follow-up at the Archives. These include the church registers of baptisms, marriages and burials from the 1650s. A register containing earlier entries once existed, long before modern times, but has never been found. The registers are all on microfiche up to 1900 and any entry can be copied for 40p on the fiche reader-printer in the search room. The census returns are also on fiche and electoral registers up to 2000. You might also be interested in the Lambley tithe award and map of 1841 (reference AT 75/1a0) and there are wills for some Lambley residents from the 17<sup>th</sup> century up to the early 1800s – these are indexed by name on card indexes in the search room.

I guess I should also add...never give up! Sometimes a particular family branch may seem a lost cause but you never know when that vital piece in the jigsaw will turn up.

The Archives are at County House, Castle Meadow Road, Nottingham NG2 1AG and a location map and lots of other information is on our website at [www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/archives](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/archives). There is now a permanent link to the Archives from our Historical Society site. Happy Family History Hunting!

**Chris Weir, President LHS**