



· INSTITUTE · OF · HISTORIC ·
BUILDING · CONSERVATION

EAST MIDLANDS BRANCH

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Annual General Meeting



Friday, 5th September 2008
at Stoke Rochford Hall
Stoke Rochford, near Grantham

Programme of Events:

2.30 pm	Introductory talk on the restoration work, following the serious fire in 2005, followed by a tour of the Hall
5.00 pm	Buffet tea in the Hall
6.00 pm	AGM
7.00 pm	Close

As usual there is no charge for Members attending the AGM or the events beforehand and your attendance will be eligible for CPD. But there is a restriction on numbers so we need to know the level of interest. If you are coming along please fill in and return the booking form sent to you via the post or use it to send your apologies.

Please turn up if you book!

If you book and do not attend without good reason the Branch will have to invoice you for £5 to cover its costs.

For those arriving early the Terrace Bar is open for bar snacks and meals at lunch time.

Directions to the Venue

Stoke Rochford Hall lies about six miles south of Grantham to the west of the A1 trunk road.

Approaching on the A1 from the north, its 2 miles south of the village of Great Ponton and from the south it is on the left 2 miles north of the A151 Colsterworth junction.

Having left the A1, after a quarter of a mile turn right into the Stoke Rochford grounds and follow the road up to the Hall.

From the west, either follow the A52 out of Nottingham towards Grantham to pick up the A1 or via Melton Mowbray, following the B767 to Coston then turn left through Skillington before turning right to Stoke Rochford.

For those with Sat-Nav, try: NG33 5EJ, for those without a map showing the location of Stoke Rochford Hall can be seen on their website (www.stokerochfordhall.co.uk).

Agenda

1. Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes of the 2007 Annual General Meeting
3. Officers' and Other Reports and Financial Statement
4. Election of Officers

Chair

Vice Chair

Secretary

Treasurer

Branch Representative to Council

Membership Officer

Education Representative

5. Election of Branch Committee
6. 2008-09 Business Plan - see separate document
7. Annual School, Buxton, 2009
8. Any Other Agreed Business

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting at The Cathedral Centre, Minster Yard, Lincoln Cathedral Friday 14th September 2007

Present

David Boyson (chair), Robert Walker, Stephen Bradwell, Jane Roylance, Fiona Newton, Rosalind Willatts, Allan Morrison, Ann Bond, Elizabeth Mayle, Rob Lawton, Bob Stewart, Arthur Ward, Paul Clarke, Phillip Grover, John Sewell, Beryl Lott, James White, Jason Mordan, Susan Dobby, Rose Thompson, Roy Lewis, Ruth Connolly, Chris McKinney, Rachel Booth, Devon de Celles & Sean O'Reilly.

Apologies

Chris Collison, Elizabeth Bryan, James Crane, Michael Taylor, Lucie Thacker, Samantha Raggatt, Diana Evans, Derek Latham, Graham Cadman, Sarah Howard, Philip Heath, Kim Wyatt, Sue Clarke, Chloe Walters, Martin Tincknell, Victoria Hunns, Barry Joyce MBE, Charlie Glenn, Mark Strawbridge, Alex Stevenson, Dave Trubshaw, Alan Harvey, Richard Spooner, Julie Ann Renfrew & Adam Lathbury

Minutes of the 2006 AGM

The Minutes were agreed as a true record of the meeting, proposed by Rob Walker and seconded by Elizabeth Mayle and carried unanimously.

Officers and County Reps Reports

David Boyson had nothing further to add to his report as Chair and asked Roy Lewis to update the meeting on IHBC matters.

Roy Lewis reported that the Institute of Field Archaeologists were still keen on a merger with the IHBC, which the IHBC Council has already voted against, and that the IHBC Consultation Secretary, James Caird, will be responding to a letter on the IFA web-site regarding the merger. Roy also went on to note that the 2009 Annual School had now been fixed for Buxton.

The County Reps had nothing further to add to their reports. In the absence of a written report, Elizabeth Mayle verbally reported the work of Conservation Officers in Lincolnshire, noting there had been regular meetings of the Conservation Officers' group and the successes of a number of grant schemes.

Susan Dobby had sent comments from Leicestershire prior to the meeting, noting in particular that after a number of years service she was proposing to stand down as the IHBC representative on the Leicester City Council Conservation Advisory Panel and her place would be taken by David Trubshaw.

Treasurer

Robert Walker presented his report, first by explaining the summary of expenditure and income on the Bank Register, and then noting that he expected a number of minor alterations as a result of late changes to the AGM expenditure.

From the Statement of Accounts, Robert noted that as at 1 October 2006 the Branch had £838.97 in its current and reserve accounts; income through the year had been £1024.10 while expenditure was estimated to be £1174.21. In all this left a closing

balance of £688.86.

Taking this forward into the next financial year, Robert had budgeted for an income of £500 from the IHBC and a revised expenditure estimated to be some £1000 leaving a projected closing balance of £203 at the end of September 2008.

He noted that the expenditure on postage and printing, as expected, had been significantly reduced from previous years because of the increasing use of email but there was still a need to maintain a budget for these items, particularly in relation to the preparation of the AGM papers. Also that start-up costs for Buxton 2009 had opened up a new expenditure item but in future most of the costs would go direct to the IHBC, allowing him to reduce his initial expenditure estimates.

Acceptance of the Financial Statement and Treasurer's Report was proposed by Elizabeth Mayle, seconded by Allan Morrison and carried unanimously.

Business Plan

In a change to the Agenda running order, Robert Walker moved to the Business Plan, noting the minor changes to expenditure items and introducing the new style business plan, referring in particular to the future events and their cost implications.

Acceptance of the Business Plan *with amendments to estimates of expenditure recommended verbally by The Treasurer* was proposed by Jane Roylance and seconded by Rob Lawton and carried unanimously.

Buxton Annual School

David Boyson outlined the work had that taken place so far in organising the Annual School, that an organisation committee had been established and a working theme agreed, "Conservation Key to Sustainability", which allowed a broad programme.

The meeting was invited to bring forward ideas as to specific themes and speakers as well as potential sponsors and any help with its organisation would be welcomed.

Election of Officers

David Boyson noted that Robert Walker was standing down as Treasurer after nine years and he expressed the Branch's thanks for Rob's efforts. He then went on to announce that he was also standing down as Chair and proposed that Robert Walker be nominated as Chair, seconded by Julie-Ann Renfrew.

Stephen Bradwell then read out the nominations received for the remaining Officer posts, these were:

- Vice Chair - Jane Roylance (nominated: Allan Morrison/seconded: Rob Walker);
- Treasurer: Rose Thompson (Robert Walker/Julie Ann Renfrew);
- Secretary: Steve Bradwell (Ruth Connolly/Chris McKinney);
- Branch Representative: Roy Lewis (Susan Dobby/Ruth Connolly);
- Membership Secretary: David Boyson (Susan Dobby/Elizabeth Bryan); and
- Education Representative: Andrew Lawson (Rose Thompson/Steve Bradwell).

The Election of the Officers was approved by the Meeting.

Election of Committee

Stephen Bradwell then read out the nominations for the following:

General Committee Members:

- Ruth Connolly (Chris McKinney/Steve Bradwell);
- Chloe Oswald (Debbie Maltby/Rose Thompson);
- Fiona Newton (Julie Ann Renfrew/Robert Walker);
- Samantha Raggatt (Steve Bradwell/ Robert Walker)

County Representatives:

- Lincolnshire County rep: Elizabeth Mayle (Bob Stewart/Arthur Ward);
- Nottinghamshire County rep: Jason Mordan (Richard Tuffrey/James White);
- Derbyshire County rep: Chris McKinney (Ruth Connolly/Steve Bradwell);
- Northamptonshire County rep: Rachel Booth (Ann Bond/Rosalind Willatts);
- Leicestershire County rep: James White (David Boyson/Susan Dobby).

Any Other Business.

Robert Walker, in taking the Chair, expressed his thanks to David Boyson for his work as Chair and he went on to introduce Rose Thompson as the new Treasurer and to express his pleasure in having Jane Roylance as his vice chair.

Rob thanked all those for attending the Meeting and especially those who had organised the day's events and the AGM.

Rob noted that in the coming year, the Buxton Annual School would assume priority and this may lead to a reduction in the 'cheap and cheerful' events programme, although the Leicestershire group were trying to arrange a visit to Taylor's Bell foundry and the Great Central Railway, both in Loughborough.

Fiona Newton raised one last matter: that of the new IHBC logo, which was on display.

In the absence of any further business the meeting was closed at 6.50pm.

IHBC East Midlands Branch Committee 2007/2008

Chair

Robert Walker

Vice Chair

Jane Roylance

Secretary

Steve Bradwell

Branch Representative to IHBC Council

Roy Lewis

Treasurer

Rose Thompson

Membership Secretary

David Boyson

County Reps

Derbyshire Chris McKinney

Leicestershire James White

Lincolnshire Liz Mayle

Northamptonshire Rachel Booth

Nottinghamshire Jason Mordan

Education Rep

Andrew Lawson

General Committee Member

Fiona Newton

Samantha Raggatt

Officers' Reports 2007-8

Chair's Report

My year as Chair has passed very quickly and gone remarkably well from my perspective. In this respect I have to thank the hard work of the Branch Committee and the Buxton Annual School 2009 Organising Committee – many of whom are the same people – and a number of other Branch Members who have stepped in to help with specific tasks which otherwise would not have got done.

Events

I didn't wish to overload the already busy group of people who give up so much of their time to help the Branch. The Business Plan therefore set a modest goal of a minimum of 1 'cheap & cheerful' event in the year as I could see much time having to be given over to organising next year's Buxton Annual School. In the end we will have managed to arrange two such events.

This could not have been achieved without the help of two non-committee members and I am very grateful to Anthony Gimpel from Charnwood Borough Council for organising the tour of Taylor's Bell Foundry and to Bob Stewart of South Kesteven District Council for organising the tour and AGM at Stoke Rochford.

The trip to Taylor's Bell foundry in Loughborough was at the invitation of co-Director Ray Ayres and in true 'cheap & cheerful' fashion was free – a considerable saving on the normal admission charge. The members who attended had the rare privilege of actually seeing see two bells being cast. Shortly after the visit we were saddened to hear that Ray had been killed in a car accident.

The Branch visit to Stoke Rochford will be the second that Bob has organised and I'm sure this one will be an interesting sequel to the first 'immediately after the fire' event held in 2006.

So who will come forward to organise the next event and where will it be? Each county has now hosted at least one cheap and cheerful with Lincolnshire leading the way with three and English Heritage having laid on the Northamptonshire event at Apethorpe Hall.

Branch Committee

I have been very pleased to see a number of non-committee members coming along to our Branch Committee meetings at The Fox & Crown in Newark. Hopefully they too have been impressed by the quality and variety of subjects discussed and to see how many Committee Members regularly give up a Tuesday night to attend the meetings.

Apart from regular updates on the Annual School, the Branch Committee has discussed lead theft, the conduct of consultants, sourcing of Swithland slates, procedures for membership applications, IHBC recognised courses, the content of the Branch page of web site, the possibility of an East Midlands BPT, regional application of Listing criteria, the draft Heritage Protection Bill and granting of Planning Permission before Listed Building Consent is considered.

I would like to thank everybody who has attended our Branch meetings for their contribution. I would like to mention in particular Dave Boyson for his work as Membership Secretary for developing and improving membership issues, Rose Thompson (Treasurer) for making a much better job than I ever did of managing Branch finances and managing to get better sandwiches too at our Branch meetings!

Roy Lewis as Branch Representative always seems to make IHBC Council meetings sound interesting and Steve Bradwell our trusty Secretary, despite the pressure of both public and private sector, reliably churns out our Branch Minutes, agendas and today's AGM papers as well as keeping an eye on our web mail account ihbceastmidlands@tiscali.co.uk

Finally a special thanks to Rachel Booth. She probably has the furthest to travel to Newark and has done a great job as County Representative to help consolidate and strengthen links with colleagues in Northamptonshire.

Buxton 2009 Organising Committee

Not surprisingly work on organising the next IHBC Annual School at Buxton has had to take priority. There is still much to do but a number of key decisions have been made with hotel accommodation and other venues booked and our principal sponsor CgMs signed up and other sponsors already in the pipeline as I write. Perhaps most importantly the Buxton Annual School title has now been decided "Fit Past Future Perfect? – Conservation: a key to sustainable design".

Buxton got three plugs at this year's Annual School at Guildford. Firstly a flyer went in each delegate pack. I then had the misfortune to have to stand in front of nearly 200 delegates and ramble on about the Buxton School when the tray of the University laptop refused to open to allow our DVD presentation to be loaded and played! Finally the moment of glory when, having sorted the problem, the DVD was played and the East Midlands Branch claimed yet another first to follow the IHBC Yearbook and IHBC Schools Education pack with the IHBC's very first commercial.

If the applause at the end and comments made subsequently are representative then the DVD for the Annual School at Buxton was a great success. It even prompted interest from another sponsor! I am hoping the commercial for Buxton 2009 can go on the IHBC web site.

As with the Branch Committee I would like to thank everybody who has been involved with the Buxton Organising Committee to date and those who approached me at Guildford with offers of help. I have referred these to the Organising Committee Chair Allan Morrison from Derbyshire County Council.

Allan has been busy with various meetings and visits gaining inspiration for the Buxton School as well as chairing the Organising Committee meetings.

Special thanks also to Vice Chair of the Organising Committee, Richard Tuffrey from High Peak BC and Helen Charlesworth and Jo Brookes also from High Peak.

Chloe Oswald is doing a great job in securing sponsorship. I should also thank Fiona Newton who, on behalf of the IHBC National Office, has sorted accommodation venues, budgetary and other issues. Furthermore in her own time as an East Midlands

Branch volunteer she was responsible for both the flyer and stunning DVD for Guildford to promote Buxton with just a little help from me with the content and voice over's!.

Dave Boyson is developing the programme of speakers for Buxton and John Sewell & Becky Waddington transport and visits. Steve Bradwell (publicity), Rose Thompson (Treasurer) and Chris McKinney (secretary) complete the committee with Roy Lewis and many others too numerous to mention attending and coming up with ideas for all aspects of the Annual School.

We will need more help so if you have any ideas or are interested in helping to organise the Annual School please get in touch with Allan Morrison or myself.

So that's my perspective on 2007/08.

You, the Branch Membership, must decide how my year has been for you. I'm prepared to stand as Chair for another year, if you'll have me, by which time Buxton will be history and the Branch will have handed over to London Branch for the next Annual School.

ROBERT WALKER

Branch Secretary's Report

This is my second year as the Branch Secretary Chair and I would like to think that it has gone relatively smoothly – hopefully others will agree.

My main responsibility is to organise the agenda and produce the minutes for the Branch Committee meetings. These are circulated to your County Rep and in the future they will appear on the Branch page of the IHBC web-site. So it should be easy to see what is being discussed and to raise your issues or even better come along to one of the Branch meetings held at The Fox & Crown in Newark. These are quite sociable affairs and this year we have had a good attendance from both Committee Members and non-committee members. It's always good to meet people from other parts of the region and to share successes and to hear how they deal with the same problems that we all face.

The benefits of e-mail correspondence to circulate agendas and minutes and information to all Members has, I think, reduced the overall workload of the Secretary. However this relies on having up-to-date addresses and whilst we do try to keep track people as they move around through the County reps it's always useful if people tell us of a change of e-mail address.

One of the biggest jobs for me is to manage the general flow of information between our Tiscali site and the Branch members. Whilst I do try to keep on top of the new material that appears, by dipping into the site on a regular basis, this is not always possible, so apologies if at times you are bombarded with e-mails.

Over the past year the Branch has tried to steer a course set by its Business Plan and we seem to have achieved the modest goals and have kept on budget. As the Business Plan directs our activities it is useful if members read this carefully and if we are not doing what you want or expect then please speak up, either to the County Rep

or directly to one of the Committee Members.

Over the next year we are likely to be diverted from local Branch activities by the on-coming Annual School to be held in Buxton. So far a lot has been done but more work needs doing over the next year and whilst we do have an Organising Committee, the Annual School is a Branch responsibility and offers of help either leading up to the School or during the School itself will be gratefully received. All this will be done and dusted by the time of the Branch's next AGM and hopefully in the post-match analysis we will be able to report on a successful School.

STEVE BRADWELL

Branch Representative's Report

This is my second year as the East Midlands Branch Representative. The main duty is to attend meetings of IHBC Council and to act as a Trustee of the Institute.

Most meetings are held in London. I provide a summary of the proceedings at the next branch meeting and the notes are appended to the branch minutes. These are available from the branch secretary on request if anyone wants details or you can come to the meetings. Since last year's AGM, Council has met three times. Rob Walker attended the June meeting, as I was unavailable. The next meeting will be in Belfast on 25 September 08. A large amount of business is conducted at each Council, including reports from all the Institute's committees and branches. Arising from this, members should note the following:

Influence on Government and Professional Bodies

The Institute has invested considerable time and effort in its critical role of influencing new legislation and government policy and guidance relating to the historic environment. With regard to the *Heritage Protection Bill*, the Institute has led a collaborative response that includes the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI), the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA), the Planning Officers Society (POS), and the Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB). These bodies account for nearly 250,000 members, and include the great majority of the diverse practitioners that together shape, manage and enhance the historic environment.

The Institute's Consultations Co-ordinator has proved highly effective in providing pertinent and timely responses (to which all members have had the opportunity to contribute) to a welter of formal governmental consultations. Bob Kindred has been highly active in his government liaison role. During the year, David Lovie (as IHBC President) has chaired the Urban Design Alliance (UDAL).

Consequently, the Institute is now being afforded growing respect by government and other built environment professional bodies.

Development of the Institute

The year saw significant further progress in the transformation of the Institute from a voluntary body to a business-like organisation with a professional administration. A trading arm, *IHBC Enterprises Ltd*, has been established as has *Historic Environment Service Providers Recognition (HESPR)*, which acknowledges and promotes companies and consultancies that are run by/employ IHBC members.

The national organisation and the branches now carry out their activities in accordance with agreed business plans.

A membership drive during the course of the year has seen a significant increase in the total number of members. In order to further raise the Institute's profile, *Honorary Associate* member status has been conceived, to be conferred on a small number of people who are influential in the sector.

Member Services

Members should have noticed the considerable improvements that have been made to the IHBC website, the most recent of which is an interactive home page. The latter provides a regular news update on key issues for the sector, together with a facility for anyone to contribute updates that might be of interest. The job advertisements section of the website has become the first port-of-call for many people looking for a job in the conservation field.

The Institute's Annual School held in Guildford from 26-29 June 2008 was another great success. Next year, the Annual School will be held in Buxton and will be run by the East Midlands Branch. Arrangements for this are progressing well and have the full support of Council.

A professional indemnity insurance scheme is being developed.

I receive a constant flow of notifications of consultations from the super-efficient James Caird (Consultations Co-ordinator), most of which are forwarded electronically to members. These provide early warning of potential changes and give you the chance to shape the Institute's response. Apologies if these clog up your in-boxes – you can always delete them with a click of the button. If you want to contribute, please respond direct to James by e-mail. The finalised Institute responses are available on the website in the *resources* section.

ROY LEWIS

Membership Secretary's Report

This is my first annual report as membership secretary. At the time of writing, nine new members have joined the branch since the last AGM and there have been no resignations or losses.

The new members are Peter Chowns, Anthony Gimpel, Christopher Hodgson, Andrew Learman, Peter Smith, Jennifer Timothy, Karen Tomlinson, Claire Vincent and Thomas Woodcock

To establish a baseline for future reports, our current membership profile is as follows:

	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	% change over previous year
Total membership	144			
Work Sector:-				
Private	45			

Public/ Voluntary	80			
Retired	5			
Not specified	14			
Membership Type:-				
Full	112			
Associate	3			
Affiliate	29			
Work Address:-				
Derbyshire	31			
Leicestershire	20			
Lincolnshire	23			
Northamptonshire	16			
Nottinghamshire	18			
Rutland	3			
Other *	33			

As a branch we are actively trying to recruit new members and, if anyone knows of someone who should be a member of the Institute, please let the membership secretary know on ihbceastmidlands@tiscali.co.uk

* London; West Midlands; South Yorkshire; Colchester; West Yorkshire; Cambridgeshire; Edinburgh; Buckinghamshire 3; Warwickshire 1.

DAVID BOYSON

County Representatives' Reports

Northamptonshire

Northamptonshire's Conservation Officers forum has met several times this year.

In December, South Northants hosted a presentation of Northamptonshire's Environmental Character and Green Infrastructure Suite (<http://www.rnrpenvironmentalcharacter.org.uk/>). This is an integrated survey and analysis of the physical environment of Northamptonshire to help planners, developers and the community. It provides clear guidelines for each of the three major landscape components: historical, ecological and modern.

In March, at East Northamptonshire Council, members discussed key topics including the English Heritage principles and procedures for listing, and the quality of public realm 'improvements' in historic and designated areas. In April, colleagues attended an East Midlands Fire Service Regional Training Seminar on Fire Protection in Historic Buildings, held in Oundle. In June, a representative of the Northamptonshire Fire and

Rescue Service visited Daventry District Council to discuss how to improve communication and information sharing between fire officers and local authority heritage advisors.

Members have continued to discuss and comment upon a raft of new consultation documents, guidance notes and legislation – not least the draft Heritage Protection Bill. Also, reports of successful planning, listed building and enforcement appeals including: - requirement to remove unauthorised Welsh slate roof and reinstate Collyweston stone using new natural slates (Kettering); quality of shop signage and security on listed building (Daventry); and retention of unlisted historic buildings in designated conservation area (Daventry).

The lack of archaeological advice for planning applications in Northamptonshire remains a hot topic at both county and national level. The County Council still has no conservation officer staff and is without a county archaeologist or equivalent. A recent survey conducted through the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) and Association of Local Government Archaeology Officers shows a massive reduction in archaeological activity of all forms in the county as a result. English Heritage and the IFA are attempting to engage Chief Planning Officers in discussions in order to find a way forward.

In the meantime, historic environment provision at the County Council is being delivered via three service areas.

- Archives & Heritage Service: includes the HER Officer and HER Assistant, Heritage Assets Officer with responsibility for NCC historic assets and the Northamptonshire Portable Antiquities Scheme Finds Liaison Officer hosted by NCC on behalf of a local partnership of all Northamptonshire's councils. The service also includes the county Record Office and is headed by the service Head/County Archivist.
- County Archaeological Advisor (Planning Policy) in the Spatial, Environmental & Economic Planning Team. Provides advice on the county's own projects and major applications only.
- Northamptonshire Archaeology: NCC's archaeological contractors.

The County Council has appointed a historic environment champion at Cabinet level.

A recent positive development has been the inclusion within the authority's nine corporate priorities for 2008-09 of one to 'protect and promote the heritage of Northamptonshire'. Attention is also being focused on potential arrangements with colleagues at district level to meet and grasp opportunities presented by HPR. British Waterways' Heritage and Environment Manager (South East) has reported on a number of projects undertaken at Stoke Bruerne in Northamptonshire to improve understanding of the historic environment at this unique canalside village.

A Conservation Plan was commissioned on behalf of the Stoke Bruerne Canal Partnership and part funded by British Waterways, South Northants District Council and Northamptonshire Enterprise Ltd. The work was undertaken by the Conservation Studio. The Conservation Plan established a baseline audit of the historic environment of the parish, with a particular focus on the canal corridor which bisected the village in 1800. In addition to the usual Conservation Plan format, it identified a number of key

locations and improvement options for each. The Plan will also be used to inform the Village Investment Plan, in conjunction with a revised Interpretation Plan produced by Red Kite Environment Limited.

On completion of the Conservation Plan, just under £250,000 of funding was secured from Northamptonshire Enterprise Limited to undertake significant Public Realm Improvements including improved disabled access to the Grade II Listed museum building and resurfacing of the towing paths with delineation of the entrance to the infilled mill dock.

Elsewhere in the county, Wellingborough BC's Draft Town Centre Area Action Plan, as part of the LDF, is currently out for consultation. It will involve substantial remodelling, development and redevelopment of the town centre. The public and Members have insisted that all works are carried out having regard to the existing heritage/conservation value of the centre, both in terms of preservation of fabric and informing the design and layout of the new-build.

Not such a rosy picture in Kettering BC, where the new Town Centre plans for street works in the Market Square appear to be moving ahead without due regard to heritage issues. Something of a general trend for projects within the Northants growth area?

RACHEL BOOTH

Leicestershire

The Leicestershire Conservation Officers Group has continued to meet on a quarterly basis throughout 2007/08, at the following venues:

- September 2007 Ibstock Brick Company
- December 2007 United Reformed Church, Lutterworth
- March 2008 Heritage Centre, Bosworth Battlefield, Sutton Cheney
- June 2008 Griffin Inn, Swithland

At the September meeting, Dave Boyson stood down as County Representative and the baton was passed to James White. Peter Williams stood down as chairman of the group in March and Dave Boyson will fulfil this role for the next year. Elaine Caswell at the County Council continues to provide the group's administrative support.

Each meeting included an opportunity for CPD, including tours of the Ibstock Brick Company and an examination of the Lutterworth HERS. The group enjoyed the heritage centre at Bosworth Battlefield, taking lunch in a medieval tithe barn reassembled from Sandiacre in Derbyshire. See **www.bosworthbattlefield.com**.

Throughout the year, the group has discussed Swithland Slate, the alternative materials available and the opportunities to win a new source of this distinctive local material. Richard Jordan of the SPAB has been of great assistance to the group.

In April, Anthony Gimpel arranged a tour of Taylor's Bell Foundry in Loughborough for branch members. The recent passing of Dr Ray Ayres will be a sad loss to his profession.

JAMES WHITE

Nottinghamshire

No report received at the time of publication.

JASON MORDAN

Derbyshire

The Conservation Officers in Derbyshire Group (CODS) has continued to meet on a quarterly basis under the diligent stewardship of the Allan Morrison and Jo Brooks partnership.

The year's programme has focused on preparing for the changes proposed nationally, in particular within the Heritage Protection Bill, with sessions on the forthcoming Historic Environment Record and presentations from Kate Lockhart of the East Midlands Design Review Panel and Georgina Cass of the Environmental Studies Service based at Chesterfield.

A key feature of the year was the Heritage Summit for Derby and Derbyshire held in Bolsover in early June at which the historic environment sector, that is managers, professionals and voluntary workers working in conservation work, gathered to try to make sense of the changing national and regional frameworks to better take advantage of the available funding opportunities and avoid the potential to be sidelined from key decision making. Key speakers guiding the way were Barry Joyce MBE, Conservation and Design Manager from the County, Harry Hopkinson, Built Environment Team Leader from the City, as well as Anthony Streeten and Paul Bodenham from English Heritage.

Perhaps related to how these challenges will be met, I am pleased to write that staffing levels at the Derbyshire authorities have largely stayed healthy and in certain areas have actually increased, with the appointment of Helen Carrington to the Chesterfield THI post and Debby Yates and Jonathan Moore to temporary posts at Bolsover District Council to help deliver a step change in the preparation of conservation area appraisals and management plans.

However, on a less positive note, the Conservation Officer post at North-East Derbyshire has been deleted and the service is principally being delivered through consultant cover by Plann.IT two days a week.

One key staff change to mention is the moving on of Andy Myers, the County Development Control Archaeologist, to the Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit. We all wish Andy the best in his new job and welcome his replacement, Steve Baker, to the Derbyshire fold.

Grant Scheme, Project and Publication Updates

During the last year, key successes are the completion of the first year of a new Partnership Scheme in Conservation Area in High Peak which has covered the three towns of Buxton, Chapel en le Frith and New Mills. Also, the Glossopdale THI has in its first year had a strong emphasis on public realm improvements and will go on to restore Glossop's Victorian Market Hall and one of the main, but empty, mill complexes.

Other good news is that Derby City are also starting a PSiCA covering their City Centre Conservation Area and part of the Friar Gate Conservation Area, and that Derbyshire County Council has been successful in obtaining grant funding to develop a crafts training centre at the National Stone Centre, Wirksworth.

Alongside these grant schemes, progress is being achieved elsewhere at the Roundhouse Complex in Derby, which after buildings at risk work is expected to open in March 2009, and at the Buxton Crescent & Thermal Spa Project where the tricky matter of the legal paperwork has nearly been resolved with a start on site soon being hopeful.

A number of noteworthy publications have also arrived on the Derbyshire scene, with the Peak District National Park Authority Design Guide setting out comprehensive and compelling guidance on a wide range of development and conservation issues – a must for all conservation and planning professionals so spread the word. Also of note is Bolsover District Council's Historic Environment Scheme, which sets out a five year management programme of conservation work to hopefully both wet the appetite of the district's conservation area based communities but also to provide evidence of the level of staff resources needed to achieve a proactive conservation service. A key document in progress is a Tall Buildings Strategy for Derby City Centre.

The 2009 Buxton Annual School

The other main activity in Derbyshire is the continued planning of the IHBC Annual School for 2009 that will take place in Buxton on the 11th to the 13th June, with a focus on both the existing historic building stock and on new build in historic areas sustainability issues under the tagline of Fit Past, Future Perfect? – Conservation: a key to Sustainable Design.

Through the hard work of the organising team, the Buxton School is taking shape and those fortunate to have attended the Guildford School this year will have seen and heard some of what Buxton will have to offer, both through Rob Walker and Fiona Newton's excellent cinematic feature and also during the late night brainstorming sessions.

If you have any thoughts or suggestions for the School programme or would just like to find out a bit more by coming along to one of the planning meetings, there is still time (less than a year now!) so just drop me a line or have a word.

And finally...

It shouldn't come to pass without mentioning that Allan Morrison celebrated his 60th birthday during the last year. I know I write on behalf of all of those in Derbyshire when I thank him for his tireless and enthusiastic support and look forward to many more years (and photos) of this YOUNG MAN's Chairmanship of CODS.

CHRIS MCKINNEY

Lincolnshire

Conservation in Lincolnshire moves on with varying amounts of progress within the Districts with good and bad news in terms of resources. We will start with the bad news first. Rob is still struggling on, single handed at East Lindsey, without a budget for Historic Building Grants. Where his team was once three, it is now, seemingly on a

permanent basis, a team of only one. Rob does now have a Heritage Champion, Cllr Tony Bridges.

A conservation post was vacated at Boston Borough in December by Patricia Beaton for her homeland in Scotland. This post remains on hold due to the severe financial restraints at that Council. This leaves Boston Borough Council with no in-house conservation advice. Claire Edson also left the conservation team at West Lindsey for a new post at Newark and Sherwood District Council. Fran Bell is assisting in the meanwhile.

I am pleased to say that Bob Stewart now has a Conservation Assistant, Karen Tomlinson, who joined South Kesteven District Council in the spring. Karen's main task will be to produce conservation area appraisals. I am quietly hopeful that South Holland District Council may get a part-time conservation assistant in the near future.

The Lincolnshire Conservation Officers Group met in March at a day-long meeting hosted by Liz Bates of Heritage Trust of Lincolnshire (Heckington). A further special meeting was hosted by Dr. Beryl Lott in June at Lincolnshire County Council to consider requests for information that could be placed on the HER that would be useful to conservation officers. A further meeting is scheduled to meet in September hosted by Bob Stewart at South Kesteven. This meeting will be followed by the IHBC East Midlands AGM at Stoke Rochford Hall to look at the building following very serious fire damage in 2005.

There are various heritage led regeneration schemes around the county. Caistor THI is heading towards completion but very busy at the moment with 8 grants underway to be completed by September. South Holland District Council is operating a Partnership Schemes in Conservation Areas (PSICA) scheme in four market towns. Progress is steady, but a shortage of conservation accredited architects for the larger applications is proving difficult. Despite a fairly large grant scheme (£680,000), like many other Districts in Lincolnshire, there is no Historic Buildings Grant scheme for the South Holland District.

IHBC County representatives were also invited to meeting at Harlaxton Manor in March convened by English Heritage to consider listed buildings at risk and the work of Building Preservation Trusts in the East Midlands with a view to capacity building. English Heritage proposed that closer links with the AHF and APT would be beneficial for the region and will fund a study into this aspect.

ELIZABETH MAYLE

Other Reports [No reports received at the time of publication.]

ALGAO

Education

Derby City Conservation Area Advisory Committee

Leicester City Conservation Area Advisory Panel

Treasurer's Report 2007-8

This is my first report and hopefully not my last as Branch Treasurer. Following the AGM, details of the Branch's income & expenditure over the IHBC's financial year (1st October 2007 and 30th September 2008), will be submitted to Council. We also have to submit our Business Plan for approval. This will include an estimate of the Branch's income and expenditure for 2008/2009.

At the beginning of this financial year (1st October 2007), the bank balance of the East Midland's Branch of the IHBC stood at £691.21. (Current Account £267.63 and Reserve Account £423.58).

At the time of preparing this report (end July 2008), the Branch's bank balance stood at £915.20. (Current Account £830.17 and Reserve Account £85.03).

The most expenditure to date has been the cost of refreshments for the Branch meetings (£180.00). The other expenditure has related to the organising of the Buxton Summer School 2009. The expenditure to date includes £70.80 for refreshments and £27.00 travel expenses. The majority of the costs relating to the Summer School have been paid directly from the IHBC Head Office account. The printing and postage costs have been much reduced following the use of emails. No claim has been made to date for computer sundries.

A sum in the region of £330 will be spent on this year's AGM at Stoke Rochford, the costs of which will be paid out of this year's budget. I will hopefully have the final costs for this by the time of the AGM.

I will present an up to date balance at the AGM showing all the Branch transactions. I will also present a budget for 2008-2009 based on a draft Business Plan which the Branch can consider and amend if desired prior to its submission to Council.

I would also like to thank Rob Walker for his help over the last year.

ROSE THOMPSON

East Midlands Branch

Statement of accounts: 1st October 2007- 30th September 2008

Balance carried forward at 1st October 2007. (From Annual Accounts)

Current & Reserve Bank Accounts	£691.21	
Total Assets at 1st October 2007	£691.21 (a)	

INCOME	Original Estimate	Likely Income
Conference/Events	£0.00	£0.00
Other	£15.00	£13.45
Council Float	£500.00	£500.00
Expected Income 2007/2008	£513.45 (b)	

EXPENDITURE	Original Estimate	Likely Expenditure
Events/conference	£0.00	£0.00
Branch Committee expenses	£100.00	£54.80
Meetings (Branch, AGM 2008, etc)	£600.00	£460.00
Buxton 2009 start up costs	£300.00	(£180 Meetings £280 AGM) £97.80
Likely Expenditure 2007/2008	£612.60 (c)	

LIKELY BALANCE AT 30th SEPTEMBER 2008 (a+b-c) £592.06 (i)

East Midlands Branch

Budget For 1st October 2008 to 30th September 2009

ESTIMATED INCOME 2008/2009

IHBC Council Contribution	£500.00
Estimated Interest on Reserve Account	£15.00
Events/Conference	£0.00*

Total Estimated Income £515.00(ii)

ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE 2008/2009

Events/conference	£0.00*
Branch Committee expenses	£100.00
Meetings (Branch, AGM 2009 etc)	£600.00
Buxton 2009 costs	£300.00

Total Estimated Expenditure £1000.00(iii)

LIKELY BALANCE AT 30th SEPTEMBER 2009 (i+ii-iii) £ 107.06

*Assuming funds credited

NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION TO EAST MIDLANDS BRANCH COMMITTEE

I would like to nominate the following person for the post of

Name:.....

Post:.....
(Chair, Vice Chair, Branch Representative to Council, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, County Representative, Education Representative, or General Committee post)

Name of Nominee:.....

Address of Nominee:.....

.....
.....

Nominated by:.....

Seconded by:.....

I have approached the person nominated above who is prepared to stand for election.

Signature of Proposer:

Please send completed nomination form by 1st September 2008 to:

**Stephen Bradwell, IHBC East Midlands Branch Secretary,
29 Kingfisher Way, Loughborough, Leics. LE11 3NF**

**Papers prepared by
Stephen Bradwell,
IHBC East Midlands Branch Secretary
14 August 2008**

**Institute of Historic Building Conservation
Registered as a Charity No. 1061593
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Registered in England No. 3333780
Registered Office
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