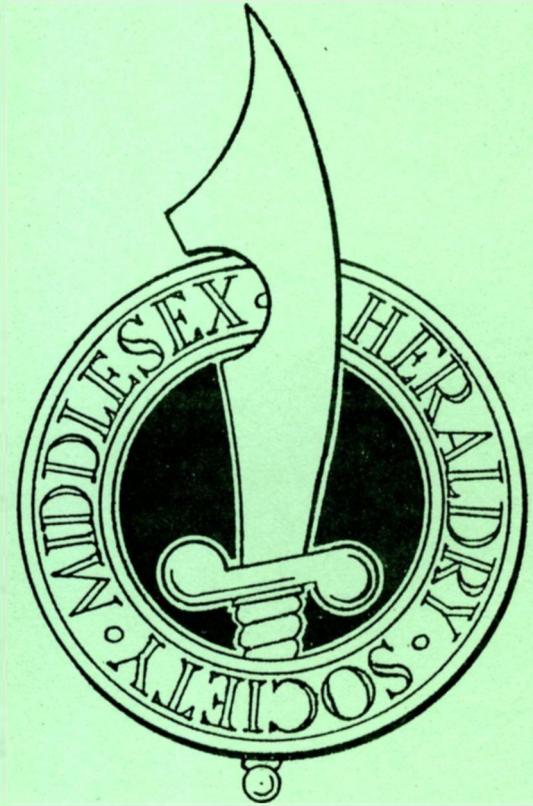


THE SEAXE



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OFFICERS OF THE MIDDLESEX HERALDRY SOCIETY

From September 1987

Chairman	Ron Brown
Vice-chairman	Mrs.Nan Taylor
Secretary	Mrs.Peggy Foster
Treasurer	Peter Esslemont
Committee	Roger Matthews
	Kay Holmes

Sales Table - Roger Matthews
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THE WIDER SCENE

As members of the Middlesex Heraldry Society we are very fortunately situated for regular contact with other societies. We are able to attend meetings of The Heraldry Society at the Society of Antiquaries, and to take full part in the activities of the principal English heraldic society. Several of us attended the Congress at Pembroke College, Cambridge. We are happily placed also to visit the meetings of the Chilterns Heraldry Group; this often gives the opportunity to hear talks one has missed or wishes to hear again. Several of us were privileged to join in their visit to Belgium. From our very beginnings we have enjoyed a special affinity with the Bath Heraldic Group with whom we have made joint visits an almost annual event. We have also taken part in their workshops, another of which is to be held shortly. We have close ties with Heraldry Societies of the East Midlands, Macclesfield, Norfolk and Suffolk with some mutual membership and sharing of speakers.

For almost two years Pete and Nan Taylor have been running the Museum Street office of The Heraldry Society, with great efficiency, in an attempt to get that society back on its feet financially and administratively. They plan to retire from this onerous task in a couple of months, having already served a year longer than they originally offered to do. At about the same time Peter Esslemont is due to take over the office of Treasurer, a job he has been doing with his considerable expertise for us for just over a year. Your editor has been helping at the office also, particularly with the Library, and acting as stand in for Pete and Nan on occasion.

Just before Christmas your Chairman and editor attended the second of two meetings of Heraldry Societies, under the aegis of The Heraldry Society, at the College of Arms, to discuss ways in which they might co-operate and help each other. Useful and positive suggestions were made; it will be interesting to see which are practicable and put into operation. Plans are already afoot for a one day seminar somewhere in the Midlands with easy access by rail or road from all directions.

Several of our members contributed to the *New Dictionary of Heraldry*, in the company of our Patron, other English and Scottish Officers of Arms and other scholars of heraldry.

Meanwhile, Back in Middlesex - where we may soon see some county boundary signs replaced - we are continuing with our work on Middlesex churches and hope to have something to show before the next issue of *The Seaxe*. We have a full programme of excellent speakers for 1988; Nan Taylor, after six very successful years, has handed over the task of organising our visits to Margaret Young. Having some past experience in this sphere, Margaret is the ideal successor and we wish her much joy in the role.

We have invested some thought, time and money in trying to make our projection of slides more effective. Purchase of the long-throw lens has necessitated longer leads for the speaker's desk light and signal; remote control of focussing has involved modification to the projector and raising the height of the projector stand is in the experimental stage. Messrs. Heath-Robinson and Emmett would surely approve!

Our membership reached 50 last year and we are hoping to maintain that figure. We shall be sorry to see Chris and Bob Tarry leave but hope to welcome new members. Last summer and autumn produced a crop of illnesses, operations and accidents; it is good to be able to report that all are recovering well and are back in full circulation - please try not to let it happen again!

All in all it has been an eventful year and it seems highly likely that 1988 will be equally interesting. May it be a healthy and heraldically successful one for all our members.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

17th September, 1987

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Another year of lively, well attended meetings. We lost two keen members from our ranks but gained one of our favourite speakers.

Our links with friends in other heraldry societies meant that once again we were able to enjoy a year of variety and interest.

In October Michael Messer, from the Bath Society, came to us and his talk on *Musical Heraldry* proved once again that heraldry does come into all aspects of life. We were shown slides of record jackets and musical items used as charges on shields, such as conch shells and a violin bridge.

November's speaker was our own Peter Bentley whose subject was *Exeter Cathedral*. His researches and expert photography made an interesting evening enjoyed by all.

In December we had our usual Christmas festivities which began with an atmosphere of quiet absorption as we all tried to solve Margaret's anagrams. Things were reasonably in control as we played Fay's game but, by the end of the evening, there was much noise and uninhibited hilarity caused by a game organised by Keith Lovell.

The January meeting had to be cancelled because of bad weather but we all looked forward to Keith's talk in February entitled *The Herald's Garden* The "garden" turned out to be Northamptonshire and its heraldry.

In March we were again delighted by a talk from Fay, this time *Gilling - Castle and the Fairfax Family*. Much heraldry and, as usual from Fay, enlivened by many historical anecdotes.

In April we were sorry not to see Cathy Constant, from the Bath Society, as planned, but nevertheless we can still look forward to her talk. Pete Taylor very kindly stepped into the breach and gave us his likes and dislikes in heraldry according to artistic standards. This covered a very broad field and included the work of well known heraldic artists all of which stimulated the subsequent discussion.

The speaker in May was another Bath Society member, Steve Slater, who gave us an absorbing talk entitled *Some Aspects of Polish and Scandinavian Heraldry*. After a brief resume of Polish history and how the charges on shields began with runic symbols and other emblems displayed on poles outside their lodges, Steve then showed us many examples of Polish heraldry showing great variety with refreshing simplicity and beautiful artwork. A most interesting aspect of heraldry, very succinctly explained, especially with regard to the spelling of Polish names so efficiently undertaken. Obviously a lot of groundwork done here!

Our speaker in June was fellow member, Peach Froggatt, whose talk on the *Colour of Heraldry* took us right back from early times and the dyes and colourants used then to those used today. This was illustrated by heraldry slides ranging from the Dyers' and Colourists' Company to those seen on tapestries in such places as the Town Hall in Bruges and Oxburgh Hall in Norfolk. We also saw examples of restoration, undertaken by Peach and Jos, plus ceramics and wall paintings and we were all very appreciative of their knowledge, gained over many years.

In July we welcomed Frank Smith already known to many of you. I remember some time ago an evening spent carving paper heraldic emblems with very sharp scalpels. This time it was making shields in a most outstanding and effective way with some members taking part during a fascinating and unusual session, all as reported by Margaret - a nice change from slides!

Those members who attend our August meetings will agree with me that our *Members' Evenings* have become events in our calendar not to be missed. With all our busy cameras we must surely be doing a lot to help keep the photographic industry going, apart from the enormous pleasure, fun and interest these slides give to us. Thank you to all who contribute - please, please - keep them coming!

Thank you, Margaret, for deputising for me and thank you to everyone for yet another year of absorbing heraldry, good fun and good company.

Peggy Foster

REVIEW OF A NEW DICTIONARY OF HERALDRY

Peggy Foster asks if we are aware that, out of thirty-seven contributors, including the Editor, to *A New Dictionary of Heraldry* published recently, five of them, or 18.92%, are members of our Society? The percentage calculation was worked out by Roger Young - Margaret's son. (Margaret's local paper is certainly aware of her contribution!)

Adding art to heraldic history

WEMBLEY woman, Margaret Young, has contributed articles to a new book, *A New Dictionary of Heraldry*, and says that the subject of heraldry has always fascinated her.

Margaret (66), of West Hill, often painstakingly draws coats of arms from different eras and researches the historic stories behind them.

Pictures of mythical beasts such as the griffin are a particular favourite of hers and the fact that heraldry is a distinctly male preserve - a woman cannot have her own coat of arms because it has to be passed down through the male line - doesn't put her off.

"It's all fascinating," she said.

● *A New Dictionary of Heraldry* is published by Alpha Books for £15.95.

Ron Brown thinks that the plates and illustrations are excellent but would have preferred to see the monsters grouped under that heading or, at least, cross-indexed under the heading. In amplification he suggests that if one sees, for example, a *pantheon* or an *enfield*, unless one is well versed in heraldry it would be very difficult to find either in the new dictionary. (Perhaps when it is reprinted a revision could be included). He goes on to say that he believes the book will be of great assistance to the amateur armorist.

As a very amateur armorist I heartily endorse that remark, hardly a day passes without my referring to this erudite publication - and how proud one is to number 18.92% of the contributors among one's friends and heraldic colleagues - and to have their autographs on the flyleaf!

VISITS — September 1986 — August 1987

We started off in grand style with a visit to Canterbury in September to celebrate the 10th birthday of the Middlesex Heraldry Society. The account of that outing was included in *The Seaxe* No.8 which was produced in our 10th year.

In our residential "Search for Heraldry" we spent a weekend at Flatford Mill from where we sallied forth each day on a series of visits. It was very enjoyable but a bit cold!

In November, January, February and April we resumed our recording of the heraldry in Middlesex churches which this year were:-

St.Mary, Willesden; St.Andrew, Kingsbury;
St.Lawrence, Little Stanmore; St.John, Stanmore;
Holy Trinity, Northwood; St.Mary, Ealing;
Holy Cross, Greenford and St.Mary the Virgin, Perivale

(Somehow I find it very much easier to do my little bit of recording in each church than to collate and write up the heraldry in the one church allocated to me!)

No formal visit was arranged for March as the Bath Heraldry Society held a one day workshop and a number of our members attended. It was a very instructive day and it was pleasant to meet our friends from Bath again.

Two visits to St.Paul's Cathedral were arranged for May. The Revd.Pryse-Hawkins, vicar of St.Benet's Church, Paul's Wharf, the church of the College of Arms, kindly offered to take us round St.Pauls where he, amongst his other duties there, is an official guide. He did not want more than ten or twelve in the party so two visits were arranged - each with ten members. One was a weekday visit and the other on a Saturday. This worked very well and was thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part.

In June we went to Bisham, Bray and Cookham churches which we last visited in 1982. Peter Begent met us in Bisham Church and spoke to us about the Hoby heraldry there. Some members also went on to Shottesbrooke Church where Peter was giving a talk on its heraldry. We had planned a joint visit with the Bath Heraldry Society to Lydiard Tregose but the date had to be altered so some Bath members came with us to Bisham, Bray, etc., instead.

In July we did visit Lydiard Tregose Church and saw the famous St.John triptych which has now been returned after a lengthy period away for cleaning. We went on from there to Littlecote House. The house itself is very interesting and there seemed to be "something for everybody" in the grounds - even jousting and some very peculiar heraldry.

No visit was arranged for August, the main holiday month.

We had a very successful and enjoyable year of visits and my "hotline to on high" worked overtime again as we continued to be blessed with good weather for our excursions.

May I thank Margaret Young and Joan Bentley for entertaining us so royally when we were in the vicinity of their homes and Elizabeth Lee, Doreen and Ron Edwards and Rita and Bill Burgess for opening their homes to us when we needed somewhere to eat our sandwiches.

This will be my last report as after six years in office I am handing over to Margaret Young together with the secret of ensuring good weather for our outings!

Lastly, can I say a very big thank you for all the help and support you have given me over the past six years.

Nan Taylor

THE FAYREY PALL

One of the treasures which used to be on display in the Chapel of St. John the Baptist in the Priory Church of St. Peter, Dunstable, was a funeral pall. According to the Church Guide purchased in 1982 it is now in the Victoria & Albert Museum.

In 1442 the Fraternity of St. John the Baptist was founded in Dunstable and, for about 100 years until its dissolution, maintained a priest to say prayers and provide accommodation for travellers. The original register was on display in Luton Museum but a copy remained in the church.

In 1500 the Fayrey family presented a magnificent funeral pall to the fraternity. Henry Fayrey, who died in 1516, was a member of the London Haberdashers Company and, presumably, the family were of some local importance.

After the dissolution of the fraternity the pall seems to have disappeared (possibly returned to the Fayrey family?). However, in 1812, it once more came into the possession of the churchwardens who, according to accounts in the Victoria County History, allowed the poor people of the parish to use it for funerals at a cost of 6d. It was then sold and, presumably, kept safely until it was restored to the town in 1891.

I have not seen the Fayrey Pall - but details are colourfully depicted on Page 171 of *Treasures of Britain* (1968 Edition). It was a piece of exquisite workmanship, the centre portion made up of rich crimson cut Florentine brocaded velvet on cloth of gold. Although the silk is Italian and the style Flemish, the workmanship is considered to be English.

The sides are embroidered and show St. John the Baptist preaching, clad in his rough coat of camel hair and standing on rocky ground between two barren tree trunks, no doubt representing the wilderness. The members of the fraternity are lined up on either side to be introduced to him - the men led by Henry Fayrey and the women by Agnes, his wife.

The arms of the Fayrey family are also embroidered on the pall, together with those of the Mercers Company and the names of John and Mary Fayrey, father and mother of Henry.



FAYREY

According to the illustration in *Treasures of Britain*, the Fayrey arms appear to be *per pale or & vert a chevron between three eagles displayed counterchanged - on a chief of the first as many lozenges*. The lozenges may have been charged but colour and charges are not distinguishable.

In *Papworth* there is a Fayery or Fayry, Portcullis Pursuivant temp. Edward VI, whose arms are blazoned *per fess or and azure a chevron between three eagles displayed counterchanged, on a chief gules as many lozenges ermine*.

In *Treasures of Britain* notes, accompanying the illustrations, the writer states "Every religious fraternity, City Livery Company and noble family in the late Middle Ages possessed its own pall" (i.e. coffin covering).

If this is true I would expect a fair number still to be in existence, perhaps hidden away in churches or amongst the archives of livery companies or exhibited by noble families in their stately homes. In due course I hope to come across further examples.

MYTHS AND MORALS

The Medieval Bestiaries are much more than stories concerning animals and birds, real or imaginary. There is nearly always a moral to be learned from their habits and the reader is admonished to behave according to the ways of the good ones and to shun the bad ones.

The *lion* is of such a noble spirit that he will not attack a fallen man, but allows him to rise and go on his way. So man should show compassion to those in his power and not take advantage of their servility. This, and the fact that the lion has such great courage, made him popular in heraldry, particularly in the days of chivalry.



Lion rampant
queue fourché



Lion passant



Two lions rampant
combatant

The *panther* of the *Bestiaries* is a beautiful gentle creature whose coat is striped with many colours or has spots of many colours, which makes him an appropriate supporter for the Painter-Stainers Guild.



Panther

After he has dined and slept, he comes forth from his den and from his mouth issues a stream of sweet smelling breath, together with a ringing sound to which all animals are attracted except the dragon to whom it is harmful. He is likened to Christ to whose voice men should be drawn, rather than to the dragon-devil. Jane Seymour's arms, as illustrated in *The Heraldic Imagination* by Rodney Dennis, has a *panther* supporter which is described as an unusual way of depicting him, but is a perfect example of the bestiary animal - with different coloured stripes on its fur and and breath streaming from its mouth.



Unicorn rampant

The *unicorn* is of such purity as to be identified with Christ himself. He was considered to be so sacred that he does not appear in early heraldry. He had many medicinal properties and no animal would drink from a pool until the unicorn had purified it by stirring it with his horn. So should man only drink spiritual nourishment from sources of purity.

The *eagle* is a bird of great beauty and strength but, when he grows old, his eyes become misted and his wings heavy. Then he finds a fountain and, having flown above it to the sun where he singes his wings and evaporates the mist from his eyes, he plunges down into the water and his plumage is restored in splendour and his eyes to their original acuteness. In such a way men should seek out the fountain of God and the brightness of his life and be renewed in spirit.



Eagle displayed

The phoenix is a bird of the sun and was an emblem of those in paradise enjoying eternal youth. It is a symbol of resurrection and immortality since, when it becomes 500 years old, it burns itself in a fire of sweet herbs and arises with new life and vigour from the ashes. In the Gallery of the Palais Royale in Paris a phoenix represents Joan of Arc with the motto "Her death itself will make her live".



Phoenix

The pelican has been endowed with mystical qualities. The young become so unruly that the father, in chastising them, kills them. After three days the mother returns and revives them with her own blood and so becomes an emblem of Christ who shed his blood for mankind.



Pelican vulning

The snake, in Christianity, is the symbol of evil and is shown in the Bestiaries as closing one ear with its tail and pressing the other to the earth so that it cannot hear the words of the holy man but listens to earthly things instead. However, in earlier times, it had been venerated as the source of all wisdom and Aesculapius, the healer, has a snake twined round his rod. Thus, in heraldry, it appears as both a good and a bad element, the rod of Aesculapius being much used in medical heraldry but also, in many cases, the snake is depicted beneath the feet of various saints.



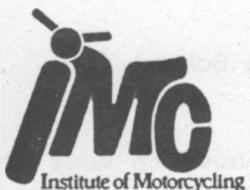
Dragon

In the Bestiaries the dragon is likened to the Devil. He rises from his den, in flames, and the air about him blazes with fire and misleads people, as the Devil does, and draws them away from the true light. However, as with the snake, the dragon is not always evil, as he was the symbol of power to the Celts and so became the emblem of Wales. Also a dragon lived in the River Thames and protected the City of London for which reason the arms of the City have dragon supporters.

There are many allusions in the Bestiaries to the three days between the time of Christ's death and resurrection. The lions' cubs are born dead and remain so for three days until their father comes and breathes life into them. The panther sleeps for three days after its meal until it emerges to breathe its sweetness into the air. The eagle dips itself three times in the fountain to revive itself. The pelicans' babies are dead for three days before the mother comes and restores them to life.

Margaret Young

IDLE THOUGHTS



Reading a magazine, a few days ago, I came across a letter from an official of *The Institute of Motorcycling* which contained their badge or logo. If your club or society can't afford to apply for a grant of arms what could be nicer than to decorate your letterheads and other documents with something like the one illustrated? Is anyone aware of the haulage firm from the village of Old, in Northamptonshire, and whose name is Knight? They trade as *Knights of Old* and bear a knight's helm as their badge!

DSK

CIVIC HERALDRY IN MIDDLESEX Pt. III

LONDON BOROUGH OF BRENT

This borough was formed by an amalgamation of the former Boroughs of Wembley and Willesden. The Arms which were granted on 1st September 1965 are:-

Per chevron gules and vert a Chevron wavy argent between in dexter chief an Orb and in sinister chief two swords in saltire hilts and pommels Or points upwards and in base two seaxes in saltire proper, hilts and pommels Or, enfiled through a Saxon Crown Or.

CREST *Issuant from a Saxon Crown Or, a mount vert, thereon a Lion statant guardant Or, charged on the shoulder with a cinquefoil gules.*

SUPPORTERS *On the dexter side a lion guardant Or supporting a staff gules, flying therefrom a banner vert charged with a pair of scales Or; and on the sinister side a Dragon azure supporting a staff vert flying therefrom a banner gules charged with three lilies slipped argent the stamens Or; the whole upon a compartment of grass vert divided by a stream of water argent, a pale wavy argent.*

MOTTO *Forward Together*

The Charges for the Arms, Crest and Supporters for the new Borough draw heavily on those used in the Armorial Bearings of the superseded authorities.

The upper part of the shield contains most of the charges that were included in the old Willesden shield which was *gules* and included an *Orb* and *crossed swords* amongst the charges. the other main charges included in the Willesden shield were a *pot of lilies* (which now appears in the banner held by the sinister supporter) and the *chevron and bordure* which have both disappeared.

The lower part of the Shield contains charges from the old Wembley Arms. *The wavy chevron* between the upper and lower parts of the shield is a reference to the River Brent which runs through the middle of the new Borough to which it gives its name. It also formed the natural division between the previous boroughs. The *Compartment* is a further reference to the name of the Borough.

The *dexter lion supporter* is the *dexter supporter* from the old Wembley Arms in which the *sinister supporter* was a similar lion with a golden cornucopia on the banner. The *sinister dragon supporter* in the new Arms comes from the Willesden achievement.

The *Crest* is similar to the *Crest* in the old Wembley achievement with the addition of a *cinquefoil* which comes from the Willesden *Crest*.

The symbolism of the charges which come from the Wembley Arms are:-

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| <i>Green field</i> | The open spaces which still exist in the area - Barn Hill, etc. |
| <i>Seaxes</i> | Charges from the Middlesex County Arms. |
| <i>Lion supporter</i> | An allusion to John Lyon, founder of Harrow School who lived at Preston Manor. |
| <i>Pair of Scales</i> | The symbol of Justice. <i>The Hundred of Gore</i> used to meet at a site which is within the Borough boundary. |

Brent



Wembley



Villesden



The symbolism of the charges which come from the Willesden Arms are:-

- Orb* The emblem attributed to King Athelstan who granted the Manor of Neasden cum Willesden to the Monastery of St. Arkenwold around the middle of the 10th century.
- Swords* From the Arms of the Diocese of London. The Dean and Chapter held the Manor at the time of the Domesday Survey.
- Lilies* Emblem of St. Mary, to whom the Parish Church is dedicated.
- Cinquefoil* From the Arms of All Souls College, Oxford, who owned much land in Willesden. The College Arms are:- *Or*, a *Chevron between three cinquefoils gules*.

The Arms which were granted to the Borough of Wembley in 1938 are:-

Vert, two seaxes crossed saltirewise passing through a Saxon Crown Or.

CREST *Within a Saxon Crown Or, a mount vert and thereon a Lion statant guardant Or.*

SUPPORTERS *Two lions guardant Or, each supporting a staff gules with a banner vert, the dexter banner charged with a pair of scales Or and the sinister with a Cornucopia Or.*

MOTTO *Tempori Parendum* (We must move with the times)

With the exception of the Cornucopia (which, presumably, was included to indicate prosperity) all the other charges have been included in the new Brent Arms and have been mentioned above.

The Arms which were granted to the Borough of Willesden in 1933 when the local authority was incorporated as a Borough are:-

Gules, a chevron Or between in chief an Orb Or banded sable ensigned with a Cross crosslet Or, and two swords saltirewise proper their pommels and hilts Or and in the base three lilies in a pot Or all within a bordure Or charged with eight roundels sable.

CREST *Issuing from a Saxon Crown Or two wings of the same each charged with a cinquefoil gules.*

SUPPORTERS *Two dragons azure each with a Saxon Crown Or about its neck and charged on the shoulder with two seaxes saltirewise proper their pommels and hilts Or.*

MOTTO *Laborare est Orare* (To work is to pray)

As with Wembley most of these charges reappear in the Brent Arms and have already been explained. The eight roundels in the bordure recall the eight Saxon prebendal manors into which the area, before it became Willesden, was divided. They were Brondesbury, Mapesbury, Neasden, Oxgate, Willesden, Twyford, Harlesden and Chamberlayne Wood. The Wings issuing from the Crown in the Crest came from the Crest of the Bancroft family who, at one time, occupied the Manor of Mapesbury.

A plaque has been erected in St. Mary's Church with the following inscription beneath the Arms of the Borough.

"This plaque is to remind the people of Willesden that it was from this Church that Civic Administration in Willesden first began. The ancient parish which this Church served for centuries formed the local government area administered first by the Vestry (meeting in its earliest days in the vestry of the Church) then by the Local Board, then by the Urban District Council, and finally by the Municipal Borough until April 1965. The Borough of Willesden was then merged with that of Wembley to form the Greater London Borough of Brent."

Peter Esslemont

TWENTY QUESTIONS - Test your knowledge (and no cheating!)

1. Who offered "My kingdom for a horse"?
2. What was his personal badge?
3. Who had *the sun in splendour* for his badge?
4. What made him adopt it?
5. Who had a dispute with whom over a *bend*?
6. What was the outcome?
7. What happened to the English coat of arms during the reign of Henry IV?
8. What was it before this - in the 14th century?
9. Whose coat of arms includes a belt buckle?
10. Why?
11. How many crosses in the Berkeley arms.
12. Which family has a *lady's sleeve* as their main charge?
13. What was the charge on the coat of arms of the Sidney family?
14. Why was it famous (or infamous!)?
15. Whose "sun sits weeping in the lowly West"?
16. Why - and what was the charge?
17. How did a pomegranate get into some royal coats of arms?
18. Which family had the porcupine as a badge?
19. Where else is it found?
20. Which royal lady might have been able to help William Tell?

(Answers inside back cover)

Compiled by Sheila Pearson

GATEHOUSES

I little thought when I showed a few slides of gatehouses during last year that I would be volunteering an article for this scholastic and august publication. Nevertheless, I have tried to put a few thoughts on the subject together, so that other members can amplify them by their own experiences.

My impression is that the majority of people who visit any historic building pass through the gatehouse or entrance without giving it a great deal of attention unless there is some outstanding ornamentation or signs of earlier furniture, such as a drawbridge or portcullis long since removed. They tend to see gateways as mere entrances to the main buildings beyond. When they leave their backs are to the gatehouse or entrance and, again, it will not get the attention it deserves.

Our contemporary houses or other buildings rarely have a detached gatehouse or even an ornate entrance way, either due to planning regulations, lack of space, economic limitations or just fashion. So why should our ancestors have found them to be of importance and what was their purpose? Those members who took part in the visit to Layer Marney or shared in the weekend at Bury St. Edmunds will recall several major examples of earlier gatehouses, each of them typical of their period in form and function. The great Abbey Gate at Bury is very different from the gatehouse entrances to Hengrave Hall, Oxburgh or Layer Marney. So why the differences?

Obviously the gatehouse not only marked the entrance to a courtyard or building, but from size and constructional features had functions far removed from our own humbler entrances to property. The earliest form of gatehouse or gateway appeared when it formed part of a walled enclosure and is typically found in walled cities or with the development of castles in their post-Norman curtain or quadrangular forms. A good example of an early town gate can be seen in the model of the Roman gatehouse at Verulamium. There were, of course, much earlier examples as found in archaeological records and in the Old Testament descriptions of Jericho and Jerusalem. The purpose of those gatehouses in controlling entry continued with the development of castles and fortifications when gatehouses assumed an overt defensive role. Early examples of these, such as at Framlingham Castle in Suffolk, show them to have been fortified but not more prominent than the attached walls. It was when the tower was incorporated into design that gatehouses became a major feature. The castles at Arundel, Alwick and Caernarvon include gatehouses which are fortified and constructed in tower form. One of the most extreme of these is the keep-gatehouse of Richmond Castle in Yorkshire. The tower had various functions which included a high viewpoint as well as rooms which served as stores, barracks, armouries and prisons. These were normally constructed in the period from the 12th to the 14th centuries.

Abbeys and other monastic foundations also had their own gatehouses, not only to control entry into the precincts but also for defensive purposes. Until the Dissolution in the 16th century, abbeys and monasteries were also major landowners controlling the economy and lives of the villagers or townsfolk surrounding them. In periods of economic or civil unrest these could attract the ire of the tenants and dependants and there are many records of attacks on such buildings. The riots of the Peasants' Revolt of 1381 were often directed against ecclesiastical landowners in order to destroy the records held by them or to settle grudges. The imposing gatehouse at Bury is a reminder of such threats although this was earlier, in 1327, when the clash between townsfolk and the monastic community was so severe that the gatehouse was destroyed. It is believed that the present gatehouse, built, at the expense of the townsfolk, in 1347 was a punishment for this act of destruction. It is a magnificent structure in the Decorated style. It is defensive in build with niches for imagery and is decorated with five shields bearing the arms of Edward III, - his brother, John of Eltham, Earl of Cornwall, - his uncle, Thomas of Brotherton, Earl of Norfolk, - his father's cousin, Henry, Earl of Lancaster and those of Edward the Confessor. The other remaining gateway tower of Bury Abbey is in Norman style of the late 12th century and is now used as the bell-tower of the Cathedral of St. James. A fortunate town to possess two such monuments.

After the need for defensive houses faded, in the 15th century, there was still desire to perpetuate this romantic image, particularly in the Tudor and Jacobean periods. The gatehouse then became either an imitation defensive gateway opening into a courtyard house or palace or was merged into the facade of the main domestic range of buildings. The game is usually given away, however, by the date and place of building or by the design of windows which are clearly there to let in light as opposed to keeping out intruders. A good example of a gatehouse into a courtyard can be seen at Kenilworth Castle constructed during the ownership of Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester. Coughton Court of the Throckmortons, - Hampton Court of Cardinal Wolsey, - Layer Marney as designed by Henry, Lord Marney and Hengrave Hall of Sir Thomas Kytson are all good examples of those merged into the main structure.

The gatehouse at Oxburgh Hall is clearly not built to withstand any heavy offensive and has been described variously as a decorative caricature of previous necessity or as part of a fortified manor house which, at least, would have been capable of surviving an onslaught by a lawless mob. As its construction date approximates to the ending of the Wars of the Roses the builders may well have had reason to be wary.

Probably Coughton Court and Layer Marney are the best examples of a romantic look back at the past. There can be no pretence of defence in their construction but social status is reflected - maybe pretension. A new landed class were showing off their claim to be equated with the older aristocracy - men who wished to show off their acquired wealth, either from trade or political opportunity, and their affinity with and attachment to the Crown. Kytson of Hengrave comes into this category. These families advertised their status by incorporating new-style Renaissance decoration of their buildings and by displaying their own arms and those of the king. Indeed they would, if it were advantageous socially, also exhibit the arms of those associated with them either through marriage or occupation. These Tudor gatehouses contained rooms as well as porters' lodges. In some instances they may have taken the place of the solar or ladies' withdrawing room of the early medieval manor house. Other institutions of the time possessed gatehouses. The Tudor colleges of the Oxford and Cambridge universities, such as St. Johns and Trinity at Cambridge which copied domestic courtyard layout, have particularly fine examples of this form of architecture with good heraldic decoration.

As the 16th century gave way to the 17th and 18th centuries so these romantic monstrosities fell out of favour and the gatehouses were constructed to accentuate the approach to the main building. Those at Hardwick Hall, Derbyshire, built in the 1590's, - Burton Agnes, Yorkshire, of 1610 and Lanhydrock, Cornwall 1636-51 do not exhibit the ostentation of the early 16th century. The trend continued through to the type of gatehouse built by Robert Adam at Syon in the 1760's. By this time the gatehouse, incorporated into the facade of the main building itself to provide an impressive porch entrance, had given way to the Palladian portico. 18th century Classical architecture had no place for the earlier styles. However, with the rejection of Classical design for domestic buildings in the 19th century and its return to medieval Gothic styling we do find the wealthy of the time showing the same exhibitionist tendencies as their 16th century forbears. Do we blame or commend Sir Walter Scott for his revival of romance?

Ron Edwards

THE GRAND UNION CANAL

Between 1760 and 1830 some 2,000 miles of canals were built in Britain and, at the end of that period, few important towns in England were more than ten miles away from a navigable waterway. The 1830's however saw the decline of the Canal Age and the birth of the Railway Age.

The largest canal system in the country, the Grand Union Canal, dates from 1729 following the merger of the Regent's Canal of 1812 and the Grand Junction Canal of 1793. Both companies had earlier taken over a number of smaller canal companies.

The Grand Union runs from the Thames at Brentford to Birmingham with branches at Leicester, Nottingham, other large towns and, until 25 years ago, was quite a busy commercial waterway. Even today it is still possible to see the occasional working boat carrying cargoes to and from the Midlands passing through Rickmansworth and Cowley Lock at Uxbridge. In its heyday some pairs of narrow boats, each comprising a motor-boat and a towed butty boat, would cover the 136 miles and 165 locks between London and Birmingham in 57 hours with the crew working in shifts.

In the 1930's a full and correct coat of arms was granted to the Grand Union Canal Company

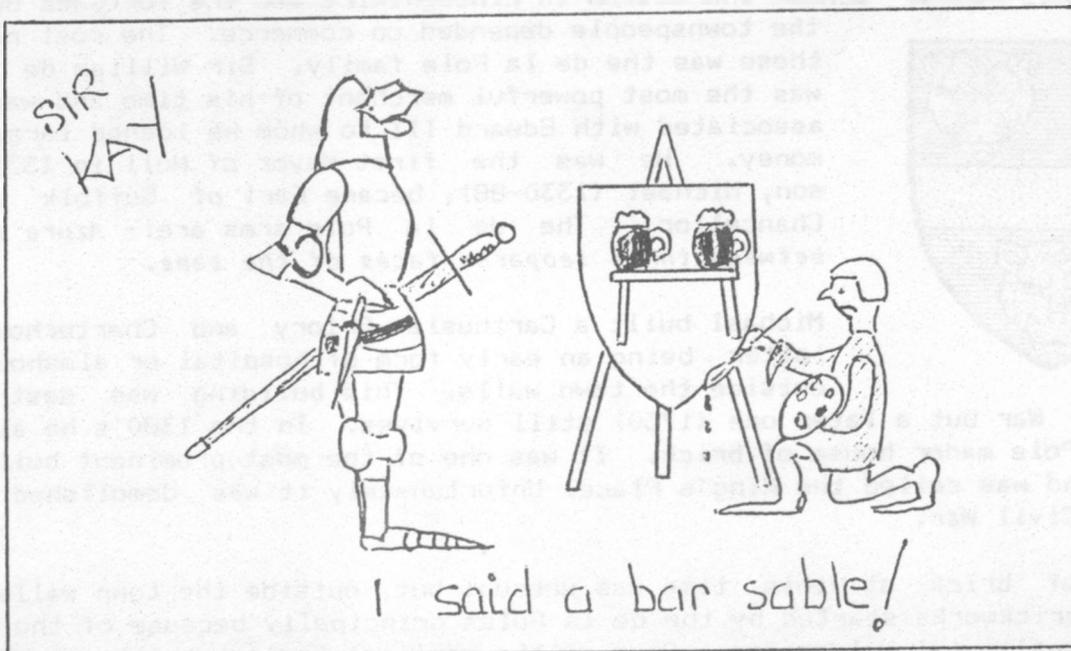


- Shield - Or a pall wavy azure (to represent the meeting of several waters) in chief a fountain.
- Crest - Issuant from a crown vallary a gauntlet grasping the Prince of Wales' feathers.
- Supporters - Two seahorses argent
- Motto - Silent and Sure



Alan Teasdale

A KNIGHT ERRANT?



KINGSTON UPON HULL

I suppose the only fact the average person knows about Hull, as it is familiarly called, is that when Charles I tried to gain entry into the town during the Civil War the gates were firmly shut in his face - oh yes, and isn't it a fishing port somewhere in the North of England?

But there is much more to it.....

Why is it called Kingston upon Hull?

In the 12th century the monks of the Cistercian Abbey at Meaux thought that a small settlement, which had grown up where the River Hull meets the mighty Humber, would be a suitable outlet for their expanding wool trade. Here the goods which had been transported down the River Hull from Beverley or York could be loaded into sea going vessels bound for Europe. In 1293 Edward I used this small settlement, called Wyke, as a supply port for his wars against the Scots and, in 1299, a Royal Charter granted the privileges of a free borough to King's Town (Kingston) upon Hull.

The coat of arms:- *Azure in pale three ducal coronets or* would seem to be an indication of the King's interest. However Fox-Davies says that, by tradition, the three crowns which are displayed prominently on the shield are a recognised device of merchantmen who, travelling in and trading with the East and likening themselves to the Magi in their visit to Bethlehem, adopted the crowns as a symbol of their business. Fox-Davies also remarks that, whatever the tradition, the crowns are "not of Eastern design but of a class wholly connected with heraldry itself".



In 1331 Kingstown upon Hull, on payment of 100 marks to the king, acquired a mayor and four bailliffs and also became self governing. It returned two members to Parliament. In 1447 the aldermen of Hull won the right to elect "one suitable and discreet man" to be Admiral of the Humber.

The town developed into one of the leading ports of its day, ranking third in the wool trade, behind London and Boston in Lincolnshire and the fortunes of many of the townspeople depended on commerce. The most notable of these was the de la Pole family. Sir William de la Pole was the most powerful merchant of his time and was closely associated with Edward III to whom he loaned large sums of money. He was the first Mayor of Hull in 1331 and his son, Michael (1330-88), became Earl of Suffolk and Lord Chancellor. The de la Pole arms are:- *Azure a fess or between three leopards faces of the same.*

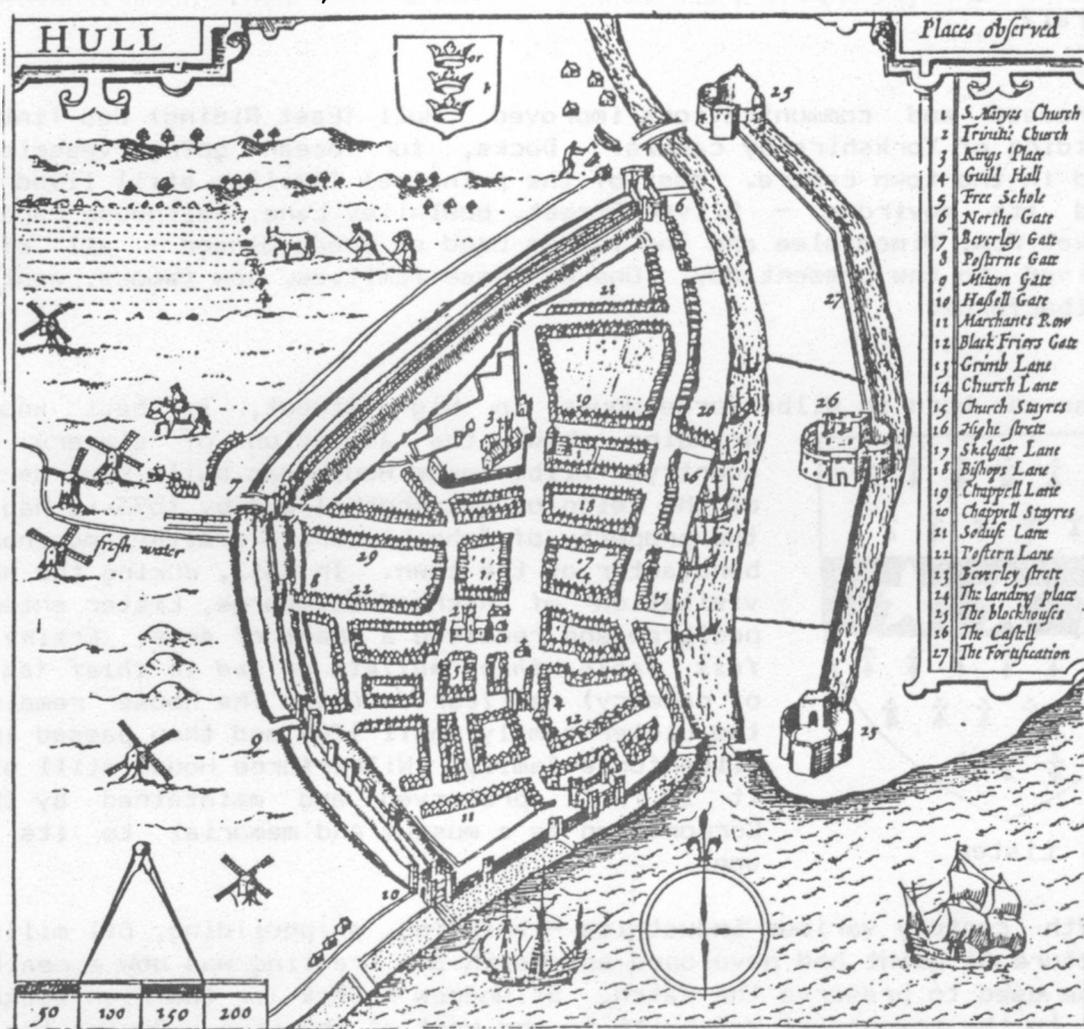


Michael built a Carthusian Priory and Charterhouse, the latter being an early form of hospital or almshouse, just outside the town walls. This building was destroyed in the Civil War but a later one (1750) still survives. In the 1380's he also built the de la Pole manor house of brick. It was one of the most prominent buildings in the town and was called the King's Place. Unfortunately it was demolished shortly after the Civil War.

The use of brick at this time was unusual but, outside the town walls, were a number of brickworks started by the de la Poles principally because of the shortage of stone in alluvial Holderness. Some of the earliest English brickwork was to be found in the King's Place and in the interval towers of the town walls. It is still to be seen in Holy Trinity Church which, says Pevsner (1972), "is the largest of all English parish churches - that is by area". It was completed in 1425.

Inside Holy Trinity Church is the de la Pole tomb, with effigies in Derbyshire alabaster, of Sir William and his wife, Lady Katherine (Katherine de Norwich). He is dressed (at his own request) as a trader although he held the title of Knight BANNERET. His wife, in her widowhood, appears in the robe of a Vowess - that is one who has taken an oath not to remarry. The de la Pole chapel has many coats of arms of the de la Pole family and its alliances. In the church itself are some mediaeval carved bench ends - two are of St. George and the dragon (14th century) and others have merchant marks of 15th century benefactors including the three axes of John Tutbury or Tuttlebury whose full blazon was Argent three battleaxes or - or so it says in James Joseph Sheaham's *History of the Town and Port of Hull!*

Tutbury was Mayor of Kingston upon Hull five times - in fact he was mayor in four reigns. Richard II (1399), Henry IV (1401), Henry V (1413) and Henry VI (1425 & 1432). In 1399 when Henry Bolingbroke, Duke of Lancaster, landed at Ravenspur, in Holderness, Tutbury ordered the gates of Hull to be shut, the drawbridges to be drawn and the burgesses of Hull to stand to arms. He refused entry to Bolingbroke having sworn true allegiance to Richard II. He was a prosperous merchant and lived in High Street in a fine house called Leyons House which was, at one time, owned by Michael de la Pole. Lion House, as it became known, was converted to an inn - the King's Arms - and later to a coffee house. On several parts of the building were found escutcheons of Tutbury with his merchants mark.



In 1369 Hull Trinity House was founded as a religious body and the Trinity Brethren were responsible for pilotage in the River Humber. The present building, near Holy Trinity Church, dates from 1753. The pediment, above its pillared portico, shows the Royal Arms supported by Neptune and Britannia.

In 1479 Bishop Alcock founded the Grammar School and the original single room building still stands in Market Place in the shadow of Holy Trinity. The wealthiest of the local people, like John Tutbury, lived in Hull Street (now High Street) which runs parallel to and very close to the River Hull.

The town developed into a military stronghold through the Tudor and Stuart periods and although, in the Civil War, the Royalists held most of Yorkshire, Parliament's supply ships were able to reach the port, sympathetic to its cause, from the Humber. This enabled Sir John Hotham to make his defiant stand against Charles I at the Beverley Gate on St. Georges Day in 1642. In 1987 excavations were started to locate the exact position of the gate and to examine its condition for possible restoration.

In 1688 Hull declared for William of Orange and, in commemoration, a gilded equestrian statue of "King Billy", as he is affectionately known to the locals, was erected in Market Place. A great talking point is that he has no stirrups. Did the sculptor forget them or is it because William is dressed in the style of a Roman general?

Trade increased and communications improved. Hull (East Riding) was linked with the West Riding of Yorkshire by canals. Docks, for ocean going vessels, were constructed in the town centre. Most of the principal families still lived in High Street and its environs - Silver Street, Bowlalley Lane, Salthouse Lane, Scale Lane, Blanket Row, Wincolmllee and the famous Land of Green Ginger - all of which have survived to the present day. One of these families, now famous, went by the name of Wilberforce.

William, who was born in Wilberforce House, in High Street, is best known for bringing about the abolition of slavery in this country. Wilberforce House was built towards the end of the reign of Elizabeth I and by 1593 it had become the property of John Lister, a wealthy merchant and benefactor of the town. In 1612, during the heraldic visitation of Richard St. George, Lister entered his pedigree and received a grant of arms. *Ermine, on a fess sable three mullets or and in chief (as a mark of cadency) a fleur de Lys.* The house remained in the Lister family until 1709 and then passed into the Wilberforce family. Wilberforce House still stands - it is well preserved and maintained by the Hull Corporation as a museum and memorial to its famous son.



Lister

By the 19th century various industries - shipping, shipbuilding, oil milling and the manufacture of paint had developed and North Sea trawling was now a reality as ice could be used to preserve the catch. St. Andrew's Dock (or the Fish Dock, as it was known to the townsfolk) was built to the west of the town. During the 1870's most shipowners converted from sail to steam and a local family, Wilson by name, founded the steamship company, the Wilson Line with over 100 ships. Charles Henry Wilson (1833-1907), son of the founder, became the 1st Baron Nunburnholme. The Wilson family home, Tranby Croft, a short distance from Hull, achieved notoriety through the baccarat scandal which involved Edward VII.

In 1897 Hull attained City status and in 1914 the mayor was granted the title Lord Mayor - a title held by only sixteen cities to this day. He still retains the title of Admiral of the Humber. By 1914 Hull had become the third port in England and, between 1903 and 1916 some magnificent buildings were erected - the Guildhall and the City Hall amongst them.

In 1904 the Municipal Telephone Service opened its first telephone exchange which still exists today as the only independent telephone system in the United Kingdom. It also has the cheapest telephone charges!

In 1930 Amy Johnson, a citizen of Hull, became the first woman to fly solo to Australia. Her life came to a sad end when, in 1941, at the age of thirty eight, she was posted missing whilst ferrying a bomber from an aircraft factory to an operational R.A.F. Station .

Of course, there are many other interesting places that I haven't mentioned in this brief resume of Hull's history - St. Mary's Church, Lowgate - a Knights Hospitaller foundation, dating back to 1327, with its archway in the tower through which the pavement passes, - The Ferens Art Gallery with its important collection of old masters including Franz Hals and Canaletto together with a notable group of marine artists - to say nothing of a fine transport and archaeological museum with an exciting Roman pavement from Rudston

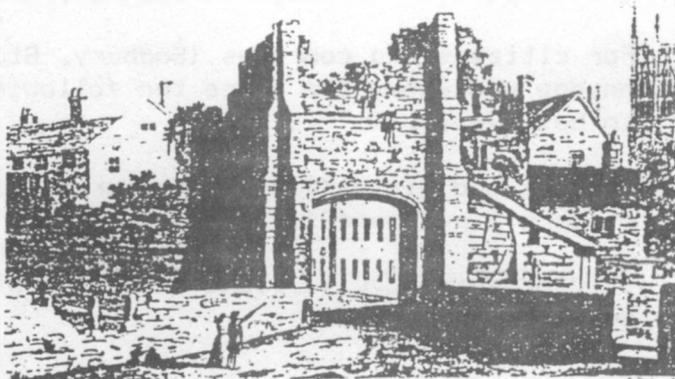
Hull was subjected to heavy air raids during 1940 and much of the city centre was destroyed - but, fortunately, the old town escaped comparatively lightly. Holy Trinity Church, the old Grammar School, Wilberforce House and Trinity House are still there to be enjoyed by townspeople and visitors alike. A visit to Hull would be a fitting climax to a leisurely drive through Lincolnshire, on the very straight Roman road, perhaps calling at Thornton Abbey, to see the splendid gatehouse of this largely ruined Augustinian building before crossing the Humber on the bridge opened in 1981 and boasting, at 4626ft, the longest single central span of any suspension bridge in the world.

The Humber Bridge is linked by motorway to the new North Sea ferry and container port, to the east of the city. Clive Sullivan Way, as it has been named after a Hull Rugby League player, passes close to the ruins of St. Andrew's Dock which are a poignant reminder of the death of Hull's fishing industry.

The town docks have developed into the obligatory marina but, at least, this has meant that many of the derelict buildings have been sympathetically restored. The old town has begun to live again!

Marjorie Kirby

Footnote: On the Thames Embankment, nearly opposite County Hall, is berthed the paddle steamer, Tattershall Castle, which was one of three vessels linking Hull with Lincolnshire in pre-bridge days.



BEVERLEY GATE,
before it was taken down in 1778.

SEMPER NON SEQUITUR II

As a result of my contribution to "The Seaxe" last year it has been suggested that, even if I step up my output to two letters of the alphabet each year, it would take 25 years to complete the task by which time I would be a very, very old man!

A further suggestion was that I should adapt a thematic attitude. This seems to be a good idea and, as the civic mottoes were particularly illuminating and apposite as far as 'A' was concerned, here goes for a second attempt.

The first is one I regret having missed last year....

- Aspire* (Chesterfield, Derbys) - very appropriate -
....and now a rather extravagant claim....
- Beauty surrounds,
health abounds* (Morecambe & Heysham, Lancs)....and one rather
out of date....
- Benedicite fontes domino* O all ye springs, bless ye the Lord (Buxton,
Derbys)....and a strange welcome....
- Beware!* (Chorley, Lancs)....to whom do they refer
in this one?....
- By sea and forest enchanted* (Lympington, Hants)....a message for
expatriates....
- Canmol dy fro athrig yno* Looks like the letters of one of Margaret's
anagrams but is Welch for "Praise your homeland
and dwell there"-(Brecknock, Powys)....and which
Union is this?....
- Castella fortior concordia* Union is stronger than a fortress (Northampton)
....and a rather nice suggestion....
- Cave* Beware! (Ware, Herts)....a sense of despair....
- Cave et spera* Look out and hope! (Chapel-en-le-Frith,
Derbys)....and this should keep the inhabitants
happy....
- Cives oppidi fundamenta* The citizens are the foundation of the town
(Kenilworth, Warwicks)....and the next preceded
the visit of Mr Gorbachov by many years....
- Civibus sodalibusque* For citizens and comrades (Sodbury, Glos)to
anyone who knows the place the following is hard
to believe....
- Comfort et liesse* Comfort and mirth (Doncaster, Yorks)....can we
discern a pun here?....
- Constant be* (Bedfordshire C.C.)....and is this a plug for a
political party?....

<i>Copia est labor</i>	Labour brings plenty (Norwich) - (of what?)....and this is fine if you can find it by the roadside leading into a strange town....
<i>Crede signo</i>	Believe in the sign (Rochdale, Lancs)....this could also be taken the wrong way especially after the collapse in share values at the end of the year....
<i>Custodi civitatem Domine</i>	Keep the City, O Lord (City of Westminster)....and do these people consider themselves "saved"?....
<i>De profundis</i>	From the depths (Bedlington, Northumberland)and does this include the Poll Tax?....
<i>Debenter omnia Deo</i>	All things are owing to God (Deben R.D.C., Suffolk)....I wish a few more councils thought like this....
<i>Deeds not words</i>	(Ashby-de-la-Zouche, Leics & Corby, Northants)is this a lady or a ferry company - or neither?....
<i>Deo fretus erumpe</i>	Trust in God and sally (Newark, Notts)....and if you believe this you will believe anything....
<i>Deus nobis haec otia fecit</i>	God has given us this tranquility (City of Liverpool!)....and then what happens?....
<i>Dum defluat amnis</i>	While the river flows (Stourport, Worcs.& Walton & Weybridge, Surrey)....now one could ask what and when?....
<i>Erinus</i>	We shall be (Middlesborough, Teesside)....and I couldn't resist slipping this one in for sheer arrogance....
<i>Et plui super unam civitatem</i>	And I cause it to rain over one city (Amos4:7) (Metropolitan Water Board)....Presumably the next is only until they reach the sea....
<i>Ever forward</i>	(Weston-super-Mare, Dorset)....and for the traffic proceeding down the A30....
<i>Festina prudenter</i>	Hasten prudently (Bagshot, Surrey)....and one particularly appropriate after the "post-hurricane planting of saplings....
<i>Floreat septem quercus</i>	May seven oaks flourish (Sevenoaks, Kent).... and an unsuccessful cry from the past....
<i>Floreat imperii portus</i>	Let the port of Empire flourish (Port of London Authority)....and this gives little encouragement to new arrivals....

<i>Fortitudo et spes</i>	Endurance and hope (Stockton-on Tees, Teesside)and what about an invitation to gamble....
<i>Fortuna meliores sequitur</i>	Fortune follows the better (Westminster Chamber of Commerce)....and another extravagant claim....
<i>Forward together</i>	(London Borough of Brent!)....is this an advertisement for a brewery or a precursor to the annual rates review?....
<i>Fresh courage take</i>	(Newport Pagnell, Bucks)....who, what, where and why?....
<i>Fuimus et sumus</i>	We were and we are (Whitby, North Yorks).... perhaps I will have discovered the answers by next year!

Don Kirby

POSTSCRIPT

Jack Webley has been kind enough to tear himself away from *green men and woodwoses* to apply himself to my concern for the interpretation of various mottoes - aided and abetted, of course, by Peggy!

<i>Video meliora</i>	I see better things (Montifioresuitable for a video shop....and is the next an apt motto for a family of T.V.addicts?....
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<i>Video et taceo</i>	I see and hold my peace (Fox)....and what about this for a machine fitter?....
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<i>Tandem fit arbor</i>	At length it becomes a tree (Hamilton) - or it could be interpreted as "At last the arbor fits"! - but Peggy has a better idea....
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How about - "OUR BICYCLE HAS MADE CONTACT WITH A TREE"?!!

DSK

ANOTHER ASPECT OF SIR JOHN VANBRUGH 1664 - 1726

Without going into the rather complicated details of Sir John Vanbrugh's career I thought a few lines about his incursion into the world of heraldry might be of interest.

His first employer of note was the 3rd Earl of Carlisle for whom, in 1701, as architect, he built Castle Howard on the site of the old Castle of Hinderkelf. Carlisle was then acting Earl Marshal during the minority of the Duke of Norfolk and, as a token of appreciation, he promised the architect the lucrative post of Clarenceux King of Arms. There seems to be a possibility that the suggestion might have come from Vanbrugh himself.

The established rule was that a King of Arms should have passed through the grade of herald so, in June 1703, he was appointed to the obsolete post of Carlisle Herald and duly initiated by being soused with a bowl of wine. Promotion to Clarenceux came in March 1704.

John Anstis, a member of the College of Arms, had, in March 1703, written to the Duke of Norfolk's mother referring contemptuously to Vanbrugh's Dutch extraction arguing that this effectively disqualified him from holding office. Actually the Vanbrugh line was Flemish but had association with the Dutch Church in England.

Carlisle's proposal had been resisted by officials of the College of Arms for the reasons that Vanbrugh had made fun of heralds in his play *Esop** and that he was known to take a "humorously sceptical view of the importance of heraldic functions".

The Senior Pursuivant Herald, Gregory King, was the "injured person"; he persuaded some of the heralds to join in a petition against the Earl Marshal's power but the council unanimously supported the latter. Once appointed, Vanbrugh became a frequent attender at the College of Arms and, in 1706, "he carried out with credit Queen Anne's Commission to convey the insignia of the Order of the Garter to Prince George of Hanover".

The estimate recorded for the official regalia, as Clarenceux King of Arms, amounted to £185. "Gold Crown, collar of S's, Chain, cap and coat of the Queen's arms in gold on crimson and blue velvet lined with crimson satin.

According to *A History of Heraldry* by C.W.Scott-Giles:-

- (1) Vanbrugh knew nothing of heraldry and genealogy. (Comment - perhaps, in view of his talents in various directions he became a quick learner).
- (2) He neglected the duties of his office.
- (3) He did not reside in the College. (Comment - perhaps because he had more than one residence of his own).

The statement that Vanbrugh was ignorant of heraldic and genealogical matters and ridiculed them may require qualifying in the light of his conduct in his other varied activities as soldier, successful playwright and competent architect. The records of his personal accounts show that the heraldic position he held for so long was quite lucrative.

The conclusions one may come to is that among heralds, as elsewhere, Vanbrugh incurred disapproval by being both different and successful. The assessment of a modern herald and biographer, Sir Anthony Wagner, the current Clarenceux King of Arms, is:- "He was possibly the most distinguished man who has ever worn a herald's tabard even though the appointment was incongruous. The real grievance though was not simply Vanbrugh's appointment but his appointment immediately to the second position whereby long established expectations were dashed and promotion through the whole College postponed".

In 1710 there was a rumour that Vanbrugh was about to receive a reversionary grant of Garter King of Arms . Again Gregory King protested at this "act of injustice". Evidently the rumour was not substantiated - at least not for another five years when, in 1715, upon the death of Sir Henry St.George, Vanbrugh began to act as Garter King in his place. However he was never confirmed in this office.

He was still not popular at the College, partly because he treated their traditions flippantly, but mainly because he had been foisted upon them by his patron, Carlisle, the Deputy Earl Marshal, and given unfair advancement. By this time his former antagonist, Gregory King, was not available to protest as he had died in 1712.

John Anstis had been a likely contender for the succession but unfortunately he was suspected of intrigue in the cause of the Pretender and was imprisoned. It was whilst he was in prison that the vacancy for Garter King of Arms arose. In due course Anstis was cleared of treason and proceeded to prosecute his claim. In 1718 a court declared in his favour and he took over as Garter King from Vanbrugh, the temporary holder of the office.

In June 1727 John Anstis received the patent " under the Great Seal" securing the office of Garter King of Arms for himself, his eldest son, John, and the survivor thereof.

By July 1725 it would appear that Vanbrugh had had enough of being a herald, unless perhaps his health was deteriorating, since "he got leave to dispose in earnest of a place I got in jest". His accounts record that he sold his office of Clarenceux King of Arms to Knox Ward for £2,500. In addition *The National Dictionary of Biography* records that, in February 1726, he also disposed of his tabard to Knox Ward for 2,000 guineas! Vanbrugh, who was knighted by George I, died of quinsy in the throat on 26th March 1726 at his house in Whitehall and was buried in the family vault at St.Stephen's Church, Walbrook. His widow, Henriette Maria, was very much younger and survived him by fifty years. His soldier son, Charles, was killed at the Battle of Fontenoy in 1745, at 26 years of age.



There are two known portraits of Sir John Vanbrugh, - one by Sir Godfrey Kneller (c.1705) in the National Portrait Gallery where he is depicted wearing his Clarenceux badge of office and holding a pair of compasses or dividers and a drawing of Blenheim Palace which he designed. The other by J.Richardson (1725) hangs in the Earl Marshal's Court in the College of Arms.

Vanbrugh was granted arms in 1714:-

Gules on a fess or three barrulets vert, in chief a demi-lion rampant issuant argent

Crest: Out of a bridge of three arches (reversed) a demi-lion or.

References: *Vanbrugh* by Kerry Downes.
The National History of Biography.

Jack Webley

* The whimsical ridicule in *Esop* revolves round one Jacob Quaint, a herald, who calls himself a genealogist. He suggests to the main character, Esop, that a welcome gift for the latter's bride might be his pedigree. "There's never a herald in all Asia shall put better blood in veins than your humble servant, Jacob Quaint."

Esop asks Quaint if he knows his father declaring that he is a stranger to himself. Quaint replies that he knows every man's father and grandfather and great grandfather, saying "I'm a herald by nature. My mother was a Welch woman from a country where every man is born a gentleman and a genealogist".

He recites biblical names - Noah, Shem, Ham, Japhet and Solomon. Esop asks "Solomon was my ancestor was he not?" "He was, my Lord, which no one can doubt who observes your mien; you have something wondrous in your air - majestic, etc." Nothing comes of the genealogy of Esop and the herald is thrown out.

ANSWERS TO TWENTY QUESTIONS - (you should get them all right!)

1. Richard III.
2. A white boar.
3. Edward IV.
4. He saw "three suns" - (eclipse?) - before the battle of Mortimer's Cross.
5. Scrope and Grosvenor.
6. Grosvenor had to back down and adopted a *garb* instead.
7. *Fleur de lis* reduced to three in the two quarters (*France modern*).
8. *Semie de lis* (*France ancient*).
9. Pelham
10. Sir William Pelham is reputed to have captured King John at Poitiers and was so rewarded!
11. Ten
12. Hastings
13. A *pheon*
14. It was used on convicts' clothing as the Sidneys were in charge of prisons, etc.
15. Richard II
16. Because he had been captured by Henry IV - *the sun clouded*
17. Catherine of Aragon brought it over herself
18. Sidney - see the Lord Leycester Hospital at Warwick
19. In France - some of the French kings used it
20. The Queen Mother has the *boms* for *Bowes* in her coat of arms!