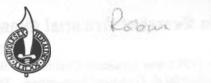
The Seaxe



Newsletter of the Middlesex Heraldry Society

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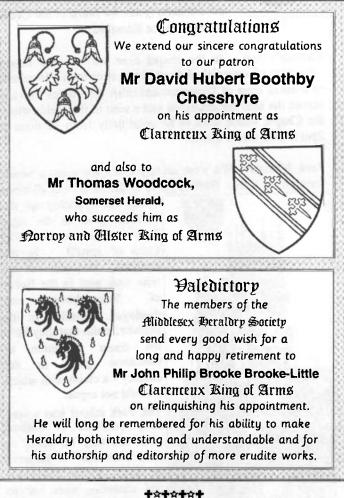
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(Founded 1976)

April 1997

Editorial

Your Editors apologise for the late appearance of this issue of Staxt which is mainly due to the acquisition of a new computer and the accompanying teething troubles - not to mention frayed nerves and hair loss! We hope that in the not too distant future we shall benefit from the extra speed with which the machine operates and from improved quality of the illustrations. (Unfortunately the improved performance or temper of the operator cannot be guaranteed!)



After Hengrave

nber that in the

Our readers will remember that in the article on the visit to Hengrave, **Rita Titterton** said that **lain Swinnerton**, the chairman, was not standing down at the AGM but was waiting until midnight so that he could impale his own arms with the new arms of the Federation. Here are those arms.

Arms of the Federation of Family History

Societies



On 5th April 1997 the Grant of Arms was presented to the Federation by our patron, the then Norroy and Ulster King of Arms, and are -Arms: Potent Or and Azure on a bordure Gules eleven acorns Or. Crest: On a helm with a wreath Or and Gules a crane

holding in the beak a sprig of oak proper fructed Or and supporting with the dexter foot a terrestrial globe proper the land masses Gules. Mantling: Gules doubled Or. Supporters: On the dexter a man habited as a smith holding in the dexter hand a hammer resting upon an anvil proper and in the sinister hand a horseshoe reversed Or and on the sinister a woman habited as an agricultural labourer holding in the sinister hand a scythe proper resting upon a garb Or and in the dexter hand a hank of binder twine proper. Motto: One from many. Badge: A terrestrial globe proper the land masses Gules environed by a wreath of oak leaves Vert fructed of six acorns Or - as on the crest.

Interpretation: The blue and gold field is in the form of a series of 'Ts' which represent family trees and the eleven acorns stand for the eleven founder societies*. The crest is a crane, the traditional bird of learning, and the globe represents the world-wide membership of the Federation. The supporters, a male artisan and a female agricultural labourer represent the majority of our ancestors. The blacksmith is from the arms of Birmingham (where the foundation meeting was held) but he holds a golden horsehoe taken from the arms of their founder chairman and first president - lain Swinnerton. The badge is taken from the crest and is surrounded by a chaplet of oak leaves and six acorns representing the countries in which the Federation has members.

*We are grateful to our good friend, **Michael Messer**, who has sent us a copy of the "Presentation Leaflet". Mike also points out that the City of Bath Heraldry Society get a mention in the actual text - they are one of the "first eleven" and he is, of course, their current chairman.

In Search of Armorial Glass

by Joss Froggatt

In 1956 I was appointed Chairman of the *Putty & Mastics* Industrial & Technical Sub-section. This, of course, is all about glass and glazing which, at that time, was booming due to the extensive national building programme coupled with the arrival on the scene of high-rise flats and tower blocks with their massive fenestration. It was customary for the new Chairman to produce a paper on some aspect of the industry - I chose The History of English Windows.

Little was I to know that thirty years on I was to produce another saga on **7he History & Development of** Armorial Glass in England. The earliest reference I found was that by **Bede** who records that in the 8th century **Bishop Biscop** sent to Gaul for glaziers to come and glaze a new abbey he was building at Monkwearmouth in County Durham. At that time no glass was made in England so it follows that the glaziers must have brought the glass with them. We believe that glass, at this time, was possibly in very small pieces and that Saxon windows were round, head high and, if "glazed" at all, were covered in hide or skin.

The earliest English church windows, as far as can be established, were of the first pointed era - small lancet windows. the first records of glass-makers were, in fact, based on an area quite near to Dorking - at **Chiddingfold**. In 1240 two French families were granted land there for kilns and furnaces - it was a heavily wooded area and would provide fuel to heat the kilns which also produced wood-ash (Potash) for use in the making of glass. There was an ample supply of sand which, of course, is the basis of glass manufacture. It is also recorded that by 1271 they were in a position to supply glass to the new abbey at **Westminster**.



At this point I was looking for the earliest armorial glass and found examples in the West window of Salisbury Cathedral - Provence, France, England, Plantagenet, Bigod and Clare all dated between 1245 and 1270. Unfortunately we do not know whether they were made by English

Bigod craftsmen or brought from France. So when was the very earliest coloured glass made or to be found? This question was answered by the *Four Prophets* -

a very small window in the clerestory of the cathedral at Augsburg in Germany and dated 1050 AD!

Heraldry is essentially visual but unfortunately my eyesight is very poor. I lost my right eye when I was two years old and my left eye is poorly sighted - the main reason for my enforced early retirement. It also coincided with



our growing interest in armorial glass - so **Peach** had to take all the glass we discovered - she is a first class photographer and the bulk of the slides are perfect but it was not until they had been developed and shown on our big screen that I was able to see them in detail.

Our slide collection runs well into four figures and with so many to choose from it has been difficult to select a few locations which have impressed us the most.

St. Mary's Church at Battersea - The St. John window survived the war-time bombing by being removed and taken to Blenheim for safe storage - it depicts all the families connected with St. John and was discussed in a talk, Our Lady of Batersey, given by Peggy Foster some years ago. The window was designed by Abraham van Linge and with its two portraits is a real joy.

Gilling Castle - A wonderful surprise to discover those fine heraldic windows with a thumbnail self-portrait of the artist - **Dinninkoff**. It is a pity there was so little of his work to be seen. However, in all, there were thirteen different heraldic badges and 41 coats of arms.



St. Martin's Church at Stamford - Here there are several windows with references to the Cecil family - we discovered later that a lot of it was purloined from other churches! Burghley House, built by William Cecil between 1550 and 1587 and for many years the home of the Cecils is, of course, at Stamford.

Lincoln's Inn - In the chapel here we saw the largest collection of armorial glass we have ever seen. Hundreds of coats of arms of Treasurers and other dignitaries who had served the Inns are displayed and a visit to the Fields where the Chapel which used to be open daily from 12 noon to 2pm is well worth while.

York Minster - We were so impressed we spent a whole fortnight in York - **Peach** going to the Minster at all times



of the day to photograph the heraldic glass in the right (We counted 450 light. coats of arms!) In the clerestory the arms of all who took part in the Battle Bannockburn of are displayed. Guides, in the Minster, claim that they have the finest collection of mediæval glass in the country - a claim with which I would not argue.

The York school was a very early producer of stained glass and they are lucky to have been able to preserve so much. Other cathedrals and churches were not so lucky and lost a great deal of

priceless stained glass for four main reasons:-(i) Neglect - windows are vulnerable to the vagaries of the weather - the lead is eroded, weakened and, eventually,

blown out by strong winds. The lead should, of course, be replaced before this happens. The life of a leaded window is said to be about 150 years but this depends on the aspect the South and West sides being the most vulnerable.

(ii) The decree of Henry VIII which stated that all imagery or anything relating to Roman Catholicism in the form of faces and figures should be removed from both churches and secular buildings. Richard Culmer ran riot in Kent and smashed a lot of glass in Canterbury Cathedral. William Dowsing did the same in East Anglia. It is quite obvious that whilst removing or destroying statues and other figures they had no regard for heraldic glass which suffered the same fate. To demonstrate how much glass was destroyed Queen Elizabeth I decreed that all glass must be replaced to enable parishioners to worship and pray in reasonable comfort. I cannot vouch for the accuracy of the wording of these two decrees but the meaning is quite clear.

(iii) The activities of **Oliver Cromwell** and the **Puritans** whose vandalism in respect of (or disrespect for) churches is so well documented as to need no further comment.

(iv) **Restoration** has a lot to answer for - **Dr J. Peating** has said that this word should be expunged from all English dictionaries, when referring to ecclesiastical buildings, and replaced by **Ruination** - and he was dead right! In 1787 the architect, **Wyatt**, removed complete windows from **Salisbury Cathedral** and dumped them by the cart load in the City ditch. I am delighted to say that he overlooked the coats of arms to which I referred earlier. Time and again we have found reason to believe that mediæval glass has been replaced by Victorian glass.

(v) The destruction of heraldic glass by enemy bombing during World War II - a tragedy within living memory.

Unfortunately there are few comprehensive records of extant heraldic glass - I recall three but there may be others. (i) The **Reverend Edmund Farrer** produced three volumes on **The Heraldry in Morfolk Churches** which includes the glass still in place in 1888.

(ii) The Heraldry in Suffolk Churches, produced recently by the Suffolk Heraldry Society, which also includes the stained glass. We were very pleased to be part of this project and checked 111 churches out of over five hundred which have been tabulated. In fact, we learned our heraldry in so doing - with help from **Boutell**, etc.

(iii) Greening Lambourne's book on Heraldic Glass in the Oxford Discese. Very well done, indeed.

The discovery of a real yellow silver stain in the early part of the 14th century enabled artists to produce gold or Or in glass for the first time. Coats of arms, hair, faces, crowns and so forth could now be depicted whereas hitherto a dull yellow had been used.

Considering that our bibliography on stained glass covers fifty books - there cannot be many that we have not either seen nor read. We were also very lucky to have known **Dennis King** who died recently. With access to his studio in Norwich we saw the whole process of the making of a window - one of which was for Sir Edmund Bacon, (Premier Baronet of England), installed in Norwich



Cathedral recently. Dennis King was recognised as one of the principal experts on stained glass in Europe and most works on stained and painted glass acknowledge him. I have excluded the original technical explanations most of which were chemical and, as you will remember, all chemical reactions are controlled by time and

temperature. These are vital in the formation of glass and, considering that glass is a liquid which is super-cooled, you can imagine why it is so complicated!

The descriptive term *stained glass* is a misnomer - it should be stained and painted glass - in fact, in the early stages a lot of paint was used and continues to be used today. Strongly coloured glass being ground to a fine grit or powder mixed with a mixture of gum arabic and water and 'fired' or furnaced. Having been trained as a chemist I was attracted to the manufacture of stained and painted glass which is one of the most complex chemical substances known to man - even today. I have written a book on the whole subject of stained and painted glass but, sadly, it will never be published because of its very limited appeal - but, at least, I have derived some satisfaction from writing it.

[Arms are as follows:-

Bigod - Or a cross Gules.

England - Gules three lions passant guardant Or.

Cecil - Barry of ten Argent and Azure, over all six escutcheons each charged with a lion rampant of the first. **Bacon** - Gules on a chief Argent two molets pierced Sable. The crest is a boar passant Ermine - another canting allusion?]

Bid You Know?

When **Robert Harris**, the House of Lords archivist, gave our Society a talk on *The Palace of Westminster* it was really a tour starting at the Victoria Tower and ending at



the Clock Tower (Big Ben). It was all very enjoyable and informative but it was the story of the **Portcullis** - now accepted as Parliament's badge - which appealed to your editors. It all began after the fire of 16th October 1834 which destroyed the old

and the second second

building. A competition was held to produce a satisfactory design for the new Houses of Parliament but the plans were not to be signed and each competing architect had to use a symbol. **James Barry**, whose design was eventually chosen, used the **Portcullis** and the resultant building is liberally peppered with the device. Although used for many years it was never the official badge of **Parliament** until last year when the **Queen** gave her assent to its usage.

Page 3

In the Time of Queen Bick

by Cynthia Liddard Cannings

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The First of an Occasional Series

[We are grateful to country member, John Dent, Editor of the Norfolk Standard, and, of course, to the author for permission to copy the following article first published in the Norfolk Standard and which we know our readers will enjoy - Eds]

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During a Heraldry Society outing three or four years ago I came across John Dent and the late Sir Richard Neville condemning the style of a small Victorian Royal Arms in one of the churches. The lion and the unicorn were, in the standard derogatory phrase, peeping coyly round the shield; but the detail of the shallow carving was beautifully done and I found the animals, though indeed heraldically appalling, totally appealing. I tried to explain to two severe critics that I had fallen in love with those insupportable supporters just as I might succumb to a puppy or a teddy bear; heraldry had nothing to do with it. But John regarded me disapprovingly (I often have that effect on him) while Sir Richard, though polite as a gentleman should be, could not help looking at me as though I had two heads. But while I have always been a serious armorist, deploring unsound heraldry as much as they. I have also, over the years, picked up an awful lot of picturesque heraldic dross. I could - perhaps should - dismiss it with a sniff of contempt, but I feel I would be the poorer. That entrancing lion and unicorn are visual examples; verbal examples include the numerous 'explanations' associated with various armorial bearings. These I treasure; and believe unquestioningly (with my second head!). So beginning with this issue of the Norfolk Standard I beg to offer some of my favourites; you may entertain no doubt that they all really happened - in the time of Queen Dick! Like the story of ...

TYRWHITT OF NORTHUMBERLAND

Among the younger sons who followed the **Conqueror** to England was one who refused to give any name, saying that he had no past since all its honours belonged to his father and elder brother; and that he would make a future for himself. His fellows, because of his size and strength, called him simply - **Hercules**. At Hastings **Hercules** fought so well that **William** knighted him and promised him lands of his own. Then, looking at his great size and listening to the valorous promises still being made, the **Duke** turned crafty - his new knight could accept modest acres in the south or a great estate in the still rebellious north. The latter would give him immense wealth and importance; but only if he could hold it, if he could survive. **Hercules** took up the challenge. And somewhere in the north he said I will find my name.

The new order was not popular and beyond the Humber the land was often in flames. But **Hercules** proved to be more than just a good soldier. For a long time no trouble came his way that he could not handle, and for a long time after that no trouble at all. He won the surly loyalty of his people who appreciated the peace he made and forced them to keep; and he began to dream of marriage and sons to

inherit. But how can I? he thought. I still have no name. Then one day, confidently riding his home acres alone but for his page, he fell foul of a vagrant band of rebels, ripe for mischief. Swiftly **Hercules** bade the page cross the nearby ford, no easy task with the beck high and savage after the Spring rains, and ride for help while he attempted to hold the raiders at the bank.

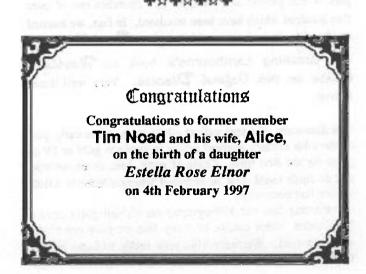
The page's return with the Steward and twenty stout men-atarms put the rebels to flight; but they had already begun to cross the stream and of **Sir Hercules** there was no sign. With little hope his men began to seek their lord. And but for a miracle we would never have found you, sir, his Steward told him afterwards. At least not in time. You'd fetched up in the rushes half a mile downstream, unconscious, half drowned and bleeding from a dozen wounds; another few minutes would have been too late. But the lapwings led you to me? Aye, sir, three of them tyrwhitts we call them in these parts - wheeling and crying above you, with the westering sun on their wings. They saved you. Sir Hercules smiled. Pale and painfully weak from loss of blood, he was in no state to judge if the birds



were indeed heaven sent or just reacting as birds will to an intruder too near the nest. But if no miracle, at least a debt and one he would gladly acknowledge. I think, he said it is time I took a wife. And the sons of that wife and **Sir Hercules Tyrwhitt** of Northumberland bear *Gules three tyrwhitts or* to this very day.

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[Coincidentally- Brigadier Dame Mary Joan Caroline Tyrwhitt DBE known as "Bovvy" to her numerous friends died at the age of 93 on 18th March. She was the last director of the ATS and the first director of the WRAC when it was established in 1949. She was the daughter of Admiral of the Fleet Sir Reginald Yorke Tyrwhitt Bt. GCB DSO, Commander of the Harwich Force in the Great War. Her brother became Admiral Sir St. John Tyrwhitt Bt. KCB DSO DSC. A distinguished family indeed - Eds]



Militaria No. 14 -



The Somerset Light Infantry

The Somerset Light Infantry was raised in 1685 as the Earl of Huntingdon's Regiment of Foot and, like most regiments, its title changed with its colonels until 1751 when it became the 13th Regiment of Foot. During the War of the Spanish Succession (1701-14) the regiment existed in dual form the Earl of Peterborough was

short of cavalry and in 1706 converted the **Earl of Barrymore's Regiment of Foot** (as the regiment was currently named) into **Pearce's Dragoons** which survived until 1713. **Barrymore** meanwhile raised another another regiment of foot. In 1782 the title changed to **13th (1st Somersetshire) Regiment of Foot** but in 1822 they were formed into a **Corps of Light Infantry** and were the first regiment of the British army to be so named. The



name of the regiment then changed to 1st Somersetshire) 13th (or Regiment of Foot (Light Infantry). In 1842 there was a further change to 13th or Prince Albert's Regiment of Light Infantry. In 1881 there were two changes, firstly the to Somersetshire Regiment (Prince Albert's Light infantry) and then to

Prince Albert's Light Infantry (Somersetshire Regiment). There were more changes to come and, 1912 saw the regiment become Prince Albert's (Somerset Light Infantry) and, in 1921, the Somerset Light Infantry (Prince Albert's).

In 1959 the regiment merged with the Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry to form the Somerset & Cornwall Light Infantry. Sadly, even this was not the end, and in 1968 a "large regiment", The Light Infantry was formed by the merging of these two regiments (1st Battalion) with the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, the King's Shropshire Light Infantry and the Durham Light Infantry.

The regiment served at Dettingen, on the North West Frontier of India, in the Crimean War and in the Boer War. Among its many battle honours are Retreat from Mons, Marne, Aisne, Armentières, Ypres, Somme, Delville Wood, Arras, Vimy, Menin Road, Passchendaele and Cambrai



from the Great War and Italy, North Africa and Burma from World War II. The regimental badge was described as within the strings of a bugle-horn the initial letters PA (Prince Albert) with above a mural crown superscribed **Jellalabad** - a battle honour exclusive to the regiment.

The badge of the **Somerset & Cornwall Light Infantry** was a very plain affair of a stringed bugle-horn with above

a mural crown all upon a red cloth backing. The badge of **The Light Infantry** is even less attractive and is a stringed bugle-horn upon a red cloth backing.





The Dictoria Cross has

been won by five members of the regiment - two in the Indian Mutiny, one in the Zulu War, one in the Great War and one in World War II. In addition two members of the regiment were awarded the George Cross in World War II. Nicknames of **The Somerset Light Infantry** are the **Jellalabad Herces** and the **Illustrious Garrison** because, in 1842, during the first Afghan War they occupied the ruined fortress of Jellalabad and for six months defended it against an infinitely superior number of Afghans - probably the most bloodthirsty enemy ever faced by British troops. The 13th also had to contend with over a hundred earthquakes during the siege but on 5th April they made a sortie and utterly defeated the Afghans thereby lifting the siege. For its gallant defence of the town the regiment was awarded the mural crown badge.

They were the last British regiment to leave India - the 1st Battalion marched through the "Gateway to India" in Bombay on 28th February 1948. The then CO is Brigadier John Platt, DSO now 93 years old.

The Regimental Headquarters is the Peninsula Barracks, Andover Road North, Winchester, Hants. and recruiting covers large areas of England, namely Cleveland, Durham, South Yorkshire, Shropshire, Herefordshire, Somerset, Avon and Cornwall.



Heraldry in Glamorgan by Anthony L. Jones

Your editors have received from the author of the series above a complimentary copy of the excellent Volume No.7 - The Alediacoal Beraldic Inlaid Pabing Tiles of Reath Abbep. It is, we believe, the latest publication all of which are available from the Heraldry Society via any one of our members who regularly work on a voluntary basis at Musem Street. The current prices are as follows:-

No. 1 South Glamorgan	£1 50
No. 2 St. John's, Cardiff	£1.50
No. 3 Llandaff Cathedral	£2.00
No. 4 St. Fagans & St. Donats	£3.50
No. 5 South Glamorgan	£2.50
No. 7 Neath Abbey	£5.00 also
Margam Church and Castle	£3.00

If No.7 is anything to go by they will be very welcome additions to any heraldist's library.

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Stained & Painted Glass - 1270 - 1800

by Fay Robson

To complement the excellent talk given by **Fay** on 17th April she has sent us a source list of the slides she used. 14th century

Bohun, Warenne in tracery Madley, Hereford Roos, Warenne Holy Trinity, Goodramgate, York Sir John Somery - barbed quatrefoil Burrell Collection, Glasgow. Scrope - black border & white label Heydour, Lincs. Froyle, Hants Edward I & family Ferrers - horseshoes - border of lions & four-leaved flowers Bere Ferrers, Devon Beauchamp, Bohun, Clare - larger shields in base of window North Luffenham, Rutland. Philippa of Hainault - quartered lions - clumsy design Little Kimble, Bucks. **Black Prince & John of Gaunt** St. Albans, Herts. Hastings qtg. Valence - possibly earliest non - royal quartering in glass Lowick, Northants. 15th century Luttrell - borne by an angel Pitcombe, Somerset Three shields - borne by angels Nettlestead, Kent. Ockwells - four shields - inaccurate use of silverstain for Bishop Beckington - in top corner Cheddar, Somerset. Hungerford sickles (Badge) Farleigh, Hungerford, Somerset. Richard III - white boar (Badge) St. Martin cum Gregory, York. Peyton - donor figures in tabards Long Melford, Suffolk. 344 Hop 23 104 16th century 5.20197 Stanley, Tempest, etc. - domestic glass -c1500 Bolling Hall, Bradford, Yorks. Bishop Alcock - canting arms - black pigment and silverstain All Saints, York Henry VIII from Hampton Court Earsdon, Northumberland, Jane Seymour - phoenix badge Great Bedwyn, Wilts. Lord Windsor & his son - contrasting techniques - traditional & enamel Bradenham, Bucks. Fane impaling Hendley - dated 1567 Mereworth, Kent. Shields of similar design Fawsley, Northants. & Coughton Court, Warwicks. Knights of the Garter Lyme Park, Cheshire. Fairfax & Stapleton windows - ssigned by Bernard Dinningkoff Gilling Castle, Yorks. Horsey qtg. Turges & Malbank - punning arms dated 1598 Montacute House, Somerset. 17th century Henry Carey - possibly son of Henry VIII - arms commissioned by Dame Elizabeth Hoby or her son Bisham, Berks. Proctor imp. Greene - oriel window Fountains Hall, Yorks. Lunette - 15,16 & 17c glass including Archbishops of Canterbury & York. Mereworth, Kent. Sackville - with strapwork surround Knole, Kent. St. John windows by Bernard Battersea & Abraham Van Linge. Lydiard Tregoz, Wilts. Chaloner - Noble Tribes of Wales Guisborough, Yorks. 5.1533.0287.3 Royal & Grocers Co. windows - signed by John Oliver Northill, Beds. Frenchville window - lavish use of decoration, angels, coronets, etc. Stavely, Derbys. 18th century Sidney - porcupine crest & bear & ragged staff crest for Mary Sidney,

ancestor of **De lisle & Dudley** Turville, Bucks. **Yorke** - three windows with blue saltire, bezant & monkey crest - **Earl & Countess of Hardwick.** Very mean! Wimpole Church, Cambs. **St. Quintin** glass by **William Peckitt** - arms placed within orangecoloured oval panels. Harpham, Yorks.

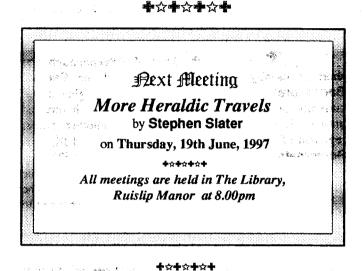
19th century

Asshurst pedigree window with Peckitt panel superimposed Waterstock, Oxon. Sackville & West pedigree window by T. Willement Withvam, Sussex.

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Monthly Meetings

Owing to difficulties in obtaining a speaker every month and with due regard to dwindling attendances it has been decided that we shall, in future, hold only ten meetings in any calendar year. There will be no meeting in August this year nor in future years and September, each year, will be reserved for the AGM combined with our annual Members' Meeting. As January, more often than not, offers inclement weather there will be no further meetings in this month.



Your editors apologize to **Marian Miles** whose talk on **Thursday, 15th May,** was not advertised due to the late publication of Seaxe.

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Forthcoming Attractions

Same let

We have another delightful article by **Cynthia Liddard Canning** reprinted from the **Morfolk Standard** - and we are delighted to report that we have been given permission to reprint any or all of the series of about twelve articles.

Our old friend **Joss Froggatt** has sent us another short contribution - Seeing Red.

And for once rumour was right and there is another contribution to the **Home Town** series - this time from **Keith Pocock**. We have also received an interesting article from **Peter Bentley** on his **adopted** home town of Bourne in Lincolnshire.

To add to these riches **Ron Edwards** has sent us the results of his research into the fate of some of the Regicides - and it is possible that **John Allen** may have drawn, to his own satisfaction, the diagrams which will accompany his further thoughts on **Vair**!

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Reeping in Touch

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In response to many requests we enclose an updated list of telephone numbers and addresses of members together with similar information on people who can best be described as Friends of the Middlesex Heraldry Society.

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