

**THE
JOURNAL
OF THE
WILKINSON
SOCIETY**

No. **6**

1978

PRICE 30p

THE JOURNAL OF THE WILKINSON SOCIETY

No. 6 : 1978

C O N T E N T S

	Page No.
The Wilkinson Society	1
Notes and News	1
The Severn in South Shropshire :	
Part 2 - Navigation, by Ralph Pee	4
The Old Vicarage, Benthall :	
Archaeological Report, by John Sandon	9
Correspondence	20
The Ironbridge Bicentenary	20
Boat-building and the Chepstow Registers, by Richard Barker	21
A graveyard of barges ?	22

THE WILKINSON SOCIETY

The Society was formed in 1972 to meet the demand for an organisation to preserve the material and documentary evidence of Broseley's industrial past. Since an important part in this industrial past was played by John Wilkinson, who lived for a time at "The Lawns", it was decided that the organisation should be known as The Wilkinson Society.

The aims of the Society are :-

- (i) to act as custodian of any relevant material and information and to make such material and information available to interested individuals and organisations ;
- (ii) to promote any relevant preservation activity and to assist individuals or organisations in such activity where deemed appropriate ;
- (iii) to provide a link with the community of Broseley for individuals or organisations undertaking local historical research.

Any available material will be added to the existing collection of Broseley and Wilkinson relics at "The Lawns", Church Street, Broseley. This collection is open to the public on Saturdays and Sundays between Easter and September, from 2 p.m. until 6 p.m., or at other times by appointment.

Administration of the Society is by an annually elected committee. Membership is open to anyone interested in the Society's aims and activities. These activities include illustrated lectures, social evenings, researching and exhibiting the collection, field trips and coach tours. Members are kept informed by newsletters, and this annual Journal presents articles on the history of the Broseley area, John Wilkinson, and industrial archaeology in general.

----- oooOooo -----

NOTES AND NEWS

The Year's Activities

The first meeting of the 1977 - 78 season was held at "The Lawns" on 14th October, 1977. Mr. Dennis Roberts spoke on "The Ceramic Industry in the Severn Gorge, 1750 - 1820", concentrating on little-known aspects of Jackfield and Caughley products, and the personalities of Messrs. Turner, Gallimore and Rose.

The fifth Annual General Meeting was held at "The Lawns" on 11th November. The Chairman reported that the museum debts had been cleared and that the Society had been very active during the period leading up to the auction sale of the New Willey buildings.

Officers and Committee for the year 1977 - 78 were then elected as follows :-

Chairman	-	N. J. Clarke
Secretary	-	M. Hawes
Treasurer	-	C. Whall
Curator	-	R. Pee
Assistant Curator	-	A. Mugridge
Committee	-	C. Pointon, J. Cragg, Mrs. S. Perfect, Mrs. A. Morton