

## Winter 2016 Newsletter

### Autumn activities

The first meeting of the new season proved a very congenial affair. After the AGM, a presentation about the Tinsley Rolls generated plenty of feedback from our knowledgeable membership. The refreshments supplied by Deli28 went down very well too. The October and November meetings both attracted large audiences who heard two most interesting presentations from Jean Townsend and David Bostwick. 65 members enjoyed a sociable evening at the Millstone for our December meeting. The usual pies, peas and puds made a tasty supper which was followed by John Taylor's slides and talk exploring our 'Britishness' - migrants including refugees from many places have been coming here for centuries and we are all children of that global movement. The raffle, with prizes provided by Committee members, raised over £90 for Molly from the Millstone to pass to Bluebell Wood, her chosen charity.

### 'Finding antiquities in the Tickhill area' - new Occasional Paper



The lion brooch, left, shown on the front cover of this Occasional Paper, has survived in the ground from the medieval period. The Paper illustrates many other remarkable finds from prehistoric times through to the 19th Century. The medieval period is particularly well represented in local finds reported to the Portable Antiquities Scheme. Most are made from metal, a consequence of their discovery by metal detectorists. Each find has been carefully examined by PAS staff, most of the descriptions being recorded by Amy Downes. The Paper, price £2, is on sale at KSM thanks to Linda Mayes and colleagues.

### Committee News

At the AGM Steve Payne stood down from the Committee on which he has served for 9 years. Steve has made a huge contribution to the Society. Enormous thanks to him along with our appreciation for all the time and effort he has put into this work. Fortunately, Steve will still be working on the Society's behalf behind the scenes - see the next item.

### Website news

There is an extensive record of Tickhill's celebrations of Queen Elizabeth II's long reign, now on the website thanks to Steve. The Gallery section has 14 pages of photographs of the Commonwealth flags on show around Tickhill, the exhibition and concert in St Mary's and pupils' work on display at Estfeld School. The Photo Topics strand under the Local History section has a record of the Information Sheets about the Commonwealth flags. A 'Photobook' of the celebrations has been placed in the Society's Archive. See right for some of the quilts displayed in St Mary's.



Steve has analysed the use of the main website in 2015. There have now been just over 832,000 views of pictures in the Gallery section since the website was launched. The rest of the website continues to generate plenty of interest too. Steve would love to hear if you have any more stories to tell about Tickhill, facts to add or comments to make on our new website based on 'Tickhill: Discover its past'.

### 'Doncaster, Nottingham and Lincoln Gazette'

At last, the British Newspaper Archive online has started to upload a Doncaster newspaper, starting with the 'Gazette' in 1870. Here is a sample article from 14 January 1870, an attempt to filch a flich: 'Impudent shop robbery at Tickhill - William Jackson (50) labourer, pleaded guilty to an indictment charging him with having stolen 14lbs weight of bacon of the value of 11s 8d the property of Mr John Hickson, at Tickhill on 7 December. Mr Waddy prosecuted. The robbery was of a most impudent character. The prosecutor, who was in a back room, saw the prisoner enter his shop, stretch his arm over the counter, take up the bacon, and run away with it. He was pursued and apprehended with the stolen property in his possession. His defence was that he had found the bacon in the road. He now abandoned this plea altogether, however, and he was sentenced to three months' imprisonment.' See page 3 for another item from the 'Gazette' in 1870.

### 1939 Register

This compulsory registration programme, undertaken in September 1939 and intended to help the government distribute identity cards and ration books as well as facilitating conscription, went online last November (that is, the content for England and Wales) and can be accessed through website findmypast.co.uk. Searches can be made by person or address and basic information is free of charge. A free search by street name for Tickhill U.D. reveals one named person in each property. A charge is made to see a household with several occupants.