

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to this the second issue of the official journal of the Cambridge University Heraldic and Genealogical Society. Our term is as busy as usual, and amendments to the programme can be found on page 11. One of the highlights, apart from the Annual Dinner, will be a visit to the headquarters of Ede and Ravenscroft, Robemakers by Appointment to the Crown since 1689. They will-be only too pleased to see as many members as possible at their Waterbeach base, as the Director has already told me how honoured he is to be hosting a visit from CUHAGS. We shall have opportunities to see not only the uniforms, robes and other garments, but also the Orders, on this occasion.

The Annual Dinner - no small affair - will be on Saturday, 9th March, 1996 in the Leslie Room, Trinity Hall, a College much renowned for its catering. We are pleased that our Patron will be there, with Cecil and Alice Humphery-Smith, and also Henry Paston Bedingfeld. York Herald of Arms, and his wife, Mary. Our sherry reception will take place from 7-00 p.m. and five sumptuous courses will start being served at half past. Places are limited to 35 this time so please send your remittances, at £31-90 per head, as soon as possible, stating numbers of guests, and whether you are herbivorous or omnivorous. The dress is white tie/mess dress, with decorations. If required, accommodation can be arranged within the College.

Mr Humphery-Smith pointed out to me, after the last issue of this journal, that copies of the Cambridge Armorial do still exist, and are for sale! Please contact either of us if you missed the opportunity of purchasing one last time - it really is a must for everyone's home library!

Still in a bibliographical vein, it may interest members to know that we are hoping to locate the Society's Library within the UL in the near future. Our records, from the Society's early years, are housed there already, and it seemed preferable to the Committee that everything be maintained within the one repository.

The other half of the "CUHAGS Collection" is, of course, the set of shields which adorn the President's room each year. We have quite an array, currently within my custodianship, and we wish to improve the collection wherever possible. Therefore any donations in (his sense would be greatly appreciated - we have past members'. Colleges' and even Oxford's shields in our possession. But (here is still space for more on my wall!

Belated congratulations go to a former CUHAGS member, David White, for his elevation to the position of Rouge Croix Pursuivant at the College of Arms. And finally I have just received details from Patrick Phillips, owner of Kentwell Hall, in Suffolk, with opportunities for anyone so inclined to live the life of the Tudors at Kentwell, in June/July (for anyone selected). If you are interested, please contact him at home in Long Melford for more details.

I look forward to seeing or hearing from you again shortly.

The President

Some Previous Officers of the Society

Year	President	Secretary	Junior Treasurer
1973-4	John Middleditch	John Brett (Selw)	Iain Pettigrew
1974-5	John Brett (Selw)	Michael Handi (Peterhouse)	Patrick Allsopp (Fitzw)
1975-6	Michael Hand (Peterhs)	Nigel Ramsay (Caius)	Godfrey Bird (Clare)
1976-7	Nigel Ramsay (Caius)		Godfrey Bird (Clare)
1978-9		Nicholas Rogers	Nigel Ramsay (Caius)
1979-80	Nicholas Rogers (Emma)	Julia Toffalo (Newnham)	Ruth Wiltshire (Newnham)
1980-1	Nicholas Rogers (Emma)	Josh Goldstein (Corp) & J Munday (Emma)	Jane Marjoram (New H)
1981-2	J Munday (Emmanuel)	R Everelt (Emmanuel)	Jane Marjoram (New Hall)
1982-3	David White (Pembroke)	Richard Brown (Trin Hall)	Andrew Gough (Corpus)
1983-4	Philip Whittome (Downing)	Paul Fox (Caius)	Christopher Marsden (Emma)
1984-5	Paul Fox (Caius)	Robert Pinkham (Jesus)	Simon Morris (Trinity)
1985-6	Nicholas Cox (Magdalene)	Charmian Leaver (Newnham)	Andrew Scott (Robinson)
1986-7	James Sergeant (St John)	Mark Collins (Peterhouse)	Mark Myers (Fitzwilliam)
1987-8 [^]	James Sergeant (St Johns)	Mark Collins (Peterhouse)	David Babington-Smith (Trin)
1988-9	David Babington-Smith (Trinity)	Toby Wilkinson (Downing)	Michael Davies (Girton)
1989-90	Toby Wilkinson (Downing)	Paul Barber (Jesus)	Patrick Little (St Johns)
1990-1	Anthony Tomlinson (St J)	Nick Dent (Trinity)	Colin Mumford (Caius)
1991-2	Nichols Dent (Trinity)	Matthew Diez (Magdalene)	Timothy Cutts (Selw)
1992-3	Matthew Dietz (Magadlene)	Peter O'Donoghue (Caius)	Damien Riddle (Selw) & John Amos (Wescott House)
1993-4	Peter O'Donoghue (Caius)	Katharine Clare (Clare)	John Amos (Wescott House)
1994-5	Katharine Clare (Clare)	Paul Mitcham (Girton)	John Amos (Wescott H) & Isobel Dubois (New Hall)

Society Programme 1996

25 Jan 1996 Derek A Palgrave
The Relevance of Heraldry

8 Feb 1996 Mrs Audrey Brown
Women in Family History

17 Feb 1996 **Visit to Ede and Ravencroft**
(The Warehouse, Waterbeach - Jacket and Tie)

22 Feb 1996 Mountbatten Commemorative Lecture (7-00 pm)
Colonel Iain Swinnerton, President FFHS
Military Heraldry

7 Mar 1996 Mr Norman Holding
Proving a Tree - Two examples from a One-name Study

9 Mar 1996 **Annual Dinner** (in the presence of the Patron, His Excellency
Archbishop Bmno B Heim. OStJ, PhD. JCO, Apostolic Pro Nuncio Emeritus)
The Leslie Stephen Room, Trinity Hall (whit tie 7-00 for 7-30 pm)

25 Apr 1996 Miss E Mary Bliss
Lady Clare's Bell

27 Apr 1996 **Annual General Meeting** (3-00 pm)
Cambridge Union Society Building - afternoon tea 4-00 pm

1 Jun 1996 **Accession Banquet** (White Tie 7-00 for 7-30 pm)
Fellows' Drawing Rooms, Girton College

12 Jun 1996 **Annual Society Garden Party** (3-00 pm)
Clare College Fellows Garden (Boaters & blazers)

*Meetings are normally held in the Thirkill Room, Clare College,
from 9-00 pm unless shown otherwise.*

The Relevance of Heraldry

There is a popular view among genealogists and family historians that Heraldry is an optional extra. They argue that their ancestors were, more often than not, labourers and domestic servants with no rights to Armorial Bearings, so for them an understanding of the value of Heraldic evidence is totally unnecessary. Unfortunately this represents a serious over-simplification of the situation because it neglects the fact that, as employees, those ancestors often were associated with armigerous landed gentry, religious establishments or secular corporations. In fact the lives of the employees may have been linked quite intricately to their wealthy masters, so a knowledge of the latter could be of crucial importance.

Heraldic display is, by its very nature, conspicuous and remarkably permanent by virtue of incorporation into buildings, monuments and other durable artefacts. Furthermore the official granting of Arms has generated important surviving documentary evidence at the College of Arms and elsewhere. This includes 16th and 17th century Visitation records, with their significant genealogical content and occasional references to links with non-armigerous families. Much of this material has been published and is very accessible.

Not only does Heraldry identify a specific individual but, by means of cadency marks, impalements and quarterings, it may also provide information about that individual's place in the family, his wife's family, and their combined ancestry. Personal Arms may be impaled with those of office, and embody differences denoting honours, illegitimacy, etc.

Heraldic display is not confined to the devices on a shield: it involves all the other components in an Achievement including the Crest, Mantling, often strewn with distinctive Badges; and the Torse, featuring the livery colours which do not necessarily coincide with the principal tinctures of the Arms. It used to be the custom for servants and other retainers to wear their master's Badge usually embroidered on the Livery. In more recent times the Badge, or more frequently, the Crest, has been displayed on Livery buttons.

Badges and Liveries were adopted by many corporate bodies, in particular the London Trade Guilds or Livery Companies. The Badges or Cognizances were usually devices reflecting the various trades represented. On special civic occasions such as the inauguration of the Lord Mayor, the Livery Companies arranged colourful processions with their members in full Livery carrying banners, flags, streamers, musical instruments, drums, etc. Civic authorities were granted Arms, adopted ceremonial dress and other regalia, and provided their officials with appropriate Badges, Livery and Cockades.

Military uniforms, insignia and flags have been strongly influenced by Heraldry: in many instances, devices from the Arms of the commanding officers have been used as unit Badges, although, following the formation of a regular army, Royal Badges tended to predominate. The same applies to the Navy and the Royal Air Force. Other uniformed services such as police, fire brigades, railway companies, etc, use Badges derived from the Armorial Bearings of relevant local authorities.

A host of other institutions have embraced Heraldry as a distinctive form of identification. These include schools, colleges, universities, learned societies, professional bodies, sports clubs, etc. most of which have Badges for blazers, ties and scarves in the institutional Livery, together with cuff-links, buttons and wall plaques featuring the Armorial Bearings.

Quite apart from its role in uniquely identifying individuals and corporations, Heraldry has been widely used to denote authenticity or quality. For instance both the Hall-marks on precious metals and the date symbols on early coins feature Heraldic devices.

Many of us may have ancestors who worked for local gentry or merchants who were City Liverymen. Perhaps they served in specific military units, or were associated with certain institutions or schools. We may have inherited medals, buttons or ribbons with obvious Heraldic significance. This short survey of some of the applications of Heraldry shows that it is a subject which has many facets. It is not a narrow esoteric field of study relating to a privileged few but rather an abundant source of historical evidence which we need to be able to interpret.

(This is a summary of the lecture given to the Society, 25th January, 1996)

Book Reviews

Oral History: Talking about the Past (Second revised edition), *Robert Perks*, Historical Assocn, London ,1995, A5 pprbk, 44pp, £3-95. ISBN 0 85278 391 4.

This booklet, written by the Director of the National Sound Archive, draws attention to one of the most important sources of evidence for the family historian. Almost every family has a vast store of knowledge handed down by word of mouth from earlier generations. It is most important that we tap this resource and place it on record.

Robert Perks takes us through the procedure, beginning with the preparation stage prior to arranging an interview with a cooperative subject. He deals with selecting suitable audio and video equipment, microphones, and tapes. There are very helpful hints on the actual conduct of the interview including the choice of venue, establishing rapport with the subject and controlling extraneous noise.

He emphasises that the resultant tape needs to be copied, transcribed, documented, labelled and catalogued ready for transfer to an appropriate repository. All these are crucial stages in the conservation of such a unique insight into our past. Only then can we begin to make use of the historical evidence it contains.

The book concludes with notes, a very helpful bibliography, suggestions for further reading and a list of useful contacts. The author has provided not only a most valuable guide in the Historical Association's Helps for Students of History series, but also a publication consistent with the objectives of the Oral History Society, the co-publishers.

Members' Interests

The following list of surnames (with their geographical associations and historical occurrences) represent some of the ancestral lines of members of the Society. If you have links with any of these names please make contact.

Surname	Locality	Period	Descendant
Bartholemy	Malmedy, Belgium		Laszlo Koczy
de Bod(es)son	Belgium		Laszlo Koczy
Close	Belgium		Laszlo Koczy
Cross	Ireland	pre 1800	Laszlo Koczy
Cuttance	Cornwall	C19	Paul Mitcham
von Dincklage	Germany/Denmark		Laszlo Koczy
Dobson	E Essex	C19	Paul Mitcham
Elkin	Staffs (or anywhere)		Eve Logan
Foster	Notts	pre 1830	Eve Logan
(d')Ista	Belgium		Laszlo Koczy
Logan	Scotland	pre 1811	Eve Logan
Logan	Worcs/Staffs/Notts	post 1811	Eve Logan
Odelga	Austria	pre 1750	Laszlo Koczy
(de)Renardmont	Belgium		Laszlo Koczy
Sismcy	Cnmbs	C19-20	Paul Mitcham
Warwick	Notts	pre 1840	Eve Logan
Woodruffe	S Beds	C18	Paul Mitcham

Forthcoming Conferences and other Events

- 8 Jan 1996 Twentyman Research - Ann Pegg
Northants FHS, Cornmarket Hall, Kettering
- 27 Jan 1996 Guild of One-Name Studies Seminar
Woking. Surrey
- 29-31 Mar 1996 Heraldry Weekend
Hengrave Hall, Suffolk
- 12-14 Apr 1996 Weekend Conference & FFHS AGM I
hosted by East Surrey FHS at Roehampton
- 27 Apr 1996 Cambridgeshire FHS One-Day Conference
Travel and Migration
- 4-5 May 1996 Family History Fair hosted by Soc of Genealogists
Royal Horticultural Society Hall, Westminster
- 29-30 Jun 1996 Family History Fair at York
Tattersall's Stand, York Racecourse
- 30 Aug-1 Sep 1996 Weekend Conference & FFHS Council
hosted by Doncaster & Dist FHS
- 5 Oct 1996 Northamptonshire FHS 20th Anniversary
Day Conference at Kettering

Editors Postscript

I apologise to readers of the first issue of The Escutcheon for failing to provide an address where they could direct their responses to this new Journal. Consequently I would like to thank the President and Honorary Secretary for taking all the flack. However I hope you will target your comments and material for inclusion in future issues to me at the address given below.

Last time we appealed to every member to list the surnames in his or her ancestry for inclusion in the Members' Interests section. A few of you took advantage of this option but we would like to continue making this option available.

*Derek A Palgrave,
Crossfield House, Dale Road, Stanton,
BurySt Edmunds, Suffolk, IP 31 2DY.*

It should be noted that the Federation of Family History Societies, to which CUHAGS is affiliated, represents the interests of family history societies throughout this country and elsewhere in the world. For further information please write to the FFHS at *The Benson Room, the Birmingham and Midland Institute, Margaret Street, Birmingham, B3 3BS.*

This issue has been compiled using the computer programme WORD FOR WINDOWS V.2 but contributions in other formats or on paper, as a handwritten or typewritten text, are acceptable.