The Seaxe

Newsletter of the Middlesex Heraldry Society

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CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

The Chairman and members of your Committee wish all our readers a

Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year

hoping that the world becomes peaceful again allowing us all to enjoy our lives and hobbies without fear of unexpected and undeserved violence.

INVITATION TO NAN & PETE'S

Once again our members have been invited to the home of ***Nan and Pete Taylor*** *for a* ***New Year*** *get together on* **Saturday 4th January 2003**

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Nan & Pete have had serious trouble with flooding due to a leaking roof and this invitation is dependent on the house drying out in time.
We are even more grateful than usual as most of us, in similar circumstances, would not even have considered a party at all!

Editorial

Our Chairman has appealed to us to change the style of **Seaxe** by not highlighting so many names and titles in general text articles. He suggests that older readers may, like himself, have difficulty in switching from one font to another quite so often. So here goes – if , having read this issue, you wish to comment we should be delighted to hear from you by letter or by E-mail.

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Thought for the Day

Antique is a magic word that makes something worthless suddenly priceless - Anon

News of our Patron

Hubert Chesshyre, Norroy and Ulster King of Arms, is recovering slowly but surely from the results of a stroke suffered earlier in the year which affected both his memory and his speech. All members of the **Middlesex Helaldry Society** hope that 2003 will see him fully returned to the best of health.

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Saint Wenceslas

Prince-duke of Bohemia and patron saint of Czechoslovakia, the 'Good King Wenceslas' of the Christmas carol. He was raised as a Christian by his grandmother, Saint Ludmilla, who was murdered by his pagan mother in 921 and became regent until Wenceslas came of age in 924. He encouraged German missionaries to come to Bohemia , and put his duchy under the protection of King Henry the Fowler of Germany. In 929 Wenceslas was murdered by his pagan brother, Boleslav, as he was kneeling in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. His remains were interred in Saint Vitus Cathedral in Prague. His badge is described as *a red banner, white eagle and gold staff all on a silver field.*

Heraldry in the Church of St Illtyd, Newcastle, Bridgend by Tony Jones

(When we asked our good friend **Tony Jones**, current Chairman of the Bath Heraldic Society, to write a "My Home Town" he said that he was born in a small village in Wales where he doesn't think they had even heard of heraldry let alone possessed any! The nearest large town is Bridgend and he has therefore sent us a delightfully illustrated (by himself) article on the heraldry in the church of **St. Illtyd, Newcastle, Bridgend).**

BRIDGEND

Bridgend is a pleasant residential and market town twenty miles west of Cardiff and twenty six miles east of Swansea. It is situated on the river Ogmore which divides its old Newcastle on the west and Oldcastle on the east. At the top of the hill on the west of the town is the site of a castle which was called Newcastle as early as the beginning of the 12th century. The ruins presently existing there are probably the remains of late 12th or early 13th century erection, and consist of an inner ward with girdling wall, flanking towers, and an excellent Norman gateway. All traces of the Keep which probably formed part of the original fortification have entirely disappeared.

The church at Newcastle, which adjoins the castle ruin, has had a long, and at times, turbulent history. Its beginnings were probably in pre-Norman times, but the first written record we have is a confirmation of a grant to Tewkesbury Abbey by Robert FitzHamon, the knight who led the Norman conquest of Glamorgan (c.1091-3), dated 1106, including the *'ecclesiam de Nova Castello'*. We can tell from this that there was a church and castle and that it was called "New" as far back as the beginning of the 12th century. After this date there are quite a number of documents relating to the church and lands in the parish. The records are incomplete and the story is rather complicated, but it is clear that Newcastle must have been very desirable, as the Abbeys of Margam and Neath, as well as Tewkesbury, all had interest in it.

Margam managed to acquire land from both Payn de Turbervill ~, Norman lord of the manor, who appeared to be short of money at that time, and from Morgam Gain, Lord of Afan, who having been invaded by Madoc ap Maredudd in 1150, sought the "protection" of William, Earl of Gloucester, and so was probably obliged to make over his land in **Newcastle** to the Abbey. Morgan's sons resented this, especially Leison, who for several years contested this gift and who was finally made to swear on the 'most precious wood of the *True Cross* and on the reliques of Saints', that he would confirm the grant of land by his father to Margam. Leison, however, persisted in his conflicts and again in 1213 he undertakes not to molest the monks 'in a garden at **Newcastle**, given them by Walter Lagheles (after whom Laleston is named). Even in 1226 Welshmen burnt three towns in Glamorgan, of which **Newcastle** was one, so that the early church saw much dissension around it and hardly went unscathed.

Disputes continued over the years between Margam, Neath and Tewkesbury over the lands and titles of **St. Leonards, Newcastle**. Eventually in 1268 Margam was allowed the tithes by Tewkesbury who had the patronage of the vicarage and a yearly rent was fixed. This agreement lasted until 1486 when, as a result of a Deed of Lease of exchange of properties, Margam took over the tithes of Newcastle and Kenfig. After the dissolution of the monasteries the rectory and tithes of **Newcastle** were sold to Sir Rice Mansel, and remained part of the Margam estate until the redemption of tithes.

St. Illtyd's Church was originally dedicated to **St. Leonard.** It is not known when the dedication was changed, but it may possibly have been re-dedicated along with the major church alterations of the Tudor period, when the Roman Catholic religion was abandoned. **St. Illtyd's** is an edifice in the Early Decorated style with an embattled western tower as its oldest part, and a probable date of 1600 has been suggested for it. The remainder of the church was largely reconstructed in 1853, when the north aisle was added.

One suspects that the thoroughness of the Victorian architects in their restoration schemes removed all traces of any medieval heraldry the church may have held. That which exists today is to be found in the vestry built in the last century. At the bases of the principals of the roof are eight shields, six of which are emblazoned with the arms of families who have held the lordship of the **Manor of Newcastle** since the 12th century, i.e., FitzHamon, Turbervill, Berkrolles, Gamage, Sydney, Earl of Leicester and the Earls of Dunraven.

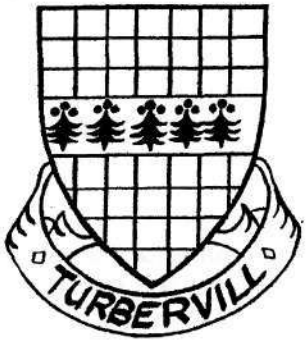
The remaining two shields display the arms of the Talbots of Margam, lay rectors, and the late Bishop Richard Lewis, Bishop of Llandaff (1883 - 1905):

1. *Azure a lion rampant gardant gold for FITZHAMON.*

A kinsman of the Dukes of Normandy, Robert FitzHamon, was the first Norman to fight his way into Glamorgan about 1093. He married Sybyl, daughter of Roger de Belisme, Earl of Shrewsbury, who bore him four daughters. In common with many of the Norman nobility, FitzHamon had estates in Normandy, and it was there at the battle of Tinchbrai, 28 September 1106, he received a spear wound to the head, from which he died the following year. He was buried at Tewkesbury Abbey which he had founded. These arms were attributed to him by the medieval heralds following his death.

2. *Checky Gold and Gu(es a fess Ermine* for *TURBERVILL*

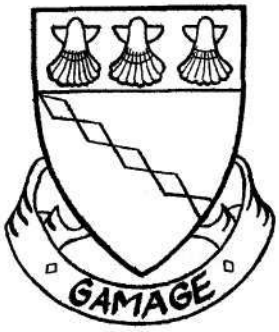
A family who were in Glamorgan as early as 1126 in the company of Earl Robert of Gloucester, and by the end of the 12th century were lords of Coity. The Turbervills continued to hold the manor of Coity until the last years of the 14th century, when the direct male line ended with Sir Richard. The property then went to his nephew Sir Lawrence de Berkrolles.



3. *Azure a chevron between three crescents Gold* for *BERKROLLES.*

This family held the manor of East Orchard near St. Athan, from late in the reign of Edward I (1272-1307), until 1412, when Sir Lawrence de Berkrolles the last of the main line died without issue.

4. *Si(ver five fusils in bend Gules, on a chief Azure three Gold escallops,* for *GAMAGE.*



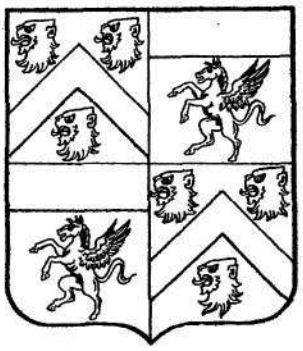
Following the death of Sir Lawrence de Berkrolles in 1412, the Coity lordship passed to his kinsman Sir William Gamage of Rogiet, Monmouthshire, whose grandfather had married Sarah daughter of Sir Payn de Turbervill and Gwenl]ian, daughter of Sir Richard Talbot.

5. *Azure a barbed arrowhead (pheon) Gold* for *SYDN'EY.*

The Coity estate came to the Sydney family in 1586 by the marriage of the heiress Barbara Gamage to Sir Robert Sydney, created Earl of Leicester in 1618.

6. *Quarter(y, 1st & 4th, Vert a pegasus and a chief gold* for *QUIN 2nd & 3rd Azure a chevron between three lions heads erased gold* for *WYNDHAM.*

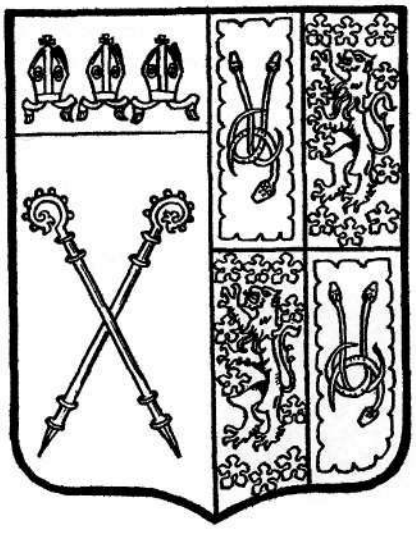
Wyndham Henry Wyndham-Quin, 2nd Earl of Dunraven (d.ied 1850), married Caroline Wyndham (d. 1870) daughter and sole heir of Thomas Wyndham (d.ied 1814) of Dunraven. He assumed by Royal Licence in 1815 the additional surname of Wyndham prefixed to that of Quin, and quartered the Wyndham arms. According to Thomas Nichols in his ***History and Antiquities of Glamorgan*** (1874) the arms of Quin are rightly - *Vert a pegasus passant Ermine a chief gold.*



7. *Gules a lion rampant within a border engrailed gold* for *TALBOT..*

These arms are borne by the Talbots of Margam but are originally of Welsh origin, and were first borne as early as 1301 by Richard Talbot, son of Gilbert Talbot and Gwenllian daughter of Rhys Mechyl (d. 1244), Lord of Dinefwr, in right of his mother who was the heiress of the house of Deheubarth. The engrailed border was not known in Wales, and Gilbert Talbot seems to have added it as a mark of difference.

8. *Sable two croziers in saltire, the dexter Gold and the sinister Silver, on a chief Azure three Gold mitres*



for the SEE of LLandaff impaling the personal arms of Bishop Richard Lewis, Bishop of Llandaff (1883-1905) - *Quarterly, 1st and 4th Gules three snakes entwined Silver within a border engrailed Gold* for *LEWIS; 2nd and 3rd Sable a lion rampant within an orle of cinquefoils Silver* for *EDWARDES.*

NOTES AND REFERENCES

1. The earliest reference to **Bridgend** is dated 11 December 1444, when a document uses the phrase *given at Bryggen Eynde.* Another document dated 1452 refers to *de Brugeende juxta Coytyf.* **Bridgend** is a manor of Coity Anglia or the Englishry of Coity and the official name was always **Bridgend**. The Welsh form of *Pen-y-bont* (end of the bridge) is a literary form never used in official documents.

2. The earliest reference to the site of **Newcastle** is in a confirmation by Henry I of a grant by Robert FitzHamon to Tewkesbury Abbey dated 1106 and includes the phrase - *ecclesiam de Novo Castello.*

3. Little is known of Payn (Paganus) de Turbervill the first holder of the lordship of Coity, but he acquired the nick-name of *the demon* in Latin and English – in Welsh *cythraul*, and therefore we may be certain that even in that age of violence he was a particularly rough individual

4. In their display of the *scallop shell* the Gamage family reflect the religious attitudes of the Middle Ages. The scallop is the emblem of the shrine of the Apostle, James, whose body was supposed to rest in the Cathedral of Compostella in north-west Spain. This shrine remained a popular centre of pilgrimage throughout the Middle Ages, and men and women from England made the long and arduous voyage in the tiny ships of the time to win the right to the coveted shell badge of a pilgrim. The earliest example of the Gamage arms do not show the scallop shells, which must have been earned later by a member of that family who made the pilgrimage to Compostella.

5. The Coat of Arms of the town of **Bridgend** was initially granted to **Bridgend Urban District Council** on the 18th June 1951. It is blazoned as follows:-: *Vert a salmon leaping to the dexter proper on a chief Sable a bridge of two arches masoned gold.* Crest - *a raven proper between two garbs gold.* The leaping salmon (Welsh *cog*) refers to the River Ogmore which flows through the town and its fish whilst the bridge refers to the medieval bridge which still survives as a footway across the river.

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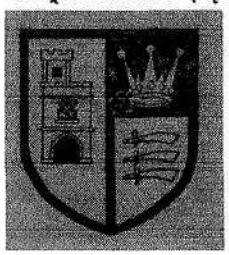
Spurious Heraldry



We wonder if any of our readers can identify what we believe to be a bit of spurious heraldry? Answer in next **Seaxe**.

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In the time of Queen Dick

by **Cynthia Lydiard-Cannings**

No.15 - THE HOUSE OF BRERETON

What the royal expletive does that young fool think he's doing! exclaimed the king.

His battle-weary companions turned to follow his gaze.

Taking the enemy by storm, from the look of it, Your Grace, replied one, hardly sparing a glance from the important business of binding a scarf round a gash in his sword arm. *A favourite ploy of mine, I remember, when I was his age. Yours, too,* he added, under his breath.

But there was nothing wrong with the king's hearing. *With a handful of men and no support? If he thrusts forward like that doesn't he realize he'll be cut off?*

Swiftly he issued orders. *I don't remember you were ever that foolish,* ***Brereton****, and certainly I was not!*

Foolish, sire? You? Who would dare suggest it? But were you never young, and eager, and perhaps a little rash? Wasn't there an occasion at - ?

Enough! Your memory is too long!

But accurate, sire!

The scarf tightened to his satisfaction, **Brereton** turned once more to the struggle engaging his master's attention. *That ridge commands the enemy's flank. If he can win it -*

He will not hold it, and will pay for the attempt with his life. The reinforcements I've despatched can never reach him in time.

At that moment, from beyond a small copse, a company of English horse rode into view. The enemy, fearing a trap, broke and fled; **Brereton**, his wounds forgotten, permitted himself a smile.

The ridge is ours, Your Grace. And with it, belike, the battle. What say you now?

Am I to excuse recklessness, because it is matched by good fortune? No order of mine brought that cavalry to him; he must thank God for it.

As we did, I remember, on that occasion at ----

Come, the king went on hurriedly, *we must not neglect the advantage he has won us. But when the field is ours he shall hear his faults, before he is knighted for his courage.*

That evening, in the king's tent, the young man knelt patiently to endure his sovereign's reproof.

... so rashly venturing your life! Who is your father? It seems to me he should have clapped a muzzle on that reckless folly long ere this.

I have tried, Your Grace, said **Brereton**, stepping forward. With a rueful smile he met his lord's outraged stare. *Yes, sire. He is my son.*

Then my rebuke was phrased more aptly than I knew. Let you be proud, my friend, of such a son to inherit your arms; but your crest he shall not inherit.

Brereton 's smile faded. What dishonour was this? But to his relief the king smiled.

Where a father has tried and failed, a king may succeed. I will so muzzle your son, that each time he arm for battle he shall take thought; I value courage, but I will not tolerate folly.

Brereton bowed his head in acceptance, but his son looked up. *The rebuke of the king shall be the pride of our house,* he said.

And from that time, upon his father's crest of a bear he displayed a muzzle of gold, the colour of sovereignty; and *a bear proper, muzzled or* is proudly borne by the line of **Brereton** to this very day.

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(First published in the Norfolk Standard of and reprinted with the kind permission of the editor and the author.)

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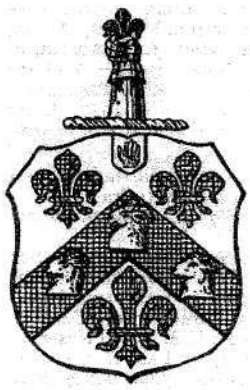
My Home Town – Huddersfield - Pt II

by **Stuart Whitefoot**

This article so far has shown heraldry as thread through the various stages of ownership of the town, the de Lacis, the House of Lancaster, the Crown with sub-letting to the de Byrons, the **Ramsdens**, the Borough and today, Kirklees. Of these the most varied heraldry is associated with the **Ramsden** family alliances and it is to their armory that I would like to turn next.

We have seen how the **Ramsden** family were for more than 300 years Lords of the **Manor of Huddersfield** owning an estate which included practically the whole of **Huddersfield**. In the 19th century they commissioned a fine set of Estate Buildings in the centre of the town, and had a series of eleven shields and other heraldic devices carved as decoration and as a record of family alliances made over ten generations. Originally unpainted - in 1968 when the town was celebrating its centenary, and following the cleaning of the buildings, the heraldry was painted under the supervision of Mr L. E. Rothwell.

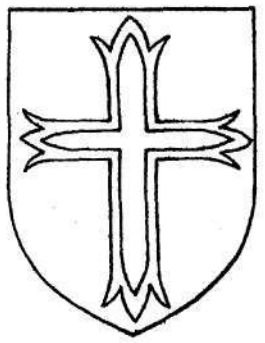
John Wode, who died in 1538, had three daughters, the second of whom married in 1531, William Ramsden, who died in 1580. William's brother, John, who died in 1591. obtained a grant of arms in 1575. The grant did not include his brother but William used them and the arms shown on the Estate Buildings. marshal Ramsden and Wode. The Wode arms are - *Argent, between two bendlets three fleur de lis, a bordure Sable* and are placed in the middle of Ramsden because Joan, having no brothers was an heraldic heiress.. The arms of **Ramsden** are - *Argent, on a chevron Sable between three fleur de lis also Sable, three rams heads couped Argent.*



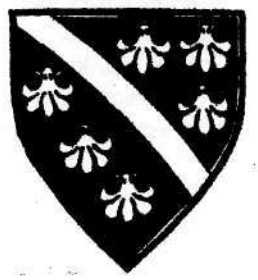
The arms of Wode shown on the building are not those of the Wodes of Langley. The arms belonged to the Wodes of Darington. Shropshire. The Wodes of Langley were granted Arms in 1550 - *Sable on a bend Argent three fleur de lis Sable.* Thus, this fine series of Ramsden family arms unfortunately starts on the wrong heraldic foot.

John Ramsden. had among other children William. who married in 1589 as his first wife Rosamund Pilkington. the daughter of Thomas Pilkington. of Bradley. The Pilkington arms are recorded as being borne in 1301 and were confirmed in 1612. The Pilkingtons arose in Lancashire, at Bury, from where they moved to Sowerby and then to Pilkington Hall at Wakefield. Circa 1565 Frederick Pilkington married Grace, daughter of Edward Beaumont of Whitley.

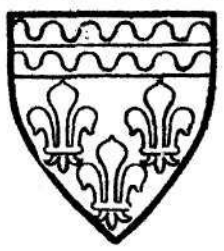
In 1599 this William Ramsden, we recall, obtained a grant of the manor of Huddersfield from Queen Elizabeth for £975. William died in 1623 and Rosamund in 1597.. The **Pilkington** arms are - *Argent, a cross patonce voided Gules* - have a very fine medieval simplicity in that they bear only one charge - the *voided cross patonce.* Rosamund had brothers to inherit the arms and so William marshalled hers beside the **Ramsden** arms.



William Ramsden, had among other children. John. who married in 1624. Margaret., daughter of Sir Peter Frecheville. of Staveley, Derbyshire. Whereas the previous Ramsdens had looked towards their Huddersfield possessions, John took an interest in politics and was knighted in 1619. He loyally served Charles I as a colonel, and paid the penalty by being charged with high treason in 1644 and died in Newark Castle. John died in 1646 and Margaret in 1626, Margaret had brothers to inherit the arms and so the **Frecheville** family arms - *Azure, a bend between six escallops Argent* - are impaled with **Ramsden**. On these arms of **Frecheville** the interesting charge is the *scallop shell.* This type of shell was well known in medieval times from its being worn by pilgrims to indicate their pilgrimage to the shrine of St James of Compostella in Spain.

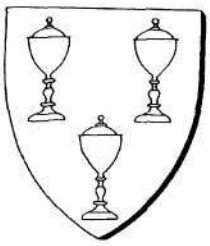


Sir John. the royalist knight, had among other children, William, (1625-1679) who married Elizabeth, daughter of **George Palmes**, of Naburn, which is a township in the parishes of Ancaster and St George near York. In the 1564 Visitation of Yorkshire there is shown a marriage between **Bryan Palmes**; of Naburn. and Isabel, daughter and heiress of Thomas Lindley of Lindley. Elizabeth died in 1691.



The arms of **Palmes** were *Gules, three fleur de lis Argent, a chief vair.* - The fur chief has the usual design composed of small bell shapes alternately silver and blue, allusive to squirrel skins.

William seems to have led a quiet life, taking no part in politics and presumably devoted his time to the Huddersfield estates. and he and Elizabeth **Ramsden** had among other children a son, John, born in April, 1648. John married **Sarah Butler** in 1670. **Charles Butler**, her father, lived in Coates, Lincolnshire. Sarah had no brothers and so her husband bore in pretence the arms of **Butler** - ***Argent, on a chevron Azure between three demi-lions passant guardant Gules crowned Or, three covered cups Or.*** These arms contain *three covered cups,* which are, of course, a feature common to the surname Butler and allusive to the occupation implied by the name. John, like his great grandfather William turned his attention to increasing the importance of Huddersfield, and obtained a market charter on 1st November 1671. The **Butler** arms are to be seen on the market cross. In 1689 John was created a baronet, and so the small silver shield with a red left hand occurs in emblazonments of the arms.



Sir John died in 1690 and his wife Sarah in 1683. He was succeeded by his son :Sir William **Ramsden**, 2nd Baronet, born in 1672 and died in 1736. He married, in 1695, Elizabeth **Lowther**, who died in 1764. Elizabeth was the second daughter of **John, 1st Viscount Lonsdale.** Heraldically this was an. interesting marriage because although Elizabeth had brothers they all died unmarried. Elizabeth thus became heiress to her brother **Henry 3rd Viscount** - so William marshalled the Lowther arms in pretence. *Or, six annulets 3,2,1 Sable.*

The office shows the man.

Elizabeth had a sister, Margaret, who married Sir Joseph Pennington, 2nd Baronet. Sir Joseph was the ancestor of the Lords Muncaster. Two hundred years. later the Pennington arms were to come back into the family through the 7th Baronet, Sir Geoffrey William as a consequence of a name and arms clause.

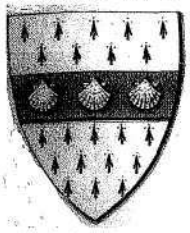
The Lowther family has for centuries played an important part in the history of North Lancashire and Westmorland. Gervase de Lowther was Archdeacon of Carlisle at the time of Henry III and Sir Hugh de Lowther was Attorney General to Edward 1. The simplicity of the Lowther arms is, I suppose, what would be expected of a long-established family. There is a similarity to the arms of Vipont which figures so prominently in Clifford quarterings.

Sir John Ramsden, 3rd Baronet, who was born in 1698 and died in 1769, married by licence in 1748, Mrs. Margaret Bright. Margaret was the widow of Thomas Liddell Bright, of Badsworth. Her maiden name was Norton. and her father was **William Norton**, of Sawley, near Ripon. The Norton family were originally called

Conyers and **Adam Conyers** changed his name to Norton by marriage early in the Middle Ages This explains the Conyers arms - ***Azure, a maunch Ermine, overall a bend Gules*** - in the centre of the Ramsden shield.

Sir John was M.P. for Appleby from 1727 to 1747. This connection with Appleby came through his mother, Elizabeth Lowther, as Sir James Lowther, 4th Baronet had been M.P, for Appleby from 1723 to 1727. He built the Cloth Hall in Huddersfield in 1766.

Sir John Ramsden, 4th Baronet, was born in 1755 and died in 1889. He married, in 1787, Louisa Susanna Ingram. the fifth daughter and heraldic heiress of Charles, Viscount Irwin. Louisa lived to the great age of ninety-one, dying in 1857 The family tradition of a Ramsden going into politics was continued by Sir John, who was M.P. for Grampound from 1780 to 1784. In 1797 he was appointed High Sheriff of Yorkshire. The **Ingram** arms, shown in pretence. - *Ermine, on a fess Gules three escallops Or* - show the other common heraldic fur *Ermine* together with the *scallop shell* previously noted in the **Frecheville** arms.



This Sir John, by Louisa Susanna Ingram, had among other children John Charles, who was born in 1788 and died before his father in 1836 and a daughter, Frances Catherine who married the 3rd Lord Muncaster in 1828 - another Pennington link.

John Charles married in 1814, Isabella, youngest daughter of Thomas, 1st Lord Dundas, who was created **Baron Dundas of Aske** in 1794. Thomas had married Charlotte Fitzwilliam, whose father had married Anne Wentworth, - thus, making a connection between the Ramsden family and Edward III. The arms of **Dundas** - ***Argent, a lion rampant Gules within a double tressure flory counter flory Gules*** - include the ***double tressure*** as an honourable Augmentation granted to the family. On the Estate Buildings this augmentation is shown as a single line. However, the Lord Lyon has given it as his opinion that while technically wrong, he will permit such a display on the Estate Building.

John Charles was M P for Malton from 1812 to 1831 His death in 1836 occurred three years before his father's and this explains the absence of the Baronet's badge from his shield. The title passed to John's son - John William the fifth Baronet who was born in 1831 and died in 1914. He married Helen Gwendolen Seymour in 1865. Helen was the youngest daughter of Edward, 12th Duke of Somerset. She died in 1910. Helen had two brothers alive at the time of the marriage and consequently John in 1870 placed her family arms beside his. Had the marriage taken place four years later then Helen would have been an heraldic heiress. If Sir John had raised the Estate building a little later he could have then

pretended to the **Somerset** arms. The arms of **Seymour** are – *Quarterly: first and fourth: Or on a pile Gules between six fleur de lis Azure, three lions passanl guardant Or; second and third: Gules two wings conjoined in lure, tips downward, Or* - The first arms are those granted as an augmentation to the Seymour family by Henry VIII. on his marriage to Jane Seymour. Augmentations to Henry's other wives were to the wife alone. The additions are, of course, elements drawn from the Tudor royal arms. At that time the *fleur de lis* were in the royal arms as a heraldic claim to the throne of France.

Sir John like his predecessors, took a keen interest in politics, being at various times MIP for Taunton, Hythe, the West Riding and Monmouthshire. He was Under Secretary of State for War 1857-58. In addition to Huddersfield, the Ramsdens had an estate at Byrom and Sir John developed additionally land in Ardvericie in Inverness-shire.

Sir John William was still living in 1870 when the Estate Buildings were opened and it was he who commissioned their construction. At that time he had three daughters but no son. Living in hope of an heir he had extra shields placed on the building and left blank. A son was eventually born in 1877 but when his son eventually married in 1901 his wife was not of an amigerous family and so he had no arms to impale with his own on the blank shield.

Approval was later given for the Huddersfield coat of arms to be carved and picked out in colour on one blank shield - so we now see - *Or, on a chevron between three rams passant sable three towers argent.* These arms were granted in 1868 and show an obvious relationship to the arms of Ramsden.

Two other shields on the Building were blank until 1968 when they were painted with the arms of **De Laci,** *Or, a lion rampant Purpure,* and **De Byron,** *Argent three bendlets enhanced Gules.* The de Lacis were Lords of the Manor 1066- 1311 and the de Byrons were Ground Landlords from about 1311 to 1773.

There are other places on the Estate Building where arms in this series are portrayed. In addition four of them are to be found on the four sides of the top of the Market Cross. They are Ramsden impaling Pilkington, Ramsden impaling Frecheville, Ramsden impaling Palmes and Ramsden with Butler in pretence. These are the generations which preceded the granting of the market charter to Sir John Ramsden in 1671. As there is no sign of the baronetcy which Sir John Ramsden received in 1689 the cross was apparently designed earlier.

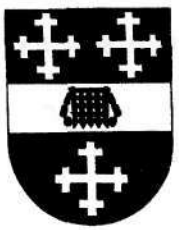
At this stage,we can recall that John Ramsden, having land and security made the Ramsdens armigerous in 1575. He must have felt all that was lacking was the hallmark of a Tudor gentleman - a Grant of Arms. The decade of 1570 shows one of the peaks in Grants of Arms, approximately 740 being granted. Thus John was not alone in seeking the new status symbol. The decades preceding 1570 had seen the dissolution of the monasteries and the passage of their lands into the ownership of other men, some avaricious like William, others careful like John.

April 1575 brought John's social climb to its peak. when the Ramsden arms were to be seen in Huddersfield. William's marriage proved childless and it was through John and his descendants that the arms were borne by the family. As the fortunes of the Ramsdens were efficiently developed, and gradually extended, we have seen how the family added to its social status by marriage into the Frechevilles, a knight, - into the Lonsdales, a viscount; - into the Ingrams, another viscount; - into the Dundases, and so became indirectly related to Edward III; and then in 1865 into the Somersets, a duke. How proud John, the Tudor gentleman would have been, for the family to become allied to the Dukes of Somerset descended from Jane Seymour's family, and that of Henry VIII..

We have seen that politics loomed large in the lives of the later Ramsdens with many of them being MPs. None achieved the highest office but Huddersfield boasts associations with three MPs who all became Prime Ministers. The town's connections with national political leaders is evenly balanced between the parties –

Herbert Asquith – Liberal, **Stanley Baldwin** - Conservative and **Harold Wilson** - Labour

Herbert Asquith - (1852-1928) attended Huddersfield College and later Baliol College, Oxford. He entered Parliament came to live in Huddersfield in 1886 and was Prime Minister from 1908 to 1916. In 1925 he was created Earl of Oxford and Asquith and more importantly a Freeman of Huddersfield. His arms are:- *Sable, on a fess between three cross crosslets Argent a portcullis of the field.*



Stanley Baldwin (1867-1947) was grandson of the Rev G B Macdonald superintendent of Queens Street Mission. His children had famous children - Alice was the mother of Rudyard Kipling and Louisa was the mother of Stanley Baldwin who entered Parliament in 1908 and was Prime Minister three times 1923-4, 1924-9, and 1935-7. He was created Earl Baldwin of Bewdley in 1937. His arms are:- *Argent, on a saltire Sable a quatrefoil Or.*

James Harold Wilson (1916-1995) was born in Milnesbridge and attended schools in Huddersfield. After a brilliant career at Jesus College, Oxford he entered Parliament in 1945 and became Prime Minister in 1964. Created Life Peer **as Baron Wilson of Rievaulx in the County of West Yorkshire** in 1983. His arms are:- *Argent an ancient ship proper, on a chief Gules a stag's head caboshed Or, between two water bougets Argent.*

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Militaria No.36 – The East Surrey Regiment

Raised in 1702 as **Villiers' Regiment of Marines** the regiment became the **31st Foot** in 1713 and it was, in 1782, redesignated the **31st (or Huntingdonshire) Regiment of Foot**. This was further modified in 1855 to the **31st Huntingdonshire Regiment**

In 1756 the **70th (Surrey) Regiment** was raised in Glasgow as the 2nd Battalion which in 1782 became the **70th (or The Surrey) Regiment of Foot**. The regiment reverted to its Scots association in 1813 with the designation **70th (or Glasgow Lowland) Regiment of Foot**. In 1825 the title changed to the **70th (or Surrey) Regiment of Foot** and finally in 1855 to **70th (Surrey) Regiment** These two regiments became the 1st and 2nd Battalions **The East Surrey Regiment** in 1881.

Another unit with few nicknames the 2nd Battalion, for obvious reasons, were known as the Glasgow Greys whilst the 1st Battalion were known as *the Young Buffs*. This latter nickname apparently dates back to the Battle of Dettingen when King George II, because of their buff facings, mistook them for The Buffs and called out "Bravo, Buffs!" Somewhat affronted an officer retorted "Sir, we are the 31st not the Old Buffs". Then, bravo, Young Buffs!" exclaimed the King.

The regimental badge of **The East Surrey Regiment** is described as :- *Within an eight pointed star ensigned with the Crown the Arms of Guildford.*

In 1959 this regiment merged with **The Queen's Royal Regiment (West Surrey)** to form **The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment.**

The regimental badge of **The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment** is described as:- *Upon an eight pointed star the Paschal Lamb and Flag ensigned with the Crown.*

More disasters were to follow – in 1966 **The Queen's Regiment** was formed when the **The Queen's Royal Surrey Regiment** was joined by **The Queen's Own Buffs, The Royal Kent Regiment, The Royal Sussex Regiment** and **The Middlesex Regiment (Duke of Cambridge's Own)** - all providing one battalion each. However the final ignominy was meted out to to these fine old regiments in 1970 when the strength of **The Queen's Regiment** was reduced to three battalions in all of what were once ten infantry regiments existing in the period before the Cardwell army reforms of 1881!

The regimental badge of **The Queen's Regiment** is described as:- *Within the Garter (Royal Sussex) the Dragon (Buffs). Above, the Plume and Coronet of the Prince of Wales (Middlesex). Below upon a scroll the title Queen's.* (As we said in Seaxe No.4 of April 1995 – "Sadly at this stage the Paschal Lamb appears to have been consumed by the Dragon of the Buffs!")

The **31st** and **70th Regiments** have fought individually or as a single unit after amalgamation - in the War of Spanish Succession (1701-15), at Dettingen and in the Peninsular War which added Albuhera, Nive, Nivelle, Orthes, Talavera and Vittoria to the Regiment's battle honours. During the Crimean War the regiment acquired the battle honour Sevastopol and Relief of Ladysmith came from the Boer War. Among its many other battle honours are Retreat from Mons, Marne, Aisnes, Armentieres, Albert, Cambrai, Somme, Arras, Vimy, Menin Road and Passchendaele which were awarded in the Great War. In WWII the regiment earned the battle honours Dunkirk, Sicily, Sangro and Cassino.

The **Victoria Cross** has been won by nine members of the regiment - one in the South African (Boer) War, seven in the Great War and one in WWII. The first award was to **Private A. E. Curtis,** later Sergeant (1866-1900) at Onderbank, South Africa on 23rd February 1900.

The Regimental Museum of the **The East Surrey Regiment** is at Clandon Park, West Clandon, Guildford, Surrey..

The Regimental Headquarters of **The Queen's Regiment**. is at Howe Barracks, Canterbury, Kent..

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The Bear

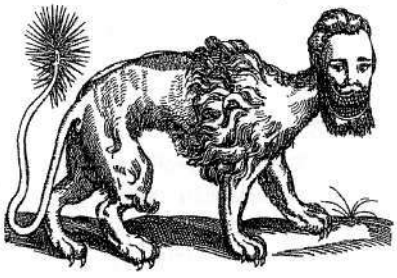
Folklore has it that the bear produces her cubs without form and that she shapes them by licking them with her tongue until they are perfect little bears. From this the term "to lick into shape" has arisen.

The Mantichora

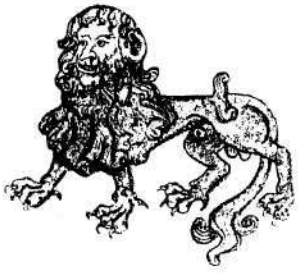
We have mentioned before that we were given a very strange calendar for Christmas 2001 and each page has a drawing and a description. Recently we were confronted by a Mantichora or - so it was claimed - but the illustration did not tally with the description!

This beast, or rather monster, is bred among the [East] Indians, having a treble row of teeth beneath and above. Its greatness, roughness and feet are like a lion's; its face and ears and eyes are like a man's; its eyes are grey and its color red. Its tail is like the tail of a scorpion, armed with a sting, and casting forth sharp, pointed quills. Its voice is like the voice of a small trumpet or pipe. It is swift as a hart. Its wildness is such that it can never be tamed, and its appetite is especially to the flesh of man. Its body is like the body of a lion, being very apt to both leap and to run on. - Edward Topsell's ***Historie of Foure-footed Beastes, 1607.***

This sent us hotfoot for further information and we were fortunate enough to rediscover ***Monsters of Heraldry*** by **Donald Roger Barnes** based on a talk he gave to the Heraldry Society (New Zealand Branch) at Auckland on 22 April 2001. in which he says that the MANTICORA, or the MAN-TYGER or the BABYON is, according to the bestiaries, one of the most ferocious monsters ever imagined. Its body is red and that of a lion; it has a man's face and ears, and three rows of teeth in each jaw. Its tail has, at its extremity, a bunch of spikes which can individually be shot like arrows in any direction. Its voice is like the mingling of pan-pipes and trumpet. It is very swift and so athletic that even the highest objects are not out of reach. It is a man-eater, but it probably does not discriminate on the grounds of sex.



There has been some confusion in English heraldry about the manticora (which has numerous variations in spelling), the man-tyger, and the babyon. **Rodney Dennys** suggests that 'manticore' should apply only to the monster as illustrated by **Topsell**. I would like to suggest that, based on information in **Dennys's** book, 'mantyger' be applied to the creature with a lion's tail and feet as in the badge of Lord Hastings, and that 'babyon (derived from 'baboon') be used for the Ratclyffe beast (of which **Dennys** says *'the body, tail and legs Purpure; the paws drawn like a monkey's hands and feet; the man's face Proper, with hair, beard and mane gold; and wearing a gold hat with the turned-up brim Ermine. About the neck is a golden chain from which is suspended a padlock depending from a sun in splendour').*



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Memories

Peggy Foster has written to say that when reading about the **Victoria Cross** in **Seaxe** she was reminded of the autobiography of **Barbara Cartland** – ***I Reach for the Stars*** in which she claims that her great-uncle Captain Treweeke Scobell proposed the idea of the **Victoria Cross** for valour to be made from guns which had been used in the Crimean War. This was received with such enthusiasm that Captain Scobell was asked to withdraw his motion so that it might be put forward by Queen Victoria herself. Of course Captain Scobell agreed!

Peggy goes on to say that the letter from **Cynthia Lydiard-Cannings** in the July issue sent her looking for the articles she mentioned - the *Squires of Audley* brought back memories of early learnings about augmentations, marshalling of arms , etc. she considers that it is not the proven, incontrovertibly correct facts that provoke the most discussion amongst us and sends us off to research but the irregularities that we find and closes with - ***so, long live Queen Dick and those like 'her'***!

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Did You Know

The cadency mark for a ninth son is obviously rare but is a *double quatrefoil* or *octofoil.* The *quatrefoil, cinquefoil* or *quintfoil* and *sixfoil* are similar conventional floral charges consisting of as many petals as their names imply. In early heraldry no clear distinction was drawn between the rose, the *cinquefoil* and the *sixfoil.* Amongst many other shields of arms the City of Leicester bears *Gules a cinquefoil pierced Ermine.*

New Address

Bill & Rita Burgess have retired and their new address is:-
106 Tor O Moor Road, Woodhall Spa, Lincs LN10 6SB

☎ 01526 353914

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Officers and Committee

At the AGM on Thursday, 26th September there being no nominations your Officers and committee agreed to carry on for another year

Chairman	**Kay Holmes**
Vice-Chairman	**Marjorie Kirby**
Hon. Treasurer	**Stuart Whitefoot**
Minutes Secretary	**Margaret Young**

Committee

Ron Brown **Don Kirby**
Roger Matthews **Nan Taylor**

Subscriptions

for 2002/03 are now due and are unchanged at:-
£6.00 for full membership
£4.00 for country membership
Please give or send your cheque or cash to the Hon. Treasurer or to any member of the Committee

Middlesex Church Booklets

Booklets describing and blazoning the arms and tablets of churches in Middlesex recorded and illustrated by members of the **Middlesex Heraldry Society** are still available

Holy Cross, Greenford — *Holy Trinity, Northwood*
St. Andrew, Kingsbury — *St. Dunstan, Cranford*
St. Giles, Ickenham — *St. John, Great Stanmore*
St. John, Pinner — *St. John the Baptist, Hillingdon*
St. Lawrence, Cowley — *St. Lawrence Whitchurch*
St. Margaret, Uxbridge — *St. Martin, Ruislip*
St. Martin. West Drayton — *St. Mary, Harefield*
St. Mary, Harrow — *St. Mary, Hayes*
St. Mary, Willesden — *St. Mary the Virgin, Northolt*
St. Mary the Virgin, Harmondsworth
Saints Peter & Paul, Harlington

Copies may be obtained, singly or in sets, from the Series Editor, K. W. Holmes, 22 St. Margarets Road, Ruislip, Micklle.sex HA4 7NU
☎01895 633880 or E-mail – kholmes@fish.co.uk
Cost - 25p each (except Harefield = 50p) or full set £4.50.
Postage - £1 for the full set 20p for 1 or 2 + 5p per copy thereafter.

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Next Meeting

✣☆✣☆✣☆✣

Quarterly Gules and Or and .....
by **Marjorie Kirby**
on ***Thursday, 20th February 2003***
(Postponed from November 2002)

✣☆✣☆✣☆✣

All meetings are held in the Library, Ruislip Manor at 8.00pm

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The Chiltern Heraldry Group

✣☆✣☆✣☆✣

The Development of Dragons and Christian Art
by **The Revd W H V Elliott**
on ***Saturday, 15th February 2003***
in **The Parish Hall, White Waltham**

✣☆✣☆✣☆✣

Meetings begin at 2.30pm and are followed by a light tea provided by members

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Visitors welcome

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Hings to Come

Steve Kibbey – rapidly becoming a "pundit" in continental (particularly Spanish) heraldry has written an article on the last resting place of Christopher Columbus. We didn't want to spoil an excellent article so chickened out of the December issue to give us more time to discover how to print the photographs properly.
Our good friend, **Joe Sutherland,** has sent us some notes and comments about several Scottish items of heraldic interest.....
and, of course, the final part of Huddersfield - My Home Town by **Stewart Whitefoot..**

Articles, notes and comments are always welcome.

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