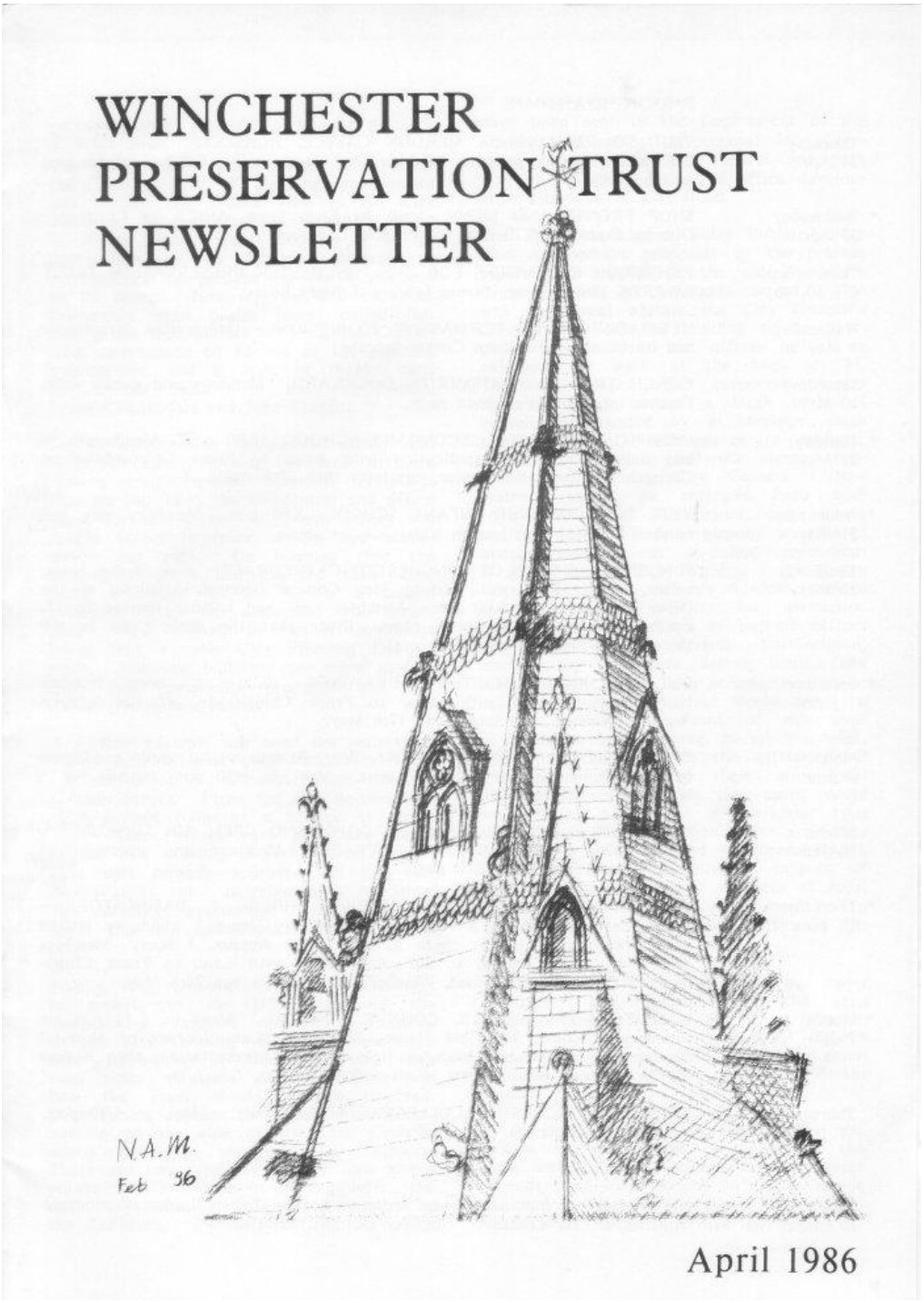
Title Picture - TrustNews April 1986



Drawing of Church Spire by Nick McPherson.

Nick is making a magnificent recovery from the very severe injuries he sustained in a road accident last May

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Development Control Committee - TrustNews April 1986

The Committee's principal task is to study the weekly lists of planning applications and present the Trust's view to the City Council. We criticise a proposal, often in strong terms, either because it is inappropriate to its intended purpose or surroundings, or perhaps for the inadequacy of its design. However, we also comment favourably when praise seems called for. During the last quarter of 1985, the Committee commented on 83 out of 130 planning applications, and a word of thanks must go to the Leaders of the two Panels, Frank Chippindale and John Kingdon.

Major development proposals within the City will usually involve the Trust in more than a straightforward comment. A recent example has been the residential and office plans for the corner of Chesil Street and Bridge Street in front of the new multistorey car park. On learning that the developers' plans had changed since first being presented to the Trust, a second presentation by the architects was arranged. This resulted in further comments being sent to the City Planning Department. The new buildings are more modest than those originally proposed and will include retirement homes. A further example has been the retirement homes scheme now under construction at the corner of St. Thomas Street and St. Swithun Street. Plans for this development were revised following a change of architect. There were fears that the height of the new building might now be greater than that already approved, to the embarrassment of neighbouring residents. The Commitee approached the City Council about this and discussions are still continuing.

Finally, the Committee takes an interest in appeals to the Department of the Environment against planning decisions by the City Council. Recently these have been increasing in frequency, and each case poses questions as to whether and how the Trust should become involved. Most recent appeals have led to our intervention on the side of the City Council, which generally welcomes our support. There are two types of appeal: one where points may be made in writing only; the other type leading to a Public Inquiry at the Guildhall. Recently written comments have been sent to the Department of the Environment against a proposal for advertising hoardings on the central car park wall of the Bingo Hall, and office development plans for 16 City Road.

The Trust attended a 3-day Public Inquiry into development proposals by the present supermarket owners of the old Hampshire Club premises in Southgate Street. This was an appeal against the City Council's refusal to allow the building to be completely re-vamped as offices with an enlarged car park at the back on St. Thomas Passage. The corporate owners imported from London a large team of consultants, headed by a barrister, with no knowledge of Winchester or its problems, which proceeded to tell our elected representatives - the City Council - how matters should be arranged here with regard to office development, car parking and so forth. Their argument was based almost entirely on so-called precedent: if a single noteworthy building - the Crown Hotel was cited endlessly - was replaced in the past by offices, then permission for the Hampshire Club to become offices now could not be refused. Furthermore, since many Southgate Street houses had already been turned into offices, no similar application in that street could ever be refused. The implications of this type of argument are alarming, to say the least, since it removes from the citizenry all prospect of managing their own local affairs. No longer, on this basis, could we decide to attract a particular type of business into winchester - and

then call a halt when we had attracted enough. The Trust spoke forcibly in support of the City Council and of numbers of local residents who had objected especially to the prospect of increased traffic in St. Thomas Passage.

We have since learnt that two other major Inquiries; one dealing with the area between Staple Gardens and Tower Street; the other concerning the United Church in Jewry Street, are being held over pending the outcome of the Southgate Street Inquiry.

It is clear to this Committee that the success of our efforts on behalf of the Trust and all other residents of Winchester depends to a large extent on the existence of good relations with the City Council, which must be prepared to listen to our comments and take them into account. Happily, this relationship is at present good - and improving. We are grateful to the Director of Planning and all his staff for their constant advice and help.

Finally, the Development Control Committee will be delighted to hear at any time from any Trust member who may have questions or suggestions concerning planning applications in Winchester.

George Burnett

Subscription Renewals - TrustNews April 1986

Annual subscriptions are due on 1st May, although those who joined the Trust from Christmas on are not expected to pay again this May.

Despite inflation, the rates have not been increased. They are single £3; family/household (2 adults plus any children under 21) £4; and corporate £8. Members may give more if they wish, and we are grateful to those who do so.

Your cheque should be made payable to Winchester Preservation Trust and sent to our Membership Secretary, Mrs. Julie Macpherson, The Old Rectory, Easton, Winchester, or left for her at the Heritage Centre. Subscriptions are not normally acknowledged.

If you would like to change to Banker's Order, forms may be obtained from the Heritage Centre from 7th May. All queries should go to Julie Macpherson (Tel. 78-205).

Julie is grateful to those members who regularly send their subscriptions without waiting for individual reminders. It does save a lot of work and postage.

Data Protection Act - TrustNews April 1986

The Act requires us to tell members what information about them we are holding on computer and provide an opportunity for objection.

Members' names and addresses, area codes and subscription information are currently held on computer. We are considering removing the subscription information and transferring it to a card index, but this is not yet certain. Having the other information on computer saves a great deal of time and effort, especially in the production of address labels.

The Trust will respond to any objection from a member by removing his or her data from the computer and transferring it to a card.

Landscape Committee - TrustNews April 1986

The Committee has been considering where in Winchester there is a need for new trees. They would be interested in hearing where Trust Members would plant. With the donation from the Richmond Society, for a tree, we hope it may be possible to plant one in a redesigned pavement area outside the Britannia Building Society in Jewry Street, or by Princes Buildings in Middle Brook Street. City Road needs trees in the wide pavement near the Benefit Office, but we are advised that buildings there are to be extensively refurbished (involving scaffolding, etc.)

The North Walls Park and Nuns' Walk areas are also possible locations for new trees. The City Council would welcome gifts of bulbs to plant there. Some crocus have already been donated by a Trust Member. Crocus, small-type narcissus, snowdrops and aconites would all be suitable. If you could contribute, please get in touch with Terry Ford-Stent at the City Offices, Tel. Win. 68166 Extension 2211.

Winchester has very little sculpture. It would be pleasant to see some in the Park area, even if it were only a group of concrete play animals, such as hippos, which are so appealing to children. What do members think?

Penny Neyroud

Situations Vacant! - TrustNews April 1986

Coordinator of publicity and relations with the press for all Trust activities. Time and interest more important than experience. Must be keen "wordsmith".

People willing to provide administrative and/or secretarial back-up for committees or special projects. Not too arduous. For further information ring the Secretary, Gill Graham (Win. 713072).

Winchester Area Local Plan - TrustNews April 1986

We understand that the Inquiry Inspector's Report has been delivered to the City Council.

City Council's Design Awards-Panel of Judges - TrustNews April 1986

The City Council has invited the Trust to nominate a lay representative to be one of a panel of five judges. The other four are members of the design or building professions, and as they are all men, we thought it would be appropriate to nominate a woman.

We are pleased to report that Mrs. Angela Stansfield Smith has agreed to be the Trust's nominee.

Urban Studies Committee - TrustNews April 1986

Under the active and imaginative chairmanship of Frank Chippindale, this relatively new Committee is generating a lot of activity (see the starred items in our current programme). It is also liaising closely with Richard Baker, who is coordinating the City Council's "Time for Design" initiative.

The lunchtime talks, which started last year in the Heritage Centre, were so popular that space became a problem. And so they moved to the Guildhall in January. (Of course, events which can be held in the Heritage Centre will be held there).

Members of the Committee are working on two publications: "The Brooks Town Trail for Children" and a new booklet about the High Street entitled "From Cathedral to Castle". It is planned to launch both on 8th May, during Environment Week (see environment week article).

Environment Week (3 - 11 May) - TrustNews April 1986

Environment Week is a nationwide annual event (now in its second year) organised by the Civic Trust. Its purpose is to raise the profile of the local amenity movement.

Our "promotions" are the two publications mentioned above, an exhibition in the Library of WPT Award Scheme entries, publicity for a Students' Measured Drawing Prize, a coach trip (for members and guests) to Portsmouth Dockyard, promotion of a Flint Wall Maintenance Project, and the opening of the main Heritage Centre Exhibition.

Heritage Centre News - TrustNews April 1986

The most exciting news is that the main Heritage Centre Exhibition is about to become a reality and will open to the public at 12 noon on Wednesday, 7th May. (In fact, it will be formally opened by Lord Briggs of Lewes (Professor Asa Briggs) at a VIP reception on 3rd May, and we are planning previews for Voluntary Duty Officers, interested City Guides, etc.)

During its developmental stages, the display has been referred to colloquially as "The Carnegie Exhibition" (because a grant from the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust is covering much of the cost). We are now seeking a snappier (and more intelligible!) name, without necessarily having to rely on Bath's "Experience" or follow York's "Story".

Opening hours from 7th May will be:

Wednesdays 12.00 - 4.00
Thursdays 10.30 - 12.30
Thursdays 2.00 - 4.00
Fridays 10.30 - 12.30
Fridays 2.00 - 4.00
Saturdays 10.30 - 12.30
Saturdays 2.00 - 4.00
Sundays 2.00 - 4.00
(Closed on Mondays and Tuesdays)

Railway Exhibition

This ran from 30th October to. 5th January and attracted some 900 visitors. Two associated talks both had audiences of 70-odd.

The exhibition was visited by a group of some 50 Councillors and Local Government Officers from all over the County, prior to a meeting with British Rail's Environmental Unit at which improvements at Hampshire's railway stations were discussed.

Book Sale

The Book Sale on 4th January was a great success, raising over £200 for the Heritage Centre.

The fund-raising value of books and records was demonstrated yet again, and we ask members to turn out any that they no longer want.

Exhibition of Victorian Costume and Items of Working Life

This fascinating display (January 16th through February) formed the basis of a Schools Project organised by the Mid-Hants. Teachers' Centre. The exhibition was mounted by a Trust member, Mrs. Eileen Berry, using items from her extensive collection.

The exhibition was seen by at least a dozen school parties, and the three public days attracted 192 visitors.

Improvements Upstairs

Some rearrangements have now made far better use of the available space. A proper stock-room has been established (complete with built-in shelving on which books can be sorted and stored); part of the kitchen area has been screened-off to provide additional display space; and the room over the shop is being transformed into a "Resource Room" for members.

Heritage Interpretation Conference

On 20th and 21st June a conference organised by the Royal Town Planning Institute's Southern Branch and the Society for the Interpretation of Britain's Heritage will take place in Winchester. Included in the programme are visits to the Cathedral, the Barracks, the Domesday Exhibition, the City Museum and the Heritage Centre.

Advertisments and the Law - TrustNews April 1986

This is the title of a leaflet recently published by the City Planning Department and produced in cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce.

It summarises the draft signs and shop fronts policy which the City developed in 1976, and includes illustrations of some good examples. It also illustrates a particularly bad one - the garish window stickers which "scream" at passers-by from the inelegant front of International Stores.

Southern Comfort - TrustNews April 1986

"Southern Comfort" is the pseudonym for the informal periodic meetings of local amenity societies, of which three have taken place to date. The first, in 1983, was organised by The Chichester Society. At the second, in 1984, we were the hosts and the meeting took place in the Heritage Centre. The Portsmouth Society acted as hosts at the latest meeting, which took place on 22nd February.

The following societies were represented (approximate membership in brackets):
Bishop's Waltham Society (100)
Bosmere Hundred Society - covering Emworth, Havant Hayling Island and Waterlooville (200)
The Chichester Society (1,904)
Fareham Society (560)
Friends of Lewes (498)
Odiham Society (400)
The Portchester Society (150)
The Portsmouth Society (160)
Romsey & District Society (800)
Winchester Preservation Trust (772)
Hampshire Branch of The Victorian Society (250)

Thus, the combined membership of the groups represented was approaching 6,000. The South Wessex Area Representative of NADFAS (National Association of Decorative and Fine Arts Societies) was also present.

Views were exchanged on a variety of subjects of common interest or concern, one of the most worrying being the Government's proposals for legislative changes that would weaken the planning system (the White Paper "Lifting the Burden").

Romsey's vulnerable position, just a few fields away from North Baddesley, was graphically described and illustrated with aerial photographs. The Romsey & District Society is classifying all the pieces of land around the town in its campaign to retain Romsey's identity. Delegates felt strongly that gaps between settlements should be upheld and that land should be looked upon as a national asset.

The societies felt that they should play a greater part in determining the policy of their national body, the Civic Trust, perhaps through regional and national representation. They agreed that they should be prepared to pay an annual subscription.

As regards membership, having a financial stake in a place seemed to be the deciding factor in joining an amenity society. Young people prefer active involvement in projects. However, they are very concerned about conservation issues; and the importance of high standards in architecture and planning needs to be put across to them, as well as the case for reducing pollution and saving resources.

The link between environment and crime, being ever alert to the overwhelming demands of motor traffic, and the societies' important educational role, were all stressed as current concerns. The next conference will take place in Romsey.

The Hampshire & Isle of Wight Naturalists' Trust - TrustNews April 1986

The Hampshire & Isle of Wight Naturalists' Trust is mounting two exhibitions upstairs in the Heritage Centre between 14th May and 8th June: Wildlife Heritage (a pictorial

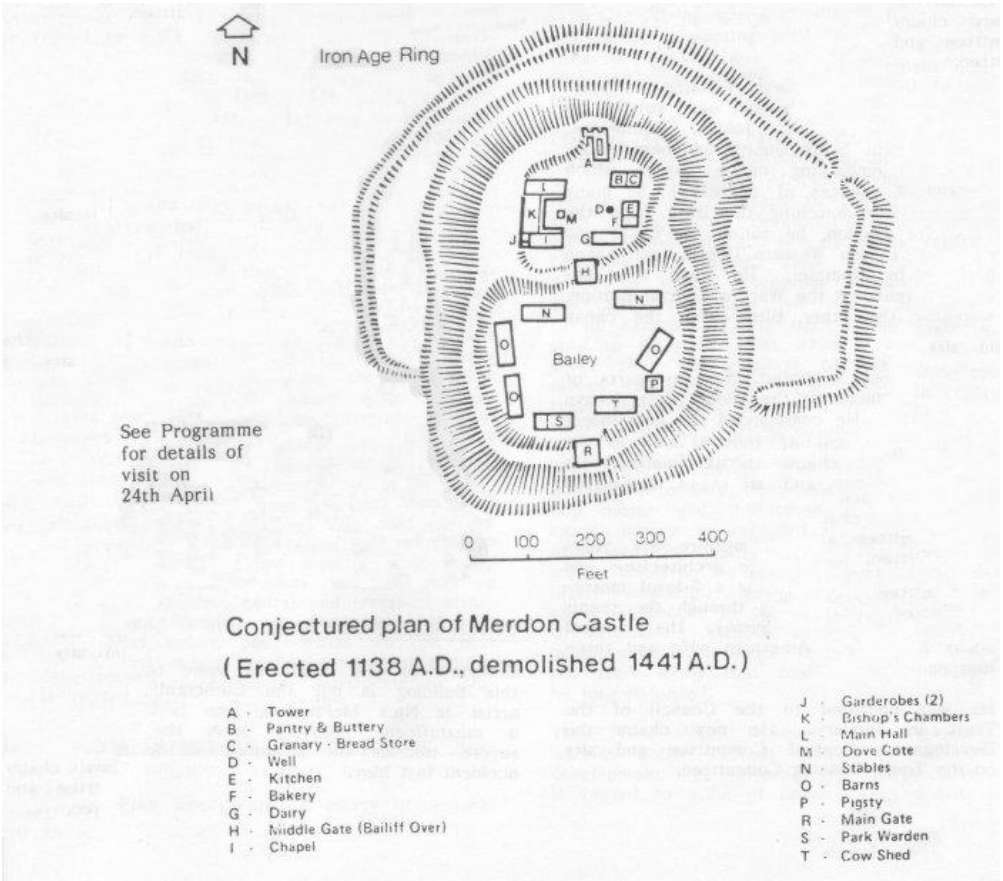
exhibition of prizewinning entries for the Trust's Wildlife Photographic Competition) and Winnall Moors Nature Reserve - Its Official Opening.

Scottish Scenic Trust's "Operation Coastguard" - TrustNews April 1986

WPT has given moral support to the SST's campaign to achieve greater protection for the Scottish coast. A letter describing some major threats may be seen in the "Resources Room" in the Heritage Centre. Any donations should be sent direct to the SST.

Proposed Local History Section - TrustNews April 1986

We are considering forming a Local History Section, based in the Heritage Centre, and are intending to consult other bodies with interests in this field. Members' views and ideas would be most welcome, and should be conveyed to the Secretary, Mrs. Gill Graham, Highways End, Highways Road, Compton, Winchester. (Tel. Win. 713072).



Who are They? - TrustNews April 1986

We thought you might like to know some¬thing about the backgrounds of the people who serve on the Council of the Trust, and so three of them are "profiled" below.

David Middleditch, Chairman

David's connection with Winchester dates back to his first term at Winchester College in 1936. He went to Cambridge University and after war service in the Army in North Africa, Italy and Germany, went out to the Far East and worked for Jardine Matheson & Co. in Hong Kong and in mainland China.

Most of his commercial career was with the Jardine Group and he was a Director of Mathesons, their London subsidiary, for over 20 years until his retirement in 1984. He has lived in Winchester since 1975.

George Burnett

The War caught George farming in Scot¬land, having left Harrow and waiting to read history at St. John's, Cambridge. He joined the Scots Guards and never looked back, embarking on a career which led to 24 changes of address in as many years. After watching the Blitz from the Tower of London, he sailed for Egypt and remained in the Western Desert until taken prisoner by Rommel. He spent the succeeding years of the War in Central Europe, watching the other Blitz from the cheap seats.

He has since soldiered in many parts of the World, including the Middle East, Kenya and Malaya. He commanded the pathfinders of the Parachute Regiment as well as the 2nd Battalion of the Scots Guards. He has been a military planner in Washington and Paris.

George moved into Hampshire six years ago when his interest in architecture and planning was sharpened by a 5-level motor¬way interchange passing through the tennis court of his house in Surrey. His principal hobby now is his American wife and three independent children.

He was co-opted to the Council of the Trust in January. He now chairs the Development Control Committee and sits on the Town Planning Committee.

Rosemary Smith

Rosemary was elected to the Council at the AGM. She is employed at the County Museum Service as Conservator of the Textile Collection. She was trained and worked at the Textile Conservation Centre, Hampton Court, and holds the Conservation Certificate of the Museums Association.

The profession adheres to strict codes of practice. No part of an article is replaced or restored. All work must be capable of future removal to leave little or no trace. Cleaning processes do not allow for reversibility, however, and are only undertaken with forethought. The County collection contains costumes, 17th-19th century embroideries, accessories, lace, banners, flags and dolls.

The Teddy Bear illustrated below dates from 1903.



The Teddy Bear illustrated dates from 1903

The City Wall - TrustNews April 1986

Following the recent demolition of garages in Canon Street, a 30 ft. length of the old City Wall was uncovered, standing to a height of about 6 ft. An inspection by the City Archaeologist established that part of the flintwork is of Roman origin, evidenced by the lighter colour of the mortar. Another interesting feature is that stones from the battlements were found in the fallen debris, indicating that this part of the wall probably stood to its full height in the not so distant past.

Unfortunately, the ownership of this wall is obscure, and we understand that an approach to the City Council has not so far produced any results. The owners of the garages site are prepared to carry out repairs if other interested parties contribute.

Winchester has very little remaining evidence of its Roman and Mediaeval fortifications, and it would seem a worthwhile project to preserve this part of the wall which lies approximately half-way between Kings Gate and the site of South Gate. The Trust has offered to contribute £100.

Jeffrey Smith

Local Plan Inquiry - TrustNews April 1986

In the April Newsletter last year we reported the Trust's comments on the Winchester Area Local Plan. In November the Trust made three submissions to the public

Inquiry into the Plan, which were necessarily in the form of "objection" rather than comment, even though we did not see ourselves as real objectors to the Plan. Thus we objected to the office restraint policy more because we doubted its effectiveness than because we disagreed with the intention; we objected to plans for Peninsular Barracks more because we thought more strategic studies should have been carried out than because we believed what was planned was wrong; and we objected to the general and transport strategy, not because we disagreed with the restraint policy, but because we felt that the Plan should go beyond it and commit itself to experimental environmental improvements.

Office Development and Employment Restraint

The Plan incorporates a policy of general employment restraint and, specifically, by what the Trust has regarded as dubious argument, office restraint. Employment restraint, it is argued, is necessary because increased employment generates housing pressures and traffic pressures.

For some years the Trust has consistently argued that it is foolish for Planners to believe they can understand a complex socio-economic system to the extent that they can assume simple relationships exist between different attributes of the system, especially when there is no need for them to do so. Traffic problems, for example, are better tackled where they occur, than by restricting some activity that is thought to generate them. Thus if the Planning Authority were to hold the number of parking places in Winchester fixed, any new activity could not generate more traffic. If it needed to generate traffic, then either the activity will not be viable or it will survive by reducing the traffic generation of competing activity. The activities that survive are those most consistent with the environmental objective of traffic restraint.

Planners seem to have a firm belief in certain formulae relating a given size of activity to a number of car parking places required, without regard to the fact that such formulae are developed in an unrestrained environment. Nobody really seems to know how elastic those formulae may be in a highly restrained situation. In the last Newsletter we drew attention to an example of the rigid formula being used to an absurd end, when it was suggested that the removal of car parking places would generate more traffic because those places would be developed to support traffic attracting activities!

The Trust expressed the view at the Inquiry that offices earn Winchester's bread and butter and that they are, in many cases, benign in regard to traffic generation and the quality of the built environment, relative to other activities (particularly shopping). It did not, therefore, seem reasonable to the Trust for the City to propose a blanket ban on all office development, and more importantly it did not seem likely that such a policy could be long defended.

The Trust does, however, have serious worries about certain aspects of office development in Winchester, particularly in regard to scale of development, density of infill and, possibly most important, the growth of large areas of single land use (i.e. spreading office deserts, such as is seen in the Westgate area). At the Inquiry however, the Trust represented these as being clearly identifiable environmental problems which could be attacked where they occurred, and a zoning scheme was

proposed for planning controls. The public consultation process has given the Planners a mandate for policy to be based on environmental criteria, but not for a policy which appears to be based on general employment restraint.

Peninsular Barracks

A submission was made on the Peninsular Barracks Brief, which in the event was not allowed as a document for discussion at the Inquiry, even though it was published with the Plan. In any case, in hindsight, our submission feels somewhat unsatisfactory because it suffers from imprecision. This reflects a general idea that the importance of the Barracks site may be overlooked, rather than a fear of specific problems with the proposals.

It may not be helpful to say it, but the sudden release of 16 acres of land with vacant possession into the middle of an historic city, is an event so remarkable that it seems surprising that the authorities, the Trust and the local population have made so little fuss about it. Rather belatedly then (in fact the City said it was really too late) we suggested that a strategic analysis be made of the significance of the site, particularly relating it to proposals for the Central Car Park site and to a cost/benefit study of tourism in Winchester. We also suggested that the possibilities of an exceptional use (an international centre for example) should at least be examined (the Trust is not advocating such a use) and that the City might consider running a major competition, inviting proposals for possible developments of the site.

Experimentation

Hidden away in one of the City's Response Notes to the Inquiry is a commitment "to reduce central area traffic to environmentally acceptable levels! Nowhere in the Plan, however, is there any specific proposals directed towards this objective.

The Trust has asked that the Plan contain a commitment to experiment towards reducing traffic in the centre of Winchester by progressively removing central parking provision, improving public transport, and extending the domain of pedestrian domination of road space. The Trust also asked that the Council should undertake to develop the Central Car Park in an incremental manner, in conjunction with the experiment in traffic reduction. Another multi-storey facility should not be contemplated for the centre of Winchester.

The City took the view that there was an economic risk in this kind of experimentation, a view that might be understandable if it wasn't for the fact that the City itself proposes a development of the Central Car Park, which removes all the car parking for the duration of the development (some years), only to return it at the end in a multi-storey facility. The City repeatedly asserted the belief that progressive removal of parking at the rate of a few spaces a year carried an economic risk, but that the removal of hundreds of parking places at once constituted no risk because they would be returned a few years later. We have to say that what seems to be an extraordinary inconsistency in City policy really must be explained before plans for the Central Car Park go any further.

Time for a Change

Quite apart from the issue of central parking, we should now ask, in the wake of the Plan Inquiry, how the atmosphere and the quality of life in the centre of the City can be improved. We believe that there has grown up an imbalance in the perception of the role of the motor car in an historic city like Winchester. Motorists generally behave badly towards pedestrians, as illustrated for example by the growing tendency to drive along pavements. The Local Authorities also show an imbalanced attitude, so that, for example, while years of research are put into establishing motorists' journey desires and needs, no work has ever been directed towards establishing pedestrians' journey desires. Also, we can point to such long-standing neglect of the pedestrian as the failure to provide a pedestrian phase at the High Street/Jewry Street/Southgate Street junction.

In addition to seeking some rectification of these obvious anomalies, the Trust is now asking for some more experimental commitment towards changing the balance of perception. In particular, the Trust seeks to obtain acceptance of what is beginning to happen naturally, i.e. the tendency for pedestrians to assert themselves in streets close to the existing Precinct. In the High Street, east of the Precinct to Colebrook Street and west of the Precinct to Jewry Street, pedestrians are beginning to share the road space with vehicles. The City Council should investigate means of formally asserting the road-sharing principle here, and also look into what subtle alterations can be made to the street scene to reinforce the impression that the pedestrian is dominant. Canterbury has been experimenting. with this sort of thing, and has managed to alter the paving so that the streets still look like roadway and sidewalk (i.e. they still look like streets) and yet they have a pedestrian quality which prevents the motorist from believing it to be his domain.

Obviously this can only succeed where traffic levels are low, but experience gained now will be invaluable if, as the Trust hopes, the City will work towards general traffic reduction in the centre. Perhaps most important, such a scheme would probably alter the perceptions of motorists and pedestrians alike as to the proper role of the motor car in an historic city.

Chris Gillham

Time for a Trial of Park and Ride? - TrustNews April 1986

(A letter from Trust Member, Mrs. Mary Dauncey)

The County and City Councils this summer, and the City next, have plans which will overstrain even Winchester's good parking facilities. Although the City Council's Report on Traffic in Historic Towns shows that Winchester has more parking spaces per resident than any of the other towns surveyed, the Domesday Exhibition (April to October 1986) will result in a shortage of spaces.

The Army has been persuaded to allow the Barracks site to be used for parking, but this will not cope with the estimated 500,000 visitors above our normal quarter million.

During the summer of 1987 the City Archaeologists are to dig up one third of the Central Car Park. Probably only half of the total area will be available for parking. Chaos will result, even allowing for Chesil Street.

Would this not be an ideal time to try out a Park & Ride Scheme, operating (save Mondays) from the Cattle Market Car Park in Worthy Lane? It would suit residents from South Wonston, Harestock and Weeke, as well as from the Worthies, and might save suffocation of the inner city. A good Park & Ride Scheme has a constant shuttle service, so there is no hanging about at the park - you are on the waiting bus. Grocery boxes could go on supermarket trollies, the trollies staying at the bus stops.

As a City Guide, I am already wondering how visitors are expected to hear the carefully researched commentary on the Castle-Jewry Street stretch of the "Domesday Experience Walk", because traffic noise is so intrusive.

Surely these next two summers would be the ideal time to try out a Park & Ride Scheme. The Trust should be pressing for this as hard as it can.

Mary Dauncey

History of Firefighting - TrustNews April 1986

Trust Member and Winchester Fireman, Mr. K. L. Jones, tells us that he and his colleagues are constructing a Museum and Historical Exhibition in the Fire Station.

Mr. Jones is also collecting photographs and documentary information, with a view to publishing a pamphlet or something more ambitious on the history of fires in Winchester. He would be glad to hear from anyone who is interested in the project or who knows of any suitable material. His address is 28 Fairfield Road, Win¬chester, S022 6SF. (Tel. 68495).

Local Government (access to Information) Act 1985 - TrustNews April 1986

This Act came into force on 1st April, 1986. In essence, all Local Authority correspondence and documents (with certain exceptions) will now be available for public inspection.

Comments on planning applications must be available to the public three full days before the applications are dealt with.

Programme - TrustNews April 1986

Thursday 24th April 6.00p.m.
Visit to remains of Merdon Castle, Hursley. Meet there at 6.00 p.m. Approx. 1 hour. Members and guests only. Further information in Additional Programme Information.

*** Wednesday 30th April 6.30p.m.**
Shop fronts and Signs - talk by Elvin Lean, ARICS, of Chichester District Council. Winchester Guildhall.

Tuesday - Saturday 6th - 10th May
Exhibition of Entries for the Winchester Preservation Trust Awards 1985 - Jewry Street Library (Library hours).

Wednesday 7th May
Heritage Centre Permanent Exhibition - interpreting Winchester and its history. (Heritage Centre hours).

Saturday 10th May
Coach Trip to Portsmouth Dockyard. Members and guests only.
Further information in Additional Programme Information.

*** Tuesday 20th May 10.00 a.m.**
Visit to Crestwood Secondary School, Members only and number limited.
Application with s.a.e. to Frank Chippindale, 27 Christchurch Road, Winchester, not later than 30th April.

*** Wednesday 21st May 2.00 p.m.**
Visit to Rookwood Infant School, Members only and number limited.
Application with s.a.e. as above.

Thursday 22nd May 6.00 p.m.
"Unusual Aspects of Winchester Cathedral" - tour of the roofs, tower, stair turrets, etc.,
led by Mrs. Corinne Bennett, Architect to the Dean and Chapter. Members only and number limited to 12.
Further information on back page. (Note that the date given in the December Newsletter was incorrect).

*** Saturday 7th June 10.00 a.m. - noon**
Understanding Architects' Drawings. Number limited.
Application with s.a.e. to Frank Chippindale, 27 Christchurch Road, Winchester, not later than 17th May.

Monday 9th June 6.30 p.m.
"Winchester's Defences" Part II - Archaeological walk conducted by Ken Qualmann, City Archaeologist.
Meet outside North Walls Police Station.

Sunday 15th June
Coach Trip to the Weald & Downland open air Museum at Singleton plus a Vist to

Uppark.
Members and guests only. Further information in Additional Information article.

*** Thursday 26th June 6.30 p.m.**
Visit to Wiggins Teape's Gateway House 2, Basingstoke -unusual office block as a variation to Gateway House 1 which we visited several years ago.
Approx. 1 hour. Members only and number limited to 20.
Application with s.a.e. to Frank Chippindale, 27 Christchurch Road, Winchester, not later than 26th May.

*** Monday 7th July 6.30 p.m.**
Visit to Royal Hants County Hospital. Meet in Conference Room, Marlfield House, St. James Lane (corner of Hospital car park).
Coffee and biscuits, followed by a presentation, then a tour of the Phase 4 Development. Visit ends at approx. 7.30 p.m.

Thursday 17th July 6.00 p.m.
Tour of Winchester College. Members only. Meet outside College Street entrance.

N.B. The events marked with a star have been arranged by the Urban Studies Committee in conjunction with Winchester City Council's "Time for Design" initiative.

Additional Programme Information - TrustNews April 1986

Visit to Remains of Merdon Castle - Thursday 24th April
Anyone who can offer a lift or would like one should contact Mrs. Brit Croft (Win. 52978). Access to the site is from the minor road which joins the A3090 (on its western side) at Standon, just north of Hursley Village. Number not limited.

Coach Trip to Portsmouth Dockyard - Saturday 10th May
Coach leaves Winchester Broadway (outside St. John's Rooms) at 10.00 a.m. (N.B. It will return to The Broadway via St. Cross). Arrive Portsmouth Dockyard at 11.00 a.m. The tour will be conducted by Commander B. Sparks, R.N., and it includes a fair amount of walking. Bring a packed lunch.
Coach leaves Portsmouth at 4.30 p.m., arriving Winchester Broadway at approximately 5.30.
Cost: £3.00 to approx. £3.60 per person (depending on size of coach and number of seats filled) plus a tip for the driver.
Applications to Mrs. Brit Croft, Downlands, Sleepers Hill, Winchester, S022 4NP, by 15th April. Please enclose s.a.e. and £3.00 deposit (cheque payable to Winchester Preservation Trust).

"Unusual Aspects of Winchester Cathedral" - Thursday 22nd May
As the number of participants is strictly limited to 12, advance application to Mrs. Croft is essential. (Tel. Win. 52978, address given above). If necessary, a ballot for places will be held on 1st May, and the successful applicants will be notified shortly thereafter. Meet outside the South Transept at 6.00 p.m. Wear sensible shoes and bring a torch if you have one. If you are allocated a place and have to drop out, please notify Mrs. Croft (even at the eleventh hour) so that someone on the reserve list can take your place. A collection will be taken and donated to the Cathedral.

Coach Trip to Singleton and Uppark - Sunday 15th June

Coach leaves Winchester Broadway (outside St. John's Rooms) promptly at 9.00 a.m. Arrive Singleton at about 11.00 a.m. Entrance fees (which we need to collect in advance) are: children 90p, OAPs £1.10 and other adults £1.30. You can buy lunch there or bring your own.

This fascinating Museum is set amongst beautiful Sussex countryside and consists of a most unusual selection of rescued historic buildings: houses, barns, rural craft workshops agricultural buildings. A mediaeval farmhouse; a working watermill; a market hall; 16th century treadwheel; blacksmith's, carpenter's and plumber's workshops; are just some of the interesting exhibits.

Coach leaves Singleton after lunch, arriving at Uppark at 3.00 p.m. Entrance fees are: children 60p, adults £1.20. Guides are provided, and there is a tearoom in the garden. Uppark remains essentially unchanged since Sir Matthew Fetherstonhaugh furnished it in 1750. Fine furniture and plasterwork; Grand Tour pictures; marble chimneypieces; Queen Anne dolls' house. The young Emma Hamilton lived at Uppark, and the Prince Regent was a frequent visitor. The Victorian kitchen, vaulted beer cellar, butler's pantry, the housekeeper's room where H. G. Wells' mother presided and an Exhibition Room are also open.

Coach leaves Uppark at 5.00 p.m. and arrives Winchester Broadway at about 6 o'clock.

Cost: £3.40 to approx. £4.20 per person (depending on size of coach and number of seats filled), plus appropriate entrance fees (see above) plus tip for driver.

Applications to Mrs. Brit Croft, Downlands, Sleepers Hill, Winchester, S022 4NP, by 31st May. Please enclose s.a.e. and cheque covering £3.40 deposit plus sufficient to cover entrance fees (cheque payable to Winchester Preservation Trust).