

In this issue

Meetings and Events

A Request for Assistance
pages 1 - 2

A Journey into local and family history by Peter Hammond

Peter's research into his 3x great grandfather, Edward Carver.

pages 3 - 5

The British Airways Calendar

Howard Parker recalls the role played by Thos. Forman & Sons in the production of this iconic calendar.

page 5 - 7

Nottingham in the Great War

A review of the recent talk given to FONA by Carol Lovejoy Edwards.
pages 8 - 9

Discovery of a lost Uncle - a postscript

Howard Parker's article in the last edition comes to a fitting end.
page 9

FONA helps the Archives with essential machine parts

page 10

Meetings and Events - a Request for Assistance



FONA and Nottinghamshire Archives are consulting about the sorts of events which people would like us to offer, at what times of day and on what subjects. A simple questionnaire was sent out, on behalf of the archives, with the last subscriptions reminder, but it would be useful if FONA members could e-mail me (chairman@fona.org.uk) with any thoughts on the following provocations, arising out of soundings taken by FONA committee member Christine Drew:-

'There does not seem to be a consensus about the preferred day and time of meetings and events.

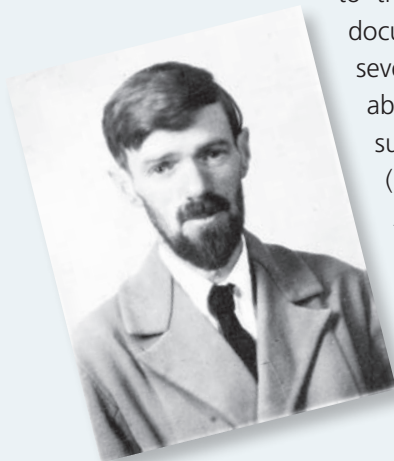
Older people seem to prefer daytime rather than evenings but realise this may not suit younger, working people.

There are lots of suggestions about topics and people of interest but few suggestions regarding potential speakers, beyond those who are already well known. The general feeling is that programmes have to be based mainly around the availability of speakers, so there is little point in indicating interest in a topic if you are unable also to suggest a speaker.

There is a perceived sense of overlap in the 'offer' made by groups such as FONA, the

Family History Society, the Friends of the Museums, local history societies, Nottingham Civic Society, Nottinghamshire Local History Association and the Thoroton Society. Does FONA in fact appear like a competitor? Should FONA and the Archives offer just one, integrated programme of events?

Should the Archives mainly aspire to events related to their own collections and documents? There have been several suggestions of talks about Notts literary figures such as D H Lawrence (1885-1930, inset) and Alan Sillitoe (1928-2010) - both more associated with the University of Nottingham - and Lord Byron (1788-1824) (many of whose papers are in the John Murray Archive, Library of Scotland). Should inter-repository agreement about the allocation of acquisitions also apply to events and talks?



The Archives proposed series of talks (for 2018/19) on individuals seems to have universal support in principle but an alternative proposal would be to have talks about categories of people, such as Nottinghamshire artists, politicians, philanthropists, sportsmen, writers, architects, etc. which might encourage more audience participation and contributions.

Significant, under-publicised figures, might include Agnes Mellers (d.1513), philanthropist and co-founder of Nottingham High School, or Henrietta Harley (nee Holles), born 1694 at Welbeck Abbey and died there 1755, Countess of Oxford, who inherited most of Marylebone including the areas now recognised by the names Oxford Street, Harley Street, Henrietta Street. Other subjects suggested include the Nottingham artist Dame Laura Knight (1877-1970, inset) and, amongst other artists, the Sandby brothers, Thomas (1721-1799) and Paul (1725-1809).



There is clearly an interest in textile industrialists such as Thomas Isaac Birkin (1831-1922), who donated Forest House to the Children's Hospital. His colourful descendants include Tim Birkin (racing driver), granddaughter Freda Dudley Ward (royal mistress), and Jane Birkin (actress).



Then there are the famous architects, including T C Hine (inset image The Adams Building), Arthur Brewill and Cecil Howitt, which are particularly likely to be popular as talks could be well-illustrated by building plans in the Archives and photographs of familiar buildings. We know that these are especially interesting to the Civic Society.

There remains a lot of curiosity about people who have given their names to local villages, roads, schools, including Robert Smith, the first Lord Carrington (1752-1836). Then there are the famous Notts people still living, including Ken Clarke, Paul Smith, Ed Balls, Torvill & Dean, Becky Adlington, Stella Rimmington, Carl Froch, Samantha Morton, Vicky McClure, and Sue Pollard. A whole host of thespians, actors, dramatists and musicians can claim Nottingham roots, training or association, including Peter Bowles and Sherry Hewson, Kenneth Alan Taylor, Judi Dench and John Neville.

Could we pull together an event which illustrates the range of uses of archives? Do we know an example of archive material being used in a legal case such as a boundary or right-of-way dispute? Do councils ever refer back to early minutes/decisions? Is this a possible subject for a joint event? – The National Archives (TNA) must have lots of examples!'

And on that very note...

FONA is planning a joint event with the Friends of the National Archives (FOTNA) during 2018-19. However,



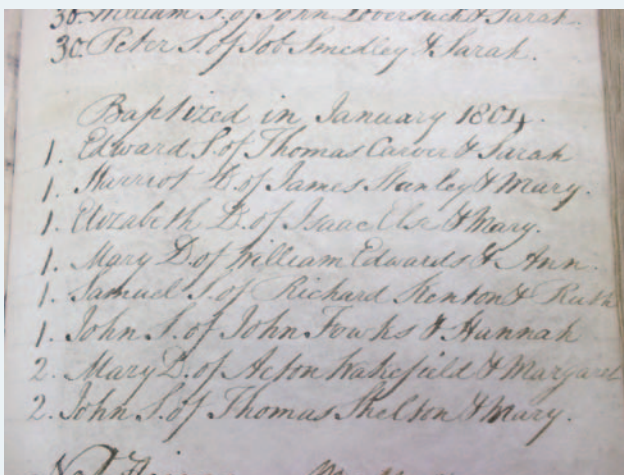
the focus of that event is still open to discussion. Our friends at FOTNA have suggested that we develop an agenda around something which links national records at the TNA with material held locally. This needs to

be interesting enough as a subject area to engage people and make them come, and be a topic or area of collecting which features somehow in the records held by both archives. Are there any themes or general areas of interest locally or specific record series that we are keen to highlight to users and local residents? Please send your suggestions to chairman@fona.org.uk, on all these issues, preferably no later than 26 January 2018.

Richard Gaunt

Edward Carver - A journey into local and family history by Peter Hammond

Other people's family history can often be uninteresting although as fellow researchers we can appreciate all the hard work and effort that goes into it. Although Edward Carver is Peter's direct ancestor, it is how his story can be put into context of the time and place using various archives that was the subject of this talk.



Baptism entry for New Year's Day 1804 (Nottingham St. Mary).

Edward Carver, born in 1803, was Peter's paternal 3x great grandfather. Edward was brought up in the Narrow Marsh area of Nottingham and Peter used a map from 1820 to show exactly where they lived.

Edward's father Thomas appears in the Watch and Ward records there, following the Luddite unrest.

At the age of 14 Edward was apprenticed as a hatter. Peter had obtained a genuine Victorian top hat which he proudly displayed, although sadly not one made by Edward. Edward's master was George Carey and his family were Wesleyan Methodists and so perhaps unsurprisingly Edward became involved as a Methodist Local Preacher. Circuit Plans still exist showing the dates and places allotted to the local preachers and Edward's name and address appears on these.

It was interesting to note the distances that these Preachers would have had to travel on a Sunday – on foot, in all weathers, and they had already been working during the week at their normal occupations.

In 1831 Edward managed to lease a new shop built on the site of an old inn called the Blackamoor's Head in Pelham Street. Peter was delighted to discover that an announcement was printed in all the Nottingham newspapers providing Peter with the exact date for the opening of Edward's new shop.

Parish registers again provide the next stage of Edward's story as he married a girl named Mary Ann Quinton from Wilford. Old paintings and maps show

just how rural this area was – literally across the meadows and then by ferry across to Wilford.

Edward remained a Wesleyan preacher and would no doubt have known his fellow preachers well, along with the Ministers. A later Circuit list shows a certain William Booth listed alongside Edward – the same William Booth who went on to start the Salvation Army!

Adverts continue to appear in the Nottingham newspapers regarding Edward's business and they often referred to him 'having just returned from



An advertisement for Edward's shop in 1853 from one of the instalments of Bailey's Annals of Nottinghamshire.



Advertisement from Wright's Directory 1864.

London' with the latest fashions. Nottingham's new railway station which opened in 1839 would have

greatly speeded up travel to and from the capital though initially the journey time was still eight hours! In the 1841 census Edward is shown with his wife and also some shop assistants.

During 1844 the land on which Edward's shop stood was put up for sale by the Duke of Newcastle. Edward managed to purchase his own shop and the original receipt still exists.

Edward and his wife had lost one daughter at the age of 6 months but later had another. His wife was so worried that they would also lose this child that when the child was ill she tragically collapsed and died. Due to this sudden and unexpected death an inquest was held, details of which duly appeared in the local papers.



Edward's daughter Julia in 1866..

Edward later married again, to a Helen Jalland, who despite her mature age of 45 gave birth to a son. Unfortunately Helen died in 1855 of acute bronchitis. Edward's son also passed away on the eve of his 9th birthday of peritonitis.

Edward married again in 1863 to a widow named Elizabeth Underwood, and Edward's surviving daughter Julia and her future husband were witnesses. In 1865 Edward relocated his living accommodation to Winchester Street in Sherwood while still maintaining

the business in Pelham Street. His daughter Julia married when she was 21 and she and her husband then moved to London.

Edward retired in 1869 but sadly passed away in 1870 just before he reached the age of 67 years. He is buried in the General Cemetery, where his gravestone still survives. A few weeks after Edward's death, Julia gave birth to a daughter, but sadly died of puerperal fever 11 days later. Peter noted that her husband registered the birth of his daughter and the death of his wife on the same day.

Julia's daughter never had children herself, and as both of Edward's other children had died very young then how come Edward is Peter's 3x great grandfather? Without giving too much away it all boils down to an affair Edward had with one of his servant girls!

Throughout this whole talk Peter spoke about the witnesses at events, the neighbours, other preachers, and many other people that Edward would have known well. Maps and drawings showed how places looked and how they changed even during Edward's lifetime.

Wider events within Nottingham and further afield also helped to place Edward in context. Peter showed how much could be gleaned and just how much is still out there waiting to be found...

Footnote:

Peter has discovered so much fascinating information concerning the story of his ancestor, and how he interacted with events and other people in Nottingham at the time, that he is writing a book all about it. Watch this space...

British Airways Calendar

The British Airways (BA) calendar was printed by Thos. Forman & Sons Limited from 1977 to 1992, a total of 16 years. It was the largest print run for a bespoke (or custom) calendar Formans produced, with well over 100,000 copies every year. There were two versions, a standard version that was delivered in bulk to BA for internal distribution and an agents version. The agents version had an extended backboard which was overprinted for travel agents in this country and all over the world. It was a very large calendar, the overall size being 61mm deep (24") by 47mm wide (18½"), and consisted of a cover leaf, introduction page, 12 calendar leaves and a backboard.

BA employed the top design agents and photographers and often the pictures were shot on various BA locations. This alone



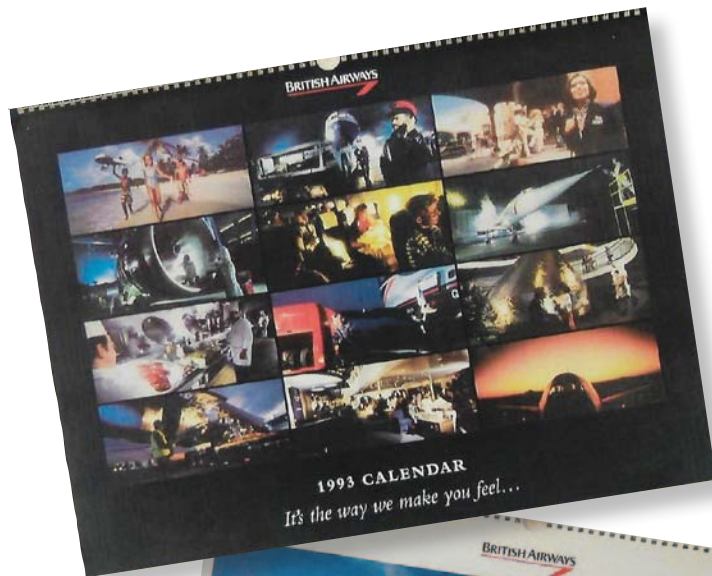
could cost BA in the region of £80,000 - that was before Formans undertook reproduction and printing.

Following approval of the colour proofs, BA visited Formans to pass the colour work on machine. Over the years Formans dealt with many different people at BA, firstly Roy Smart, then Bill Jones and finally Keith Porter. Bill in particular was a character - he would go out at lunchtime, drink 4 or 5 pints of beer and still return to his office to work. *(How he did it I will never know!)*

The 1989 edition 'Flying High' illustrated the famous 'Concorde' aircraft. The 1991 edition 'The Art of Flying' illustrated the various aircraft in the BA fleet. The 1993 edition contained shots from BA locations and this was a landscape version but with the same overall size.

Formans received orders directly from travel agents together with payment and were responsible for ensuring they had paid the correct amount, keeping records and forwarding cheques or bank drafts to BA. There were frequent problems to sort out regarding their overprints, and after typesetting, Formans were solely responsible for proof reading and therefore proofs were not sent out to agents.

The calendars were despatched directly to the agents, including those overseas and as the time approached nearer to Christmas, agents would ring up to chase their delivery which involved many hours in the factory trying to locate individual orders which were piled up on bases of overprinted backboards in the calendar room.



At the time when Formans obtained the first order for the BA calendar in 1977, they were one of a group of companies in the Mardon International Packaging (MIP) group, who were jointly owned by Imperial Tobacco and British American Tobacco companies. In 1980 British American Tobacco Company became the sole owners. In 1984 Mardons sold out to Robert Maxwell's British Printing & Communications Corporation Plc (BPCC).

By 1987, the business had been consolidated into two operating divisions: Security Printing; and Labels/Calendars. These two operations did not fully integrate with other Maxwell companies and early in 1989, following a management buyout, BPCC fully implemented its strategy of specialisation. As a result the Calendar Division was renamed 'BPCC Forman Promotions' and in July 1990 moved to new premises at Glaisdale Parkway, Bilborough.

The reproduction and printing of the colour work for the 1991 BA calendar was carried out by Formans at Hucknall Road. Following the move, the administration, overprinting of agents backboards, make-up of the calendar and despatch were all undertaken at the new premises at Glaisdale Parkway.

Then in 1992, 'BPCC Forman Promotions' was sold to Lockwoods, who were a division of Kenrick & Jefferson in West Bromwich. Lockwoods 'farmed' out most of their colour work to local printers in the area, but the 1993 BA calendar was printed by Formans at Hucknall Road. The administration, overprinting and make-up was all undertaken at



Binding calendars at Glaisdale Parkway in 1990.

Lockwoods in West Bromwich. Lockwoods finishing department was contained in a series of rather antiquated single story out buildings in the yard behind the main building.

Lockwoods continued to produce the BA calendar for the next two years, the 1994 and 1995 calendars. In April 1995 Lockwoods sold out to Bemrose of Derby and during this period Howitts of Nottingham obtained the order and produced the 1996 BA calendar.

Howitts had been trying to win the order from Formans for a number of years. On this occasion BA had the colour work produced themselves in London which they supplied to Howitts in printed sheets. The typesetting and overprinting of the backboards was produced as outwork by Hickling & Squires and the wire-o-binding was undertaken by Crawfords in Newcastle. In fact Howitts were not really involved in the actual production.

The following year, 1997, Bemrose acquired the order and continued to produce the BA calendar up to the 2001 edition. However when 9/11 occurred in 2001 the BA calendar was cancelled part way through its production and

therefore the 2002 calendar did not appear. It has not been produced since except for a special Concorde calendar for 2004.

One particular year when Bemrose produced the BA calendar, it made news headlines. The calendar contained shots of a gorgeous tropical island and after it had gone all the way through publication and distribution, the location turned out to be Richard Brandon's Necker Island. The Press had a field day with this!

During the time Formans produced the BA calendar, the company won several awards for both printing and the material used for the colour work.

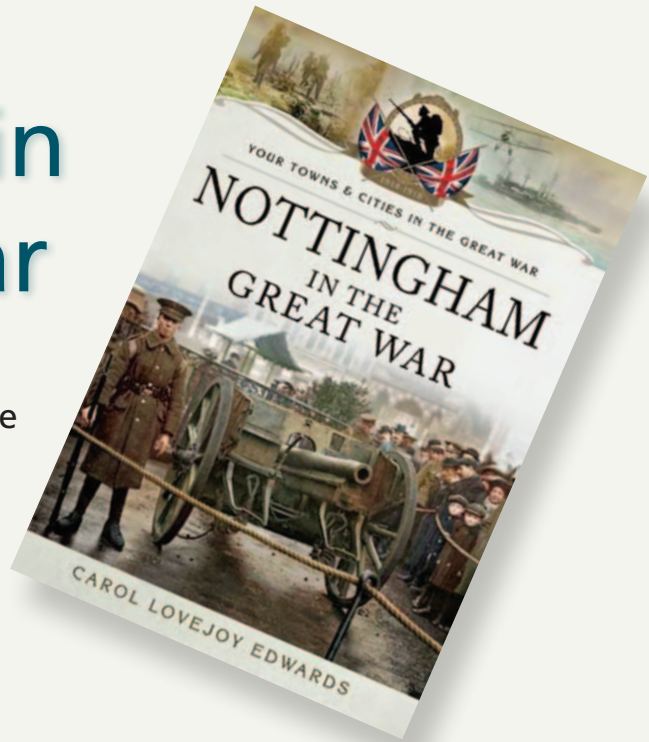
So this was the end of the BA calendar and its long association with Formans and subsequently with Lockwoods, Howitts and finally Bemrose.

Howard Parker

Authors note: I dealt with the administration of the calendar at Formans for 14 years, the last 6 months working at Lockwoods in West Bromwich. In 1995 when Howitts of Nottingham were successful in obtaining the order, I worked for them at Strelley Hall dealing with the administration for the 1996 calendar.

Nottingham in the Great War

Nottingham in the Great War is an illustrated talk which accompanies the book of the same name. Nottingham in the Great War looks at the effect the war had on the people of our great city and how they survived this terrible time.



Carol begins the talk by giving a background of the conditions prevailing at the time. Housing was in short supply, and that which was available was of poor quality. Sanitation was also an issue making diseases of the day difficult to deal with and almost impossible to prevent. Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever, amongst others, tested the inhabitants of Nottingham throughout the period leading up to the outbreak of war.

Initial reactions to the war were varied. Men signed up, banks

closed for a few days fearing a rush on their funds, and women bought whatever foodstuffs they could. The General Post Office placed an advert in the local paper stating that they could not be held responsible for late letters and parcels as the government had commandeered the trains for the movement of troops and war supplies.



In June 1914, in the midst of newspaper stories of the troubles in Ireland and increasing pressure, the King and Queen visited Nottingham and Mansfield as part of their royal tour. .

Very quickly there was a shortage of food and, with no rationing yet in place, the wealthier families secured a large proportion of the supply available. With many of the men having signed up there was difficulty in harvesting the crops.

Women soon stepped up to offer help and training centres were set up at Colston Bassett and Welbeck, with the women soon learning basic farm chores.

Women also helped by taking up jobs that were previously held by men in many different trades. They became tram conductresses; taxi drivers; they worked in factories making uniforms and other supplies for the army; and also in munitions factories to keep the army supplied with shells. An explosion in one of Nottingham's two shell factories on 1 July 1918 killed 134 people. Some of them were only identified by their absence from work

Recruitment was continuously on the minds of the government for the whole of the period. Although many men rushed to join up there were campaigns and speeches at every possible opportunity. The Forest area was used for speeches and rallying calls as was the Market Square. In cinemas short films and speeches were presented before the main film and also in the interval. The tone changed

from encouragement to guilt with posters like this being seen all over the city. More and yet more men were needed and under the Military Service Act 1916 every man between the ages of 18 and 41 were automatically enrolled into the Armed Forces in March 1916.



If you did not want to go to war you could make an application to the Appeals Tribunal, manned by local magistrates. Applicants were rarely successful and were immediately taken away by the army!



Newgate Street nr. Arkwright Street Nottingham

The Great War was the first time that war had come to our doorstep. Previous wars were far from home, like the Boer War and the Crimean War. In 1916 Nottingham suffered two Zeppelin Raids, the second resulting in the destruction of two houses and the death of two people.

garden, to forgery of the new £1 note and the tragic story of the cuckolded soldier. Never a dull moment in Nottingham!

The Great War was thought to be the war to end all wars. It was the War that changed everything.

The criminal fraternity in Nottingham also kept the Police Courts busy. From petty theft, with the woman who stole vegetables and then got herself caught in the barbed wire in a policeman's

Discovery of a lost uncle - a postscript

In the last edition of the newsletter, Howard Parker recalled his discovery of his long-lost uncle, Harold Parker, who died aged 26 on 28th December 1919 as a result of the First World War. His story comes to a fitting end with the installation of a headstone by the Commonwealth War Graves Commission in Nottingham Church (Rock) Cemetery on 10th October 2017.



The inscription reads:

**53284 PRIVATE
H. PARKER
MACHINE GUN CORPS
28th DECEMBER 1919
AGE 26**

**GREATER LOVE HATH
NO MAN THAN THIS
THAT HE LAY DOWN HIS
LIFE FOR HIS FRIENDS**

FONA helps the Archives with essential machine parts

FONA has helped the archives to acquire essential parts for the PraGnant Gold Blocking Machine (see the spring in the centre of the image [fig 1]).

The PraGnant machine is a foil blocking press specifically designed for the needs of craft bookbinders and library binders. The type holders are self-centring and, by means of a quick-acting clamp, they allow an extremely easy and quick change of single type or complete lines. This qualifies the PraGnant to be used wherever "one-off" titles are to be blocked.

The second image (fig 2) shows an example of the work produced by the machine.



fig 1

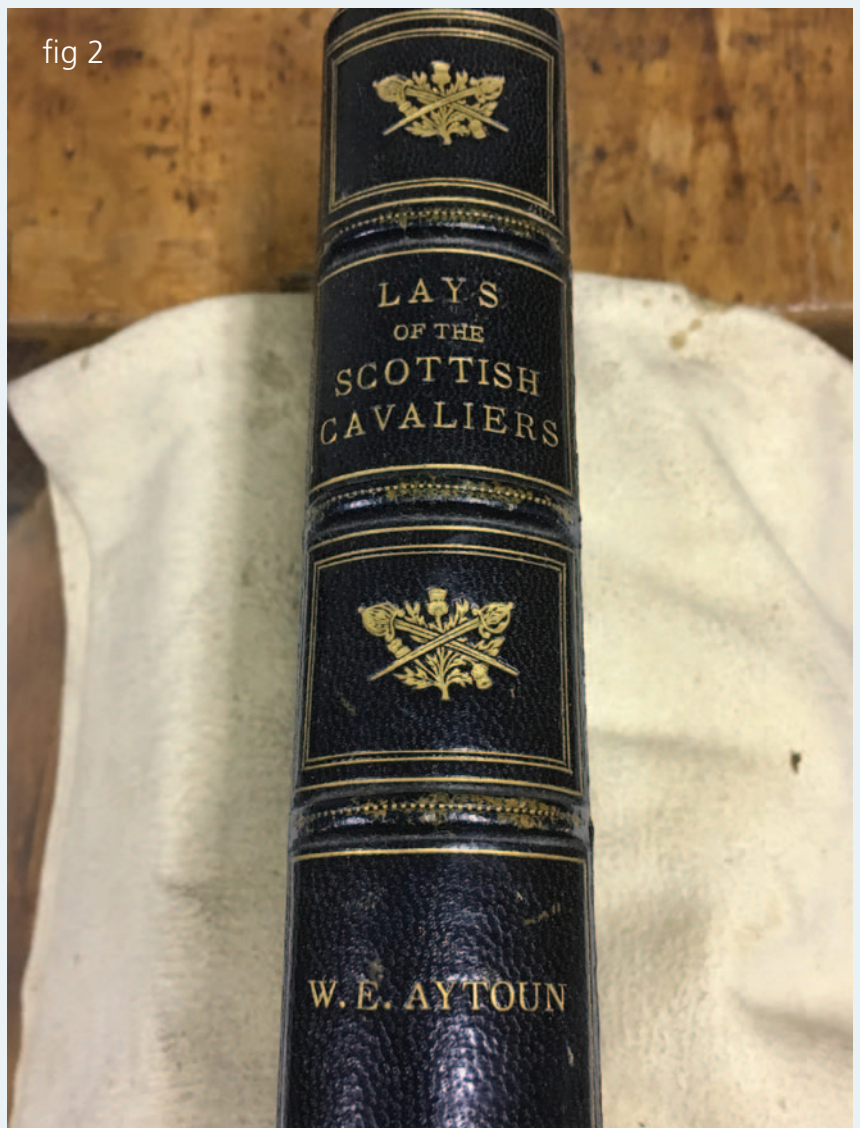


fig 2

Forthcoming Events

Admission to non-FONA members £4.00 including refreshments. Places may be booked at the Archives with payment by non-members on the day.

11.00am, Saturday 20 January 2018 at the Nottinghamshire Archives

This presentation by Edward Hammond discusses the extent of the impact of the Napoleonic Wars on domestic life in Nottinghamshire during the early 19th century, with a special focus on the Luddites, the Pentrich Revolution and the debate around economic and political motives at the time. Also get a chance to view and handle parts of a Napoleonic French infantryman's uniform.



FONA Annual General Meeting

Saturday, 17 March 2018 at the
Nottinghamshire Archives
11.00am - 1.00pm

Acknowledgement: The author of the image 'Exterior of the Adams Building' shown on page 2 is VASA 1628, Wikimedia Commons.



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If you would like to contribute articles to the FONA Newsletter please contact Richard Gaunt, Chairman.

chairman@fona.org.uk