

# The ESCUTCHEON

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Volume 15 N° 3

Easter Term 2010

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**The Journal of the Cambridge University  
Heraldic and Genealogical Society**

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CAMBRIDGE

MMX

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## **Future Programme: Michaelmas Term 2010**

6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> October 2010

### **FRESHERS FAIR**

*Kelsey Kerridge Sports Hall*

14<sup>th</sup> October 2010

### **Heraldry at Eton College**

*David Broomfield*

23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2010

### **FESTIVAL OF IDEAS**

*Heraldry Workshop*

28<sup>th</sup> October, 2010

### **Biography of a Criminal**

*Fred Feather*

11<sup>th</sup> November, 2010

### **St Pancras"On Time"**

*Professor Lester Hillman*

25<sup>th</sup> November, 2010

### **DNA Surveys – Practical Results**

*Hugh Cave*

4<sup>th</sup> December, 2010

### **St Nicholas' Feast**

*Clare College Great hall*

*White Tie & Decorations or Black Tie*

*Speaker Meetings normally take place at 8-45 p.m. in the Thirkill Room, Clare College*

*Members & their guests may dine in Hall with the speaker prior to each meeting  
but please advise Adrian Ray\* at least 48 hours beforehand.*

*[Telephone 01223 264094 or email: [cuhagsmanciple@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:cuhagsmanciple@yahoo.co.uk)]*

*Diners should assemble in the Thirkill Room a 7-00 p.m.*



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## **A Message from the President**

Dear friends,

This Easter term we enjoyed two interesting genealogical talks; the first was by Harold Hopkins on the journeys of two of his ancestors to Singapore and Australia during the heyday of empire; the second by Stephen Slater on one of his heroes, Roger Brown who built Trowbridge town hall. They were followed by an AGM marked by that most desirable of qualities - brevity. But the climax of the term and the year was undeniably the Accession Banquet, which commemorated the sixtieth anniversary of the founding of the original Cambridge University Heraldic & Genealogical Society; for those who missed the event Professor Hillman has provided a lively account on the next page.

My time at CUHAGS and at Cambridge is now at an end, and this summer I shall follow in Monica's footsteps to the USA; where I shall study for a PhD in mathematical logic at Carnegie Mellon University. My four years here have been a wonderful experience, not least because of the many friends I have made at CUHAGS and the fun (and occasional panics) of serving on the committee as Junior Treasurer and then President. I hope I shall be able to visit you again soon.

My successor as president is Marius Jøhndal, a linguistics PhD student from Norway. Marius was instrumental in the preparations for the recent Accession Banquet, and I wish him well during his term in office. Over the past year I was fortunate to be supported by an able and devoted committee; and this good fortune I pass on to Marius, who will be joined by officers old and new in planning what promises to be an excellent year.

CUHAGS has now endured for sixty years, and its present membership testifies to the loyalty and affection it has inspired throughout its history. Such synthesis of members young and old is remarkable even in a university as remarkable as Cambridge, and something we should treasure.

Farewell  
*Jacob*

## **DIAMOND CLUSTER**

*The Accession Banquet 5<sup>th</sup> June 2010*

Clare College was the sparkling setting for a glittering anniversary and the diamond clustering of members and guests shone lustre on the pioneering founders of the multi-faceted Society.

### **Diamond Setting**

Reflecting back on three score years reveals dazzling highlights. The Golden Anniversary was celebrated under the Presidency of Rohan Stewart MacDonald with a ‘Jubilee Annual Dinner’ on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2000. The Lady Day Grace was delivered by The Most Reverend Maurice Noel Leon Couve de Murville Archbishop Emeritus of Birmingham. On that millennial cusp and eve of British Summer Time around ninety assembled in the Great Hall of Clare.



CUHAGS crosses the millennia on Lady Day 2000 (Photo – jetphotographic.com)

Since then there have been further commemorations of the Society's fusion of interests in Heraldry and Genealogy. Outgoing President Jacob Davis provided assurance that despite CUHAGS celebrating a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary just three years ago the Society's 'diamond' was flawless. Here was a moment to rejoice in our wisdom and foresight in choosing a Trinity mathematician as President.

### **'Pierless Diamonds'**

Ten years ago the Accession Banquet took place on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2000. At noon that day adjacent to the College of Arms the Millennium footbridge across the Thames had been officially opened. Today following modifications it has become a London jewel, incorporated into the design of at least one coat of arms and a commemorative postage stamp.



**View from the Golden Gallery of St Paul's Cathedral**

CUHAGS Accession Banquet in 2000 was an ‘away fixture’ in Magdalene College with drinks served in the Parlour and the Banquet in the Ramsay Hall. There were birthdays including that of the Chancellor of the University HRH Prince Philip Duke of Edinburgh, Earl of Merioneth and Baron Greenwich. The courses, featuring Asparagus, Scallops, Roast Rack of Lamb and Rhubarb Coulis, were augmented with a splendid cake.

The Accession Banquet has maintained popularity in recent years. On Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2006 there were 40 in attendance. The ‘Golden Anniversary and Accession Banquet’ on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2007 also offered a celebration of the Society’s armorial bearings, approved by the College of Arms 7<sup>th</sup> May 2007. Tenderloin of lamb was served then whilst on the 7<sup>th</sup> June 2008 54 banqueted on Medallion of Beef Tenderloin with jugglers entertaining in the courtyard. Last year, on the 6<sup>th</sup> June 2009, Guinea Fowl featured and memories are of 45 voices soaring in a spirited rendition of ‘*Jerusalem*’.

### **Pietro Annigoni**

The Monday following the 2010 Accession Banquet marked the centennial of the birth of Pietro Annigoni. Born in Milan 7<sup>th</sup> June 1910, he died in Florence 28<sup>th</sup> October 1988. His 1954 portrait of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, robed in the Order of the Garter, is arguably the most recognised portrait of the Sovereign, an achievement all the more remarkable now that royal patronage spans six decades and many artists. It was commissioned for the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers and today hangs in their Livery Hall a few yards downstream from the College of Arms and the Millennium Bridge.

### **Diamond Drill**

The Diamond Jubilee on the 5<sup>th</sup> June 2010 followed the precision timing of a 21 jewel Swiss watch. Gathering in the Scholar’s Garden CUHAGS understated elegance eschewed excessive diamonds but here and there tiaras and baguette cuts glinted. The sparkling wine was chilled to ‘Iced Diamond’ standard. On cue the lightest of downpours hastened our step towards the Great Hall. The commemorative photograph was taken as the threatening rain added priceless tension and drama. In a flash fifty one were seated for ‘*Baked figs & goat’s cheese with radicchio*’. Next came the ‘*Organic salmon supreme leaping on a bed of pak choy with soya and sesame seed vinaigrette*’. With St Columbatide fast approaching it could have been re-christened ‘*Kolbjorn med laksen*’ in honour of CUHAGS Norwegian President. The words describe how at the 9<sup>th</sup> June salmon are said to leap up. Next came ‘*Beef medallion wrapped with smoked streaky bacon served with beef jus*’. The ‘jewelled medallion’ was displayed to perfection set within potato pancakes, courgettes and carrots. ‘*Strawberry vacherin with honey mousse*’ was followed by ‘*Coffee and petit fours*’. Throughout the evening the white diamond plates were precision set before us.

### **Lode Bearing Gems**

The origins and complicated evolution of CUHAGS had yielded a priceless seam of office holders, veritable lode bearing gems. In his remarks Jacob Davis singled out

Honorary Vice-Presidents Gordon Wright and Derek Palgrave and CUHAGS Membership Secretary (and much else) David Broomfield. However, our distinguished speaker Professor Spufford, the Vice-President of the Society, then rose and declared himself a fraud. The protestations were immediate, forceful and repeated but there was nothing fake in his progeniting the Genealogists now part of today's CUHAGS. He went on to demonstrate certifiable provenance dating back to 1949 citing unimpeachable documentary sources such as *'The Children's Newspaper'*.

### **Three of Diamonds**

Julian Cable (piano) and Stephen Lawrence (tenor) provided a Mid Prandial Recital with the assured contribution of Dr Pike. The programme drew upon three centuries of gems from Giuseppe Giodani's *'Caro Mio Ben'* with the words *'My dear treasure'* through to the twentieth century and Donald Swann's *'The Gasman Cometh'*. Along the way we enjoyed Julian Cable's own setting of *'The Owl and the Pussycat'*. Later there was *'Jerusalem'* with its allusions to gold. *'Rule Britannia'* rang out in honour of the tercentennial of composer Thomas Arne, baptised 28<sup>th</sup> May 1710. Finally the National Anthem completed the trio of anthems.



**The Owl and the Pussycat – Julian Cable and Stephen Lawrence**

### **Diamond Decade**

A month on from the general election, much could have been learnt from CUHAGS in the seamless transfer of power that is the hallmark of the Society. With only the slightest blip in global markets the reins of the Society passed from Jacob Davis to our new President. Marius Jøhndal now advances us from diamond bourses to platinum futures and into the sunlit uplands of a seventh decade.

*Lester Hillman, June 2010*

## REFLECTIONS ON THE LAST 60 YEARS

I am a fraud trying to talk to you about the beginning of the Society 60 years ago. I was not an undergraduate in 1950. I was a Sixth former and at this time of year I was in the process of sitting the Higher School certificate examination in double maths and French (you see, I come before A-levels). However, I was already involved with heraldry and genealogy in 1950. In December 1949, Peter Summers, the hatchment man, founded the Bath Heraldic Society and I became Assistant Secretary, so in 1950, I was an officer of an heraldic society, but not this one. When I arrived in Cambridge in 1953 the University Heraldic and Genealogical Society was being run by James Cargill-Thompson who was by then a Research Fellow at Kings. My recollection is that he had been in on the foundation of the Society in 1950. It is impossible to ask him. He became Professor of Ecclesiastical History in London University, at their Kings College, at an early age, but died soon afterwards.

I suspect that much of the inspiration for founding societies in both Bath and Cambridge must be placed at the door of John Brooke-Little. It was in 1947 that he founded the Society of Heraldic Antiquaries. I read about it in the *Children's Newspaper* and immediately got in touch with him, so that I must be amongst the earliest members of what became the Heraldry Society to survive. In Bath, Peter Summers made contact with John, and he came down from Oxford to lecture to us. He was then a slim and handsome undergraduate, addicted to flamboyant waistcoats. I imagine that he also came across to Cambridge at more or less the same time. Over the years he came to the Cambridge Society many times and became one of our Honorary Vice Presidents. What I do not know is whether he ran a Heraldry Society in Oxford itself. Derek Palgrave tells me that there had been an heraldry society in Oxford in 1885, but it has been dissolved and relaunched several times.

So much for heraldry in 1950. What about genealogy? There were no local family history societies, but there was the national Society of Genealogists, which is about to celebrate its centenary next year. Even our Society of Genealogists is a mere stripling in comparison with the New England Historic Genealogical Society, founded in 1845, which is the oldest and most respected genealogical organization in the United States of America, possibly the world. It would be interesting to know whether there was an international wave of genealogical bodies being created. In the Netherlands shortly after the Liberation the equivalent of the Society of Genealogists was founded on 15 May 1945, as the Stichting Centraal Bureau voor Genealogie. In 1950 I was hooked on genealogy as much as heraldry and had begun chasing my ancestors. I had discovered that my mother's mother's mother's mother was one of the Somerset Newtons, so I automatically thought of Isaac Newton's college, Trinity, as the appropriate place to read Mathematics as an undergraduate. I did not then know that Isaac Newton came from a relatively poor Lincolnshire family, and that, when he was young, wrote to the better off Somerset Newtons asking for financial assistance. They did not want to know him. When he was old and famous the next generation of Somerset Newtons wanted to claim a relationship. He naturally did not then want to know them. I took the entrance scholarship examination and the examiners felt that I had reached my ceiling in

Mathematics, even though I had come into the bottom of the Exhibition class, but there was not enough money to fund all the Exhibitioners. In those days Exhibitions and Scholarships meant real money. I was offered a place to read any subject I liked, except Mathematics, but could not afford to come up without an award. I went away to discuss with my headmaster what to do. Since I was still young he said: 'Stay at school and try again next year in another subject'. Partially because of my interests in heraldry and genealogy I chose history and obtained an entrance award to read history the following year.

I did not come up until 1953 and joined the then University Heraldic and Genealogical Society in the Michaelmas Term. It was, like its successor today, a very agreeable Society with a great deal of wining and dining, but unlike the present Society, it consisted virtually entirely of junior members of the University, with the exception of the senior Treasurer, who was then the fabled Monsignor Gilbey. He was Catholic Chaplain to the University and a member of the family that ran W. & A. Gilbey, wine merchants and distillers. He entertained lavishly and outside speakers to the Society were put up by him in his luxurious guest bedroom at Fisher House. On one occasion I saw his own bedroom. It was incredibly austere. He was evidently an ascetic under a worldly veneer.

I see from my diary that I not only joined the Society, but was immediately active and lectured on 20<sup>th</sup> November 1953 towards the end of my very first term, on hatchments. However, along with Malcolm Pinhorn and the late Don Steel, I was very disappointed that despite the Heraldic and Genealogical title of the Society, it was really only interested in heraldry. On 11<sup>th</sup> October 1954 the three of us founded the Cambridge University Society of Genealogists to redress the balance. It was a very successful Society and we inveigled Lord Mountbatten, of Christ's, to be our patron, since we knew that he had done extensive genealogical work on his Battenberg ancestors in his spare time as Viceroy of India! We also rapidly went on to be noticeable in the Society of Genealogists in London after graduating, Malcolm soon became Chairman, I soon became the Editor of the *Genealogists' Magazine* and Don Steel started the major enterprise of making parish registers accessible.

What I am not clear about is whether there were any other local societies in 1950. I may be wrong, but I think that the next oldest surviving local family history society is the Birmingham and Midland Society for Genealogy and Heraldry which was not founded until 1963. Derek Palgrave has suggested that it might be an interesting enterprise for CUHAGS to produce a detailed chronology of the heraldic and genealogical groups which have been established over the last century or so, perhaps in time for the Society of Genealogists' centenary next year.

In 1957 when I was a postgraduate and an officer in both the heraldry-focussed and genealogy-focussed societies, I merged the two and the present Cambridge Heraldic and Genealogical Society came into being, which is why I can now address you as your perpetual Vice President, but also as a fraud to be talking about what went on in Cambridge in 1950.

*Professor Peter Spufford, Vice President and Guest of Honour*

## TWO EMINENT VICTORIANS ON THE ROMANTIC OVERLAND ROUTE TO THE EAST AND THE POWER OF THE INTERNET

*A résumé of a talk, under the above title, given by Harold Hopkins, on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> April, as a way of celebrating his 10 years of continuous membership of CUHAGS.*

The two gentlemen were his great great grandfather, Evan Hopkins, CE, FGS, travelling in 1852, who specialised in gold and silver mining; and his great grandfather, William Adamson, travelling in 1854, as a clerk about to embark on his career as a highly respected merchant. The story was centered around a series of letters that William Adamson had sent to his father, describing his journey, which were preserved, and are now the property of the P & O Shipping Line, but are on extended loan to the Greenwich Maritime Museum, under ref: P & O/92/1.

He spoke first about his great great grandfather Evan Hopkins, who was of Welsh extraction. He married a Bristol girl in London in 1833 and started his career working on Gold and Silver mining in New Grenada, South America.

On his second tour in 1843, he returned to the area and eventually was asked by the President, General Mosquera to survey the Isthmus of Panama with a view to building a canal, but in fact, due to the inhospitable conditions, only recommended a route for a railway, which was built seven years later. In February 1852 he was asked to travel out to Melbourne, Australia and advise the Port Philip and Colonial Gold Mining Company on Gold extraction. His journey, accompanied by his son, Evan Henry Hopkins, and other members of the Company, involved travelling along the so called Romantic Overland Route to the East. After arrival in Singapore, his



**Boat Quay - Singapore** (Ethel Turner 1867-1913)

group chartered a barque named 'Futtel Oheb' to take them on to Melbourne, where they arrived in early June. He returned to England in 1853 after a difference of opinion with those involved in gold extraction. He died in 1867 and was buried in a pauper's grave in Paddington Cemetery.

The speaker described how, due to the efforts of Lt Thomas Waghorn and later the P & O Shipping Line, the Romantic Overland Route came about and what it was like to travel from Southampton to Alexandria, across Egypt to Suez, and further by steamer to Singapore where William Adamson terminated his journey.

It became clear that the Internet played a significant part in preparing the talk, with the speaker being spoilt for choice of material.

William Adamson was journeying out to the east at the start of his career as a clerk to the house of Morgan, McEwen and Co of Singapore. He later became a highly respected merchant, who was awarded CMG in 1897 and knighted in 1907 for his part, so we are told, in stabilising the currency in the Far East. His letters to his father gave a graphic description of travel in 1854 and the discomforts of sea travel and of being jolted about in cramped conditions of a horse drawn cart making its way across the desert. It would appear that the conditions at the ten so called refreshment stops left a lot to be desired.

Included in his talk was a horrendous description of what it was like to eat a meal, in 1844, at one of the stops en route between Cairo and Suez.

*"At the rest houses, some literally lousy with ablutions of chloride of lime, the flies settled in swarms on the breakfast dishes, making the food hard to identify; and when travellers ate regardless, they were continually crawling round the corners of our mouths and when we opened them for a mouthful of food, they also claimed admittance".*

(An extract from Lord Kinross' book – 'Between Two Seas')

The talk, which was well received, ended with the story about William Adamson's role in finding a governess for King Mongkut of Siam and thereby introducing Anna Leonowens to the King, of 'The King and I' fame.

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The slides illustrating the lecture included pictures of King Mongkut and Anna Leonowens (shown above), items from his family records, and a selection taken from the book 'The Story of P & O'.

### Bibliography

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*Fanny and the Regent of Siam* by P. J. Minney, pub Collins 1962  
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### Main web sites used

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[www.Ancestry.co.uk](http://www.Ancestry.co.uk)  
[www.searchforancestors.com/locality/australia/passenger](http://www.searchforancestors.com/locality/australia/passenger)  
[www.saudiaramcoworld.com/issue196806](http://www.saudiaramcoworld.com/issue196806)  
[Newspapers.nla.gov.au](http://Newspapers.nla.gov.au)

## MAD JACK, HIS LIFE AND TIMES

Recently it was my good luck to be invited once more to speak to CUHAGS, something I always enjoy. I was due to speak on a local hero of mine, Lt. Colonel John Benett-Stanford of Norton Bavant and Pythouse, those two estates lying near to me on the Western edge of Salisbury Plain, however, water damaged some of my slides and I had to speak instead upon another local hero, Sir Roger Brown. I thought therefore, as I have a mass of written evidence, I could still give you all a flavour of 'Mad Jack' and in time recreate the slide lecture for you.

Jack, born in 1870, was the only child born to Vere Fane-Benett-Stanford of Boyton, Wiltshire, and his wife, Ellen Stanford of Preston Sussex. His recent ancestry was complex. His father Vere was the grandson to General Sir Henry Fane who, when serving in Dublin eloped with the Chief Secretary's wife, Isabella Cooke. Several children were born out of wedlock to the happy couple including Vere's father, who became a Wiltshire clergyman. Vere Fane took not one but two name changes to inherit various estates. In 1857 Vere took by Royal Licence the name and arms of Benett of Norton Bavant, which was to be quartered with Fane (with due marks of illegitimacy), and on marriage to Ellen Stanford he again took a Royal Licence to take the name and arms of Stanford of Preston, Sussex, with a cross crosslet for difference.

The Benetts of Norton Bavant had their origins in the Wiltshire wool trade, brasses for them in Westbury and Norton Bavant show them using a typical merchant's mark as well as the arms of Gules 3 demi lions Argent with a mullet in centre point (probably for difference) which had appeared in the Herald's Visitation for Wilts in 1565. No crest seems to have been used until the late 17<sup>th</sup> Century when a lion's head issuant from a mural coronet was employed.

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century William Benett of Norton Bavant married Patience, sister and heir to Colonel Thomas Bennett (former secretary to Prince Rupert of the Rhine) of the neighbouring estate of Pythouse. There is no suggestion before this marriage of any common relationship between the two families and the different spelling of the two surnames was consistent, furthermore the arms of the Bennetts of Pythouse had no similarity to those of Benett of Norton Bavant, they being Per pale Or and Argent an eagle double headed displayed Gules, and the curious crest of a Cornish chough standing on a whelk shell.

The Bennetts of Pythouse claimed descent from William atte Pytte (William by the Well) who had grant of Pythouse estate from the Abbess of nearby Shaftesbury way back in 1225.

In 1801 John Benett of Pythouse and Norton Bavant married Lucy Lambert the heir to Boyton, yet another estate neighbouring Norton Bavant. It was their daughter, Lucy Benett who, in 1832 married Jack's grandfather, Revd. Arthur Fane (illegitimate son of General Sir Henry Fane).

Let us now return to Jack's parents Vere and Ellen Fane-Benett-Stanford.

Jack says of them "I was a nuisance to them both" and that they were "delightfully immoral", complaining at the same time that he in later life had to make payments to his father's bastards by various women, they ranged from actresses to his mother's own maid. As for his mother, Jack lists in his memoirs various supposed lovers and took great delight in recounting how there was a dreadful 'fracas' one night when the groom was found at the bottom of a ladder which led to his mother's bedroom, according to Jack, the groom said "He was in the pay of George Gordon, but God Almighty knows which of the two amused the lady most"

Jack's father died when he was quite young and his mother remarried a Charles Thomas, who like Jack's father took by Royal Licence the surname and arms of Stanford in lieu of his own. Jack hated his stepfather almost as much as his mother, and in his memoirs, delights in recounting how Charles Thomas supposedly 'did time' for illicit diamond buying in South Africa.

Jack married Evelyn, daughter of Colonel Burchall Helme, of nearby Bishopstrow, and by her had two children, a son, Vere (born in 1894) and daughter, Patience (born in 1899). From their early age Jack wished to pass down to both children their rich heraldic legacy, and to this end he started compiling notes and dossiers on each of the arms he believed would eventually pass to Vere and Patience.

In the 1930s Jack employed as his heraldic researcher, Archibald Russell, Lancaster Herald (Clarenceux 1954-1955), and their correspondence is a delight to me, with Lancaster never seeming to tire of Jack's quirkiness which comes to the fore in one letter dated March 13, 1934. Russell was sending down to Pythouse his own researcher and Jack stated "Any time your researcher chooses to come I shall be more than delighted to see him or her.... Would you let me know in confidence what part of the house he should live in... I am not a snob and do not mind having people... as long as they are amusing, picking their teeth with their knives is no objection".

On 20<sup>th</sup> July 1934 Lancaster wrote to Jack to say that the total cost of research to date was £70, Jack replied "I am terribly hard up at the present moment and am afraid I cannot forward the £30 to carry on with. I will as soon as I get the September rents collected". Jack was often 'hard up' blaming his mother down at Preston for keeping back rents due him.

On 23<sup>rd</sup> December 1937 Lancaster again wrote to Jack regarding the matter of illegitimacy and heraldry, telling Jack that the arms of Fane differenced for illegitimacy were issued by patent on 23<sup>rd</sup> June 1857 to his grandfather "On

assuming by Royal Licence the name of Benett in lieu of that of Fane... A bordure wavy is the mark of illegitimacy now generally employed” The arms of Fane of Boyton being Azure 3 dexter gauntlets Or, a bordure wavy also Or”

Jack was well aware of his reputation for eccentricity, writing to one friend, he commented that he knew an old farmer who had recently been committed to the local asylum “they say he is mad, but not nearly so mad as I am” and as he advanced in age his eccentricity became more acute, local refused lifts from him for they knew he was likely to take them well out of their way before dropping them in the middle of the Wiltshire countryside, leaving them to make their own way back home. A recent article in a Wiltshire magazine suggests that one occasion led to Jack being cited as Britain’s very first road rage case.

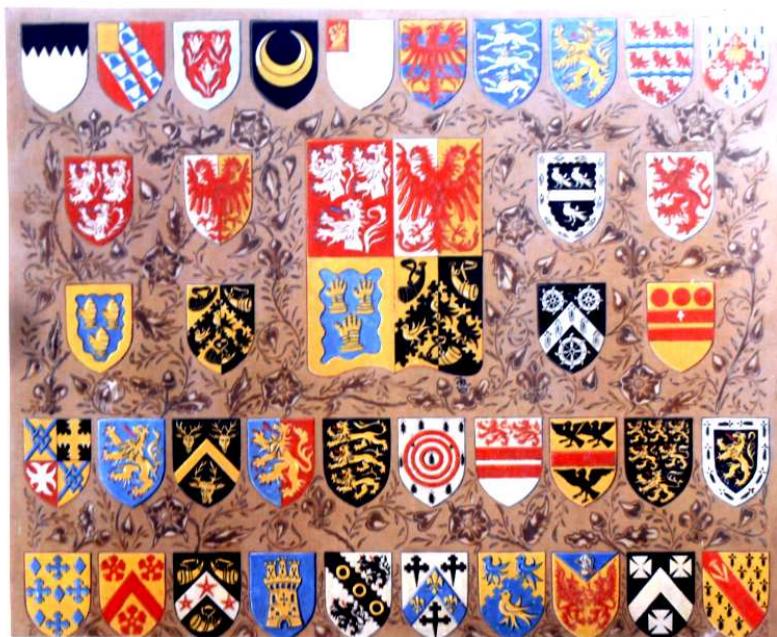
I presume that Pythouse is still home to Molly, the skeleton of a maid who was ‘got with child’ by one of Jack’s ancestors, supposedly Molly murdered her baby and was then hanged for the crime, she cursed her employers and said that her body must be laid in the cellar of Pythouse or else she would cause havoc to the owners. Molly was placed in a glass fronted coffin and Jack would dose visitors to the house with drink, then lead them with a candle down to the cellar, he then pushed a hidden lever whereupon Molly would spring forth from the coffin!

By the late 30s, with the help of Lancaster Jack had amassed a shield of more than 40 quarterings which should be right have descended to Vere and Patience. Lancaster said that he was more than pleased with the work and that a most impressive pedigree had been drawn up. But you see, both Jack and Lancaster knew the real situation, this being Jack himself would be the last to use such a grand shield of arms. You see, Patience had died 40 years earlier after a bungled hospital operation, and Vere had been gassed in the trenches, although this was not the main reason for his death (he lingered on until 1922, finally succumbing to TB in a Swiss sanatorium) Jack believed it to be.

Jack died in 1947 and his widow followed him to the grave 10 years later in 1957. Before she died, Evelyn Benett set about repairing the Benett mortuary chapel attached to the parish church in Norton Bavant, shields of the principal arms which would have passed to her children appear on the roof struts, all monuments were cleaned and repaired, but for us the two most poignant reminders of a family which had had its burial place there for 5 centuries are the memorial to Vere Fane-Benett-Stanford and to Jack, his father. Vere’s monument looks to be 17<sup>th</sup> Century in date, only when you read the inscription to you see that Vere won his Military Cross in the Great War after giving up his gas mask to his sergeant, the monument is decorated with shields for Fane of Fulbeck, Benett of Borton Bavant, Bennett of Pythouse, Stanford of Preston and Wake.

Jack’s own memorial is without inscription and consists of a wooden board upon which are painted more than 40 shields of arms, a large quartered arms appears in the centre of Fane, Benett, Bennett and Stanford. The work is an heraldist’s delight

but it sadly does not name the shields. It does however correspond to that pedigree put together by Jack and Lancaster Herald so many years before and which was until recently on show in Pythouse. The armorial board (shown below) is the work of the



Reverend St. John Battersby who was not only a gifted heraldic artist (several churches in Wiltshire have armorials painted by him) but also a long time member of the Heraldry Society.

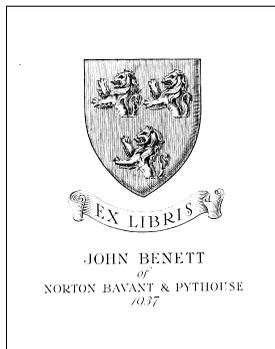
Before she died Evelyn Benett-Stanford sought out certain of Jack's cousins with a view to leaving the Pythouse estate to one or other, she eventually chose Sir Horace Rumbold, Bt., of nearby Hatch House to succeed to the estate. Recently Pythouse was sold by Sir Horace's son, Sir Henry Rumbold, Bt., thus ending a family connection of some 800 years.

I knew Jack had an heraldic bookplate, and I turned to Mr Wilson of Berkhamstead for help, he asked me to describe the plate, it is quite simple, just has a shield of arms for Benett of Norton Bavant arms, no quarters especially those for his hated mother. I looked through Mr Wilson's A-Z albums for surnames, but no it was not there, then Good Mr W. got a twinkle in his eye, "I think you are in luck", he said. He turned to a special album of the work of famous engravers, and out came Mad Jack's plate. Only a few days before Mr W. had obtained the plate thinking it might be the work of someone in particular, but it turned out not to be, he had been of a

mind to put it in his A-Z collections, but had not got round to it. "S'pose you better have it"!! Mr Wilson said, and now it lies in my own little collection, but I have not put it alongside the plates for Jack's mother or his stepfather.

I often go by Norton Bavant, and visit Jack, Eveleyn, Vere and Patience's graves, they lie hard by the church in a little area adjoining the family vault, which is now falling into disrepair, and has a tarpaulin over it. I feel rather sad about it.

*Stephen Slater*



## NOTICES AND GENERAL NEWS

### Personal News Items

Warm congratulations to Claire Pike on the award of a PhD.

We also wish to convey our congratulations and best wishes to former CUHAGS President, Simon Burton, on his marriage to Marilyn Oldfield at Abingdon Baptist Church, on 17<sup>th</sup> April. Another former President, Tom West, was Best Man. The wedding breakfast was held at the Bodleian Library, Oxford, where each of the tables where the guests were seated, was named after an heraldic beast. Not surprisingly CUHAGS even had a mention on the menu!

Our best wishes go to long standing member Tim Cockerill who celebrated his Seventieth Birthday with a reception at All Saints Church, Jesus Lane, Cambridge on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June, 2010. We understand that 70 is now the new 50.

In the Birthday Honours list we note with pleasure the award of the O.B.E to Colonel Alastair Andrew Bernard Ribey Bruce of Crionaich, late General List, Territorial Army, 509493 an Officer of Arms Extraordinary (Fitzalan Pursuivant Extraordinary) and sometime speaker to our Society .

## **C.U.H.A.G.S. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 8 MAY 2010**

Thirty members of the Society gathered in the Thirkill Room at 3-00 p.m. for a very brisk a business meeting, presided over by Jacob Davis. After receiving six formal apologies, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved by acclaim.

There being no matters arising from the latter, the President presented a review of the Society's successful year, congratulating the officers and advisors on their valuable contributions and thanking all the members for their continued support whilst they had been in office. Attention was drawn to the Society's *College Heraldry Survey* which was still in progress. It was recognised that Conventional publication of the findings might be costly but making use of the Society's website could be an attractive alternative.

The Society's Accounts were approved. It was noted that income from the sales of scarves and ties had been most welcome.

The following members were elected by acclaim to hold office during the Academic Year 2010-2011.

### **President**

MARIUS JØHNDAL (Pembroke College)

### **Senior Treasurer**

GORDON H WRIGHT (Clare College)

### **Junior Treasurer**

PIPPA MORTON (Gonville & Caius College)

### **General Secretary**

CHARLIE STURGE (Kings College)

### **The Committee**

LOUISE BUTTERFIELD (Gonville & Caius College)

ANDREW SIMPSON, LLB, LLM (Gonville & Caius College)

ALEX WHISCOMBE, B.A. (Pembroke College)

GELLERT BOKOR (Sidney Sussex College)

### **Scrutineer**

TOM WEST (Trinity College)

The meeting adjourned at 3-18 p.m.

## OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY 2009-2010

### *The Patron*

His Grace THE DUKE OF NORFOLK  
*Earl Marshal*

### *The President*

JACOB DAVIS  
(Trinity College)

### *The Vice-President*

Professor PETER SPUFFORD, Litt.D., F.B.A., F.S.A., F.S.G., F.R.Hist.S.  
(Queens' College)

### *Honorary Vice-Presidents*

CECIL R. HUMPHERY-SMITH, O.B.E., B.Sc., F.S.A., F.H.S., F.S.G., F.H.G.  
*Principal of the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies*  
HENRY E. PASTON-BEDINGFELD *York Herald of Arms*  
DAVID WHITE, M.A. (Cantab), M.A. (Lond), *Somerset Herald of Arms*  
GORDON H. WRIGHT, M.A., M.D., M.R.C.S. (Eng.), L.R.C.P. (Lon.)  
(Clare College) - *Also Senior Treasurer of the Society*  
DEREK A. PALGRAVE, M.A., M.Phil., C.Chem., F.R.S.C., F.I.R.M., F.R.Hist.S., F.S.G.,  
F.Coll.T. (Selwyn College) – *also Editor & FFHS Liaison Officer*

### *The Junior Treasurer*

ALEXANDER WHISCOMBE, B.A. (Pembroke College)

### *General Secretary*

NEVSKY EVERETT. (Gonville & Caius College)

### *The Committee*

KELCEY WILSON LEE, B.A., M.St., PhD  
LOUISE BUTTERFIELD (Gonville & Caius College)  
ANDREW SIMPSON, LLB, LLM (Gonville & Caius College)  
MARIUS JØHNDAL, M.Phil., M.Sc. (Trinity Hall)

### *Scrutineer*

D. C. d'ARCY ORDERS, M.B.E., M.A., LL.M (Trinity Hall)

### *Membership Secretary*

DAVID BROOMFIELD, B.A., A.A.T.

### *Manciple*

Adrian Ray, B.A., F.R.G.S.

### *Hon. Archivist and Librarian*

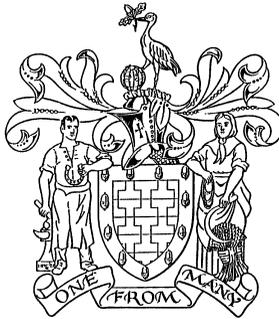
NICHOLAS J. ROGERS, M.A., M.Litt. (Emmanuel College)  
*To be contacted at Sidney Sussex College*

### *W. W. W. Officer*

JOHN C. HORTON, Ph.D., B.Sc., C.Phys., M.Inst.P. (Churchill College)

*For more detailed information about the Society please visit its website:*

<http://www.cam.ac.uk/societies/cuhags>



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