

The Seaxe



Newsletter of the Middlesex Heraldry Society

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and sometime M.P. tor Inswich. In 1727, John WErd, was

prosecuted by the Deciness of Buckingham and convicted of

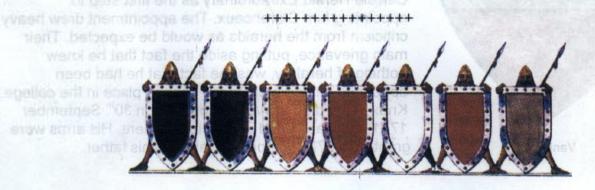
(Founded 1976) February 2007 No. 53

Chairman's address

At the AGM held last September 2006 Kay Holmes, Ron Brown, Marjorie Kirby, Nan Taylor and Margaret Young resigned from the committee. They felt that they were no longer able to keep up with the demands of committee meetings and the demands on their time needed in the running of the Society. This was a great blow to the Society but was not entirely unexpected. The Society owes a great debt of gratitude to each and every one as they have, since the formation of the Society over 30 years ago been the backbone of the group. Their encyclopaedic knowledge of the subject and of the locations where heraldry can be found has provided us with first class talks and visits since the foundation of the Society thirty odd years or so ago. Their crowning glory was the recording of the heraldry in the Bedford Chapel at Chenies in Buckinghamshire in 1980. Only Marjorie Kirby was not involved in the project having joined shortly after. The booklet produced is a first class example of what can be achieved by competent enthusiasts. Even today the Bedford family still use it for reference. Marjorie was of course, joint editor of the Seaxe with her husband Don for nearly ten years in which time they produced forty-six editions of The Seaxe. This is a marvellous achievement.

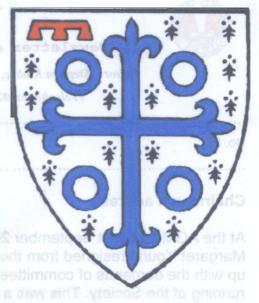
On behalf of all our members I thank each one for their time and effort they have put in over the many years of service and wish them all good health for the future.

As a result of the resignations it was suggested that I take over the running of the Society single-handedly as Les Pierson had successfully done at the Chilterns for many years. This I am reluctant to do. Still working full time I don't feel I could give the time necessary to lead the group into the new millennium. Fortunately Dr Andrew Gray, our web master offered himself for election to the committee and was duly elected. Stuart Whitefoot, not being present was reelected in his absence as treasurer. This is a crucial period for the Society since the 'active' members are no longer able to be so active and the attendance of the Society is falling. The number attending meetings has now reached the stage where it is not reasonable to ask speakers to travel any great distance to give a talk. This means that all talks have to be provided from 'in-house' members. This is also becoming unsustainable. For the 2007 year we still have no talks arranged for the October meeting. Suggestions would be warmly welcomed.



A Middlesex Herald –"...possibly the most scandalous appointment ever made to the College..."

Knox Ward, Clarenceux King of Arms from 1726 until his death in 1741 is undoubtedly one of the lesser known figures to have held the esteemed office of Clarenceux King of Arms. He had very little, if any, heraldic or genealogical knowledge. He was descended from the Wards of Wolverston Hall in Suffolk and was living in Hackney at the time of his appointment. He was born circa. 1703 and was the son of the notorious John Ward of Hackney, Merchant. and sometime M.P. for Ipswich. In 1727 John Ward was prosecuted by the Duchess of Buckingham and convicted of forgery. After being expelled from the House he was placed in the pillory where he insisted his son should stand beside him. In 1729 Knox Ward made a proposal of marriage to a Miss Holt of Hackney but in fact married Elizabeth Nettleton in July of that year. Miss Holt sued for breach of promise. However in the legal papers she sued him under the name of Knox Ward Esq. In court he argued that he was improperly described as by letters-patent under the Great Seal of the late



Ward

King, (George I) dated 29th June, 11th of his reign, he had created him King of Arms, and principal Herald of the South, East, and West parts of England, and given him the name of Clarenceux, to hold during pleasure. The case between Brooke, York Herald and Dethick, Garter in Hilary term, 39 Elizabeth, was cited as a precedent. In an action for words, the defendant not being named Garter, Principal King of Arms, in the proceeding, demurred when Judges Gawdy and Popham held, that he was named well enough, if the suit was brought against him as a private person, but if he were sued or were to sue for anything concerning his office it should be otherwise. In the Ward – Holt proceedings the court judged in favour of Ward accepting the precedence of Sir William Dethick's case and abated the action. Miss Holt was not going to leave the matter there and in 1732 sued him again as Ward Clarenceux and this time succeeded. She was awarded the vast sum of £2000 damages.

In 1725 he purchased the office of Clarenceux from Sir John Vanbrugh for the princely sum of £3000 in what Sir Anthony Wagner described as '...possibly the most scandalous appointment



Vanburgh

ever made to the college...'. The Vanbrugh family profited handsomely from this purchase since Sir John died the following year on the 25th March. Like Knox Ward, Sir John knew nothing of heraldry and even ridiculed it making a herald a comic character in his play 'Aesop'. He was nominated for the position by the Deputy Earl Marshal, the 3rd Earl of Carlisle in gratitude for the work he had done on building the stately home, Castle Howard in Yorkshire. In June 1703 Lord Carlisle nominated him Carlisle Herald Extraordinary as the first step to appointing him Clarenceux. The appointment drew heavy criticism from the heralds as would be expected. Their main grievance, putting aside the fact that he knew nothing of heraldry, was the fact that he had been appointed immediately to the second place in the college. Knox Ward died at Wolverston Hall on 30th September 1741 and was buried in the church there. His arms were granted in 1722 without the label, to his father.

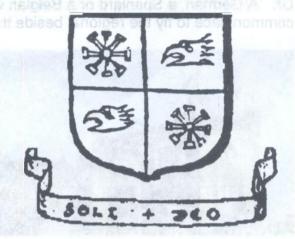
Did you know....?

...that Nostradamus is said to have predicted his own death. His secretary Jean-Aimé de Chavigny recorded in his '*Brief Discourse*': "That he truly knew the time of his death to the day, even to the hour, I can attest as a fact. I recall clearly that at the end of June of the said year

[1566] he wrote in his own hand in the 'Ephemerides of Jean Stadius' these Latin words Hic prope mors est. That is to say 'my death is near. And the day before he exchanged this life for the next, I having attested him for a very considerable time, and very late taking leave of him until the next morning, he said these words to me": 'You will not see me alive at sunrise'.

Nostradamus was apparently found dead at first light, his body already cold. On his tomb the date of his death is given as 2nd July 1566. In Nostradamus' Almanac for 1566, prepared over a year earlier, he had written for July 1st 'a Strange Transmigration'.

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In his will he stipulated that he was to be buried in the Church of the Cordeliers, the local Franciscan friary, between the great door and the altar of St Martha. He also stipulated that a tomb monument should be built over where he lay against the wall. The main details of his funeral were recorded by César in his monumental 'History and Chronicle of Provence'. "The corpse was solemnly carried to the ancient church of the Friars Minor, to the left of the entrance, where it was laid to rest accompanied by Nostradamus' portrait of life, and his coat of arms, which were: son pourtraict au naturel et ses armes qui sont de gueulles à une roue brisée, à huit rayons, composée de deux croix potencées d'argent écartelé d'or à une tete d'aigle de sable, (gules comprising a broken wheel with eight spokes, composed of two crosses of silver quartered with gold together with the head of an eagle in black.)

Nostradamus – The Evidence by lan Wilson, 2002.

Our website
Dr Andrew Gray

The Society's website is attracting attention all over the region, and is now listed by most of the local authorities in historic Middlesex, and numerous heraldic, family history and local history societies. This has increased our visibility marvellously, and if you type "Middlesex Heraldry" into any of the big Web search engines, we are now top of the list!

One project for which there has been no time until now was to make our publications available through the website. This is particularly important for the twenty-one booklets in the "Heraldry in Middlesex Churches" series, which are

now hard to find, but which are an important reference work with counterparts in several other counties. Preparing them for electronic storage and delivery is a tedious business involving scanning and careful checking, but when it is finished we shall have them as web pages and as PDF (facsimile) documents. The latter will enable us to run off any future reprints. Earlier issues of the Seaxe could be treated in the same way and published on the website as an archive, but more recent issues should already be accessible as electronic documents, and could be loaded right away.

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THE RISE OF THE REGIONAL FLAG **Dr Andrew Gray**

When England soccer fans were dreaming of the World Cup last year, there were St George's flags everywhere, both simple and (unnecessarily) elaborated. Suddenly our nation was not just UK. A German, a Spaniard or a Belgian would not have found this so odd, for there it is commonplace to fly the regional beside the national flag.



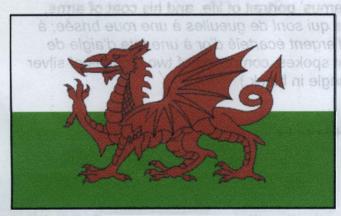


Ghent: Flags of Flanders, West-Flanders, Belgium

St Andrew

Did you know ...?

In Britain, the Scots have never given up the "Blue Blanket", but it was not until 1953 that the Welsh national flag, Y ddraig goch, became official. It is clearly based on the standard of Henry Tudor (Henry VII).



Welsh National Flag

historic Middlessx, and milmerous heraids

I was surprised to learn that the flag of the Kingdom of Cornwall, the Cross of St Piran, is over a century older, because it is only in recent years that it has become prominent. In its turn it is probably the inspiration behind the Cross of St David, which has become popular as an alternative to the Welsh dragon. It is certainly the basis of the new flag of its neighbour Devon. Devon's flag is only one of a growing number of popular regional and county flags, such as: Lincolnshire, Scilly, Yorkshire, Lancashire, Mercia, Wessex, East Anglia, and there must be more. Some County Councils, recognising this

trend, have said that citizens may use the official county flag in this way. Others regard the

banner of the arms as Council property - as under the Law of Arms they may. On the liberal wing is Essex; in the middle is Northumberland. who say you mustn't fly it in Newcastle! But can Kent, for instance, legitimately deny its residents the use of White Horse, surely the flag of the Standard of Henry VII Kingdom of Kent?



And what if the County Council is no more? Could Berkshire folk fly the banner of the defunct council? Could Greater London citizens fly the GLC flag - the GLA doesn't want it; it hasn't

even applied for a grant of arms. And surely the orphan flag of the County of Middlesex is now free for anyone here to fly?



Much of the information in this article, and many of the illustrations, comes from the excellent Flags of the World website (http://www.crwflags.com/fotw/flags/). Some is also from Robert Young's comprehensive Civic Heraldry of England & Wales (http://www.civicheraldry.co.uk/).

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of Bossvorii, coed out, "A horse! A Horse! My kingdom for a narge"? The origina of tim Master of

The King's Body Guard of the Yeoman of the Guard.



The standard of the King's Body Guard was presented to the Guard in 1938 to replace the one lost in the fire at St James's Palace in 1809. In the centre are the Royal Badge of rose, thistle and shamrock combined, the letters G.R. and the Royal motto, the whole ensigned with the Imperial Crown. In the corners are the Badges of the Royal Houses of Tudor, Stuart, Hanover and Windsor – the hawthorne bush crowned and the letters H.R. of Henry VII, who instituted the Guard – the thistle crowned of King James I – the white horse courant on a green mount ensigned with the Royal Crown, of Hanover – the Round Tower of Windsor Castle within two branches of Oak and ensigned with the Royal Crown, of Windsor.

The battle-honours "Tournai 1514" and "Boulogne 1544" are selected from the battles in which the Guard took part – the date '1485' on a blue ground is that of the foundation of the Guard, the blue the colour of its facings, while on the reverse is the date '1938'.

Much of the information in this saidle application of the fractions, comes from the exculient

The Master of the Horse

Harold's dash from Stamford Bridge to Hastings, to meet the invading Normans, underlined the essential need of keeping good, strong and healthy horses. Kingdoms can be won and lost for the want of a good horse. Was it not Richard III, who in a desperate situation on the battle field of Bosworth cried out, "A horse! A Horse! My kingdom for a horse"? The origins of the 'Master of the Horse' in the Royal Household can be said to date back to the Anglo-Saxon times. The



Breastplate worn on the Master's horse during ceremonial duties.

Anglo-Saxon Court had four principal officers, the disc thean. the bed thean, the butler thean and the horse thean. A thean (or thane) was a very important person who ranked between an earl and a freeman. In Wessex he was required to spend a third of his time at court which explains why the senior household offices usually had three incumbents. The disc thegn, also known as seneschal, diaier or server, served the dishes at the royal table, and in time he became the steward, the head of the household. The butler thegn, supervised the cup-bearers and the royal drink. The bed thegn, later the chamberlain, was in charge of the royal bedchamber. This was a very important position since it was in the bedchamber that the king kept his money, his jewels, the royal seal and the state documents. The horse theigh was responsible for the Royal stables. Originally he was responsible for saddling the king's horse, assisting the king to mount his horse and also to maintain the vital messenger's service. In time the position developed into a more responsible post. In addition to the traditional responsibilities he also had to look after the royal studs and supervise the stables as a military organisation. He was also expected to provide service in the field of battle. During the tenth century he was coming to be

known as the marshal, from the French 'maréchal', an officer at the Frankish court. The name derived from the 'mariscalcus', meaning a farrier, which clearly shows that the office originated in the stables. Another Frankish officer, the constable, was not known in England before the Conquest, or at least not by the same name. Although the word is a contraction of 'comes stabuli', companion of the stable, the constable's duties at the Frankish court were primarily military; and when he was introduced into England, his work was mainly with the army, although he did for a time combine this with supervision of the marshal's duties in the stables. Thus the 'comes stabuli' was not a direct forerunner of the Master of the Horse. Under the Normans the marshal's responsibilities included keeping a tally of the gifts and liveries which had been made from the king's treasury and from his chamber; and it was his duty to have '... tallies against all the king's officials as evidence for all things'.

It is in the reign of Edward II that Sir John de Brocas and his son, Sir Bernard de Brocas became the first Masters of the Horse to be known by that name. Sir John was appointed to the office around 1360 and his son eleven years later. The family came from Gascony. They were an ancient family and probably had a great deal of experience in the breeding and raising of horses. They remained faithful to the King of England during the times of unrests and trouble and it seems to be this loyalty that ruined them in Gascony and forced Arnald de Brocas, together with his three sons and other relatives to move to England. Arnald was slain in Scotland, probably at Bannockburn in 1314, and his sons were taken into the Royal Household. The Brocas arms were 'Sable a lion rampant Or'. Since Sir Bernard de Brocas there has been a further sixty-seven masters down to the present master. Samuel Vestey, 3rd Baron Vesty. The position of Master of the Horse, as with most royal posts eventually became an office which the King used to reward favourites without having to make cash payments. It became common to hold a number of such posts

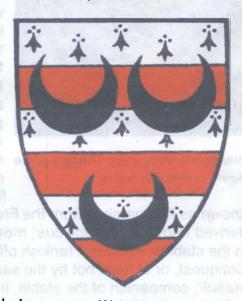


Sir Bernard Brocas

such as Master of the Buck Hounds, or the King's standard bearer. In Tudor times the position was of such prestige that more often than not the holder was a peer. From Sir John

Brocas *circa* 1360 to Sir Henry Jerningham, the twenty-seventh holder of the post, only Sir Thomas Clifford, 6th Lord Clifford, Richard Beauchamp, 13th Earl of Warwick, John, Lord Beauchamp of Powick, Charles Brandon, 1st Duke of Suffolk, and Sir Edward Hastings, Lord Hastings of Loughborough were members of the peerage. The other twenty-two holders, with the exception of Robert de Waterton and his brother, John de Waterton who were consecutive Masters of the Horse from 1399 to 1421, were knights. Thereafter starting with Elizabeth I's appointment in 1558 of Robert Dudley, 1st Earl of Leicester only Cromwell's appointment of John Claypole, 1653, was not a peer. This is not the place to give full biographical details of each of the holders of the post. As has been said all barring one from 1558 were of the peerage and therefore are well documented. In the short space available I have chosen four of the earlier masters to give an indication of the type of men chosen for such a position.

Robert de Waterton was appointed Master of the Horse by King Henry IV in 1399 when as Chief Forester of Knaresborough he raised some 200 foresters and met Bolingbroke at Ravenspur on the Humber. He married Cecily Fleming, heiress of Woodhall of Stanley, through whom he acquired the manor of Brotton in North Riding. He held a number posts including Keeper of Pontefract Castle 1400, Constable of Tickill Castle, Squire of the Chamber and Steward of the Honour 1403, Master of the Running dogs, and Steward, master forester and bailiff of the Lordship of Hatfield 1405. It is clear from these positions he was granted that he was close to the king. He witnessed Henry's will 1409 and was granted numerous grants of land. His brother, John was appointed Master of the Horse by Henry V In 1405 his brother Robert was taken prisoner by the Earl of Northumberland and imprisoned at Warkworth, Alnwick and Berwick. He was released on condition



Waterton

that his brother John took his place as a hostage against Bolingbroke's advance. Like his



brother Robert, John also enjoyed a number of offices. In 1414 apart from being appointed Master of the Horse he was appointed Constable of Windsor Castle, Keeper of the Parks, and Comptroller of the King's Household. In 1415 he was at Agincourt in charge of sixty grooms, a surveyor, a clerk of the stable, a clerk and twelve yeoman purveyors of oats for the horses, twelve smiths, nine saddlers and a couple of men whose sole responsibility seems to have been to be 'the King's Guides by night'. Before the battle Waterton had two hundred and thirty three horses in his care, at the end this number was a mere ninety-eight. Even horses were not immune to the slaughter of battle. He married in to the Clifford family and lived at Methley Hall in Yorkshire.

Sir John Cheney was born in 1445 being the younger son of John Cheyne of Shirland, Isle of Sheppey, and Eleanor, daughter of Sir John Shottisbrooke. In the 1460s he was appointed Esquire for the body to Elizabeth (Woodville), Queen of Edward IV. From 1471 until 1481 he was MP for Wiltshire and was appointed Master of the Horse in 1479. In 1478 he took part in the wedding celebrations of Richard, Duke of York and Lady Anne Mowbray. He was indeed a very formidable

character and this is borne out by the legend which surrounds his crest of augmentation of honour. The family tradition says that during the battle of Bosworth,

encountered King Richard. The king knocked Sir John from his horse striking off his crest and helm. He lay on the ground for some time stunned but on recovering, he gathered his thoughts and cut off the skull and horns of an Ox (bull?) which happened to be nearby. He strapped the skull and horns to his head and returned to the field of battle. After being declared king, Henry assigned Cheney for his crest the 'bull's cap' which his family still bear. The 'bull's cap' is also included in the ermine canton as shown here. The following year 1486, he was made a Knight of the Garter and the year after that was Constable of Barnard's Castle and became a Privy Councillor. He died without issue in 1499.

Following Sir John Cheney in the office were the Tyrrell brothers, first Sir Thomas and secondly his elder brother Sir James. They were descended from Walter Tirel, whom it is widely believed killed King William II. In the late afternoon of Thursday 2nd August 1100, William was out hunting near Brockenhurst when he was struck through the eye with an arrow. His body was left where it fell until some peasants passing by picked it up and threw it onto their cart. They took the body to Winchester where it was unceremoniously buried beneath the tower. Nearly all authorities agree that Walter Tirel, Lord of Poix in Ponthieu fired the fatal arrow. But was it an accident? This will never be known. However, a number of facts do suggest a plot. After the death of William, Tirel fled immediately across the Channel; his



wife was of the family of Clare, and his father-in-law had granted him lands Cheney in Essex. His two brothers-in-law, Gilbert and Robert de Clare, were members of the small party that hunted with the king that day. William's brother Henry, was also in the party and he had most to gain by his brother's death. His actions appear to be predetermined as he completely



disregarded his dead brother and rode immediately to Winchester, seized the treasury and the following day had himself declared king. Three days after his brother's death Henry was crowned at Westminster. Later he showed great favour to the Clare family. This brings further suspicion that there was a conspiracy formed and organized by the house of Clare and Henry.

Getting back to the brothers Sir Thomas and Sir James, Richard III appointed the brothers Master of the Horse in 1483; Thomas holding the office only for a short time before giving way to James. They were the grandsons of Sir John Tyrrell, who had fought at Agincourt and was treasurer to Henry VI and Speaker of the Commons on three separate occasions. The brothers were staunch Yorkists, and in an effort to assist Richard, James is said to have murdered the Princes in the Tower. One of his two accomplices may have been a servant from the royal stables, as he is described as John Dighton, horsekeeper,

'a big, broad, square, strong knave'. Whatever the truth of the matter, James was pardoned by Henry VII and although he lost the post of Chamberlain of the Exchequer, he was made sheriff of Glamorgan and Constable of Cardiff Castle, at a salary of £100 a year. He was obviously a courtier of eminence as can be seen by his presence on important ceremonies such as the signing of the Treaty of Etaples, the creation of the young Prince Henry as Duke of York and the reception of Catherine of Aragon. Unfortunately for him his life was brought to an abrupt end when he was executed on Tower Hill in 1502 having been implicated in the escape from England of the Yorkist Earl of Suffolk. On the eve of his execution he is said to have confessed to the murder of the princes. Perhaps he did confess, but then again is this just more Tudor propaganda?



Sir Henry Guildford was born in 1489. He was the third son of Sir Richard Guildford, KG. In 1510 he went to Spain in an expedition led by Lord D'Arcy to help King Ferdinand against the Moors. A year later he was knighted along with Sir Wistan Browne in Burgos by Ferdinand. At the same time he was also granted an augmentation of honour in the form of a pomegranate on a canton. The pomegranate is of course the emblem of Granada. Sir Wistan was also granted an augmentation for valour shown in Granada. To his arms 'Gules a chevron between three lions' gambs erect and erased Argent' was added a chief of augmentation '...on a chief of the second an eagle displayed Sable armed and crowned Or'. He was also granted a crest of augmentation 'An eagle of Sicily displayed with two heads Sable'. His arms can be seen today at Brentwood School. The school was founded by Sir Anthony Browne and his wife Joan Farrington who obtained a Royal Charter from Philip & Mary on July 5th 1558. The arms the

school use today were granted by Sir George Bellow, Garter and Sir John Heaton-Armstrong, Clarenceux on July 19th 1957.



Browne and Farrington

Sir Henry returned to England and was the King's banner bearer in the French campaign of 1513. In 1515 he was appointed Master of the Horse. This was somewhat of a surprise as it appears that Guildford was no great horseman. His portly bulk was more conspicuous in the entertainments of the Court. It was as Master that he accompanied Henry VIII to the Field of the Cloth of Gold in 1520. Prior to meeting the French king Francis I on the Calais border, Henry had given instructions for suitable horses to be found and prepared for the venture. This was no easy task as it had been known for Henry to wear out eight horses in a single day's hunting, and one of the heavy horses that carried him in full armour had needed a hedgehog placed under its tail to get it to move on bearing the King's weight. When the time came Henry rode a morello (bay) courser that was a present from the Duke of Termoli. Francis rode a Mantuan from the Gonzaga stud. Sir Henry rode immediately behind the king, leading the

king's second charger, alongside the previous Master of the Horse, Charles Brandon, 1st Duke of Suffolk, Charles was Master from

1512 until Sir Henry succeeded in 1515. Sir Henry continued to maintain the King's favour. He was appointed Comptroller in 1520 and made a Knight of the Garter in April 1526. He obviously had some diplomatic skills as he signed the articles against Cardinal Wolsey but still remained his friend.

In the order of precedence since most of the Masters since Elizabeth's time were invariably a peer, they had the precedence in that capacity. In a Royal warrant dated 6th May 1907, he was given precedence next after the Lord Chamberlain. This is not as simple as it seems. The precedence for the Lord Chamberlain was not fixed. It depends upon his degree in the peerage. Therefore, should the Master of the Horse be of a higher degree in the peerage than the Lord Chamberlain, his precedence

Guildford

would be that of his peerage, but should he be of the same or lower degree than the Lord Chamberlain he would have precedence before all other peers of the same degree as the Lord Chamberlain.

Today the role of Master of the Horse is more titular, the actual running of the Royal Mews being in the hands of the crown Equerry. The Master no longer gets involved in the purchasing of horses and the role is purely ceremonial. He is always close to the Queen when horses are involved.

The present Master is Samuel Vestey, 3rd Baron Vesty who was appointed in 1999 following Saville Crossley, 3rd Baron Somerleyton who served as master between 1991 and 1999.

The Vestey arms are as shown here and are blazoned: "Azure in base barry wavy of four Argent and of the first an iceberg issuant proper on a chief of the second three eggs also proper."

Crest: "In front of a springbox's head couped at the neck proper three mullets fesswise Azure"

Supporters: Dexter, a sheep proper; Sinister, A bull Argent

Motto: E Labore stabilitas (From work comes stability)

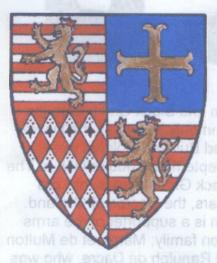
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iniciast Grant Hall to Cumbria, Naworth



Arms of Samuel Vestey, 3rd Baron of Vestey

For a full account of the Office of Master of the Horse see M.M. Reese's account in his book 'The Royal Office of Master of the Horse' 1976.



Charles Bandon, 1st Duke of Suffolk, K.G. He was the son of Sir William Brandon, the standard bearer to Henry of Richmond at Bosworth. The 1st Duke bore his father's arms quarterly with 2; Bruyn, and 3; Hatton. These were derived from his mother, the daughter of Sir Henry Bruyn. Charles Brandon was born *circa*. 1484. He was appointed Master of the Horse in 1512. He was made a knight of the Garter in 1513 and created Duke of Suffolk the following year. He married, as his third wife in 1515, without royal consent Mary Tudor, the widow of Louis XII and sister of Henry VIII. He died in 1545 and is buried in St George's Chapel, Windsor.

Next Meetings

British Flags – An Introduction Graham Bartram Saturday 3rd February

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Animals in Heraldry
Mrs Arline Fisher
Saturday 24th March
This is a joint meeting with the Chilterns
Heraldry Group

Heraldry: A Genealogist's Picture Book Dr Andrew Gray Saturday 7th April

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Visit to the Armourers and Brasiers Friday 20th April

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Tiaras, Hats and Pikes Stephen Kibbey Saturday 5th May

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Summer break June, July, August.

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AGM and Members afternoon Saturday 1st September

resetted Duke of Surfalk

Meetings are held at the Guide Hut in Bury Street, Ruislip – part of the Manor Farm, Library, Great Barn group of buildings and are usually on the first Saturday of each month. Meetings will be followed by tea and biscuits.

Visitors are most welcome

Officers and Committee

Chairman Stephen Kibbey
Hon. Treasurer Stuart Whitefoot
Committee member Dr Andrew Gray

All correspondence regarding this edition and articles for future editions should be sent to The editor, 3 Cleveland Court, Kent Avenue, Ealing, London W13 8BJ. Tel. 020 8998 5580



The White Ram and Black Griffin from the set of four, commonly known as the Dacre beasts. The Red Bull and Dolphin were shown in the September 2006 edition of The Seaxe. The Black Griffin stands for Lord Dacre's forebears, the Dacres of Gilsland. The White Ram is a supporter of the arms for the de Multon family; Margaret de Multon was the wife of Ranulph de Dacre, who was licensed to crenellate Naworth Castle in 1355. The four beasts, the other two being a Red Bull and a Dolphin originally stood in the largest Great Hall in Cumbria, Naworth Castle in 1335. They can now be seen in the V & A museum in London.