

## HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR 1974

Looking back over 1974, I think it can best be summarised as one for which we can express gratitude and offer congratulations.

Firstly to our President our congratulations on his appointment as a Commander of the Order of the British Empire awarded in the 1975 New Year's Honours for his services to the preservation of Ancient Buildings, and our gratitude for the interest and support that he gives us both personally and through the Landmark Trust.

Our Chairman, Dr. Dawkins, has been made a Fellow of St. John's, Oxford and our congratulations on this singular honour are combined with sadness as the increased work load the new appointment will bring have obliged him to tender his resignation as our Chairman. Colyear Dawkins is owed a deep debt of gratitude by the Society for his service during the past five years, service which has culminated this year in the publication of an Index of all the scientific reports that have appeared in our Annual Reports since they first appeared. We wish him well in his new appointment and hope that we may still call upon his advice.

Our gratitude is due to Ian Linn who will succeed Colyear Dawkins as Chairman and who has continued our link with Exeter University which has strengthened and remained unbroken since 1947.

Elizabeth Hubbard not only provides hospitality for committee meetings and is an active contributor to our work, she also continues as Membership Secretary and its is due to her efforts that our numbers continue to rise.

Congratulations and gratitude too to Bob Britton who through his skilled handling of our affairs has produced the excellent figures shown on another page. The 1974 Excursion was so successful that our efforts are being copied by others and the courses planned by Bob and by Keith Gardner were so well received that similar courses are planned for 1975.

It may be invidious to mention individual names as everyone on the committee has worked hard, but Brian Sherwood who has acted as our publicity and printing expert deserves special mention.

However active and hardworking the officers and committee might be, we thrive only because of an active membership and because of active fieldworkers.

The diversity of their interests shows up in the following pages and the skill with which it is presented is due entirely to our Editor, Ray Smith.

Yet over all this should be our gratitude to the National Trust and the Landmark Trust because without their efforts five years ago Lundy might have passed into private hands and been closed to all outsiders. By your continued support you help us to keep the island as you would wish it to be.—beautiful, interesting and accessible.

A. F. LANGHAM