

RIPON'S PAST

NEWS FROM RIPON LOCAL STUDIES
RESEARCH CENTRE



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NO NEWS IS GOOD NEWS

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This time last year I reported that the Centre was likely to move to new premises in 2006, but that optimism was misplaced. We had hoped that the premises in the Gatehouse complex of Sharow View would be available, but had not bargained on the County Council changing its 'estate' manager during the year. The changeover has at last resulted in a new look at the estate portfolio of the County Council and we hope to hear shortly from that review.

Meanwhile the Centre's projects continue and Community Archaeology goes from strength to strength. The successful conclusion of over 4 years hard work by the Project was marked at the recent AGM of the Ripon Local Studies Research Centre, held in Ripon Town Hall on 2nd November, when 5 reports were handed over. The Community Archaeology Project was initiated in 2002 by the late Mike Younge using professional guidance from community archaeologist Kevin Cale. The project has received monetary support from the Lottery through the Local Heritage Initiative covering the majority of the costs. The work has used desk-based methods by a group of 15 members to study 11 parishes surrounding the City using books, historical and recent maps, aerial photographs, articles, and printouts from national and county records. The systematic study of the information has led to the identification of, and where possible, the description of over 2000 records relating to the presence of archaeological features in the 11 parishes. The five overview reports cover the parishes of North Stainley with Sleningford; West and East Tanfield; Norton Conyers and Hutton Conyers; Copt Hewick and Bridge Hewick; Littlethorpe, Markenfield Hall and Studley Roger. The booklets will be supplemented by a digital database to be presented to North Yorkshire County Council in the New Year and will be added to the County Heritage Environment Record in Northallerton and available online.

The group has made another successful bid for funding and has started researching 5 more parishes in the Dishforth area over the next 3 years. The group meets at Copt Hewick Village hall each Friday morning and would be pleased to welcome anyone with an interest in this type of work.

Derek Edmundson remains committed to researching the pubs and breweries of Ripon, and John Hebden has almost completed the details of the fallen of the City in two world wars recorded on the memorials in Spa Gardens and behind the alter in Ripon Cathedral. The Ripon Record still needs committed local historians to pen a year between 1987 and 2006. if you are passionate about local history your Centre needs you.

Mick Stanley



**MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR
TO ALL OUR
SUPPORTERS AND READERS**

RIPON COMMUNITY ARCHAEOLOGY PROJECT



The Archaeology Group is continuing with its work at Copt Hewick on Friday mornings.

We have just started the five parishes of Dishforth, Rainton, Asenby, Marton-le-Moor and Norton-le-Clay, appropriately called the Cana Community Archaeological Project after the Cana Barn Henge in Marton-le-Moor.

Now we have received a series of Ordnance Survey Maps ranging from 1855 to 1930 and aerial photographs we can start recording the archaeological features that appear and disappear over the years, together with National Monument Records and references from many other sources.

Close contact with metal detectorists (see adjoining article) and field walkers ensures a continuous stream of information to enhance the overall picture.

Tony Place
RCAP

Positive aspects of metal detecting

Some of you may have seen an article in the Ripon Gazette earlier this year concerning attempts to bring together metal detectorists and those of a more orthodox view of archaeology by working together, not apart.

The Ripon Community Archaeology Project has had links with several detectorists going back to our inception in 2002. More often than not the detectorists were at least as knowledgeable as the members of the group and their willingness to identify the locations of their finds greatly assisted our project. Adding the details of recently found artefacts to our database of parish archaeology gives us a full, more rounded picture of the activity of an area.

Many members of the RLSRC will be aware of the Finds Days we have held at the Library and Town Hall. Residents of Ripon were encouraged to bring along finds, have them properly recorded and given a comprehensive appraisal of the objects. Simon Holmes and Dave Evans, officers of the Portable Antiquities Scheme, were only too pleased to leave the dusty corridors of the Yorkshire Museum to visit other areas of North Yorkshire to pronounce on artefacts and on the conservation of them.

Our professional archaeologist, Kevin Cale, who supports and advises RCAP saw the advantages for both detectorists and archaeologists. The chance to help educate detectorists in the importance of recording finds is an exciting breakthrough. This has led to several members of RCAP attending Metal Detecting (MD) rallies in the area to assist the PAOs. There is not room in this article to describe a rally in its entirety, the logistics are staggering, each takes upwards of a year to organise and is very tightly controlled. The detectorists are serious and knowledgeable about their hobby and cooperate fully with the PAO team. Indeed you can't keep them away! They are so appreciative that professionals like Dave and Simon take the time to come and discuss their finds. The positives for the archaeologists are a.) rapidly growing group of detectorists who are open and willing to cooperate b.) the plotting of a large number of recorded finds in an area, even non-metal artefacts c.) the building of trust between the two sets of enthusiasts.

Kevin also works with primary schools within the areas of the community groups, presenting archaeology to the children (and staff) as an engrossing, exciting, physical and mental discipline. That they find it fun and enjoyable also, is evidenced by their enthusiasm. At their age this experience is likely to stick with them for some time.

I wonder if this area of rural North Yorkshire may see an increase in young people taking up archaeology at university in ten to fifteen years?

Paul Hayes
Ripon Community Archaeology Project.



RIPON RECIPES

This month, as Christmas will soon be here, I have included an additional festive recipe.

Ripon Plum Cake or Christmas Cake

- this recipe is from the book 'Good Things in England' compiled and edited by Florence White and loaned to me by Mrs Doreen Parker

Mr. Herbert M. Bower's recipe

INGREDIENTS: Butter 18 oz, Castor sugar $\frac{3}{4}$ lb, 7 eggs, dried and sifted flour 18 oz, Currants 1 lb, sweet almonds 2 oz, Candied citron peel as much as you please, lemon whisky 1 wineglass.

TIME: to bake about $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours in a quick oven.

METHOD

1. Beat the butter to a cream before the fire.
2. Add sugar and beat together until quite white and smooth.
3. Separate the whites from the yolks of the eggs.
4. Beat the whites to a stiff snow.
5. Mix both together a little before adding the butter.
6. Beat them all well together; then
7. Mix the flour in lightly with your hand, then the currants (washed and dried the day before), the almonds blanched and shredded, the citron and lemon whisky. N.B.-Mix very lightly with the hand, for if much beaten after the flour is added the cake will be heavy; keep it near the fire all the time of mixing.



Have ready a cake tin lined with paper, pour in the mixture and bake in a quick oven as above.

Also this month another recipe given to me by Miss M Craggs.

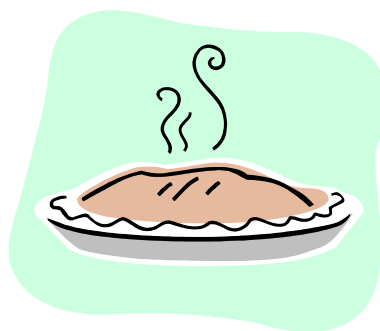
Ripon Apple Pie

Ingredients

$1\frac{3}{4}$ lb cooking apples
2oz farmhouse Wensleydale cheese
3-4oz sugar
12oz shortcrust pastry.

Method

Line a 9 inch pie plate or flan dish with pastry. Peel core and slice the apples thinly and arrange them in the dish, sprinkling them with sugar as you go. Top with cheese, grated, and cover with a pastry lid in the usual way. Bake for 30 mins at Mark 6 or 200C.



If anyone has any local recipes we can use in our newsletter, please contact Sue at the Centre.



Ripon Local Studies Research Centre is a Member of PLACE—The People, Landscape & Cultural Environment Education and Research Centre. Contact PLACE Officer, York St John College, Lord Mayor's Walk, York YO31 7EX. Chief Executive Dr Margaret Atherden. Tel 01904 716753. Email: place@yorks.ac.uk Or contact Ripon Local Studies Research Centre

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!
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Thank You

On behalf of everyone at Ripon Local Studies Research Centre I would like to thank those who have contributed articles to the newsletter this year and wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Sue Hughes - Editor.



Anyone wishing to receive their newsletter by email as a PDF or in Publisher please contact me at the Centre. Sue



Sharow Village have just published their book about the village by the village, price £10 - see their website at www.sharow.org.uk or contact the Centre.

THE RIPON DIOCESAN COLLEGE: ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

The Reverend George Garrod had taken over as Principal in 1891 and relaxed some of the more stringent rules from the original regime.

The Ripon College Association was formed and their annual Magazine covered activities within the academic year, with publication in July before the midsummer holidays.

The preface for the 1906 edition hinted on his views when he commented that much had been introduced into College life to vary the ordinary routine, to encourage sports and other forms of recreation, and to make the students' life one of real profit and the memory of it an abiding pleasure. (He was to leave for another church post in 1908)

The presidential address by the now Canon Garrod commented on the Bazaar in aid of the City schools, which had been opened by H.R.H. Princess Beatrice (daughter of Queen Victoria) and Princess Ena of Battenburg, soon to become Queen of Spain. Former students had contributed greatly to the appeal for needlework and other fancy goods to be sold at the bazaar.

He commented also on three stained glass windows, which had been inserted in the chapel, which had been erected in 1899.

The leading article in the Magazine was a re-print of the report in the "Ripon Gazette" of the dedication of the three windows by the Bishop of Knaresborough on the 24th February, referred to above. The total number of lights in the chapel was 20, and when complete would represent the history of Christian Education through the ages. This brought up to eleven the number completed, and the three represented two of the Greek Fathers, Saint Athanasius and Saint John Chrysostom; and the first of the pre-Reformation saints, the Venerable Bede.



Saint Athanasius is represented with open book and pen in hand, writing in defence of Christianity, and crushing the heretics beneath his feet. Saint John Chrysostom, the golden mouthed, is represented with closed book and uplifted hand, in the act of preaching. The Venerable Bede is shown as giving the finishing touches to his work, "The History of the English Church." All the windows were financed by the gifts of past students.

The Annual Dramatic Entertainment was Sheridan's "The Critic," and the performance also formed part of the examination in Reading and Recitation. An evening concert of music and songs included the opening pianoforte solo of a piece by Rachmaninoff by the Bishop of Knaresborough.

Sports played included hockey, which initiated a victorious Inter-Collegiate match with Lancashire; tennis played as a singles and doubles tournament; Cricket, including a match with Lancashire, again won, and Archery.

Derek Edmondson