

The Seaxe



Robin Clayton

Newsletter of the Middlesex Heraldry Society

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Special 20th Anniversary Issue

Twenty Years On by Kay Holmes

The Editors of *The Seaxe* have invited me to contribute the Editorial to this Special Issue commemorating our twenty years of activity and friendship; I am honoured and delighted to accept, and have chosen the theme of *Twenty years on*.

Is it really twenty years since the **Middlesex Heraldry Society** was formed? It has been an important part of the lives of so many of us that it seems as if it had always been there; it is difficult to imagine life without it! Perhaps now is a good time to look back, and to record its beginnings before our memories become too unreliable.

The Society arose out of two successive evening courses on *Heraldry for Beginners* run by **George Bennett** at **Vyners** and **Bourne Schools** in Hillingdon. The first had to be curtailed when the tutor went into hospital, and the students were invited to join the second term of the second course. As numbers were not sufficient to form a follow-up course, it was suggested that those interested should form a society, and that the name of the county of **Middlesex** would have a wider appeal than that of the borough.

The founder chairman was **George Bennett - Angela Dickson**, who was the first secretary, **Doug Dickson** and the writer are the remaining founder members. Membership reached fifty at one stage, and has remained steady at about forty, with an average attendance of more than twenty - over 50% - which would be the envy of many larger societies.

We have been well served by officers and committee from the beginning. Major achievements include the *Report on the Heraldry of the Bedford Chapel* at Chenies, and the production of a score of booklets on the *Heraldry of Middlesex Churches*, mostly in the west of the County. These activities have actively involved the majority of members in one way or another. We have held monthly meetings at Ruislip Manor Library with hardly a miss in twenty years. Until recently we also had visits most months to places over a wide area; we still plan to make at least two each year. Over the years we have mounted a number of exhibitions; some small displays in libraries, and others more ambitious. Some of our members have conducted courses, and more have

given talks to this society and to other organisations, heraldic and otherwise. Further afield we have spent weekends studying heraldry in Dorset, Bury St Edmunds, and Lincoln, and whole weeks in the Forest of Dean and at Newport in Shropshire.

It would be impossible to list all our debts to individual members - and it would be invidious to attempt such a task, but may I venture some reflections of memorable contributions: **George Bennett** for the founding of the Society and **Margaret Young** for making it a members' society - **Angela Dickson**, pioneer secretary and visits organiser, - **Nan Taylor** for fine weather on (almost) all her visits - **Peggy Foster** for her long stint as secretary and programme arranger - all our treasurers, **Frank Bell**, **Alan Teasdale** (photographer par excellence), **Peter Esslemont**, **Arthur Aird**, **Keith Pocock** and **Stuart Whitefoot** - **Roger Matthews** for his fundraising efforts - **Vera Bell** for her garden parties - **Don and Marjorie Kirby** for the new *Seaxe* (and *De Veres*) - **Ron Brown** for his feats of memory and blazon - **Pete Taylor** for his artistry - **Fay Robson** for her talks (and party games) - **Keith Lovell** for early tuition and inspiration - **Elizabeth Lee** for loyalty in attendance - **Robin Clayton** for carpentry (and hatchments) - **Sheila Pearson** for historic quizzes - **Vera Brown** for remembering how the Library should be arranged on leaving - **Peter Bentley** for photography at Chenies - **Tim Noad's** advance into the official world of heraldry - **Les Pierson** for fraternal co-operation with the **Chilterns Group** - and so on - and please accept my apologies for all that there is not room (or wit) to say.

During the twenty years many of us have become senior citizens and we have lost several friends on the way. We hope that in another twenty years the Society will still be in good hands, but for the present, we intend to carry on, enjoying our heraldry.

Here's to us! Who's like us?

*Long Live the Middlesex
Heraldry Society!*



Our Finest Hour by Peter Bentley

Anniversaries are an appropriate time for reflection and I can look back on some seventeen or eighteen of the twenty years the Middlesex Heraldry Society has been in existence. I can recall the many happy times I shared with old friends, some of whom are now, sadly, only of blessed memory. They are brought to mind at times such as when I pick up one of **Arthur Edwards'** books and see his bookplate or when, as I often do, look at my slides of the **Bedford Chapel** and remember the hours I spent there with **Alan Teasdale** as the official photographers on the *Chenies Report!* These visits were recently called to mind again when, with the **East Midlands Heraldry Society**, I visited **St Andrew's Church, Thornough**, where **Sir William Russell, 1st Baron Russell of Thornough** is buried. **Sir William** was the fourth son of the **2nd Earl of Bedford** and his arms are to be found on the west face of the **2nd Earl's** monument impaling **Long** for his wife, **Elizabeth**, at **Chenies**.

This, in its way, leads me into discussing the challenges we faced to get a full photographic record. The particular monument is positioned rather close to the south wall of the Chapel, so, being of rather diminutive stature, I was able to negotiate the narrow gap. Then, with my knees bent as far as they would go and with my back pressed hard into the wall I was just able to frame the shots and focus. Nevertheless it was necessary to use a wide angle lens - I chose a 24 m/m and was able to get some very acceptable slides of the arms of the **2nd Earl's** three daughters impaled by the arms of their respective husbands.



1 Dudley

2 Bourchier

3 Clifford

1 **Dudley** - Or a lion rampant queue fourché Vert impaling **Russell** for the **Earl of Warwick** and the **Lady Anne Russell**.

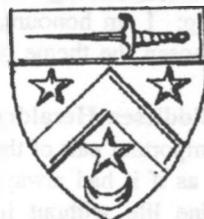
2 **Bourchier** - Argent a cross engrailed Gules between four water bougets Sable impaling **Russell** for the **Earl of Bath** and the **Lady Elizabeth Russell**

3 **Clifford** - Chequy Or and Azure a fess Gules impaling **Russell** for the **3rd Earl of Cumberland** and the **Lady Margaret Russell**.

One constant source of difficulty was that the tungsten lighting produced by those beautiful chandeliers, which, of course, had to be on for the recorders to do their work, produced an orange hue on daylight type film stock which I always use. This orange varies in intensity from a pleasantly warm, almost sepia tone to a very vivid orange depending on proximity of artificial light source to film. This effect could be reduced by the use of a blue filter which has the effect of increasing the colour temperature but even when the orange is of a fairly dark hue, as it

sometimes was, I was satisfied that it did not interfere with the heraldic tinctures to any marked degree. Bearing in mind that we were not entrants in a photographic competition and the slides merely a record of what we saw, the rather unusual colouring was of secondary importance!

Another problem arose when it came to the candelabrum to **Lord Arthur Russell** and his wife. The very delightful enamelled shields around the column are small enough to warrant the use of a close-up lens but the base of the column prevented me from setting up the tripod which would have been necessary in taking a time exposure as the flash would have caused a flare on the enamelled surface. Today I use a more sophisticated tripod and the problem would no longer arise. However at the time the only option left, given the limited range of available equipment, was to set up the tripod a little further back and use a small telephoto lens. This enabled me to get closer and, at the same time, to frame the shots. The results were quite encouraging and the shot of **Russell** impaling **Peyronet** was reproduced as a print and used for the Society's Christmas card for that year.



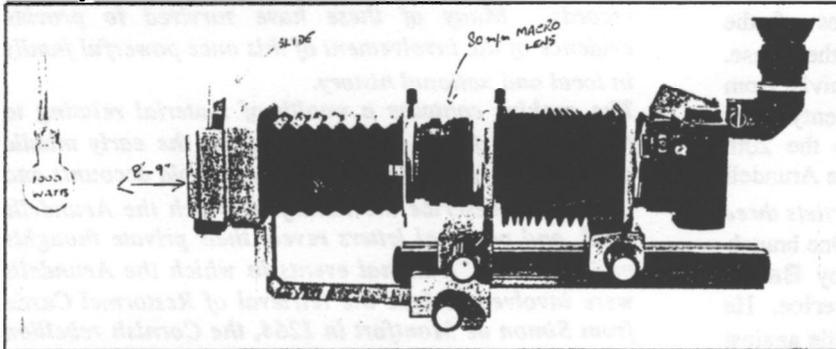
Peyronet: Argent a chevron Gules between three molets Azure in base a crescent Gules on a chief Azure a dagger in fess point to dexter Or.

Two other monuments I remember well are those to **Lady Frances Bouchier** and to **John, the 1st Earl Russell** respectively. They are both in black marble with, in one case, white shields in relief whilst the other has nicely sculptured arms complete with the **Earl's** coronet on the lower slab and bronzed shields on the upper slab. The use of "bounce-flash" was necessary to prevent a nasty throwback from the mirror-like surface of the marble and, in one of the shots, it is still possible to see the white card I used as a reflector from which to bounce the flash, reflected back because the card was too small. These are a few of the problems we faced - but it was all very enjoyable and I learned a lot about photographing monuments. The experience gained has since been put to very good use.

All of this, however, was as nothing compared with the fun and games we had in producing copy slides for members to purchase. I recall that **Alan** was able to borrow a slide copying attachment which fitted on to the front of the camera which was then aimed at a clear sky of a bright diffused light source. This proved to be a very 'hit and miss' affair with focussing problems and poor colour rendition and so was quickly shelved. I began to look into something more ambitious which would give us near professional results. My family had a very expensive Christmas that year and, between them, they provided what is shown in the illustration on the next page.

It was mounted on a tripod and the light source, a 1000watt lamp suspended a mere 8" to 9" in front of the slide holder and it soon began to feel like working in front of a 1kw electric fire. The method used to suspend the lamp was to remove the reflector from my anglepoise

lamp, as the bulb was too large to fit into it, and, when the bulb holder was released from its mounting the lamp was inserted and allowed to hang freely in space. The next problem was how to counter-balance the arm which, without the weight of the reflector, rose to a near vertical position. The solution was to attach a magnet to the arm and slide it along until it dropped the arm to the appropriate level. The net result was that after several hours of copying the bulb holder got cooked by the heat and became so brittle that it disintegrated - and since the special type of holder together with the lamp itself was out of production it became a total write-off.



The special copying film has a speed rating of 6 ASA and when you consider the usual speed is a minimum of 64 and mostly 100 or even 200 (I use mainly 400) you can see just how slow it was. The distance of the lamp was predetermined and the optimum time setting was one second - the correct exposure was governed by the aperture setting. Moreover, the film was available, at that time, in 200 foot rolls only and we therefore had to buy several new cassettes and a friend of **Ron Brown's** was good enough to run off the entire roll onto cassettes of 36 exposures. These had to be kept in the 'fridge' until needed and after exposure had, ideally, to be processed immediately. In this way we were able to produce copy slides of very good quality at a fraction of the cost of having them done professionally. So with **Alan** organising the orders and collecting the cash we were jointly able to boost the funds of the Society.

After my experience with the anglepoise lamp I felt it was necessary to have the camera overhauled to see if the heat from the lamp had damaged it or the lens. Happily there was no damage except to my pocket because, believe it or not, the strip down and overhaul cost £75.90 - oh the fun of photography! But in spite of all the trials and tribulations the Bedford Chapel project was not only a happy event but a great success - and was perhaps our finest hour.

Owing to the divergence of opinion on the correct supporters and the attitude of the goat crest on the Russell achievement we have contented ourselves with displaying the shield only - the arms are:-



Argent a lion rampant Gules on a chief Sable three escallops of the first. The motto is:- *Che Sara Sara (What will be will be)* Eds]



[**Peter Bentley** is one of the few armigerous members of the **Middlesex Heraldry Society** and his arms



are:- *Per fess Or and Azure two ancient crowns in fess each counterchanged per fess between in chief a rose Gules and in base a chain in circle composed of square links Gold.*

The crest is :- *Upon a helm with a wreath of the colours in front of and behind two wings conjoined and expanded Argent each wing charged front and back with a rose Gules (two manifest) two estoiles Azure (one manifest).*

The motto is :- *Nemo me impune lacessit* (No-one provokes me with impunity) - Eds]



Aspects of Aristocracy

In his book under the title above David Cannadine writes *The 'Flying' Duchess of Bedford took to the air because she was stone deaf, and because the change in atmospheric pressure alleviated the buzzing in her ears. She qualified as a pilot in her sixties, and made much publicised round trips to India and the Cape of Good Hope. In March 1937 [aged 72] she took off from Woburn on a routine flight and was never seen again. It was later discovered that the word WOBURN had been painted in large letters on the roof of the house, for her benefit, and this caused mild embarrassment when the secret service moved there during WWII.*



The fact that Herbrand, the 11th Duke, insisted on impaling his wife's arms despite the refusal of a grant by the College of Arms together with the complicated blazon is fully recorded in the *Chenies Report*.

Postscript from your Editors

The article by **Peter Bentley** prompted your Editors to look through, once again, the

Chenies Report

of which even members who joined later are justly proud - and if this was our finest hour then let us acknowledge those people who made it so.

- Brenda Bamford, Frank & Vera Bell, Peter Bentley, Ron & Vera Brown, Bill Burgess, Robin Clayton, "Connie" Connell, Angela & Doug Dickson, Arthur Edwards, Peter Esslemont, Peggy Foster, Kay Holmes, Gwynneth Jones, Ian McKay, Roger Matthews, Tim Noad, Fay Robson, Pete & Nan Taylor, Alan Teasdale, Margaret Young and Margaret Zigadas*

The Cornish Arundells from Arthur Aird

[In response to our plea the "9th Cavalry" galloped in from Cornwall and we have the utmost pleasure in reproducing a letter received from **Arthur Aird** who, in a manner befitting a former Treasurer, also sent a generous contribution to Society funds! Eds]

"Thank you very much for the card and *Seaxe* journals. Noticed the outlined box on front page of No.10 (March 96). As you may know **Gerry** and I are voluntary guides at **Trevice Manor**, a National Trust property, and two weeks ago we had an invitation to a pre-season talk about a number of pictures of the **Arundell** family which have been hung in the house. The talk was given by **Lucy McCann**, an archivist from the Records Office in **Truro**, about some twenty eight thousand documents dated from the 12th to the 20th century concerning the **Arundell** family. [The Arundell



ARUNDELL

arms are:- *Sable six martlets three two and one Argent*]. One branch of the family headed by **Baron Arundell** lived at **Trevice**. He defended **Pendennis Castle** against the Commonwealth and also tried to capture **St. Michael's Mount** in **Mounts Bay, Penzance**. A soothsayer predicted he would die on the sands and this did come true when he was slain on the sands of **Marazion**, opposite **St. Michael's Mount**. I thought of putting a story together if I could get a better look at the family tree we were shown. You may remember I did a piece for the **Arundell Banner** which hangs in the house, shortly after moving to Cornwall. But this morning, in our local paper, *The Western Morning News*, there was the enclosed article published today.

As **Lucy McCann** said, when talking to us, there were so many documents it would take an age to catalogue them before putting some on show at the Records Office. We were shown some slides of where the documents were kept on the **Lanherne Estate**, near **St. Mawgan**, in a shed lined with shelves - and when the shelves had been filled the documents were stacked on the floor and on two tables. Fortunately it was reasonably dry so the material was in good condition for its age. Most of the documents relate to the **Lanherne** branch of the family but **Lucy** said there was a lot about **Trevice**.

If members are on holiday in this region, the Duchy of Cornwall, they would be able to visit the Records Office. Thank you for thinking of us - it is the one pleasure we both miss down here - the absence of any heraldic societies and our old friends in The Middlesex to whom we send our warmest regards - and there is always a bed here for anyone wishing to stay awhile."

On *The Cornish Page* of the *Western Morning News* the article mentioned by **Arthur** begins *The richest and best-beloved of all Cornish families is how Dr A L Rowse described the Arundells of Lanherne. For more than five hundred years they played a major*

part in local and national events, reaching the height of their wealth and influence in the late 16th century. Their Cornish possessions extended over nearly seventy parishes, and they owned property in Devon, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Somerset and Wiltshire. They served their county as Justices of the Peace Sheriffs and Duchy stewards, and played an important part in the Civil War. They were connected by marriage to many of the noble families of England and served in Government and at Court. Clearly the management of their extensive properties, their official duties and private activities generated enormous quantities of records. Many of these have survived to provide evidence of the involvement of this once powerful family in local and national history.

*The archive contains a wealth of material relating to families and farms in Cornwall from the early middle ages to the days of the Stuarts. Household accounts and inventories describe the luxury in which the Arundells lived, and personal letters reveal their private thoughts and opinions. National events in which the Arundells were involved include the retrieval of **Restormel Castle** from **Simon de Montfort** in 1264, the **Cornish rebellion of 1497**, a threatened **French invasion in 1512** and the **Civil War of the 17th century**.*

The Record Office hopes to develop direct public access to the computer based catalogue but for the time being a thirty volume paper version is available for consultation at the Record Office.

Arthur ends by saying that amongst many planned visits there was one to **Charlecote** in **May** where he had permission to photograph the arms on the stained glass windows. If the results are a success **Arthur** is willing to have copies made if anyone is interested.

☎ 01736 754823



Just Beeds? by Peggy Webley

I have no doubt that many members of the **Middlesex Heraldry Society** will have seen the recent "heraldic" articles in the Press. For those who did not I will try to summarise the contents and also pose a few questions.

A headline in the *Daily Telegraph* of 16th April reads - *Town's emblem heralds row over £5,550 Coat of Arms' fee*.



Barred: St Just emblem

Beneath it is a rather indistinct depiction of what is described as a "logo". It appears to bear the hallmarks of a coat of arms - shield, charges, helm, wreath, mantling and crest and features, as "charges", the local lighthouse, tin miner's hammers, a bushel of wheat and a fish - symbolising local industries. [Your Editors apologise for the poor quality

of the illustration which was taken from a newspaper where it was printed in pastel shades!]

The town concerned is **St. Just** in Cornwall - and the logo was created last year by a local retired designer to bring a touch of civic pride to the town and its people. The **College of Arms** has, however, insisted that the logo is, in fact, a coat of arms for which a petition for a granting of arms is essential and ordered the town council to remove the "emblem" from the Town hall itself, from official notepaper, from road signs and from anywhere else where it can be seen by the general public. **Mr Lee**, the Mayor of **St. Just**, is adamant that the Council don't want a coat of arms, particularly one that costs £5,550 - and just wish to keep their own badge. **Timothy Duke**,



Chester Herald

Chester Herald, has the last word - *There is no doubt we are dealing with a coat of arms and not a logo. Quite simply if it looks like a coat of arms then it is one.* Councillors say they will challenge the ruling so I eagerly await the next instalment.

But how did the **College of Arms** know about the "logo"?

Was there a "leak" from the local press, or a visitor to the town or are "visitations" still being carried out?

Anyway, two days later, on 18th April under the heading - *Life's too short to twist Arms - Lord Deedes*, a regular contributor to and former Editor of the **Daily Telegraph**, enters the fray. He expresses his sympathy for the **St Just** Council and tells of his "brush" with the **College of Arms** which has continued throughout the last decade since he was created a Life Peer. The arms which are shown in his article had been granted to the family in the 17th century - he has a fading picture to prove it. According to **Garther King of Arms** however *records of the College of Arms reveal that it was Garther Bysshe who made the original Grant of Arms in 1653 in the name of Julius Deedes.*



Deedes

[According to **Burke** the **Deedes** arms are:- *Per fess nebulée Gules and Argent three martlets counterchanged with a rather nice canting motto:- facta non verba (Deeds not words)*] *Garther Bysshe was intruded into his office during the Commonwealth and all grants made by him were voided and nullified by King Charles' restoration.* The outcome is that **Lord Deedes** is not entitled to bear arms - the fee for a grant of arms would be £1,250 and an additional £300 would be charged for each generation back.

I would be interested to know how many Garters were "intruded" during the eleven years of the Commonwealth and the names and numbers of individuals and families who have had their Grants of Arms nullified. Is there a list somewhere or a book providing information on the subject?

The third cutting for my heraldic scrapbook is a letter from **C.R.Humphery-Smith** which I feel deserves to be quoted in full. He writes under the heading of

Poor Man's Arms and says - *How unfortunate that Lord Deedes' ancestor acquired identifying insignia from a usurping herald. Like persons and signatures arms need protecting from unscrupulous misuse. Had Lord Deedes lived in the time of Sir William Dugdale (Garther King of Arms who died in 1686) he would have been publicly disclaimed by name and residence and set up on the cross in the county town as being "no gentleman". Representations of use of arms would have been destroyed. However, if he were seen to be "a Gentleman decayed in his Estate, soe he is not worth a Thousand Pounds" (£2.5 million today) the King of Arms might well have entered his arms gratis.*

Cecil Humphery-Smith is a good friend of our Society and if one reads the article *Now we are ten* by **Kay Holmes** - in **SEAXE** No.8 of March 1987 - one realises what a major part he played in ensuring that all of us who went on the Canterbury outing had such an interesting and enjoyable day. My lasting memory is seeing him striding off into the Cathedral, a large black umbrella (furled) held high above his head, whilst our party of over thirty members strove to follow in his wake!

[In a letter to your Editors enclosing the material for this article **Peggy** wrote that she had enjoyed doing it - she goes on to say *I was afraid that, having missed so many meetings and outings, I might have lost interest in heraldry but am glad to find I'm still "hooked"!* We think **Kay's Editorial** says it all - Eds.]

Perhaps the last word comes from **Thomas Woodcock**, **Somerset Herald** who wrote to the **Daily Telegraph** as follows:- "SIR/The grant of arms to **Lord Deedes's** ancestor **Julius Deedes** in 1653 is of great historical interest. However, as **Lord Deedes** writes (article, April 18th) all grants made by the Commonwealth Kings of Arms were declared void in 1660, as were the Acts of the Commonwealth Parliament and



Somerset Herald

Protector. **Julius Deedes** could have followed the example of other Commonwealth grantees and had a further grant. He chose not to do so. This was not a case of hardship.

He lived till 1692 and his will indicates that he was in comfortable circumstances. He left property in three counties, £1,500 to his two daughters and even lent the government £250 in 1690. Since the 15th century in England the Sovereign has delegated the power to grant new arms to the senior heralds or Kings of Arms. This is the legal position and if the Kings of Arms did not enforce it they would be failing in their duty both to the Crown and to those lawfully entitled to arms.

From Pen-lettering to Heraldry and Back Again by Margaret Young

Soon after **Ken** and I were married we joined the **Oxfordshire Rural Crafts Society**, on the strength of our cottage being just within the bounds of Oxfordshire. The first show we went to with the Society was the **Royal Show**, held that year at **Kidlington**, near Oxford. The marquee was large and there were many stalls - basket work, weaving, woodwork, pottery, etc. **Ken** and I each had our own stall - one for his letter-cutting in stone, and the other for my lettering in pen and ink. We subsequently attended many agricultural shows in many different places and obtained a lot



Dove

of orders. I got some very interesting jobs which required more than just lettering - poems with decorated borders, armorial book-plates (like the one for Brigadier W.W. Dove - *Per pale Sable and Or in chief fesswise two martlets counterchanged and in base a molet also counterchanged.*) - and quite a lot of memorials and honours lists (one of which was for former pupils of Malvern College who had lost their lives in WWII - *Or five torteaux between two chevrons Gules all between three fountains.*) For a number of these orders I needed some knowledge of heraldry, a subject I found so fascinating that I began to delve into it for my own pleasure and so my interest in heraldry was born and has flourished since.

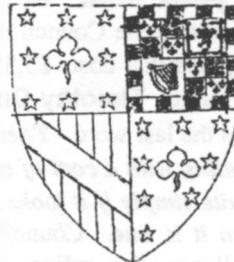


Malvern College

We continued in this way for five or six years but, unfortunately, the demand for lettercutting in stone was badly affected by the increase of cremations over burials. Having run a very small printing business from home, in his spare time, with only a friend to help, **Ken** decided to concentrate on this to the exclusion of letter-cutting. I helped him to build up the business but with the arrival of our small son I found little time for art work.

I came back to lettering and heraldic art in a strange way. By the time **Roger**, our son, was about fifteen or sixteen we had taken to going out for our Christmas Day dinner and one year we went to an hotel in Buckingham. While **Ken** was paying the bill I noticed, in a very dark corner, a very large, very dirty complete achievement of arms. None of the staff knew anything about it but became interested when I said that it belonged to the **Grenville, Dukes of Buckingham**. I promised to send them full details, which I did, but heard no more for some time - but when I did it was from an official of **Trust House Forte**, to whom the hotel belonged - they asked if I would do work for them and I agreed. However the first piece of work I was given was for the official's

local church at Clandon in Oxfordshire and was a list of Incumbents from 1219 to 1976. Thus lettering took me into heraldry and heraldry took me back to lettering. One order I had from **Trust House Forte** was for an hotel in Yorkshire where the suites of rooms were being named after local boroughs or titled families and each was to have the appropriate arms painted on wooden shields to hang on the doors. My job was to find the arms and make paintings to be copied onto the plaques. There were eight of these, four of which are illustrated below -

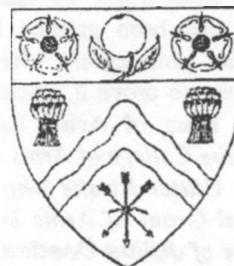


Marquess of Normanby

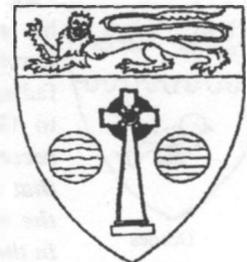


Earl of Harewood

the plaque for the **Normanby Suite** is particularly interesting as the arms are those of the **Marquess of Normanby** whose family name is **Phipps**. The arms are:- *Quarterly 1 & 4 Sable a trefoil slipped between eight molets Argent (for Phipps) 2 (by grant from James II to his illegitimate daughter, Lady Catherine Darnley) The Royal Arms of England temp. James II a bordure compony Argent and Azure 3 Paly of six Argent and Azure a bend Gules (for Annesley).* The arms used for the **Harewood Suite** are, of course, those of the **Earls of Harewood (Lascelles)** - *Sable a cross patonce within a bordure Or.*



Nidderdale RDC



Ilkley UDC

The arms for the **Nidderdale Suite** are those of the Rural District of Nidderdale in the West Riding of Yorkshire - *Per chevron Vert and Or a chevron wavy Argent and Azure between in chief two garbs of the second and in base three arrows one in pale and two in saltire points downward banded Gules; on a chief of the last an apple slipped and leaved Gold between two roses Argent barbed and seeded proper* and for the **Wharfedale Suite (Ilkley UDC)** - *Gules a stone Celtic cross proper between two fountains; on a chief Argent a lion passant guardant Sable armed and langued of the first.*

Also for **Trust House Forte** I designed a nameboard to hang outside the **Speech House**, in the Forest of Dean. The Forest had been Crown property and the house was then used for meetings between the Foresters and the King when reports would be given concerning Forest affairs.



My design incorporated a stag's head, for the deer in the Forest, a crown for royalty and a border of oak leaves and acorns for the Forest itself.

I do not do a great deal of paid work now but occasionally a job will come my way as, recently, one of **Ken's** friends gave my name

to a nurse at St. Bartholomew's Hospital who was looking for someone to fill in a Memorial Book for nurses who had worked there. There were sixty six names from 1986 to the present time. However, fairly frequently I do work

for my friends and for Societies to which I belong, which gives me great pleasure. Once I was asked to design a new badge for the **Scout Troops** in **Willesden**. **Ken** and I had become very involved with one of these troops of which **Roger** was a

member. I used the blue dragon supporter of the former **Borough of Willesden** which had become part of Brent - the shield had gold in it so I used that for the background. I made two designs - one with the dragon and the other with the head only (as illustrated). The latter was chosen as being the most suitable for a small badge.

There are a number of things I do for the **Harrow Society of Friends**. When one of the children in the Meeting becomes ten years old he or she is presented with a bible for which I do a bookplate.

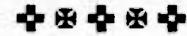


*Harrow Children's Meeting
presents this Bible to
Katie Goldthorpe to
celebrate her tenth
birthday on the
21st of January 1994*

Quite recently we were given, by her daughters, a set of six books belonging to a much loved Friend who had died and for which I did a set of bookplates with the name on each of the Friend and that of her husband who died a few years ago.

My father taught me to do lettering when I was still a schoolgirl and when it had not then become the popular form of art it is now. Later I went to **Mr M.C. Oliver** who was one of the finest lettering artists in the country at that time. My heraldic painting was self taught at first, until I had the great good fortune of finding **Norman Mainwaring**, a herald painter at the College of Arms and who was so inspirational in his manner of teaching. I do not think I could have received better instruction than was given to me by these three marvellous artists.

[In a later article **Kay Holmes** thanks **Margaret** for her assistance - your Editors can endorse these remarks by saying that amongst many other instances of her unstinting help when we needed an illustration of the arms of **Deedes** all we had to do was give **Margaret** the blazon on the telephone and a splendid drawing arrived by first post the next day - or perhaps it was the day after that! We also have to thank her for a hand lettered Christmas card and a Celtic prayer both inspirational enough to be framed and displayed in our study.]



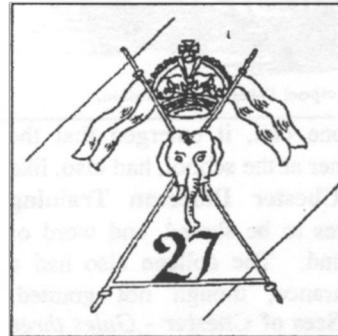
Postalgia Is Not What It Was?

Oh, Yes It Is! by **Kay Holmes**

At the end of April this year I went for the first time to the **National Army Museum** at **Chelsea**. There on a rack I found a postcard of the badge of my regiment - the **27th Lancers**. This was quite a find, as the regiment was wartime only and disbanded in 1946, and is not mentioned in some so-called lists and histories of the

Army. The badge closely resembles that of the **XIIth Royal Lancers** from which it was formed. I made plans to apply for a Reader's Ticket to see if there was more to be found in the library.

Before the week was out I received a phone call, the first of several



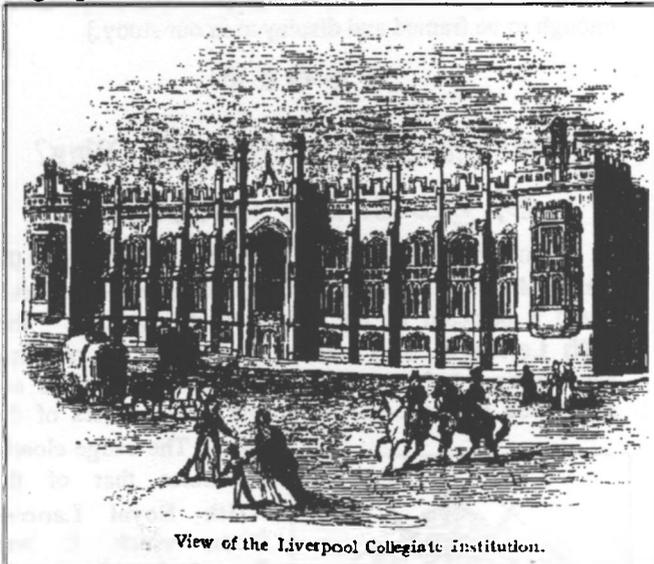
responses, to a letter I had written last October to the **Liverpool Post and Echo**, asking for information about my old school, **Liverpool Collegiate School**, which closed in 1985. I had enquired about the existence of an Old Boys' Association, and the possibility of obtaining an Old Boys' tie and a recording of the School Song. My one school friend and I - we first met sixty three years ago - share one tie between us, and have memories of the song sung to the accompaniment of a very fine organ.

Since that first call I have received a tie, a history of the school, a copy of the sheet music of the song - and hopes of a recording - and numerous press cuttings of the recent history of the school. These record the closure, vandalism, fires and the near destruction of a once distinguished building, now a gaunt shell of its former self.



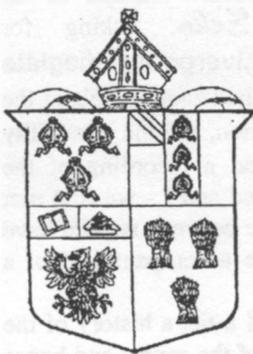
Of course I was prompted to dig out my scanty memorabilia, which included a cap badge - a monogram, and a prefect's badge - not strictly heraldic, showing a crown, liver bird and the monogram. (The school eventually had a badge officially granted in 1962).

The school building, in Victorian Tudor style, had several heraldic features; stone shields and possibly glass in the headmaster's room, but the only examples I recall were sets of three heraldic beasts, greyhounds, lions and what were thought to be griffins, snouts pointing upwards, at strategic intervals on the banisters of the three staircases, to prevent boys sliding down four storeys to almost certain death or injury! There is just a slight hope that I might get casts of these.



View of the Liverpool Collegiate Institution.

Returning to the first phone call, it emerged that the caller, who had been a teacher at the school, had also, like me, been a student at **Chester Diocesan Training College**, so there were notes to be shared, and word of history which I hope to find. The college also had a badge, heraldic in appearance, though not granted, quartering the arms of the **Sees of Chester - Gules three mitres labelled Or, Manchester - Or on a pale enrailed**



Gules three mitres labelled Gold on a canton of the second three bendlets enhanced Argent, Liverpool - Argent an eagle with wings expanded Sable around its head a nimbus Or and holding in its dexter claw an ancient ink-horn Proper; a chief paly Azure and Gules the dexter charged with an open book Or inscribed with the words "Thy Word is Truth"; the sinister with a

lymphad Or and the arms of the ancient Earldom of Chester used by the County of Cheshire - Azure three garbs Or. The College has also had arms properly granted in 1954.

I should very much like to thank Margaret Young for her fine illustrations of the badges, based on examples which were not easy to interpret.



An Heraldic Oath! by Pete Taylor

Recently I came across a rather strange little book printed in London entitled '**A BOOK OF OATHS**'.

Thinking it might improve my vocabulary, I read on. It explained on the title page that it contained "*several forms thereof both ancient and modern faithfully collected out of sundry authentic books of records not hereunto extant*". As the book was published in 1680 I was intrigued to know how "ancient and modern", then, applied today.... I soon found out on reading this extract;

THE OATH of a Herald of Armes at the time of his creation

"**First, ye shall fwear, to be true to the moft High and Mighty Prince our Sovereign Lord the King that here is; And if ye have knowledge or any imagination of Treafon in Language or word, that moves to the derogative or hurt of his Eftate or Highnefs, who God defend, you fhall in that cafe, as honeftly and as foon as fhall be poffible difcover and fhew to his Highnefs or to his Noble and difcreet Council, and it, in no wife conceal.**

Secondly, ye shall promife and fwear, That ye fhall be converfant and ferviceable to all Gentlemen; to do their commandments, to the worfhip of Knighthood; and to excufe their Worfhip by your good Council that God has fent you, ever ready to offer yourfelf unto them.

Thirdly, ye fhall fwear and promife, To be fecret, and to keep the fecret of Knights, Efquires, Ladies, and Gentlewomen, as a Confeffor of Armes; and not to difcover them in no wife, except it be Treafon as aforefaid

and so it goes on;

"Seventhly, ye fhall promife and fwear, To be true and fecret to all Gentlewomen, Widdows, or Maids; and in cafe be that any man would do them wrong, or inforce them, or difherit them of livelihoods, and they having not goods to purfue their Rights, if they require you of fupportation, you fhall help them with your goods, wifdom, and counfel, and fhew their griefs to the Prince and Judges.

Eighthly, ye fhall fwear and pronounce, That ye fhall forfake all places difhoneft of hazardy, and dayly going to common Taverns and places of debate, and all manners of vice, and take you to vertues to your power.

Thefe Articles, and all other Articles abovefaid, you fhall truly keep. So God you help, and by the crofs of this Sword, that belongeth to Knighthood.

I wonder what sort of Oath Heralds take today.



Militaria No.9 - The Royal Norfolk Regiment

Raised in 1685 as **Colonel Henry Cornwell's Regiment** it changed its name with its Colonels until 1751 when it became **9th Regiment of Foot**. In 1782 it was redesignated **9th (or the East Norfolk) Regiment of Foot**. Almost a century later, in 1881, its name was changed to **The Norfolk Regiment** and so it remained until 1935 when it was granted the right to be called **The Royal Norfolk Regiment**. The amalgamation, with the **Suffolk Regiment** in August 1959, resulted in the formation of the **1st East Anglian Regiment (Royal Norfolk and Suffolk)** which itself,



in September 1964, merged with the **2nd East Anglian Regiment (Duchess of Gloucester's Own Royal Lincolnshire & Northamptonshire)**, the **3rd East Anglian Regiment (16th/44th)*** and **The Royal Leicestershire Regiment** to form **The Royal Anglian Regiment** which thus became a combination of no fewer than nine older regiments. In 1968, as the senior regiment in the grouping, the former **Royal Norfolk Regiment** was given its present title of **1st Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment**.



*The **16th Foot** is the **Bedfordshire & Hertfordshire Regiment** and the **44th** is the **Essex Regiment** both of which will be discussed each in its own right at a later date. The badge of **The Royal Norfolk Regiment** was the *seated figure of Britannia* which was awarded by **Queen Anne** in 1707 for service at the **Battle of Almanza** in Spain where the regiment sustained heavy casualties. Sadly no part of the badge was incorporated in either the **East Anglian** or **Royal Anglian** badge both of which are the *Castle and Key of Gibraltar upon an eight-pointed star*.

The regiment served in the **Peninsular War**, the **Crimean War** and the **Boer War**. Among its many battle honours are **Mons, Marne, Ypres, Loos, Somme, Delville Wood, Vimy, Passchendaele, Cambrai, Suvla Bay** and **Gallipoli** from the **Great War** and **Normandy Landing, Caen, Singapore, Kohima** (in 1944 where the **2nd Battalion** was in continuous action for seven weeks) and **Burma** from

World War II. The regiment also fought in **Korea**.

Six members of the regiment have won the **Victoria Cross** - one in the **Great War** and five, the largest number won by any regiment, in **World War II**.

The Royal Norfolk Regiment earned themselves the nickname of the "**Fighting 9th**" in 1808 after the **Battle of Rolicca** in the **Peninsular War**. They were also known as "**The Holy Boys**" because the **Spaniards** thought that the regimental badge represented the **Virgin Mary**.

Colours are laid up in the **Regimental Chapel** in **Norwich Cathedral** and in **Sandringham Church**. There are memorials to the regiment in **Canterbury Cathedral** and in **St. George's Chapel, Windsor**.

The **Regimental Headquarters** is **The Keep, Gibraltar Barracks, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk** and recruiting covers the very wide area of **Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Norfolk, Northamptonshire** and **Suffolk**.



Arms and the Man

In the *Sunday Times "Style"* supplement of 17th March a facetious article by **Christopher Middleton** appeared under the heading above. Displaying a lamentable ignorance of basic heraldry he asks "*What's bothering the Garter King of Arms? Poor taste in design for the latest crop of crests*" (sic). He goes on to say "*And once you've got it [your coat of arms] you can emblazon your crest (sic) on whatever you like - be it your state carriage or a Ford Cortina*". Under a "head and shoulders" of **John Major** the legend suggests that he is "*in need of a crest*".

Members will remember that in *SEXT* No.7 of September last year we reported the correspondence **Peggy Foster** and **Elizabeth Lee** had had with the *Harrow & Northwood Informer* on the subject of "*Crests*". They will also recall that **Pete Taylor** in the *Heraldry Gazette* of both March and June 1995 had some harsh words to say about the use of this five letter word in *The Times* and quoted from a letter written to the editor of this newspaper by our patron, **Norroy and Ulster King of Arms**. According to **Pete** the Chief Revise Editor of *The Times* was going to mention the abuse of the word '*crest*' in the new updated manual for use by *The Times* staff. Perhaps he can be persuaded to let the staff of the *Sunday Times* have a copy or **Pete's** worst fears may be realised and it may indeed become a **Pyrrhic Victory**.



Next Meetings

On **Thursday, 18th July** member and student at **St David's University College, Lampeter, Mark Arnold**, will speak to us on a subject to be announced.

On **Thursday, 15th August** it will be our **Members' Evening** when we look forward to a viewing of all your latest heraldic slides and **Thursday, 19th September** is, of course, the **Annual General Meeting**.

And the Next Issue

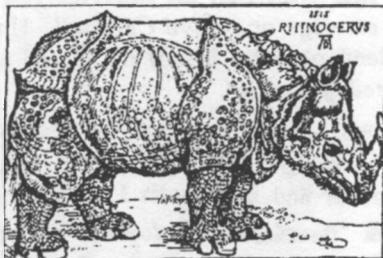
Even for a 20th Anniversary Issue there is a limit to what our Treasurer will countenance so we have voluntarily held over a certain amount of material and trust that the contributors will accept our apologies. It will all appear in the next (August?) issue and one is from **Chairman Nan** on her home town, **Bo'ness**, which we hope will be the fore-runner of a complete series from our members. We believe that **Ron** and **Vera** have recently visited **Tyneside** to refresh their memories (!) whilst one of your Editors says that she did ours (on **Kingston upon Hull**) in **Seaxe** No.9 of 1988! So out with your pens and paper - if you are bothered about illustrations have a word with one of us - we are sure that most problems can be solved.



Did You Know?

Did you know that the crest of **The Worshipful Society of Apothecaries** is upon a wreath of the colours a rhinoceros proper?

But do you know why? Bromley and Child suggest that *the rhinoceros is an obvious parallel with the unicorn and the fact that its horn also was reputed to have been a medical prophylactic gave it additional relevance.*



Rhinoceros, from the woodcut by Albert Dürer

Apparently it was copied from **Dürer's** famous woodcut of 1515 which was used for many years as the model for all representations of the animal - unknown in Europe at that time - and despite the fact that **Dürer** had never seen a rhinoceros himself but had made his drawing from another person's sketch and brief description. However, on the lighter side, we hear that a Past Master of the Society was recently asked the question and immediately retorted that it was *because they were thick skinned and charged a lot!*



Lights and Bushels

Kay Holmes has never been one to push himself forward despite his phenomenal knowledge of heraldry and your Editors, although tenderfoots (or should it be tenderfeet) of some ten or eleven years, feel that it is right and proper that he who, in our opinion, **IS** the **Middlesex Heraldry Society**, should receive suitable recognition. Although we have been tutored, helped and befriended by all members of the Society it is **Kay** who fostered our growing interest in heraldry - and has continued to do so! It was he who said, when we took on the job of editing **The Seaxe** - *Don't treat it as a chore - it is supposed to be fun!* So it is with seemingly conflicting feelings of pride and humility that, on behalf of you all, we say to **Kay** a very big thank you for what he has done for the Society and for what we know he will continue to do in the future.

Kay Holmes - primus inter pares!



And to end this 20th Anniversary Issue - what better way than to pass on a message from our worthy chairman, **Nan Taylor**, another pillar of the Society.

I am very pleased that our Editors decided to make this issue of Seaxe a bumper edition to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the founding of the

Middlesex Heraldry Society.

The Society has flourished during these years - some members have left, some through moving away from the area, although a number retain contact by becoming "out of town" members as can be seen from two of the articles in this issue.

Over the years we have seen lots of heraldry - good and bad - we have visited many places of heraldic interest - but above all we have shared

a lot of fun and friendship.

Congratulations to The Middlesex and very best wishes for the future of our Society.