

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Elizabeth Crowfoot, Frances Pritchard and Kay Staniland, *Mediaeval Finds from Excavations in London, 4: Textiles and Clothing c. 1150- c. 1450*, H.M.S.O., London, 1992, 223 pp. 16 col. plates, 183 figs.

A must for anyone interested to try to fit the Shroud within the typology of mediaeval textiles - as will surely eventually be achieved if the Shroud really does date from the fourteenth century. The book comprises a detailed survey of the large quantities of mediaeval textiles found by Museum of London archaeologists in the City of London in recent years. Only received just as this Newsletter was going to press, a quick perusal revealed some interesting examples of 2:1 twill weaves, though in wool. The book opens up whole new insights on all aspects of mediaeval clothing, cutting, sewing, finishing, buttons, etc.

Thaddeus J. Trenn 'An Update on why Science cannot Cope with the Shroud of Turin'. Text of a lecture presented at the University of Toronto, 2 March 1993. For private distribution.

This is an update of Dr. Trenn's earlier published lecture, reported in Newsletter 32, p.18. It develops his views (somewhat similar to Dr. Eberhard Lindner's, as given at the Rome Symposium), that the Shroud image was the result of a neutron flux, which had the byproduct of altering the Shroud's radiocarbon content. This latter he anticipates to be non-uniform across the Shroud's surface.

As before, Dr. Trenn has made a small quantity of copies of his lecture available free of charge to the BSTS. Copies of these can be obtained from the General Secretary Dr Michael Clift, a voluntary contribution of £2 being suggested to cover postage and help Society funds.

Holger Kersten and Elmar Gruber, *Das Jesus Komplott: Die Wahrheit über das Turiner Grabtuch*. (The Jesus Plot: The Truth about the Shroud of Turin), Langen Müller Verlag, München, 1992

Despite this Editor having helped one of the authors obtain some of his illustrations (at one and the same time advising him against the line of argument he was following), no review copy of this book has been received, and the assessment here is derived from comments by Dr. Eberhard Lindner in the notes to his paper 'A Hypothesis which can Explain all the Traces in the Shroud of Turin', as delivered at the Rome Symposium. Besides repeating the Bonnet-Eymard claims that a piece from a fourteenth century French cope was switched for that of the Shroud, Kersten and Gruber claim that photos of the Shroud samples as received by the Arizona, Zurich and Oxford laboratories do not match, and cannot have been from the true Shroud. As demonstrated by Lindner, when the photographs are at the correct angles to each other, they do match (see above), the truly interesting aspect being how much of the sample as cut off in 1988 was not forwarded to the laboratories. A major mystery within the Shroud mystery is who has these pieces at the present time. Rumours abound, and among the resolutions drawn up at the end of the Rome Symposium was that their whereabouts should be made known by the Shroud's custodians.