

**FRIENDS OF NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ARCHIVES (FONA)**  
***established 2012***

[www.fona.org.uk](http://www.fona.org.uk)

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# NEWSLETTER

No.2

December 2012

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## CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM FONA!

The committee of the Friends of Nottinghamshire Archives would like to take this opportunity of wishing you all a happy and healthy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. Thank you for your continuing support. We look forward to seeing you at our events in 2013!

## PACKMEN AND CARRIERS: A TALK BY PROFESSOR DAVID HEY

(Saturday 22 September 2012)

Raffle Winner: Margaret Watt



Nineteen Friends welcomed David Hey to Nottinghamshire Archives on 22 September to hear a fascinating account of the pitfalls and pleasures of carrying goods in the early-modern age. Although there is substantial information available about the packmen and carriers of the period, it is dispersed amongst a variety of different types of sources, ranging from place names, markers and signs to artefacts and archives.

David took us on a fascinating journey through the language of early-modern transportation - for example, a 'Scotsman' was a dealer in linen and another name for a carrier was a 'Badger' (or corn dealer). A 'Jagger' carried heavier goods such as coal or lead, a 'Salter' carried salt from the Cheshire moors, over the Pennines to Matlock; many roads to this day are still called 'Salter Gate' or 'Salter Lane'. Goods were transported by wains pulled by oxen; carts; and wagons, which had been introduced from the Netherlands around 1564; there were also horse drawn sledges (or sleds as they were usually known). Animal power relied upon pack horses; there were also Galloways (small strong horses) and ponies. In spite of the variable quality of the roads, legislation restricted the weight of goods carried and the number of horses used. Horses could carry up to 240 lbs over a distance of thirty miles a day, using both major highways and the sometimes perilous packhorse routes. Farmers occupied a dual role in transporting their own goods, many such journeys consisting of taking goods to the local market. Choice-ware (silk, plate, hats) was carried from London and this took much longer (up to ten days, with a rest day on Sunday). Common carriers played a vital role in linking provincial towns and country carriers to market towns but it was the professional carriers who undertook the longer journeys to London. One notable example was John Naylor of Leeds who had 101 horses. Refreshment en route was provided at local inns which still evoke these connections – for example, *The Pack Horse* at Dovedale and *The Scotman's Pack* at Hathersage.

David also showed the gradual development of roads and bridges over time. The smaller roads and short cuts (often through woodland) were called holloways or side lanes and these became deeper and deeper, depending on the soil, over the years as more and more traffic travelled over them, making the sides of the lanes higher and higher. To counteract this deepening, during the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and early 19<sup>th</sup> century, some side lanes were delineated with flagstones and were known as causes. They were used by horse and foot traffic and could often be found near deep vehicle tracks. The majority of these side lanes were not made into highways. Bridges were needed to ford rivers and simpler slab bridges were made to cross moorland streams. Way markers (some of which still survive to this day) were also an important feature of the countryside during this period, guiding the weary traveller on his way. These provide a fascinating insight into the variant spelling of modern place names and another reminder of the way in which our modern conception of roads, highways and signposts have emerged.

*Report by Cherry Knight*

## MEMBERSHIP MAKES A GREAT NEW YEAR GIFT!



[WW1 Recruitment Poster from Brussels War Museum: amendments c/o Kevin Powell]

Please complete this form and return (with your cheque, payable to 'Friends of Nottinghamshire Archives') to The Treasurer, FONA, c/o Nottinghamshire Archives, Castle Meadow Road, Nottingham, NG2 1AG.

Name (s)	
Address	
Postcode	
Telephone No.	
Email address	

The subscription rates are: Individual (£10); Joint (£15); Family (£18); Junior (£5); Institutional (£25); Corporate (£50)



# MEMBERS TELL THEIR ARCHIVE STORIES

(Saturday 17 November 2012)

Raffle Winner: Jim Chettle



A group of fifteen Friends gathered at the Archives to tell their heritage stories in November. Here are a just a few of the many interesting revelations from the event...



## **SOMETHING BORROWED ... or “it wasn’t me, m’lud”**

Derek Walker brought along an item from a friend’s large family archive, which was an indenture for the sale of land in Eakring in August 1695 by the Bristowe family to William Mompesson. Mompesson was rector at Eakring but also a prebendary and Vicar General at Southwell; he was very powerful and thus had many enemies. Derek has

written Mompesson’s biography. William Mompesson married his second wife in Eakring but she had died a few months prior to this purchase. His first wife had died at Eyam, and Derek thought Mompesson might have used his late second wife’s money to make the purchase of the land in Eakring. The land was sold two to three years later, as money was needed to pay for Mompesson’s defence against a charge, in the Church Court at York, of adultery with a servant, which was a very serious crime. However, in 1699 Mompesson was acquitted. The big question is – was he innocent? Apparently, as he represented Southwell Minster in the York Convocation, he had the right to refuse to be charged with such an offence, but declined to shelter behind this privilege! However, the case left a cloud over Mompesson’s head...

## FROM HOUSES TO CHURCHES ... or you are never too old

Sheila brought along what seemed like two unconnected items. Her grandfather was an architect and she showed a booklet illustrating homes on an estate in West Byfleet that he had designed. When he gave up architecture at the age of 46, he moved the family to Brighton temporarily whilst he trained to become a priest. After being ordained, he worked in a London Parish before moving to Southwell diocese. The second item was a priest's licence in order that her grandfather could be admitted to the vicarage at Upton, his last parish. This came with a very impressive looking seal. Sheila's story revealed how two apparently unconnected items, through the life of her grandfather, actually related perfectly to one another.



## THE GHOST OF CHRISTMAS HINE ... or the Nottingham stalker

Ending the meeting on a festive note, Christine Drew brought along a very unusual, single-sided gothic style Christmas card designed and signed by T C Hine. This was one of the 180 that Hine sent in the festive period in the year 1896. Christine explained her fascination with T C Hine and also regaled us with stories of how her life had interacted repeatedly with the architect and his family as she moved from one career to another, and from one workplace to another, and from which there appeared to be no escape. Christine did admit that she was interested in T C Hine – not as a groupie, but in him as a family man!

## SHORT CUTS

### ON THE WEB\*\*\*\*\*

FONA is actively developing its web presence. With the expert assistance of Cathrin Wharton, we are hoping to launch a website soon. Friends may be interested to note that we already possess a domain name [www.fona.org.uk](http://www.fona.org.uk) (which currently links to the Nottinghamshire Archives website). We hope to launch a dedicated FONA site soon.

**IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BECOMING OUR WEB-MASTER**, we would love to hear from you. In the first instance, please e-mail our chairman [richard.gaunt@nottingham.ac.uk](mailto:richard.gaunt@nottingham.ac.uk) with an expression of interest.

### \*\*\*\*\*PRESENTATION TO NOTTS ARCHIVES

FONA has recently consulted the Archives on our first purchase and plans are in hand for a presentation – probably to take place at the Annual General Meeting on **Saturday 16 March 2013, 2pm at Nottinghamshire Archives.**

We are pleased to announce that the former County Archivist for Nottinghamshire, Adrian Henstock, will be our speaker at this event.



## OUR NEXT EVENT:

### HERITAGE MEETS THE FUTURE

*Saturday 26 January 2013, 2pm,  
Nottinghamshire Archives*

Jennifer Sissons - giving her prize-winning entry for the 2011 Nottinghamshire Local History Association competition 'On the Trail';

Ruth Imeson - Nottinghamshire Archives Gertrude Savile twitter diary;

Tim Warner - the Nottinghamshire Archives Community History website [www.ournottinghamshire.org.uk](http://www.ournottinghamshire.org.uk).

Refreshments will be provided and the cost of £5, payable at the door, will include a raffle ticket. Places are limited so early booking is advised. Please book by email to our Programme Secretary, Sheila Leeds, at: [smleeds@virginmedia.com](mailto:smleeds@virginmedia.com)