

Perhaps this is the place to plead with publishers to allow authors a freer rein to write more, particularly as books go out of print so quickly today, and many previous books may not be readily available [though presumably are in the Centre for Banburyshire Studies, the Centre for Oxfordshire Studies, and legally in the Bodleian Library, Oxford].

**Christine Bloxham**

*Note.* Beesley's *The History of Banbury* (1841) had 684 pages of text, and 26 plates. Even the Potts/Clark second edition of *A History of Banbury* had 358 pages (including 72 illustrations). The Banbury Historical Society has published 27 records volumes and approaching 150 issues of *Cake & Cockhorse*, some 500 articles on 'Banburyshire'. No present Banbury historian can do more than select. **J.G.**

### **Notices**

Recently received publications. We hope to review some in our next issue.

**Banbury during the Great War**, by Kevin Northover (card covered, 172pp., many illustrations). Prospero Publications, 260 Colwell Drive, Witney, Oxon. OX28 5LW, 2003, £9.95.

This is 'amateur' history at its best – and of course 'amateur' implies 'love'. It involves dedicated research in obvious and less obvious places. It goes into great detail and lists so many names and places that it is understandable that there is no index, which would have covered many more pages. It does not pretend to great writing, but it will provide invaluable information to our multiplying family and local historians keen to find out and add to our knowledge of the relatively recent past. It is an example of what modern technology makes publishable.

**The Lost Architectural Landscapes of Warwickshire: Vol. 1 – The South**, by Peter Bolton (hardback, 160pp., many illustrations). Landmark Publishing, Ashbourne Hall, Cokayne Ave., Ashbourne, Derbyshire DE6 1EJ, 2003, £19.95.

This is an horrific book: horrifying in what it tells us of worthwhile buildings that now would be subject to conservation orders being needlessly demolished. The words of Councillor Bob Hall, in 1962, sum up the then prevailing attitude: 'One of the ugliest houses in the village. It would be impossible to do anything with a building of this sort. When this corner of the village has been developed it will be a nice high class area.' He was talking about a medieval manor house.

**Brailes History: Episodes from a forgotten past: 1** (32pp.). Two articles: 'The experience of Civil War' by Philip Tennant, and 'A Century of Smallpox', by Alan Tennant. Published by A.J. Tennant, 49 Hawthorn Way, Shipston on Stour, Warws. CV36 4FD, 2003, £1.80 incl. p&p.

**Northamptonshire Past and Present**, No. 56, 2003, 104pp., Northamptonshire Record Society, Wootton Hall Park, Northampton NN4 8BQ. £3.00. Includes an article on 'King's Sutton: An early Anglo-Saxon estate?' by Deborah Hayter.