

## THE MUSEUM

WORK was begun in 1961 on the reorganization of the Museum galleries, and by the end of the year the new displays in the Prehistoric Gallery were completed. Much material has been exhibited for the first time, including most of Mr. J. F. Head's important loan of prehistoric antiquities. In addition, work done on the listing of material from the county in other museums has led to the loan by the London Museum of an iron sword with scabbard and a bronze rapier from the River Thames at Datchet and a re-used tip of a bronze dirk from Langley, and to the exchange with the Cambridge University Museum of Archæology and Ethnology of a bronze rapier from Brickhill. The galleries on the ground floor were redecorated and the interior lighting of the cases improved, which has much enhanced the appearance of the material displayed.

Considerable efforts have been made to build up the archæological collections, and as a result there have been numerous and important accessions of this type of material, particularly from the north of the county, which had hitherto been under-represented. Mention should be made of the large quantity of material found in the Emberton Gravel Pit over a number of years, which has been generously either given or lent by Hoveringham Gravels Ltd., and in particular of an interesting group of twelfth-century pottery and other medieval material which was rescued during the summer from a site which was probably a wharf. It is hoped to publish a full account of this discovery in the next number of the *Records*. A number of by-gones have also been received, and amongst these are an interesting series of drainage tiles and a drainage level given by Mr. E. Bailey.

The number of visitors during 1961 was 18,232 compared with 26,073 in the previous year. This decrease is mainly due to there being no major temporary exhibition of wide popular appeal during 1961 and to the Art Gallery not being available for exhibitions during the latter part of the year.

In the earlier part of the year the Aylesbury Art Society and the Aylesbury Association held their Annual Exhibitions as usual. Other temporary exhibitions were borrowed from the Victoria and Albert Museum and the Arts Council, whilst there were also two interesting exhibitions from local collections: in June a part of Mr. Clive Rouse's collection of Chinese armorial porcelain was exhibited, and in November some of Mr. Hayward Parrott's collection of transfer-printed earthenware.

C.N.G.

## REVIEW

### A HISTORY OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF CHALFONT ST. GILES

by H. Adams Clarke (8½ x 5½ in. paper covers, pp. VIII + 97. Obtainable from the author, Pierscourt, Beaconsfield, Bucks. 16/- + 9d. postage).

This is a most detailed and learned essay on the history of a parish church and of matters of all sorts concerning parish life. A work on such a scale can only be justified by its being well done; Mr. Adams Clarke has done it very well indeed.

He has produced a well-balanced book, describing the fabric and its development, the fittings and the ornaments. He gives a list of rectors with valuable biographical notes, and notices the parish officers. His work is based throughout on the records, parochial and diocesan, which he has handled with skill and frequently quotes. It is to be hoped that this book will become as widely known as it deserves to be.

G.R.E.

Attention should be drawn to THE CHILTERNs by J. T. Coppock (The Geographical Association, 1962, 5s.), which is No. 4 of the series *British Landscape through Maps* and deals with the area covered by the Ordnance Survey one-inch Chilterns map. Following a description of the physical landscape, there is a section on the human geography sketching the development of the rural landscape from the earliest to modern times. There are twelve informative plates, mainly aerial photographs.