

Obituary

AIR-COMMODORE E. A. D. MASTERMAN, C.B., C.M.G., C.B.E., A.F.C.

Air-Commodore Edward Alexander Dimsdale Masterman, C.B., C.M.G., C.B.E., A.F.C., was born on 15 April, 1880, and died on 26 August, 1957, in his home at The Firs, Hook, near Basingstoke, Hampshire. He was the son of Edward Masterman of Nately Lodge, Scures Hill, Hampshire, and was throughout his life closely connected with Hampshire. Early in this century he was elected a member of the Hampshire Field Club, and from then onwards he took a great interest in Hampshire archaeology, and attended many of our field meetings. He entered the Royal Navy in 1894, and transferred to the Royal Naval Air Service on its formation about 1911 and was subsequently appointed to the command of the Farnborough Airship Station. From then onwards and throughout the first war his interest was concentrated upon airships. After the war he commanded No. 7 Group of the Royal Air Force at Weyhill, to which he had been transferred in 1918. From 1924 to 1928, when he retired, he commanded No. 10 Group at Lee-on-Solent. From 1929, when it was formed, to 1936 he was Commandant of the Observer (later Royal Observer) Corps, and later became Commandant of the Western Area of the Corps, retiring from ill-health in 1942. Further details of his career are recorded in obituary notices printed in *The Times*, *Daily Telegraph* and *Hants and Berks Gazette*.

His active interest in archaeology began at Weyhill where he and his brother officer, now Air Marshal Sir Robert Clark-Hall, came to know Dr Williams-Freeman. It was in the early months of 1924 that Clark-Hall drew the attention of Dr Williams-Freeman to a batch of air-photographs showing what proved to be prehistoric field-systems and burrow-circles, thus inaugurating a new era in research. The ferment thus started must have stimulated his interest in archaeology, and from then onwards it never flagged. We first met during the air survey of Wessex carried out by the late Alexander Keiller and myself during the summer of 1924, when we made our headquarters at a hotel in Andover. During the intervals of flying we took part with Masterman and some of his brother officers in the excavation of an Iron Age site on Snoddington Down in Shipton Bellinger (Hants 22 N.E.). The work was done, I am afraid, with more enthusiasm than skill, and no proper account was ever published. A short note, accompanied by a plate of some of the finds, was printed in our *Proceedings* (vol. IX, 397). One of the largest of the large earthenware storage-pots found, restored at the Ashmolean from broken fragments, was for some time kept in the R.A.F. Mess at Weyhill aerodrome. I do not know what happened to the other objects.

From 1925 onwards week-ends with the Mastermans at Lee-on-Solent became a regular routine, and there was always some archaeological site to be visited. Masterman had the happy gift of making friends wherever he went, and on those pleasant excursions we met many whose researches owed much to his help and encouragement. In May, 1925, we made an expedition to Horsea Island in Portsmouth Harbour, where below high water mark we found, wading out over the mud, innumerable burnt flints (pot-boilers) and a few worked ones, proving early prehistoric habitation (*Proceedings*, vol. IX, 406-7). On 19 June, 1926, we visited a site on Holt Down, Buriton (Hants 60 S.E.) where in the midst of a large system of prehistoric fields a Romano-British dwelling had been reported. We found there the remains of flint walls set in mortar, fragments of painted wall-plaster, much R.-B. pottery

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and sandstone roof-tiles. (So far as I know no account was published, but it was reported to Miss M. V. Taylor at the Haverfield Library.) The next day we visited the site of another Romano-British building that had been found just outside Bedhampton (or Littlepark) Wood on the south-west side of it (Hants 76 N.W.). This lay beside the Roman road from Chichester and was evidently a villa. It had been found in 1925 by Mr Smith, schoolmaster of Purbrook, who had excavated it in collaboration with a Portsmouth society called the Innoimates founded by Colonel Cooke of Portsmouth. Here again it must regretfully be admitted that, except in the local press, no account was published; but at least it was possible, thanks to Masterman's interest (and his Reynaud) to record the exact sites on the Ordnance map. In our *Proceedings* for 1927 (vol. X, 73) Dr Williams-Freeman records 'what may probably be a long barrow' in a field on Leckford Down Farm, and I marked the approximate site on the map (Hants 32 S.W.); but I remember nothing about it and rather think it proved not to be one. The last of our archaeological excursions recorded was to the village of North Warnborough where, at the south end of the village, we were able to mark on the map (Hants 19 N.E.) the exact site, in a cottage garden, where a gold British coin had been found in 1929.

There were many other excursions, and there is of course that imponderable influence which counts for so much and which came from Masterman's association with kindred spirits in the pursuit of knowledge. Himself the most modest and unassuming of men, he probably did not realize how much his interest encouraged others. His attitude to the seekers after knowledge was a model of what it should be; he was not one of those who 'quench the smoking flax' by rough handling. Archaeology owes much to those who, like him, go about doing good—and the words were never more apt than in his case. Hampshire archaeology owes much to him, while those who were his friends will treasure their memories of happy days in his company.

O. G. S. CRAWFORD

Field Meetings and Lectures, 1957-8

THE Annual General Meeting was held on May 14th 1957, at the Castle, when Lt.-Gen. F. H. Griffiths was succeeded as President by Cmdr. E. C. Wrey, O.B.E., R.N. The new President gave an address on the subject of 'A Treatise of the Laws of the Forest' by John Manwood (3rd edition, 1665). In the afternoon Mrs. Carpenter Turner conducted an extremely interesting ramble round the various watermills of the City, beginning at the Durngate Mill and ending at St Cross Mill.

On May 30th a visit was paid to Southampton; here a tour was conducted round the various medieval buildings by three of our Southampton members, Councillor A. G. Steavenson, Mr P. S. Peberdy and Miss E. M. Sandell.

On June 13th members visited Hod Hill, near Blandford, Dorset, where Professor I. A. Richmond, F.S.A., conducted the party round the excavations then in progress. The Professor took the members right round the Iron Age defences, into one corner of which the Romans inserted a camp. Perfect weather favoured the Club's visit on this occasion.

On June 27th a day was spent in the Isle of Wight, brilliant weather again favouring the expedition. From Cowes the party drove via Northwood and Carisbrooke Churches, in both of which Mr R. L. P. Jowitt spoke to the members on various points of interest. On arrival at Brook, picnic lunch was taken, after which a geological ramble led by Councillor A. G. Steavenson took place. He pointed out the oldest rocks in the Island, the variously coloured freshwater marls and sandstones of the Wealden formation, but the tide unfortunately covered the famous 'Pine Raft'. Calbourne Church was visited on the way back to Cowes.

On July 8th the Club visited Lymington, the programme being arranged by the Lymington Historical Record Society, Alderman J. H. Beagley being the Director. Starting with a description of the Ampress dock and Buckland Rings by Cmdr. Wrey, the party proceeded to the site of the Salterns. Here Mr E. King told members something of their history, pointing out how very extensive they had formerly been, but that a decline had set in more than a century ago. In the afternoon the party were conducted round the Parish Church by the Vicar (the Rev. C. H. Bostock) and after this round Bellevue House, a typical well restored Georgian mansion, by Mr A. W. N. Cowper. Tea was taken at the Community Centre, after which the Town Clerk (Mr A. L. Slater) gave a talk upon the town records.

On July 29th a day was spent in the N.E. region of the county. Mr J. Simpson being the Director. Starting with a visit to the ruins of the Holy Ghost Chapel at Basingstoke, the party proceeded to Heckfield Place, a late Renaissance house, which was visited by kind permission of Mrs Colin Davy. Here a fine collection of portraits and other relics was seen. After lunch at Camberley, the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst was visited, by kind permission of the Commandant. The façade of the 'Old Buildings' and the statues of Queen Victoria and of the Prince Imperial, a former student, were pointed out. The party then proceeded to Farnborough where St Michael's Abbey Church was visited by kind permission of the Prior. This contains the French Imperial Mausoleum in the Crypt. The theme of the day was described by the Director as 'Renaissance Impacts, aspects of the Romantic Movement and Memorials of Princes in Exile' and the description was certainly very apt. It was an exceedingly interesting and successful day, favoured by good weather.

FIELD MEETINGS AND LECTURES

On August 10th the Club visited Winchester and in the morning a visit was paid to the College Library, by kind permission of the Warden and Fellows. Here Mr J. M. G. Blakiston, the Librarian, showed members the Box Collection relating to Hampshire Topography. In the afternoon Mr F. Cottrill, M.A., conducted the party round the excavations on the site of the George Hotel.

On August 24th the Pitt-Rivers Museum at Farnham, Dorset, was visited, the late Dr O. G. S. Crawford, C.B.E., D.Litt., F.B.A., being the Director. This was the last time he ever conducted an expedition for the Club; he died in the following November.

On September 27th a most successful expedition took place in lovely weather, when a large field turned out to follow the Roman road between Winchester and Mildenhall, Wilts. (the Roman Cunetio). Mr A. E. Palmer was the Director and addressed the members at various points along the road. The Crofton Pumping Station on the Kennett and Avon Canal, which lies right on the line of the Roman road, was visited en route; it contains a great beam engine constructed in 1796 by James Watt and is still at work. Lunch was taken at the Savernake Hotel and in the afternoon the party was addressed at the Column in Savernake Forest by the Earl of Cardigan, after which Mr Palmer pointed out the village of Mildenhall, beyond which the Roman road continued to Cirencester and Gloucester. Tea was taken at Marlborough. This concluded the summer programme, except for the Fungus Foray conducted by Dr F. B. Hora, at Andover, on September 28th.

During the autumn three lectures took place at Winchester, the first being by Mr John H. Scholes on the subject of 'The National Transport Museum', the second (jointly with the Winchester Historical Association) on 'Glastonbury and the Arthurian Legend' by Professor R. Treharne, and the third on 'The Historic Churches Preservation Trust' by Mr Laurence Jones. The winter season ended with a lecture on 'The Nature Conservancy' by Mr J. H. Hemsley, at Winchester, on March 6th 1958.

Hampshire Field Club Annual Report

1957-58

THE paid-up membership of the Club on December 31st was 535. During the past year the Club has held 9 field meetings, which were all well attended and during the winter 4 lectures have been given.

Members will remember that the Club was represented at the Enquiry held some years ago as to the fate of St Peter Chesil Church. Similarly the Hon. Secretary represented the Club at the Enquiry held here on February 14th as to the fate of the old houses threatened with demolition in Upper Brook Street. The members of the Club were circularised, in order to ascertain their views as to this and an overwhelming majority voted in favour of their preservation.

The Hon. Secretary has also represented the Club on the Committee of the newly-formed Winchester Preservation Trust.

The Hon. Treasurer and the Hon. Secretary visited the old Chapel at Freefolk near Whitchurch, and as a result of their visit they learnt that necessary repairs were to be carried out.

The problem of the chancel of Otterbourne Old Church, which has been long disused and which is now in a very poor state of repair, seems to be insoluble, neither the Diocese nor the Parish being able to make available the necessary funds for repair.

THE HAMPSHIRE FIELD CLUB AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1958.

INCOME.				£	s	d	£	s	d
MEMBERS' SUBSCRIPTIONS :—									
508	Annual Fees at 21/-	...	...	533	8	0			
1	" "	20/-	...	1	0	0			
4	" "	15/-	...	3	0	0			
6	" "	10/6	...	3	3	0			
				540	11	0			
32	Entrance Fees at 5/-	...	...	8	0	0			
				548	11	0			
DONATIONS AND SUNDRY RECEIPTS					5	7			
EXCESS OF EXPENDITURE OVER INCOME FOR THE YEAR						7			
carried to Genera. Fund				35	1	0			
				£588	19	7			

EXPENDITURE.				£	s	d	£	s	d
SUBSCRIPTIONS TO SOCIETIES :—									
British Trust for Ornithology	...	...	...	2	0	0			
Commons, etc., Preservation Society	...	...	...	1	1	0			
S.E. Union of Scientific Societies	...	...	...	12	6				
Royal Society for Protection of Birds	...	...	...	1	1	0			
Council for British Archaeology	...	...	...	2	4	7			
Protection of Ancient Buildings	...	...	...	1	1	0			
Council for Field Studies	...	...	...	10	0				
English Place Name Society	...	...	...	1	5	0			
							9	15	1
FIELD MEETINGS AND LECTURES :—									
Expenses	...	...	...	91	4	5			
Less Receipts and Visitors' Fees	...	...	...	64	19	4			
							26	5	1
"PROCEEDINGS" :—									
Provision for Estimated Cost of :—									
Supplement 6, Vol. xx, and Vol. xxi									
							347	18	1
EXCAVATIONS RESERVE :—									
Provision for the Year									
							100	0	0
GENERAL CHARGES :—									
Printing, Telephones, Postages, Stationery and Insurance	...	...	...	39	14	11			
Services of Assistant	...	...	...	12	0	0			
General Office Expenses	...	...	...	13	0	0			
Annual General Meeting, Council and Committee Meetings	...	...	...	37	16	5			
							102	11	4
PHOTOGRAPHS OF WALL PAINTINGS, 73 HIGH STREET, WINCHESTER									
							2	10	0
				£588	19	7			

BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER, 1958.

	£	s	d	£	s	d	£	s	d		£	s	d	£	s	d
GENERAL FUND :—										CASH :—						
Balance, 1st January, 1958 ...				336	9	9				Current Account, Lloyds Bank Ltd. ...	483	7	0			
Add Interest on Deposit Account										Deposit Account, Lloyds Bank Ltd. ...	28	14	7			
and P.O. Savings Account	10	14	8							Deposit P.O. Savings Account ...	403	10	11			
Donation from Winchester														915	12	6
and Hants Scientific																
Society	32	3	9													
				42	18	5										
				379	8	2										
Less Excess of Expenditure																
over Income for the																
Year	35	1	7													
Balance of Cost of "Pro-																
ceedings", Vol. xix	21	13	9													
Arrears of Subscriptions to																
British Council of																
Archaeology for 1956																
and 1957	4	15	5													
				61	10	9										
							317	17	5							
TROKE LEGACY per last Balance Sheet							50	0	0							
EXCAVATIONS RESERVE :—																
Balance, 1st January, 1959 ...				150	6	6										
Less Grants to :																
Winchester Archaeological																
Society	50	0	0													
Ampress Excavations ...	25	0	0													
Long Barrow, Basingstoke	25	0	0													
				100	0	0										
				50	6	6										
Add Transfer from Income and Expenditure																
Account				100	0	0										
							150	6	6							
SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 1959 paid in advance ...							4	9	0							
SUNDRY CREDITORS							392	19	7							
							£915	12	6					£915	12	6

J. B. MEAKINS, A.C.W.A.
Honorary Treasurer.

I certify that I have examined the above Accounts with the Books, Vouchers and Bank Pass Sheets of the Society and that they are in accordance therewith.

Twyford, Hants.
3rd February, 1959.

ALFRED E. PALMER,
Honorary Auditor.