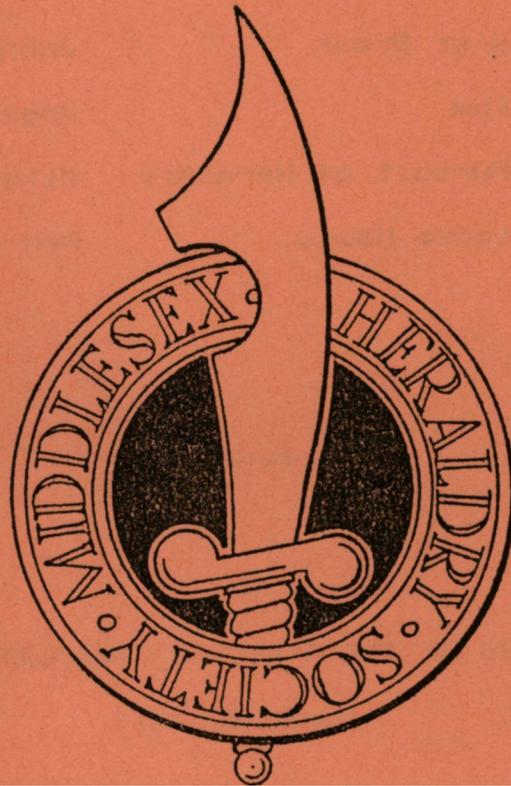


THE SEAXE



Number 11

July 1990

CONTENTS

Editorial Review	Kay Holmes	1.
The Secretary's Year	Peggy Foster	2.
Visits	Margaret Young	3.
Full Frontal Heraldry	Don Kirby	4.
All From One Shield	Jim Golland	5.
The Hemp Bray, Brake or Break	John Hucker	10.
The Society's Emporium	Roger Matthews	12.
Berlin and Back in Pursuit of Heraldry	Mike Phillips	13.
The Hawtreys of Eastcote House	Ron Edwards	15.

OFFICERS OF THE MIDDLESEX HERALDRY SOCIETY

From September 1989

Chairman	Mrs. Nan Taylor
Vice-chairman	Roger Matthews
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	Kay Holmes
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EDITORIAL MARCH 1990

Another issue of *THE SEAXE* gives an opportunity to review our activities, heraldic and otherwise, in Middlesex and elsewhere, during the last twelve months.

The first major event of 1989 was the grand exhibition at Gayton Road Library in Harrow. The Librarian considered it the best display put on by any society in the library. Pete Taylor had undertaken the mounting of the exhibits, many of which were his own work, based on the excellent courses he has run. The exhibition formed a splendid introduction to the subject of heraldry. One wondered how any member of the public could possibly walk past without being attracted to the display, even by the colour alone.

In September Ron Brown arranged a most interesting weekend at Dillington Hall in Somerset, with a rich and full programme of places to visit - a rewarding experience for those who were able to participate.

Our third landmark was the Study Day at Windsor Castle, arranged in conjunction with the Chilterns Heraldry Group, on behalf of The Heraldry Society. The theme, *THE GARTER, THE THISTLE AND THE BATH* was addressed by four experts; Peter Regent; Hubert Chesshyre, Chester Herald and our Patron; Charles Burnett, Ross Herald; and John Brooke-Little, Norroy and Ulster King of Arms and Chairman of the Heraldry Society; Lt.Cdr. John Bedells chairing all sessions. The event was a "sell-out" from the start, numbers having to be limited by the size of the Chapter Library. Lunch was superbly catered by Martine Sweeney and, while it is not possible to list all who helped, mention must be made of the efforts of Nan Taylor and Les Pierson, who planned the whole venture, and of Peter Regent whose liaison with the Castle authorities was invaluable.

Our Middlesex Church recording has almost reached the stage of publication - in fact the first section on St. Martin's, Ruislip, is with the St. Martin's Printers now, and should be available before *THE SEAXE* itself. It seemed appropriate to begin with Ruislip, which is where we meet, especially as Alan Seymour, the Churchwarden, is the printer. Copy for other churches is almost ready, with Margaret Young producing line drawings of many of the arms.

Several of our members continue to man the Library of The Heraldry Society, to which we are affiliated. The Library is available for consultation and members are welcome to visit; some have already done so.

Members will recall some discussion of *THE SEAXE* at the AGM last September. It was suggested that members should be invited to contribute, but that no-one should feel under any pressure to do so, and that we should continue to publish using such material as came in. We feel that this issue conforms to those ideas and it is particularly pleasing that we have received articles from a recent temporary member and from two of our newest permanent members. We hope that other members will begin to think now of what they could produce for next year.

Kay Holmes & Don Kirby
Editors

ANNUAL REPORT - for the Year Ending September, 1989

October 1988 got off to a flying start with our husband and wife team - Nan was elected Chairman and Pete gave us a fascinating discourse on Edinburgh's Royal Mile, liberally sprinkled with heraldry along the way. We were sad to lose Mary Blachford from amongst us but glad to welcome Peggy Teasdale to our ranks.

November brought us news of the Bath Heraldic Society's 40th Anniversary celebrations and greetings from Margaret Zigadas in Spain. Our speaker for the evening was the Revd.W.H.B.Elliott who held us spellbound talking about what he termed *Ante or Pre-Christian Dragons*. This was an absorbing subject enlivened by slides, quotations and readings from the Book of Revelation in the New Testament. The talk engendered much lively discussion afterwards. Christmas saw the usual light-hearted activities followed in January by our Vice-Chairman Roger's talk on Police Heraldry - see the last *Seaxe*!

If anyone thought that Peach Froggatt's talk on *Funeral Heraldry* at our February meeting would be depressing they were proved wrong for, as Peach explained, it is all the pomp and ceremony which has given rise to so much colour and heraldry in our churches today. Not to mention the efforts of people like Josh and herself in the way of restoration. Peach told us many fascinating facts about funeral arrangements, first recorded as being undertaken by heralds in 1462, the custom of hatchments adopted from the Low Countries and burials carried out at night. Margaret kindly deputised as Secretary in March and recorded that you were all fascinated by what Keith Lovell had to say about Ninian Comper who obviously loved heraldry - and angels! Draw what conclusions you will but there are, as Keith told everyone, lots of examples to go and see.

In April we were pleased to welcome David Lee. This time he spoke to us on *Heraldic Visitations*, a wide and interesting subject, not easily researched because the information gathered by the heralds from mid-16th century to late 17th century did not always arrive back at the College of Arms. It seems you were all fascinated by the subject as presented by David judging by the questions and discussion which followed. *Flights of Fancy* - our talk in May by Terry Owen - had a lot of you guessing. It turned out to be not only fanciful heraldry but heraldry related to many aspects of flight - our speaker having served in the Royal Engineers and, latterly, in the aircraft industry. Terry began by reminding us that flying creatures preceded man and, after discussing early bestiaries, the heavenly host and even balloons, he concluded with heraldry on aeroplanes and of the arms of the College of Heralds.

Our Treasurer, Peter Esslemont, gave us the benefit of his wide knowledge of heraldry on stamps, bringing along his comprehensive collection as well as slides. Margaret reported that, afterwards, there were some interesting questions and a lively discussion. August brought a very popular speaker and fellow member in Fay Robson. She told us all about a famous house and branch of an equally famous family in Cheshire, their arms dating back to the time of Richard II and earlier - the Legh's who lived in the lordly house of Lyme in Cheshire. Our Chairman included Jim, Fay's husband, in the vote of thanks for his splendid photography. At this meeting we were sorry to learn that Peter Bentley was leaving us but wished his family and himself every happiness in Lincolnshire.

And so our year has passed with lively meetings with subjects ranging from the fanciful to the factual. Featuring prominently among these was an interesting and enjoyable evening provided for us by Professor Ian Campbell, in June, who told us about Canadian heraldry and its latest developments. The talk was arranged for us by John Allen and Peter Esslemont. With the best will in the world these delightful surprises will not crop up every year - we still want your slides for Members' Evening - so keep heraldry hunting!

Peggy Foster

VISITS - 1988/1989

We have had a number of happy and interesting outings beginning with a most successful visit to Audley End House in October, arranged for us by Don Kirby. There was a great deal of heraldry of the different owners of the house and their marriages and we had an unexpected treat when we were shown a book handpainted by Louisa, Marchioness Cornwallis, of the family arms.

The Fishmongers' Hall was visited in November and was well attended in spite of a miserable fog. The Banqueting Hall was very fine and had shields of arms of the Prime Wardens all round. We were given an account of the history of the building and the Guild by our guide.

In January 1989 we visited some London churches. Firstly, St. Katherine's Danish Church in Regent's Park. It is a beautiful church and its history is connected with St. Katherine's Dock and trade with Denmark. It is under the patronage of English queens whose shields of arms are round the walls - from William the Conqueror's queen, Matilda, up to the present day. We went on to St. Cyprian's Church at Clarence Gate, which is a lovely building and has fine stained glass windows by Ninian Comper. St. Mary's, Paddington Green, was our next stop. It is built in the shape of a Greek cross and its windows of clear glass are very attractive. The vicar told us the history of the Church and showed us the heraldry including his own grant of arms. The outing finished with a very good tea party at the home of the Revd. Alfred Pryse Hawkins and his wife.

A number of Buckinghamshire churches were visited in April. First, Holy Trinity, Penn, which is a lovely old church with plenty of heraldry including several hatchments of the Curzon family. A particularly fine window, which is a war memorial, has figures and arms of Edward, the Black Prince, and Joan of Arc. We went on to St. Mary's, Hedgerley which is a pretty little church with two beautiful windows one of which is heraldic. At St. Mary's, Beaconsfield, there is a wall plaque with the arms of Edmund Burke, 19th century MP, and at St. Giles', Stoke Poges, are many hatchments and much other heraldry.

In May we went to Berkshire and visited churches at Hurst, Swallowfield and Aldermaston, all of which were full of interest. A coach outing was arranged for June when we travelled to Salisbury. We were met there by Steve Slater who took us on a tour of the city on foot. Among many places visited were St. Thomas' Church, which contains some fine heraldry, and the Odeon Cinema, the entrance of which is the hall of the Mansion of John Hulle and contains many heraldic shields. After lunch we had a tour of the Cathedral and some of us had tea with the Bishop at a charity tea party in the palace garden.

We went to Surrey for our July outing and first visited the Lumley Chapel at Cheam which contains many memorials to that family. This chapel was originally part of the old church and was preserved as a separate building when the new church was built. We went on to St. Mary's Church, Beddington, wherein are the arms of the Carew family and their connections. There are some fine heraldic windows and the walls are almost entirely covered by Victorian paintings. At Stoke D'Abernon we saw the two beautiful D'Abernon brasses and much more heraldry including a family pedigree worked by Gerald Cobb. We then had tea with Ron & Vera Brown which was most welcome on a very hot day!

In September we had a weekend away staying at Ilminster in Somerset. On the way down we visited Mere Church and Montacute House and Church. The house is a magnificent Elizabethan building begun by Sir Edward Phelips in 1558. There is some fine heraldic glass and tapestries including the Mille Fleur tapestry. On Saturday we visited the Taunton Record Office and Museum both of which were well worth the effort. St. Mary Magdalene's Church in Taunton has a beautiful roof to the nave with angels holding shields of arms.

After sheltering from a terrific rainstorm we went on to Lyte's Carey Manor House and Chapel before returning to Ilminster. On Sunday we visited the church at Hinton St. George where there is a chapel for the Paulet family. There are several monuments of very different styles including an early one of simple beauty and another very ornate Elizabethan one. Wilton House was the last visit of the weekend, on our way home. It is a very fine house belonging to the Herberts, Earls of Pembroke, and has a lot of heraldic glass some of it royal. The weekend had been arranged by Ron Brown and was much enjoyed by all.

Margaret Young

FULL FRONTAL HERALDRY

In February I missed the remarks of Peterborough in *The Daily Telegraph* which apparently referred to the arms of *Boynton-Wood*. I was however amused by the ensuing correspondence and as it touches on the special interests of two of our members I felt it appropriate to quote from two of the letters published.

From Anthony Boynton-Wood of Ripon



*Peterborough and Ian Bryce both miss the significance of my family's arms, just restored to the "Royal Oak" pub at Copmanthorpe, near York. The history of this was till recently woven with that of the Boynton-Woods for 400 years. The crest "an oak tree proper charged with golden acorns" recalls Charles II's refuge in an oak. The "three wild men" are heraldically "proper" - that is, represented "in natural or normal colour" - as opposed to "improper" or "lewd": obviously derived from the "condition" of mind of viewers, almost "mens rea" -no doubt an overdose of "original sin" (Genesis 3, v.7).**

None have always been "wreathed about the temples and loins vert" and each always carried the shield of St. George. They can still be seen in Fairfax's armorial panelling and painted glass set up in 1583 in the Great Hall of Gilling Castle, the Ampleforth prep school.

The clubs are not "wielded" but carried over the "dexter" shoulder, palpably to warn off "oppugnancy" suffered by the likes of those in

Shakespeare's time. Perhaps those frequenting the inn are afflicted with double vision, so impaired indeed that they did not spot the "vegetable knickers".

This was followed by a letter from Henry Phythian-Adams of Leamington Spa

Further to Anthony Boynton-Wood's letter about his arms, the wreathed "wild men" are, of course, "wood men" and a pun on his name.

Absolute nudity is rare in British heraldry but the Wood family, Earls of Halifax, have the three men naked and "ambulant".

Dalzell, Earl of Carnwath, has "a naked man, arms extended, proper" (described as "au naturel" in 1685) on a black field. This is full, frontal nudity.

**The actual Biblical quotation is - And the eyes of them both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig-leaves together, and made themselves aprons.*

+Burke gives the arms as - Hood (Copmanthorpe, co. York) - Az. three woodmen ppr. each armed with a club over the right shoulder and a shield in front ar. thereon a cross gu. head and waist encircled with a wreath vert. all standing on a ground ppr. Crest - an oak tree ppr. charged with acorns or. Motto - Pro patria.

Don Kirby

ALL FROM ONE SHIELD.

Being a complete beginner in heraldry, I still derive a naive pleasure from looking at the kind of shields that no doubt give real students of the art a shudder, the kind blazoned "all proper". It was such a shield that caught my eye when I was strolling round Norwich Cathedral last year. Apart from a black cross and a golden lion, it was decorated with a ship in full sail on a turbulent sea beside a castle; and the crest had another ship, wrecked beside a similar fortress. My curiosity was aroused: what was it doing in a cathedral and why were there two ships?

I spent the next few months in an ever-widening search that has extended my knowledge and broadened my horizons, as well as giving a great deal of fun in the process. I have followed its owner from Cornwall to the Falklands, from Canada to India, and from France to Algeria. I have studied the naval history of the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries and have learnt much about ranks and the marshalling of fleets. I have come across prime ministers and Spanish grandees, Jack the Ripper, Monty and the Dukes of St. Albans. I have traced families to Chalfont St. Giles and even Harrow School. I have come across the Peterloo massacre and the African slave trade - and all from one small coat of arms!

I learned that the arms were those of a former Dean of Norwich, the Reverend George PELLEW. The black cross was that of the BENEDICTINE PRIORY of NORWICH, which impaled the arms of PELLEW, awarded, in fact, to his father, a famous admiral: and this is where the story began.

Edward PELLEW was born at Dover in 1757, the son of a man in charge of the royal mail packet boat there. His father died young and Edward seems to have been irrepressible, once entering a burning house stocked with gunpowder. He ran away to sea at thirteen after a flogging and the following year went to the Mediterranean as a midshipman where he promptly jumped ship to help a friend. He delighted in showing off his physical strength, sometimes standing on his head on the yard-arm, or jumping off the mast into the sea to save a drowning sailor. He went to serve in the American War of Independence under General Burgoyne and there are many tales of his skill and heroism under fire.

More than once he had to take command when his senior officers were killed in battle and by 1782 he was a post-captain: he was described as "a born frigate captain", so dashing were his tactics. For capturing a French ship in 1793, he was knighted. Three years later, the trooper Dutton had run aground off Plymouth and he had himself transported out to the ship by cable and there organised the saving of the passengers and crew. For this he was created a baronet and to the family arms of:-

Argent a chevron gules & in base a civic crown proper, on a chief of the second three mascles of the field.

he was awarded a crest described by Debrett as:-

Upon the waves of the sea the stern of a wrecked ship inscribed "Dutton" (East Indiaman) upon a rocky shore off Plymouth garrison (i.e. in the background a hill upon the top of which a flag hoisted) all proper.

The crest shown in the Cathedral also bears a sailor on the shore and both ship and castle are flying a red flag. Burke has a similar crest to the one above again with no mention of flags or sailors.

In 1797 Sir Edward was in action against the French, sailing his ship so close that his men were able to tear off the French flag as it flapped across their deck. His companion boat was grounded but but he managed to sail away with six feet of water in the hold.

After service in India he was created Baron Exmouth and promoted to rear admiral. In the early seventeenth century British fleets had been divided into three: the admiral of the fleet commanded the centre squadron and flew a red flag; the vice-admiral led the van and bore a white flag; and the rear-admiral a blue flag. At last I understood why we called the butterfly a Red Admiral! PELLEW, or Exmouth as he now was, later became Admiral of the Blue, White and Red in succession.

In his spare time he had tried farming but found it dull. In 1783 he married Susannah FROWD of Knoyle in Wiltshire. In 1786 they had a son, the oddly named Pownoll Bastard. The first element was after one of his early captains who became a firm friend. His odd name did not stop this son from becoming an M.P. and inheriting his father's titles. A second son, Fleetwood, became an admiral and the third and fourth sons, George and Edward entered the Church, the former becoming our Dean of Norwich.

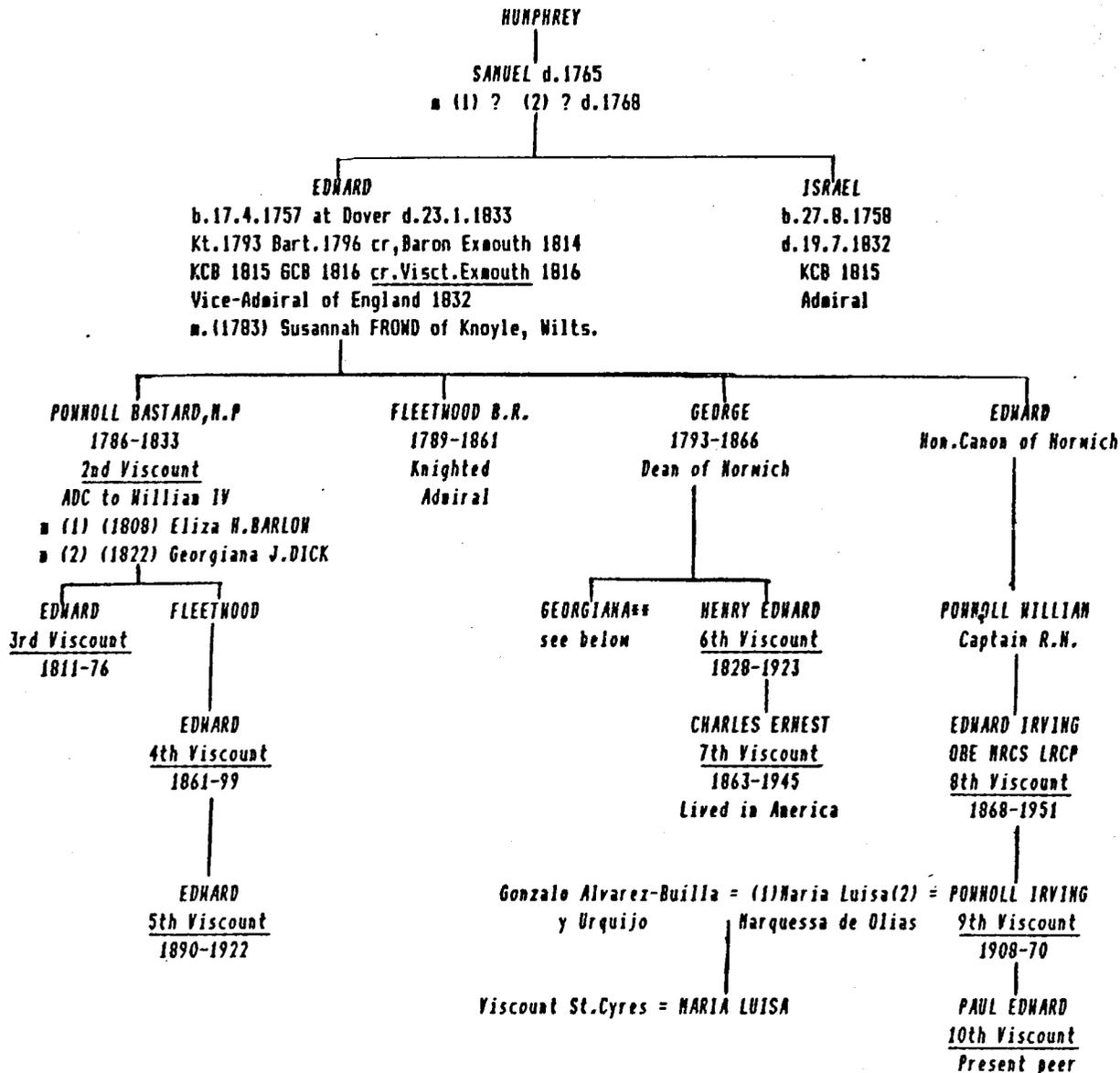
In 1816 the Napoleonic wars were over but Exmouth was not one for a quiet life. He was sent to deliver some Christian slaves captured by the Bey of Algiers, a feat that meant capturing a heavily defended harbour. Being nothing if not cunning, he sent one vessel ahead on a "courtesy" visit to spy out the lie of the land. Then, with a fleet of twenty four ships, he entered the harbour. After thirty shots, the garrison surrendered and well over a thousand slaves were rescued, amidst much public rejoicing. Admiral Baron Exmouth was created a Viscount and granted a new coat of arms:-

Gules a lion passant guardant and in chief two chaplets (another, civic wreaths) or, on a chief of augmentation wavy argent a representation of Algiers with a British man-of-war before it, all proper. (Debrett adds to that blazon in Burke - on the dexter side a man-of-war bearing the flag of the admiral of the blue, all proper.)

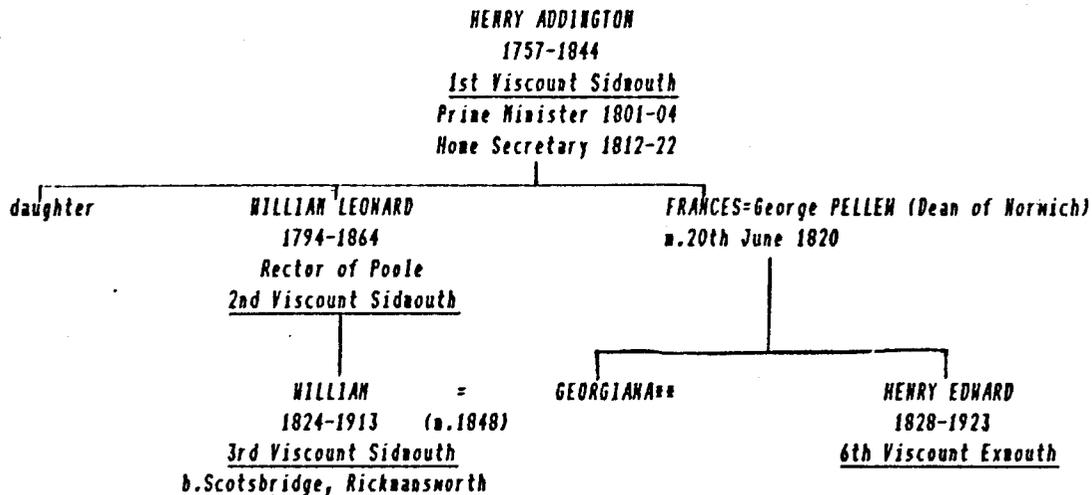
The arms in Norwich Cathedral show a red flag as well as a mullet for difference. (Incidentally, the white flag of the Vice-Admiral was modified in the War of the Spanish Succession in 1702 when it was charged with the red cross of St. George to distinguish it from the French flag.) Viscount Exmouth, the nation's hero, was also granted supporters:-

Dexter, a lion rampant guardant or navally crowned azure resting the dexter paw upon a decrescent argent; Sinister, a male figure representing slavery, trousers argent striped azure, the upper part of the body naked, holding in the dexter hand broken chains proper, the sinister arm elevated and holding a cross or. (Burke). (Debrett again modifies this, referring to - a Christian slave naked from the waist upwards, a cloth round the loins, and thighs and legs habited in blue and white striped trousers.) The mottoes are - DEO ADJUVANTE (God assisting me) and ALGIERS

Pellew - Viscounts Exmouth



The Addington Connection



God being my helper.



VISCOUNT EXMOUTH.

BURKE

We have no room to deal with a naval mutiny, nor with his exploits in the Falklands and many other places. He died in 1833, a Vice-Admiral of England and a Knight Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath. (His portrait can be seen at Greenwich and in the National Portrait Gallery.) He was succeeded by his oldest son, Fownoll Bastard.

Edward's younger brother, Sir Israel PELLEW, was also an Admiral and died the previous year. He had fought at Trafalgar.

The Dean of Norwich was born in Cornwall and was educated at Eton and Oxford University. In 1820 he married Frances ADDINGTON, daughter of Henry, 1st Viscount Sidmouth, who had been Prime Minister 1801-04. (It was during his later period of office, as Home Secretary, that *habeus corpus* was suspended and the Peterloo Massacre took place in Manchester; but that is another story. It was said of him, "Pitt is to Addington as London is to Paddington".)

In 1848, their daughter, Georgiana, married her cousin, William, 3rd Viscount Sidmouth, (who was born at Rickmansworth), so that the Dean's daughter and his sister-in law were both Viscountess Sidmouth! The Dean's son and grand-son, who lived in America, in their turn became 6th and 7th Viscount Exmouth.

If you are not already confused by Exmouths and Sidmouths, wait - there is more to come! 9th Viscount Exmouth, Pownoll PELLEW, (named after Edward's favourite captain), a descendant of the Dean's younger brother, Edward, who had himself been an Honorary Canon of Norwich, married the widow of a Spanish grandee. She was the magnificently named Maria Luisa Alvarez-Builla y Urquijo, Marquessa de Olias. We shall deal, in a moment, with the Marquessa's daughter by her first husband, but she produced a son by Pownoll who became 10th Viscount Exmouth. He married, as his second wife, Rosemary, Countess of Burford, former wife of Murray de VERE BEAUCLERK, son of 13th Duke of St. Albans.

This information led me into an investigation of the St.Albans' line: the BEAUCLERKS formerly owned land and houses in Pinner. It was one of them who employed William Skenelsby as butler. His headboard in Pinner Churchyard records that he died at the age of 118 in 1775.

The de VERE family too was, of course, interesting as one of the oldest families in England, proud to have outlasted the Mortimers and even the Plantagenets. (Robert de VERE was one of the twenty five barons who forced King John to accept Magna Carta.) 1st Duke of St.Albans was the son of Charles II and Nell Gwynn and, in 1694, married the beautiful heiress, Lady Diana de VERE, daughter of 20th and last Earl of Oxford, through whom the BEAUCLERKS inherited the Adelphi site in the Strand. This passed to the DRUMMOND banking family of Stanmore, by marriage, but that too is another story.

We have space only for a brief foray into yet another family - via 9th Viscount Exmouth's step-daughter, Maria Louisa, named after the Marqesa, her mother. She married the Viscount St.Cyres (later 4th Earl Iddesleigh) in 1955. 1st Earl Iddesleigh was Stafford Henry NORTHCOTE, Chancellor of the Exchequer in 1874 and later Foreign Minister. His third son was an honorary chaplain to Edward VII and married Hilda FARRAR, daughter of the Harrow master who wrote *Eric, or Little by Little*. (She was therefore the aunt of Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery.) Their son, 3rd Earl Iddesleigh, married Elizabeth LOWNDES. The name seemed familiar: her mother was Mrs. Belloc LOWNDES, the authoress whose book, *The Lodger*, published in 1913, was based on Jack the Ripper. She was a famous feminist in her day. Elizabeth's brother was Hilaire Belloc and it was her son who married the younger Maria Louisa.

Debrett's *Handbook of Distinguished People in British Life 1982* describes 1st Earl Iddesleigh as managing the remarkable feat of being a confidant of Gladstone in his youth and of Disraeli in maturity and was described in 1883 as a mixture of the Treasury Clerk, Sir Roger de Coverley and the pantaloon on the pantomime stage.

We have come a long way from Edward PELLEW and have covered many aspects of history. "What about Chalfont St.Giles?" - the attentive reader may be asking. That is - or was a few years ago - the home of John Tonge Anthony PELLEW Addington, 7th Viscount Sidmouth. Funny how that fourth name keeps appearing.

Jim Golland

SIR REGINALD BRAY & THE HEMP BRAY, BRAKE or BREAK.

It would be interesting to know if there is any other establishment where the badge of one individual is displayed more frequently than the hemp bray, brake or break of Sir Reginald Bray in St. George's Chapel, Windsor, where the device can be seen no fewer than 175 times. Sir Reginald was the benefactor who made possible the completion of the Chapel by the year 1528, construction having started in 1475.

Edward IV began the building of the Chapel in 1475 but, owing to shortage of money, work had come to a standstill by Bray's death in 1503. The Quire was virtually complete, albeit with a timber roof, but the Nave had only its foundations and outer walls up to sill level. As planned the Nave did not include the now most westernmost bay. Bray's bequest enabled the construction of the Chapel to be completed and it is worth recording, with modernised spelling and punctuation, his will:-



The hemp brake within the Garter in the vaulting of the nave in St. George's Chapel.

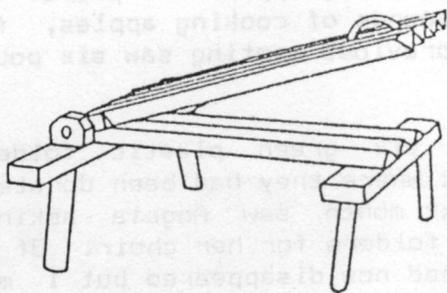
I will that my Executors immediately after my decease endeavour themselves with all diligence, with the issues and profits of my lands and tenements by them to be received and had, to make and perform, and cause to be made and performed, the work of the new works of the body of the church of the College of Our Lady and St. George within the Castle of Windsor; and the same work by them wholly to be performed and finished according and after the form and extent of the foundation thereof, as well in stone work, timber, lead, iron, glass and all other things necessary and requisite for the utter performance of the same.

Bray was born in Worcester on an unrecorded date. His father is buried in Worcester Cathedral after having been in the service of Margaret Beaufort, mother of Henry VII, in the 1460's. Reginald Bray soon became involved in the affairs of Margaret Beaufort and had a hand in the plot to marry Henry Tudor, Lady Margaret's son, to Elizabeth of York, daughter of Edward IV. After the battle of Bosworth, Bray was rewarded by being made a Knight of the Order of the Bath at the coronation of Henry VII. He subsequently became a Knight of the Order of the Garter and was, briefly, Treasurer of England and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. In October 1494 he became High Steward of Oxford University. One of his last public duties was to take part in the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of Henry VII's Chapel at Westminster on 24th January 1503.

Sir Reginald married Catherine Hussey but there was no issue. He died on 5th August 1503. His will ordered - *my sinful body to be buried within the church of the colledge of Our Lady and St. George within the Castle of Windsor in the west end and south side of the same church within the chapel there new made by me for the same intent.*

In the event, the west end became what is now the South Transept and it is here that Sir Reginald lies. Visitors to the Chapel might expect to find his tomb surmounted by an alabaster figure of him - possibly such a tomb was destroyed by the Puritans to whom Bray's record would make him especially obnoxious. A coffin was found and re-interred in 1740. However we are constantly reminded of Sir Reginald Bray by the sight of his badge, the hemp bray, as we stroll around or worship in the Chapel.

The flax and hemp bray, brake or break - sometimes also called a hackle machine - used for pounding hemp, seems, like many other devices, to be borne on account of the name - the old word bray meaning to bruise or pound. Proverbs xxvii says - *Though thou shouldest bray a fool in a mortar among wheat with a pestle, yet will not his foolishness depart from him.*



The flax brake

Before about 1835 flax and hemp fibres were dressed by hand in four separate stages. Firstly - rippling, to remove any seeds left after threshing; secondly - breaking or bruising the stems; thirdly - scutching the fibres clean of coarse tow; and fourthly - heckling or combing for the market.

The flax bray or bruising device consisted of three or four triangular planks, each about eighteen inches long and two and a half inches wide, secured side by side across a horizontal framework. A similar number of triangular planks were dovetailed into them as illustrated. In order to bruise or crush flax, the user laid a handful of dried stems across the lower planks and, with his other hand, forced the upper planks down upon them repeatedly, whilst gradually moving the stems until their whole length had been treated and the fibres made ready for scutching.

The Hemp Bray in the Chapel - One does not have to look far to see examples of the Bray badge. Upon entering the Chapel by the south door and immediately turning round, delightful small iron badges can be seen set in the wooden panels of the doors. The stone frieze outside the Bray Chantry as well as that on the inside of the Rutland Chapel bear more examples. Some door locks bear the badge but the best examples are to be seen on the stone vaulting of the Nave. Here the detail and colouring is a joy to behold. Perhaps the best and most detailed example of the hemp bray is that atop the west window. Visitors to the Chapel are recommended to take binoculars with them so that they may better appreciate the glories of all the roof bosses as well as the odd obscure badge in the stained glass of the south nave aisle window.

Why not pay a visit to St. George's Chapel and see how many hemp brays you can locate?

John Hucker

THE SOCIETY'S EMPORIUM - Founded 1983.

At the 1983 A.G.M., after a successful "bring and buy" at a Society Garden Party, I suggested that a sale be held at each meeting rather than once a year, as I knew how many goodies could be diverted during that time. On seeing the whole committee turn pale, I heard myself saying that I would be willing to run it. Their faces lit up like beacons and I was in!

I decided straight away to follow the dictum of that ubiquitous food store - *pile it high and sell it cheap!* The latter objective has never been a problem, the former, however, has sometimes proved to be one. Consider our venue - a public library. I had to discourage on the one hand and extort with the other whilst maintaining a fine balance between. I could not have too many potted plants which are difficult to transport, nor have Elizabeth shouldering a wardrobe up the stairs, as anything I cannot sell on the night I have to take home.

Experience has enabled me to judge whether any particular item will sell or not. I usually offer the same item over three meetings but some only on the evening they were donated. After that they are gratefully received by the R.S.P.C.A. or Oxfam.

Books predominate on the table and, during the season, apples and pears. During the September '89 meeting alone I sold fifty six pounds of cooking apples, fifteen pounds of eaters and ten pounds of pears. The previous meeting saw six pounds of blackberries disappear as I laid them out.

My account book shows that my very first sale was six green plastic folders to Angela and Doug. I had acquired them from work where they had been donated from some exhibition or other - boxes of them! The next month saw Angela asking for another thousand or so, as they made ideal music folders for her choir. Of course the boxes that had been hanging about for months had now disappeared but I managed another two hundred.

Margaret Young's stone jewellery was another good corner. Having virtually exhausted the purchasing potential of our membership, I started to hawk the jewellery around the girls in the administrative units at various police stations. It went so well you would have thought it was stolen! The eighty plus pounds I made enabled me to present our Treasurer with £116 for our first year of trading. This was a "one off" but we are averaging over £83 annually to date.

Some items donated never arrive at the meetings. For example a spin dryer found itself in the back of a Traffic Patrol Landrover and a home in a second-hand shop in Acton. Several times I have received some 'old fashioned' looks from members of the public after responding to an emergency call with a bit of unusual equipment on board. The usual explanation of - "We've picked it up from the fast lane of the motorway" - has always worked - so far! One sobriquet, amongst others, given to me by colleagues at work is 'STEPTOE'!

I hope these lines have given you some small insight into the running of your stall; an institution that has helped to keep our annual membership fee unchanged since 1983. The greatest effort though, is yours. Without your constant donations of this and that and your consistent custom, it would have foundered long ago. As I announced at the July meeting, last year, we have made our first five hundred pounds. Here's to the thousand!

Roger Matthews

BERLIN and BACK in SEARCH of HERALDRY.

As that pleasant anachronism, the British Military Train, bore me through East Germany back to the West I had time to reflect on why my pursuit of heraldry had taken me on what is described as one of the world's famous train journeys. A relic of the Cold War, the Military Train runs from West Berlin through East Germany to West Germany and back again every day except Christmas Day. It is subject to such quaint ceremonies as the border formalities between British and Russian Officers on a platform in what everyone recognised, even then, to be East Germany.

My task took me to the home of *DER HEROLD*, the German heraldic society. Other heraldic societies exist in Germany - notably *KLEEBLATT* in Hannover - but *DER HEROLD* is accepted as the premier society, which status is helped by its authoritative registration of arms, of which more later.

Heraldry in Germany has a long history and the country is rich in examples. Originally the preserve of kings and heads of the many states which made up the Holy Roman Empire of the German nation, its control was delegated to the *Hopfalzgrafen* or palace counts, in the 16th and 17th centuries. These palace officials had equivalent responsibilities to our own Lord Chamberlain, Lord Steward and so on, but never the military functions which accompanied the appointments of the English Constable and Marshal. States varied in size and prestige: their officials correspondingly so.

It is not always realised that although Germany became an empire under one emperor in 1871, individual states did not lose their sovereignty, even though only those big enough to wield influence such as Baden or Bavaria were allowed to retain their armies. Consequently the control of (heraldic) arms continued by individual states right up to the fall of the Second Empire in 1918. At this time all hereditary titles were formally abolished, although many have refused to die. Formal control of heraldry was abolished and since then it has been the right of every German citizen to assume whatever arms he wishes.

Since the inauguration of the German Republic, after the First World War, there has been no national heraldic authority. Today only the arms of the Federal Republic and its constituent states (Laender) are protected in law. The gap is filled by heraldic societies. Of these *DER HEROLD* maintains the *Deutsche Wappenrolle* or German roll of arms. This is a completely open process and the arms registered are published in book form every two years or so. Registration confers no rights on a German citizen he does not already possess, nor is there any machinery for resolving disputes. It remains a fact though that registration in the *Deutsche Wappenrolle* is a powerful authority and few Germans would contest the ruling of *DER HEROLD*.

The registration of arms already held or of new arms is not difficult, but does depend on the time that the voluntary officials of the society have available. Firstly an heraldic artist must be found and the matter discussed with him. *DER HEROLD* keeps a list of approved heraldic artists and insists that a proposed coat of arms is properly drawn up by one of them before submission. An extensive questionnaire then has to be completed and a family tree going back as far as possible is requested. Once this has been submitted together with a very modest (compared with the English College of Arms) fee the arms are researched to ensure that there is no prior claim on them by anyone else.

Finally, a document is produced. It gives a picture of the arms in black and white using the *Petra Sancta* convention. It gives the pedigree of the family, naming the first known ancestor. It gives the details of the person under whose name the arms are registered and the details of the branch of the family to which they are to descend. Lastly, it gives the accession date and registration number. The arms will, in due course, appear in a volume of the *Deutsche Wappenrolle*.

Much of the work in the *Deutsche Wappenrolle* is concerned with the documentation and registration of arms used by a family for generations and also catching up with past registrations as yet unpublished. So each new volume of the *Wappenrolle* is not just a catalogue of new arms but an insight into a whole cross section of family arms and history.

DER HEROLD, founded on 3rd November 1869 and formally incorporated as a legal body in a Cabinet Order of 14th August 1882 publishes a quarterly journal. It maintains an enormous library which is constantly being increased by the family histories which accompany registrations of arms. Consequently it is an ever increasing source of genealogical gems, and a good place to start a search into personal family history. The Society holds quarterly meetings, addressed on various learned topics - and it organises seminars and conventions.

There is only one problem: it is housed in West Berlin. Being at that time stationed in the British Army of the Rhine I was able to obtain permission from the Berlin Infantry Brigade to visit the city under military sponsorship. This allowed me to travel on the British Military Train. Crossing the border at Helmstedt our first and only scheduled halt was at Marienborn, where the officer commanding the train formally meets the Russian officer on the platform and presents the travel documents of the passengers, preserving the fiction that the train is passing from one Allied Zone of Occupation to another. Whilst these are inspected the engine is decoupled and an East German engine is connected. The train moves off. The carriages have not changed in forty years and have an old world charm about them. The restaurant serves excellent meals - dinner is the equivalent of £2.50 - amid considerable comfort.

The four hour journey is, for most people, their first experience of travel through a Communist country. The contrast with West Germany was stark indeed. There were few cars on the roads and housing is bleak. Travelling through the major city of Magdeburg as night fell one was struck by the scarcity of lighting both on the streets and in the flats: there are few houses. East German railway stock one passed is dreary, worn and all marked third class. And then, suddenly, the train enters the corridor through the Berlin Wall and emerges into the bright lights and bustle of West Berlin.

I found *DER HEROLD* in a pleasant suburb of West Berlin. It occupies the ground floor of the former Prussian Secret State Archives and the Society's ever growing records have now taken over much of the basement. The first floor of the building is a cultural museum. The Society's premises, which are open for limited hours only, are full of people engaged in research. Officials of the Society are helpful and learned: the one who assisted me was in fact the President of the Supreme Court of Justice in real life.

After concluding an enjoyable visit to the city, including the now obsolete wall, I returned on the British Military Train a few days later. Access to the home of *DER HEROLD* is now no doubt easier for members like me but, on reflection, I am pleased to have been able to travel in one of the last relics of the Cold War.

THE HAWTREYS OF EASTCOTE HOUSE

Two main reasons inspired this article. Firstly, the house in which I have lived for nearly 39 years is built on land which was held by the Hawtreay family until 1930 and the garden backs on to the site and home park of Eastcote House, the home of the Ruislip branch of the Hawtreys and their descendants for nearly four hundred years. The house was demolished in 1964 but, fortunately, the grounds remain in the ownership of the local authority and are within the Eastcote Village Conservation Area. Secondly, the Society had recently completed a survey of the heraldry in St. Martin's Church, Ruislip. Kay Holmes was good enough to let me see a copy and Patricia Johnson and I had an enjoyable time checking through its findings.

Initially, I thought the task of presenting some background information to accompany the Society's survey would be simple. After all, I knew the outline of the family as they had lived in Eastcote and there was a variety of sources of information available to fill in the gaps and give some colour to the general picture. Alas, I was to learn the lesson that variety does not mean simplicity. Although there was considerable information it not only still left gaps but contained contradictions. It was also bespattered with legend, assumption and guesswork. For example, a basic source is the two volume *History of the Hawtreay Family* published by Florence M. Hawtreay in 1903.

Then came Volume VII of *The Ancestor* edited by Oswald Barron, FSA, published in January 1905. I was much indebted to Nan and Pete Taylor for the loan of that work. However, it contained devastating criticism of Florence's work. Barron suggested that the history of her family was not acceptable to the enlightened genealogist. It swarmed with misprints which, according to him, come from misunderstanding. He further suggested that notes and extracts from other family members had been included without arrangement and with 'wild mis-printings and mis-spellings'. It was also akin to showing a red rag to a bull to present a work to Barron which implied that a supposed ancestor at Hastings with the Conqueror had armorial bearings. All of this was distinctly discouraging until I read John Brooke-Little's introduction to the 1989 edition of Foster's *Dictionary of Heraldry* where he claims that "Barron was an intolerant, pedantic purist in matters heraldic....". Barron had torn Foster's work to pieces when it had been published, but Brooke-Little felt that there was sufficient merit and innovation in Foster's work to make it worthy of republication. Possibly this could be true of Florence Hawtreay's work too.

All of this was extremely confusing for one who was merely seeking to establish some background to the heraldry and monuments which are on every day display in a parish church. More confusion arose with my introduction to two further pieces of research. The first, lent to me by Kay Holmes, was the pedigree of the Hawtreay family compiled by Mrs. Ursula Hawtreay Luard between 1968 and 1982 which runs into 76 pages of A3. Additionally, Eileen Bowlit had her work on the parish of Ruislip published by Hillingdon Library Service in December 1989 under the title *The Goodliest Place in Middlesex* which contains considerable information concerning the Hawtreay's landholdings.

As you will see, an expert genealogist would be required to unravel the truth from these sources and I make no claims in that direction. Therefore, I intend to make my own assessment of the family whilst making acknowledgement to the scholarship in all of the afore-mentioned publications. Any genealogists who may read this article may also note its limitations and deficiencies and be inspired to give their own opinions in a subsequent issue of *The Seaxe*.

At this point, it would be as well to identify the actual heads of the Hawtrey family who were holders of the Eastcote and Ruislip property as there are over thirty monuments at St. Martin's to various members of the family. They were:-

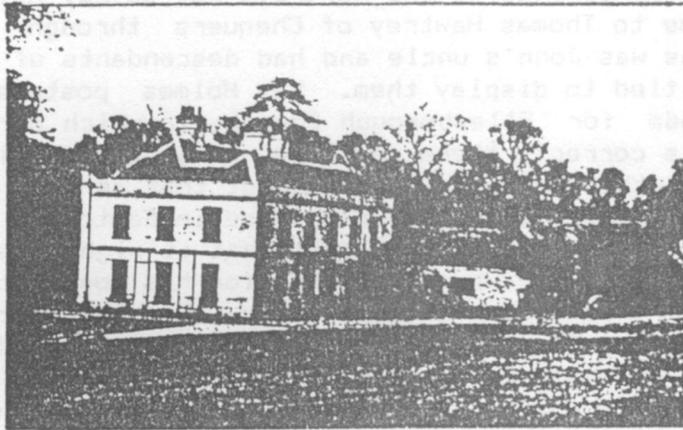
- Rauffe (Ralph) Hawtrey (1494-1574)
- John Hawtrey (1523-1593) eldest son of Ralph.
- Ralph Hawtrey (1570-1639) nephew of John.
- John Hawtrey (1598-1658) eldest son of Ralph.
- Ralph Hawtrey (1625-1725) eldest son of John.
- Elizabeth Rogers (1722-1803) great-grand daughter of Ralph.
- Ralph Deane (1782-1852) grandson of Elizabeth's cousin.
- Francis Hawtrey Deane (1814-1892) eldest son of Ralph. Last of family to live at Eastcote.
- Ralph Hawtrey Deane (1848-1924) eldest son of Francis. Commenced disposal of Ruislip property.
- Ralph Hawtrey Deane (1884-?) eldest son of Ralph. Completed disposal of property in Eastcote and Ruislip by 1936.

Ralph Hawtrey, who was the first to be associated with Eastcote and Ruislip married Winifred (nee Walleston) of Ruislip. John Walleston of Ruislip surrendered to them, in 1527, a cottage, an adjoining four acre close and thirteen acres in the open fields of Eastcote. Ralph was the fourth and youngest son of Thomas Hawtrey of Chequers, Bucks and his wife, Agnes, (nee Bowre). Ralph's eldest brother who was the heir to Chequers had married Sybill (nee Hampden) also of Bucks. Ralph's nephew, William, was the builder of the present house of Chequers, the country residence of the Prime Minister.

The Hawtrey's of Chequers would appear to have descended from the marriage, at the end of the thirteenth century, between Catherine, one of the two surviving daughters of Ralf de Chekers (de Scaccaria) and joint heiress who married William de Alta Ripa of Algarkirk, Lincs. The name of Alta Ripa was subsequently changed to the Norman-French *Haute Rive*, which, in time, became Hawtrey. This explanation of the origin of the name comes from Plantagenet Somerset Fry, author of the official guide book to Chequers. There are various other conjectures recorded by Florence Hawtrey but, for the purposes of this article, I have chosen the one outlined.

Ralph was about 33 years old and Winifred 25 years when the Eastcote property was transferred to them but whether they lived in the cottage, at Chequers or in some other undisclosed property in Ruislip is not known. I had previously assumed that the property transfer was part of a marriage settlement but Ursula Luard gives their date of marriage as 1520 and the date of birth of their first son, John, as 1523. There is a further query. John and William Walleston were major landowners in Ruislip at this time. It has been suggested that, as John Walleston gave the land in gift, he was the father of Winifred but Ursula Luard shows her to have been the daughter of William Walleston from his first marriage and John to have been her step-brother from a second marriage. There is also a query as to how many children. Ralph and Winifred had as the pedigrees show two sons and four daughters whereas the brass in St. Martin's to Ralph and Winifred shows six sons and six daughters. There may have been other children who died young or the brass may be second-hand or incorrect.

It cannot be confirmed as to when Eastcote House was built. The 1922 Report of the Royal Commission on Historic Buildings suggested that the house was built in the 16th or early 17th century, with a central block and north and south cross wings.



Eileen Bowlt suggests that the house may have been developed from the cottage which stood there when the land was transferred to the Hawtreys. She records that one of the beams taken from the house at its demolition in 1964 has been identified as having carving dating from before 1510. Unfortunately, this does not help as our forebears commonly recycled used material because of cost and availability. A description and report on Eastcote House and its condition carried out in 1964 for the

Historic Buildings Preservation Committee of the London & Middlesex Archaeological Society mentions that "...the rising cambered tie-beams of the original, probably 16th century, roof construction and the purlins, principal rafters and curved wind-braces are all moulded as if exposed to view in an original great hall." A cottage was still recorded in 1565 but, John, who succeeded to the property on the death of his father in 1574 appears to have been a purchaser of land locally in the 1580's and, as he also erected a dovecote without permission from the lord of the manor - King's College, Cambridge - he may well have been the Hawtreys who was responsible for the change from a cottage to a substantial landowner's residence.

John Hawtreys married Bridget (nee Lovett) who had previously been married to Gabriel Dormer. There is a curious relationship between the Dormer family and the Hawtreys. John's brother Edward married Elizabeth Dormer who is suggested by Ursula Luard to be the daughter of Gabriel and Bridget Dormer, but Eileen Bowlt queries whether Elizabeth may have been a step-daughter of Bridget from an earlier marriage of Gabriel. To complicate matters further, Gabriel was a cousin to Ambrose Dormer who married Bridget's niece as her first husband and then William Hawtreys of Chequers as her second husband. Confused? So am I! So let us stick with the local Hawtreys. John and Bridget are commemorated by a brass in the chancel floor in St. Martin's (with replica in the South Aisle) which shows a fascinating group of armorial shields.

It shows:-

- (1) Hawtreay impaling Lovett
- (2) Hawtreay
- (3) Lovett
- (4) Hawtreay impaling Lovett.
- (5) Quarterly of twelve:-
 - (i) Hawtreay
 - (ii) Checkers
 - (iii) Paynell
 - (iv) Blackenhall
 - (v) quarterly Pipe and Harcourt
 - (vi) Hampden
 - (vii) Singleton (? Goloffrey)
 - (viii) Stokes (? Redy)
 - (ix) Bonvilera (? Luton)
 - (x) Bulstrode (? Hartwell)
 - (xi) Hertsborne (? Hartford)
 - (xii) (? Neyrut).

Ursula Luard shows Richard Hawtreay marrying Elizabeth Paynell in 1410, daughter and co-heir of Sir Thomas Paynell of Oxfordshire, and their grandson, Thomas, marrying Katharine, daughter and heir of Thomas Blackenhall. She brought the Harcourt, Noel, Blackenhall and De La Pipe quarterings to the Hawtreays but as Kay Holmes points out the last seven quarters came to Thomas Hawtreay of Chequers through his marriage to Sybill Hampden. Thomas was John's uncle and had descendants of his own, therefore, John could not be entitled to display them. Kay Holmes postulates that this brass may have been made for Ellesborough Church, in which parish Chequers stands. If this assumption is correct, there could be many explanations as to how it came about. On the other hand, I would suggest that as John had developed his property interest during the period of his residence in Eastcote, and was living in a period of growing status for the middle class, that it might be a reasonable assumption also that he could have given directions for his monument to display anything heraldic that could be traced through the family. He had become lessee of the Rectory of Ruislip from the Dean and Canons of St. George's, Windsor and become liable for maintenance of the chancel of the church. If John saw himself as a major figure in the locality which had an absentee lord of the manor could he have wished to reinforce the place of the family in the district? Any comments?

The property descended to John's nephew, Ralph. Ursula Luard includes, with her pedigree, a synopsis of an Indenture taken on 15th June 1593 between Lord Burleigh, Master, and Richard Kingsmill, Surveyor of the Court of Wards on the one hand and Ralph Hawtreay on the other which included the listing of all the properties inherited by Ralph from John. These included manors and other holdings in Buckinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Middlesex and Essex. Additionally, he inherited property from his father, Edward, and had acquired property in his own right. These taken together extended Hawtreay interests to London, Cheshire, Durham, Gloucestershire, Hampshire, Lincolnshire, Norfolk, Suffolk and Surrey. The Hawtreays were indeed becoming a family of some status.

Ralph married well. His wife was Mary, daughter of Edward Altham of Latton, Essex; her grandfather, James Altham, had been a sheriff of the City of London in 1557. The monument in St. Martin's records that they were happily married for forty years, Ralph dying in 1639 and Mary in 1647. They had four children, three sons and one daughter. Ralph, became a Justice of the Peace and Deputy Lieutenant for Middlesex, but his daughter, Mary, achieved national fame. She has a monument in the chancel of St. Martin's in her own right, even though she is not buried in the family vault.

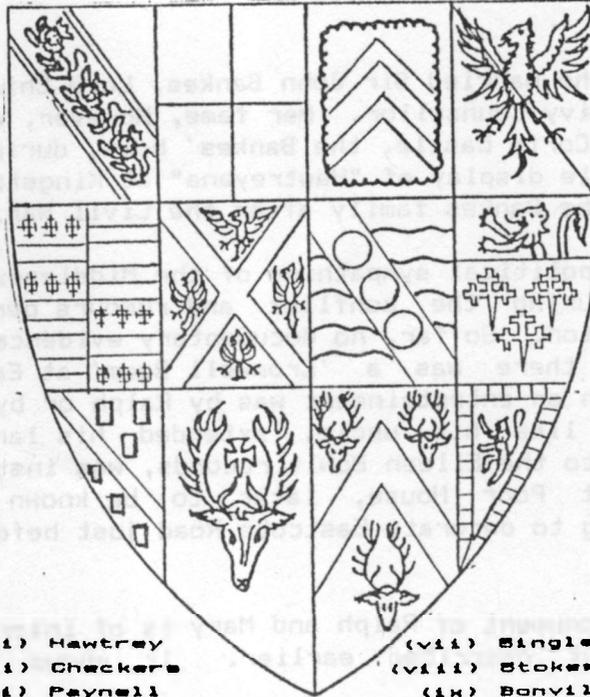
JOHN & BRIDGET



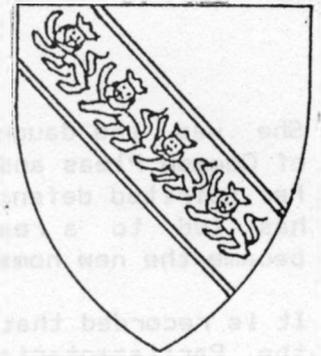
Hawtreys imp.
Lovetts



Lovetts



- | | |
|------------------------|------------------|
| (i) Hawtreys | (vii) Singleton |
| (ii) Checkers | (viii) Stokes |
| (iii) Paynell | (ix) Bonvillers |
| (iv) Blackenhall | (x) Bulstrode |
| (v) qty. Pipe/Harcourt | (xi) Hertshorne |
| (vi) Hampden | (xii) Neyrut (?) |

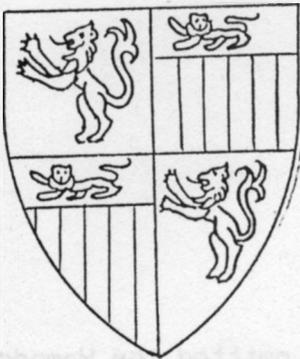


Hawtreys

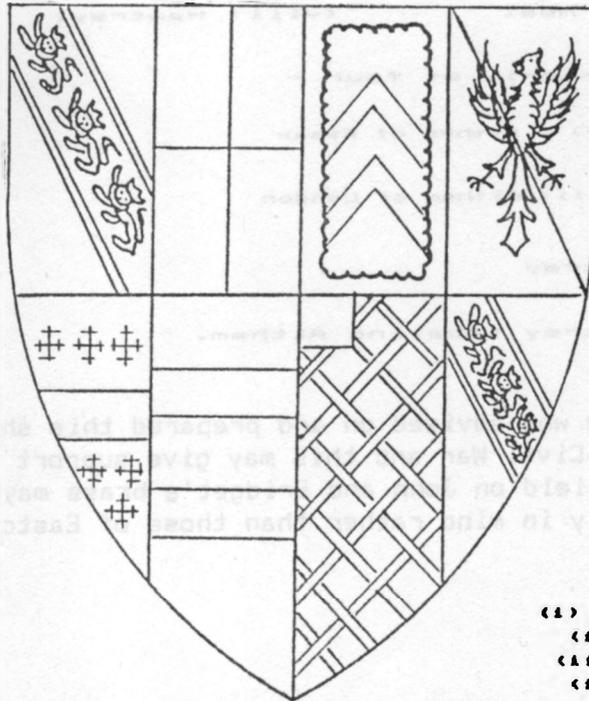


Hawtreys imp.
Lovetts

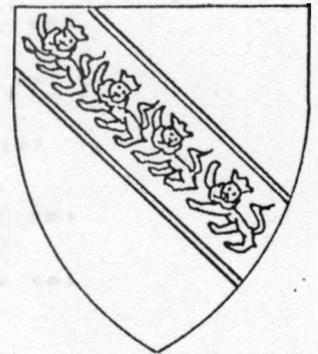
RALPH & MARY



- (i & iv) Altham,
Essex
(ii & iii) Altham,
London



- (i) Hawtreys
(ii) Checkers
(iii) Paynell
(iv) Blackenhall
(v) Pipe
(vi) Harcourt
(vii) Noel
(viii) Hawtreys



Hawtreys



Hawtreys imp. Altham

She was the daughter who married Sir John Bankes, Lord Chief Justice of the Court of Common Pleas and a Privy Counsellor. Her fame, however, was brought about by her spirited defence of Corfe Castle, the Bankes' home, during the Civil War. This has led to a reasonable display of "Hawtreయా" at Kingston Lacey, Dorset, which became the new home of the Bankes family after the Civil War.

It is recorded that the political sympathies of the Middlesex Hawtreys were with the Parliamentarians during the conflict and rumours persist that Cromwell was entertained on one occasion. So far, no documentary evidence has been produced to substantiate this but there was a 'Cromwell Room' at Eastcote House until its demolition. Whether such an entertainment was by Ralph or by his son, John, is also unknown. Ralph, like his uncle, extended his land ownership during his lifetime and, according to the Eileen Bowlt records, was instrumental in providing Ruislip with its first Poor House, later to be known as the Church House or Almshouses still standing to decorate Eastcote Road just before it reaches Ruislip village centre.

The heraldry on the monument of Ralph and Mary is of interest when compared with that of John and Bridget described earlier. It shows the following family connections:-

(1) Quarterly of eight -

(i) Hawtreya	(ii) Checkers
(iii) Paynell	(iv) Blackenhall
(v) Pipe	(vi) Harcourt
(vii) Noel	(viii) Hawtreya.

(2) Quarterly of four -

(i & iv) Altham of Essex

(ii & iii) Altham of London

(3) Hawtreya

(4) Hawtreya impaling Altham.

One notes that those who advised on and prepared this shield omitted the Hampden descent even after the Civil War and this may give support to Kay Holmes' feeling that the quartered shield on John and Bridget's brass may well have been prepared with the Chequers family in mind rather than those of Eastcote and Ruislip.

Ron Edwards