

## THE WYCHWOODS LOCAL HISTORY SOCIETY

On another of his visits to the Society, Dr. John Blair spoke to a full house at the October meeting on 'Anglo-Saxon Oxfordshire'. He explained that, after their arrival in the 5th and 6th centuries, the Anglo-Saxons settled on or near sites formerly occupied by the Romans and Britons. Some of these sites became quite large manors, especially those in the lowland areas such as Dorchester, Abingdon, Oxford and Bampton.

Although Oxfordshire at that time was uncomfortably placed on the disputed borderland between the kingdoms of Mercia to the north, and the West Saxons to the south, the Anglo-Saxon settlements gradually spread throughout Oxfordshire. These settlements included manors, markets and churches. John Blair showed how archaeological discoveries had been added to the limited documentary evidence for these settlements, quoting the case of Shipton-under-Wychwood. Here, carbon dating of bones uncovered has led to the conclusion that there was an Anglo-Saxon graveyard some two centuries before the first documentary evidence in 1086. A full report of John Blair's findings at The Prebendal appears in 'Wychwoods History Number 7'.

Copies can be obtained from Frank Ware, Monks Gate, High Street, Shipton-under-Wychwood, OX7 6BA at a cost of £3 per copy plus 70p post and packing.

At the last meeting the audience had no difficulty hearing the speaker, but the committee is aware that this has not always been the case in the past. It is hoped to have an efficient public address system operating at all our meetings in the future.

The next meetings of the Society will be:

	8 December	Shipton	The Ascott Barrow and the Conservation of Fragile Resources. Paul Smith.
1993	12 January	Milton	One Hundred Years of Family Farming. Geoffrey Woolcock.
	9 February	Shipton	Ditchley Park and the Ditchley Foundation. Geoffrey Howard and Jenny Edwards.

John Rawlins. 2 Nov. 1992.

### W.O.D.C. SKIPS FOR DECEMBER AND JANUARY

<b>Ascott</b>	9th December	Heritage Lane
<b>Milton</b>	2nd January	Church Road; Jubilee Lane
	20th January	Church Road; Reade Close
<b>Shipton</b>	27th January	Ballards Close; Fiddlers Hill