

The Seaxe



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Newsletter of the Middlesex Heraldry Society

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August 1996

20th/21st by Marjorie Kirby

No - this is not another of those articles on the military history of yet another regiment but a tribute to **Les & Mary Pierson** who recently retired after running the *Chiltern Heraldry Group* for twenty years. A consortium comprising **John Allen, Marion Miles** and **John & Rita Titterton** are now in charge and they had the splendid idea of holding a 'Thank You' party combined with a twenty first birthday celebration of the founding of the *Group*.

The date chosen was 20th July (a glorious, hot summer day) and the venue, generously offered by **Marion**, was her house and garden at Shottesbrook, near Maidenhead. Invitations had been sent, not only to members, but also to many friends of the *Group* and there were about forty people present. Our own Society was well represented, mainly by people who were also members of the "Chilterns". Several members of the **Bath Society** were there and the assembly was further graced by the presence of two **Kings of Arms** - **John Brooke-Little, Clarenceux** and **Patron** of the *Chiltern Heraldry Group* and **Hubert Chesshyre, Norroy & Ulster** and **Patron** of our own **Middlesex Heraldry Society**.

From about 12.30 to 4.30 we all enjoyed an excellent buffet and lively conversation. In mid-afternoon there was a formal presentation when Peter Begent gave us a

brief history of the *Group* laced with humorous anecdotes of its earlier days.

Les & Mary were then presented with a set of coasters bearing the badge of the "Chilterns" (which **Les** designed originally) together with a cheque to spend as **they** wished. **Les**

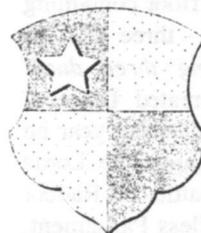
replied with a delightful account of what had happened to **Mary** and himself during their twenty years in office - it was in turn serious and humorous and the 'short' notes he used were written on the reverse of a till roll that must have been six or seven feet long!

By 5 o'clock most of us were on our way home, happy and hot, - leaving behind a few stalwarts to help **Marion** put her house and garden together again. To them we must express the gratitude of all who attended and also to those who thought of and then organised such a very happy day.

I know **Les & Mary** will remember it always.

Identification of Arms by Pete Taylor

I know with absolute certainty, that one of the co-editors of this newsletter (who shall be nameless) will never have any trouble in identifying these arms.



Quarterly Gules and Or in the first quarter a mullet Argent

Perhaps the following explanation of these arms may be of interest:-

"A battle was fought AD 1098, near Antioch, in Syria, between the Christian troops and those of Corborant, an Eastern dignitary of the Sultan of Persia, in which the Christians were victorious. During the eagerness of the pursuit night came on - the sudden dark night of the East - and the Christians, many of them utterly ignorant of the country, were in danger of becoming dispersed, and of wandering too far from the city, when they would have fallen an easy prey to the greatly superior numbers of the enemy. But God, willing the safety of the Christian host, was pleased to show them, when they were as yet only about four miles from Antioch, a white star (or mullet of five points), which to every man's sight did light and rest upon the standard of Albry de Vere, there shining excessively. By following the guidance of this star the army was enabled to gain the city; and all men said that Albry de Vere was a holy man, and one beloved of God. In remembrance of the Divine favour thus marvellously shown him, De Vere placed the silver star as the solitary bearing on his shield; and after spending the vigour of his manhood in combating against the enemies of his faith, assumed in his old age the cowl, and entirely devoted himself to the service of his Maker. From him the De Vere's, Earls of Oxford, were descended".

C.N.Elvin wrote these words in 1864 in a little book called **Anecdotes of Heraldry**, so the story must be right or is it?



What's in a Name?

One of your editors cannot resist asking if anyone noticed that the new head of the controversial Royal Opera House is called **Genista McIntosh**? Do you think she will be the proverbial "new broom"?

Medieval Encaustic Tiles

by **Bill Burgess**

[Unfortunately this contribution from an "old stager" (in membership terms!) was mislaid and did not appear in the "20th". We feel sure that **Bill** will forgive this lapse and that **Rita** will accept our congratulations on being licensed as a lay reader in the Anglican Church. Now that less time for study is required **Bill** hopes that they will be able to attend more meetings. We hope so too.]

Whilst helping out at an Open Day at the County Records Office in Chelmsford I was tipped off by a friend in the *Essex Society for Family History* that some tiles had been discovered at **Sible Hedingham**, Essex. I contacted the Vicar, **Christopher Elliott** and arranged to visit the church.

I received a very warm welcome from the Vicar who explained that whilst digging up the floor of the vestry, the builders had discovered a mediæval floor containing encaustic tiles. Several were heraldic - three had the arms of **Robert de Vere** *quartering three ducal coronets for Ireland*. **Robert** was created Duke of Ireland by **Richard II** in 1386. The following year he led an army in support of the King against the Lords Appellant and was defeated at the Battle of Radcot Bridge. He was banished by the Merciless Parliament, fled to Flanders and died in 1392. The tiles can therefore be dated around 1386-1388.

In addition to the **de Vere** tiles there is one depicting the **Bourchier** device of the *water bouget*; also one with a *hawk* which may have come from the cenotaph of **Sir John Hawkwood**, which was located against the south wall of the south aisle. **Sir John's** family held land in the area around **Sible Hedingham** for many years and a chantry chapel was founded to his memory in the Church. He served under **Edward III** in France during the Hundred Years War and, later, in Italy as a mercenary Captain. He died in Florence in 1394.



The arms of **de Vere** as Duke of Ireland and Marquis of Dublin are:- *Quarterly 1 & 4 Azure three crowns Or a bordure Argent 2 & 3 Quarterly Gules and Or in the 1st quarter a mullet Argent.*

The arms of **Bourchier** are:- *Argent a cross engrailed Gules between four water bougets Sable.*

The arms of **Hawkwood** are:- *Argent on a bend Sable three escallops of the field.*

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[To those readers who are as ill informed as we are *The Hutchinson Encyclopedia* describes *encaustic painting* as an ancient technique of painting, commonly used by the Egyptians, Greeks and Romans in which coloured pigments were mixed with molten wax and painted on panels - so now you know! - Eds]

My Home Town - No.1 by Nan Taylor

Bo'ness, short for **Borrowstouness**, is a small town in West Lothian in Scotland. It lies on the south bank of the River Forth, between the Forth Bridge at South Queensferry to the east and Kincardine Bridge near Stirling to the west. The town is bounded by the Carriden Estate to the east and the Kinneil Estate to the west. To the South the land rises up and over the hills to Linlithgow in the next valley.

The "town" is the level strip bordering the river where the shops, offices and public houses are situated. In the small area of the "town" there are more pubs than in any other town of similar size! The housing, schools and churches are on the higher levels, the slopes being negotiated by steep and winding roads to each level - these roads having attractive(!) names such as *The Wind*, *The Bog*, etc.

The town produced and exported coal and salt; both the coal and salt mines extended under the river. In West Lothian there used to be an industry unique in Britain - the distilling of oil from shale and there was a shale mine in the vicinity of **Bo'ness**. Shale which is a heavy dull grey material, rather like slate in colour and texture, is what remains of prehistoric marine life and a Scotsman, **James Young**, discovered how to extract the oil and obtain paraffin as a cheap source of light.

The Antonine Wall was built by the Romans and ran between the Forth in the east of Scotland and the Clyde in the west. A *distance-slab*, a part of the wall, was found in the area of **Bo'ness** at **Bridgeness** and is now in the National Museum of Antiquities in Edinburgh. A replacement stone now marks the spot where it was found. The sites of two Wall Forts are known - one on the Kinneil Estate and the other on the Carriden Estate.

The Kinneil Estate now belongs to the Local Authority but it once belonged to the **Dukes of Hamilton** (before **Mary, Queen of Scots**, had a son the **Hamiltons** were the nearest claimants to the throne of Scotland).



The arms of **Hamilton** are:- *Quarterly 1 & 4 Gules three cinquefoils pierced Ermine (Hamilton) 2 & 3 Argent an ancient ship or lymphad with one mast the sails furled and oars out Sable (Arran).*

James Hamilton, 2nd Earl of Arran, decided to enlarge the house he had built c.1542 and, in 1553, began to build the "palace", now known as **Kinneil House**. In 1941 it was decided to demolish the remains of the house but two rooms were found to have wall paintings c.1556 under the 17th century panelling. In one room the six panels of wall drawings depict the story of the *Good Samaritan* whilst, in the other, there are wreaths of foliage with birds and beasts encircling roundels depicting the stories of *Samson and Delilah*, *David and Bathsheba*, *the Sacrifice of Isaac* and the *Temptation of St. Anthony*. On the crown of the vaulted ceiling are the arms of **Arran** and his wife.

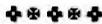
Carriden House, at the east end of **Bo'ness**, was begun in 1602, (the year before **James VI** came south to become **James I** of England). Later additions and alterations took place until 1863. One occupant of the house was **Sir William Maxwell**, who died in 1771, and who was descended from the **Maxwells of Caerlaverock, Earls of Nithsdale**.



The arms of **Maxwell** are:- *Argent an eagle with two heads displayed Sable beaked and membered Gules on the breast an escutcheon of the first charged with a saltire of the second surcharged in the centre with a hurcheon (hedgehog) Or all within a bordure Gules.*

While **Bo'ness** is not a particularly attractive town it was fun for children growing up. There was the river with, at the Carriden end, a large stretch of beach which was great for picnics and for paddling and playing in the water. At Kinneil there were woods and fields to roam around - not to mention the ghost in the ruined Kinneil House. In between there was a large meadow where we used to pick primroses in the Spring. Over the hill was **Linlithgow** with its palace and grounds and the loch.

Happy days - a long time ago.



Local armigerous areas including **Bo'ness** itself are as follows:-

COUNTY of WEST LOTHIAN - has six Burghs - the **Royal Burghs of Linlithgow**, (the County town) and **Queensferry**, and the **Police Burghs of Armadale, Bathgate, Bo'ness and Whitburn**. The arms show the coat borne by the **Livingstone Earls of Linlithgow** on an escutcheon en surtout of their shield but four of the red gillyflowers on the bordure have been replaced



by green laurel leaves in reference to the **Hope Earls of Hopetoun** and **Marquesses of Linlithgow** who have a green bay leaf in the centre of their arms. The arms are:- *Azure issuant from a mount in base an oak tree fruited all Or a bordure Argent charged with four Gillyflowers Gules alternately with as many laurel leaves slipped Vert.*

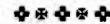


THE ROYAL BURGH of LINLITHGOW was created by **King David I** in 1138 and is one of the four Burghs with two coats of arms matriculated in the Lyon Register. They are based on the oldest known Burgh seals of which impressions dated 1296 and 1357 are on record. The arms now commonly used are the second:-

Or a greyhound bitch Sable chained to an oak tree within a loch Proper. The motto is *My Fruit is Fidelity to God and the King.* The tree represents the former Royal Forest and the black bitch may also be connected with the chase recalling one of the possible meanings of **Linlithgow** - *the lake of the grey dog.*

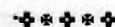


The first arms are:- *Azure the figure of the Archangel Michael with wings expanded treading on the bell of a serpent lying with its tail nowed fessways in base all Argent the head of which he is piercing through with a spear in his dexter hand and grasping with his sinister an escutcheon charged with the Royal Arms of Scotland.* The motto is *Collocet In Coelis Nos Omnes Vis Michaelis* which translates as "Michael's strength sets us all in Heaven". This coat shows the sacred bearings **St Michael the Archangel** killing the dragon; he holds a shield bearing the Scottish Royal Arms because the Burgh has had many links with the Royal Family of which **Linlithgow Palace** was a favourite residence from the 14th century onwards.



BURGH of BO'NESS - the red and black colours of the field are respectively for **Hamilton** and the coal mining industry associated with the town. The ship, in full sail to denote prosperity, refers to its shipping interests and recalls that in the 18th century **Bo'ness** was the third seaport in Scotland. The meaning of the lion is not clear; it could be the Scottish lion, as the lion on the seal of the Sea Box Society was shown as rampant and not passant. But it seems just possible that it has a connection with the former **Castle Lyon** which stood near the sea and was probably the jointure house of **Lady Margaret Lyon**, daughter of the **7th Lord Glamis**, and widow of **John, 1st Marquess of Hamilton**, whom she had married about 1577. The Latin motto comes, as does the ship, from the seal.

The arms are:- *Per pale Gules and Sable in a sea in base undy Azure and Argent a three masted ship of the 17th century Or in full sail proper flagged Gold at the stern a banner of Scotland of the First cantoned of the Third charged with a saltire of the Fourth in chief a lion passant also Gold armed and langued of the Third.* Above the shield is placed a Burghal Crown. The motto is *Sine Metu* (Without Fear).



[We wonder if Nan noticed an item in the newspapers recently announcing allocations of funds from the proceeds of the National Lottery which read **£250,000 to restore two piers at Bo'ness Harbour, Falkirk, Midlothian, dating back to 1733 and 1830?** - Eds].

The King's (or Queen's) Messengers

A **King's or Queen's Messenger** is a member of a body known in the reign of the present Queen as the **Corps of the Queen's Foreign Service Messengers** or of the other body - the **Queen's Home Service Messengers**. Their mission is to deliver secret or confidential official papers from Whitehall to a foreign or Commonwealth country or to addressees in the United Kingdom.

The first **King's Messenger** was appointed by **King John** in 1199 to carry mail to fellow monarchs and under **Henry VIII** the Messengers became a private police force. They helped in the dissolution of the monasteries; they brought back from the Low Countries the flattering portrait of **Anne of Cleves** by **Holbein** which misled **Henry** into his second marriage and they also arrested the two wives who were later beheaded. In 1547, the last year of his reign, he created officially the **Corps of King's Messengers**, a body of forty gentlemen.

During the Civil War all remained loyal to the Crown and when the monarchy was restored in 1660 the sixteen surviving **Messengers** were rewarded with a badge of office - a silver greyhound embroidered on their tunics. In 1714 the tunics were replaced by metal badges. The insignia is a blue riband and dependent therefrom an oval silver medallion bearing the Royal Cipher within a representation of the Garter with the motto *Honi Soit Qui Mal y Pense* and dependent from the badge a silver greyhound courant.



The Royal Household loaned the **King's Messengers** to the Foreign Office in 1824 and since then they have carried messages to and from British embassies and legations abroad. However, the Crown still has priority and **Messengers** carry communications between the monarch and the prime minister during Royal Tours.

Some assignments have been bizarre - one **Messenger** was required to take a cage of eight canaries to Turkey - a present from **Queen Victoria** to the **Sultan** and he was further entrusted with a bag of birdseed and a brush for cleaning the cage! A **Messenger** held by bandits in Mexico gained his liberty by decorating the leader with the "*Order of the Silver Greyhound*".

The **Corps** shrank when the Foreign Office engaged ships' captains to carry messages beyond Europe and by the Great War only six **King's Messengers** remained. Their numbers grew between the wars and in 1940 shot up to fifty seven.

Queen's Messengers are usually appointed between the ages of forty and fifty, spend approximately 180 days a year abroad and retire at sixty. Today there are only twenty five **Messengers** in service - a reduction due to quicker means of travel, more efficient means of communication and to the end of the "Cold War". "There are fewer secrets to take round the world" explains **Lt Col J. M. C. Kimmins**, the **Queen's Messengers'** historian.

The Tsar's Visit to Godalming

In 1698 **Peter the Great** had been to Portsmouth to witness two sham fights by ships of the English Navy and, on his journey back to London, stayed, with his



Henry VIII

suite of twenty-one people at an inn in Godalming in Surrey "long known as Moon's". This must have been the **King's Arms** where **James Moon** and his son kept an inn for half a century. The **Tsar** stayed only one night and maybe the **Moons** were not sorry, for the diarist, **John**

Evelyn, in whose household the Royal party lodged in London, described them as "a right nasty lot". The bill of fare eaten by the Russian party at the **King's Arms**, thirteen at table and twenty-one in all, was given to an eye witness of this immoderate feast by the landlord and can still be seen among the papers of Ballard's collection in the Bodleian Library at Oxford and is in a letter from Humphrey Wanley to Doctor Charlett, Master of University College.

<i>At Dinner</i>	<i>At Breakfast</i>
Five ribs of beef (42lbs)	Half a sheep
One sheep (56lbs)	One quarter of a lamb
Three quarters of a lamb	Ten pullets
One shoulder of veal (boiled)	Twelve chickens
One loin of veal (boiled)	Three quarts of Brandy
Eight pullets	[= Six pints!!]
Eight rabbits	Six quarts mulled wine
	[= 1½ gallons!!]
2½ dozen bottles Sack	Seven dozen eggs
1 dozen bottles Claret	Salad in proportion

♦♦♦♦♦

A Memoir of the Life of Peter the Great in which these menus are quoted, has a footnote about two English Dukes in the early 19th century who stopped at **Moon's** for only a moment - to eat a mutton chop while sitting in their respective carriages. They found the food so good that they each of them consumed eighteen chops and drank five bottles of Claret!

Those were the days ----- or were they?



The Royal Air Force Heraldic Trust

by Roger Matthews

The heading above caught my eye in a RAF magazine and I thought that the readers of this Newsletter may be interested in some of the points raised.



For many years there have been problems in the reproduction of RAF squadron badges as a badge purchased at one air show could be, and often is, of a completely different tincture from the same badge produced elsewhere. It was then realised that although blazons existed for the charges no tinctures were mentioned. Why was this?



By the time the Royal Air Force was formed from the Royal Flying Corps and the Royal Naval Air Service on 1st April 1918 the practice of painting unofficial emblems on the aircraft had become both widespread and commonplace. The historic value of these emblems or badges was soon recognised to the extent that 1935 saw an **Inspector of RAF Badges** at the **College of Arms**. The first officer to hold this post was **Sir John Heaton-Armstrong, MVO**, then **Chester Herald** but later **Clarenceux King of Arms**. He designed the basic frame (*sic*) of the badge within which all subsequent devices have been placed and in May 1936 **King Edward VIII** signed the first seven badges. For some inexplicable reason, the then **Inspector of RAF Badges** did not include a description of the colours when he wrote the blazon for each badge. As a consequence much RAF history remains officially unrecorded and past attempts to rectify the situation have failed due either to inaccuracy or incompleteness.

Representations of individual RAF badges can be found in scattered locations - eg St. Clement Danes (the RAF Church), the RAF Club in Piccadilly, the RAF Museum at Hendon and with the Squadrons themselves. Yet not one is correctly blazoned. There was a proposal that the task of compiling a complete record of RAF heraldry should be undertaken but neither the RAF National Heritage Memorial Fund nor HMSO felt able to assist in funding such an enterprise; so the **RAF Heraldry Trust** has been formed with the encouragement and support of **Sir Walter Vercor**, the current **Inspector of RAF Badges** and former **Norroy & Ulster King of Arms** who resigned in 1980 to become **Surrey Herald Extraordinary** - and also of **Air Chief Marshal Sir Michael Graydon**, Chief of the Air Staff. One of the Trustees is **John Brooke-Little, Clarenceux King of Arms**.

The primary aim of the Trust is to record accurately every heraldic device assigned to the RAF since the first official issue in 1936. It will form a single historical reference document. The work itself will comprise the research and reproduction of each device in fully illuminated colour on goatskin parchment paper (*sic*)

using twenty-three carat gold leaf where applicable. Gouache paint which has a high resistance to fading will be used for the colours. Each device will be accompanied by its blazon paying, of course, particular attention to the tinctures. In addition, there will be information on dates of issue, formation and disbandment, motto translations and all battle honours will be included. Every device will be inspected and countersigned by the **Inspector of Badges**. There are upwards of two thousand badges plus Grants of Arms to such units as the Central Flying School. The project will take about ten years to complete when there will be a single manuscript of original paintings which will be stored in suitable conditions of temperature, humidity and light to preserve it for the future. It is intended that a form of electronic reproduction will enable the public to access the original artwork by computer.

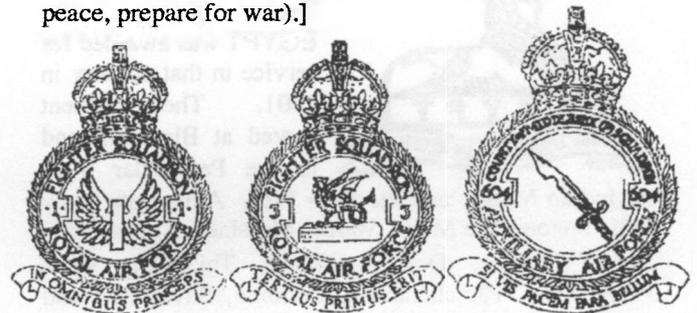
Members of the public or organisations with relevant connections will be invited to sponsor a painting of the badge of a particular squadron, unit, base or area. The cost will be £87 for each badge and the name of the sponsor will appear on the original manuscript. The sponsor will receive two transparencies of the badge when completed. The **RAF Heraldry** project was the brainchild of **Mrs Mary Denton, SHA** who is responsible for much of the initial organisation; she is probably the best qualified artist alive and will be commissioned by the Trustees to complete the project. Any individual or group wishing to sponsor a badge should write for a registration form to:-

FLYPAST SPONSOR A BADGE, PO Box 100, Stamford, Lincs. PE9 1XQ

If anyone would like to read the complete article please contact the writer.



[Your Editors have selected three squadron badges to demonstrate the type of insignia to be recorded. they have been taken from *Knights of the Sky* by **B.R.Holliss** and **R.Symons** - which very comprehensively covers all the badges and gives a potted history of every squadron - only the tinctures are missing. The first is the No.1 Fighter Squadron which was formed originally to fly airships (dirigibles) and has the motto"- *In omnibus princeps* (Chief in all things). In the centre is the badge of the No.3 Fighter Squadron with the cockatrice in the centre - "a small early flying fighter" - and the motto:- *Tertius primus erit* (The third will be first) alluding to the fact that the members of this squadron were the first to fly heavier than air machines. Finally we come to our own 604 County of Middlesex Squadron (AAF) with its Seaxe badge and the apposite Roman motto *Si vis pacem para bellum* (If you want peace, prepare for war).]



It is with deep regret that we report the death of Warren Stokes so soon after eulogising about his success in the Heraldry Society examination. He joined the Middlesex Heraldry Society in 1994 and, although he attended most lecture evenings and other functions, remained a very private person - our Society has lost a member with great potential. We have not met Mrs Stokes but nevertheless extend to her our deepest sympathy in her unexpected and tragic loss.

Militaria No.10 - The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment

Raised in 1685 by Colonel John Granville, Earl of Bath, as The Earl of Bath's Regiment of Foot, otherwise known as Granville's Regiment. In common with other regiments of the period it changed



its name with its Colonels until 1751 when it became 10th Regiment of Foot. In 1782 it was redesignated 10th (or North Lincolnshire) Regiment of Foot. During the great "shake-up" of 1881, its name was changed to The Lincolnshire Regiment and so it remained until 1946 when it was granted the right to be called

The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment. The Regiment amalgamated with the Northamptonshire Regiment in 1960 to form The 2nd East Anglian Regiment (Duchess of Gloucester's Own Royal Lincolnshire & Northamptonshire); in September 1964, this "new" regiment merged with the 1st East Anglian Regiment (Royal Norfolk and Suffolk), the 3rd East Anglian Regiment and The Royal Leicestershire Regiment and became The 2nd (Duchess of Gloucester's Own (Royal Lincolnshire & Northamptonshire) Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment. In 1968, the regimental titles were simplified so, as the second in seniority in the grouping, the former Royal Lincolnshire Regiment was given its present title of 2nd Battalion, The Royal Anglian Regiment.



The regimental badge the Sphinx upon a tablet EGYPT was awarded for service in that country in 1801. The regiment served at Blenheim and in the Peninsular War, the Indian Mutiny and the Boer War. Among its many battle honours are Mons, Marne, Messines, Armentières, Ypres, Somme, Delville Wood, Thiepval, Arras, Menin Road, Passchendaele, Cambrai, Suvla Bay and Gallipoli from the Great War and Norway, Dunkirk,

Caen, Arnhem, Italy, North Africa and Burma from World War II.

Seven members of the regiment have won the Victoria Cross - three in the Indian Mutiny, three in the Great War and one in World War II.

Nicknames of The Royal Lincolnshire Regiment are "The Springers" shared with the 62nd (Wiltshire Regiment) and acquired during the American War of Independence because of the quickness and mobility with which these two regiments pursued the Americans. However, the best known nicknames must be "The Poachers" - an allusion to the ballad *The Lincolnshire Poacher* played as a regimental march and "Yellow Bellies" - because the regimental colours were once a yellow background with the red cross of St. George. Two other explanations are possible for the term "Yellow Belly" - (a) a fenman derived from the eels with which the fen ditches abound and (b) the frog *rana temporaria* is known in Lincolnshire as a "Yellow Belly" hence a human who was a native of the fens like the frog could also be a "Yellow Belly".

Colours are lodged in Lincoln Cathedral and there are several memorials to the regiment in St. Mathias' Church, Lincoln.

The Regimental Headquarters of the The Royal Anglian Regiment 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.

Notes -The badges of the East Anglian Regiment and the Royal Anglian Regiment are as shown in *SCAXC* No.11 of June 1996

-To the list of acknowledgments in *SCAXC* No.5 of June 1995 should be added *Regimental Badges* by Major T J Edwards MBE FRHist S.

Next Meetings

On Thursday, 19th September it will be the Annual General Meeting - unfortunately a number of members will be on holiday so, if you are at home please support your Society by attending.

On Thursday, 17th October an old friend, the Reverend Alfred Pryse-Hawkins, will speak to us on *Heraldry Ancient and Modern*.

The Chiltern Heraldry Group begins its 1996/97 programme with:-
The Heraldic Armoury by Roger Matthews
 on Saturday 21st September
 at the Memorial Centre, Gerrards Cross
 followed by:-
Garret Plates by Peter Begent
 on Saturday, 19th October
 at the Parish Hall, White Waltham.