



Cambridge University
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Michaelmas Term 2000



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C A M B R I D G E

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Society Programme

Michaelmas 2000

- 19th October, 8.45 p.m. Mr Derek Palgrave (Editor, *The Escutcheon*)
Freshers' Squash: "Modern Methods of Family Research"
- 2nd November, 8.45 p.m. Mr Cecil Humphery-Smith, B.Sc., F.S.A., F.S.G., F.H.S.
Thomas-a-Becket
- 16th November, 8.45 p.m. Dr Philip Saunders, Deputy Archivist, Cambridgeshire
"Using the County Record Office at Shire Hall"
- 30th November, 8.45 p.m. H.E. Paston-Bedingfeld, Esq.,
York Herald of Arms (Hon Vice-President)
"An Introduction to Heraldry"
- Saturday, 2nd December St Nicholas Feast
Clare College
- Lent 2001**
- Thursday, 25th January Mike Petty, M.A.
"Town & Gown - Development of Cambridge over 800 years"
- Thursday, 8th February Patrick Lamb (of Jas Lock & Co)
"The Evolution of Military Hats and Headgear"
- Thursday, 22nd February **The 2001 Mountbatten Commemorative Lecture**
John Brooke-Little, C.V.O.
Lately Clarenceux King of Arms
"Aspects of High State Ceremony"
- Thursday, 8th March Anthony McClenaghan
"Orders of Knighthood and Medals Instituted by the Maharajahs"
- Saturday, 17th March **Annual Dinner**
Details to be announced

Meetings are normally held in the Thirkill Room, Clare College,
from 8.45 p.m. unless shown otherwise.

It is the custom for members to wear academic gowns to meetings.

Members and guests are encouraged to dine with the speaker in which case they should meet in the Thirkill
Room, Clare College, at 7-00 p.m.

but please give advance notice to the Senior Treasurer:-
Dr G Wright (tel: Cambridge 356388) before 5 p.m. on the preceding Tuesday

The Escutcheon

Journal of the Cambridge
University Heraldic &
Genealogical Society



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A message from the President

The Golden Jubilee year of CUHAGS was one of the most highly successful years in the society's history, culminating in the Fiftieth Annual Dinner. The splendour and pageantry of that most memorable evening, was not only a retrospective celebration of the society's distinguished past but also a bold re-affirmation of CUHAGS' purpose, resolve and relevance in the next century and dare I say, the next millennium.

It would be optimistic in the extreme to think that the fifty-first year of CUHAGS could somehow eclipse the success of the previous year. However on my assumption of the office of President, from my most efficient predecessor under whose able stewardship the society has prospered so well, and with the invaluable assistance of the newly elected committee, a most interesting programme for the year was drawn up. Whilst, the programme retained the salient features of the previous years' format of four speaker meetings per term interspersed with outings and the three grand dinners at the end of each term, the Michaelmas term was organised around a totally novel concept.

Living in the digital age, when the course of human events is determined by the push of a button and measured in nano seconds, subjects such as Heraldry and Genealogy seem somehow strangely anachronistic. A view which was not held by the committee and which made a firm resolve to employ technology to its own advantage.

Therefore an aggressive recruitment and advertising policy was undertaken both by e-mail and at the recently held Society's Fair where I am delighted to say a record number of students were signed in as members. The first and last speaker meetings were designed specifically to introduce Heraldry and Genealogy respectively to the younger membership of the society to whom these subjects have remained elusive, with the help of not only conventional aids such as pictorial representations, archival documentation and slides but

also with specific computer software and databases. The choice of speakers for the term also reflected the strong ties that exist and continue to be strengthened between the society and the various bodies to which it is affiliated, namely the Federation of Family Histories Society, the Institute of Heraldic & Genealogical Studies, the Cambridge County Records Office (Shire Hall) and the College of Arms. I keenly look forward to the remaining events of the next two terms and I welcome any comments or suggestions from the membership. I should only be to happy to be able to implement them

Thus it can be safely said that CUHAGS has embarked upon its course in the next century celebrating the institutions and traditions of the past, their continuing relevance and function in the present and holding the promise that it will remain a vibrant, vital and convivial association of ladies and gentlemen in the future

Anando Mukerjee

THE NATIONAL MONUMENTS RECORD COMPLEMENTING THE PUBLIC RECORDS OFFICE

Katy Whitaker

The National Monuments Record (NMR) is the Archive of the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England (RCHME)¹, composed of the National Buildings Record, the National Archaeology Record and the National Library of Air Photographs. These valuable resources are available for consultation in the main Public Search Rooms in Swindon (all records except London's architecture) and the London Search Room (for London buildings only).

With 12 million photographs in the collections the NMR's great strength is visual material. A comprehensive series of photographs of all the stone coats of arms in York Minster (Red Box collection), for example, is more easily studied than the originals, many of which are in inaccessible corners of the church. There are interior and exterior shots of many buildings often including photographs of features such as mantle-pieces, carved swags and doorframes - all those parts of a grand house where decoration often incorporates achievements and badges.

It is because RCHME has been the national body of survey and record since 1908 (there are sister Commissions for Scotland and Wales) that such excellent material exists. Not only do the collections include photographs, plans and surveys by the Commission's own skilled staff, but also externally-derived material, some of which dates back to the

¹ RCHME is being merged with English Heritage to create a single National body responsible for England's archaeological, maritime and built heritage. This merger came into effect on 1 April 1999. It will take at least two years to achieve full legal merger. The NMR and its services will remain in their current situation.

nineteenth-century. Most of the photographic record is, therefore, in black and white - and there are a number of copyright holders, although this is rarely a barrier to reproduction. Copies of almost all the images can be made.

The diversity of the collections is a source of delight. Over the years Recorders have photographed all manner of properties, not just Listed buildings, from cart sheds to country halls (as at Rayleigh, Essex), from cottages to grand houses (as at Laycock, Wiltshire). When genealogical researchers consult the record to find pictures of the places where their subjects lived and worked they may find the only photograph which exists of that artisan's dwelling or village shop - and though the image be seventy years old and slightly out of focus, they are invariably over-joyed to have a copy!

The usefulness of the national collection of air photographs giving complete coverage of England from the 1940s is self-evident; the phrase "changing people, changing places" is illustrated only too clearly. Providing evidence for changing street patterns in cities, growing villages and shifting boundaries, these photographs show us the landscapes in which our families have lived.

A dramatic example of this is Flixton Hall, Suffolk, an Adair family seat. Interior and exterior photographs from the 1930s and 1940s show the mansion and its gardens in great splendour, including coats of arms carved in fireplace surrounds. Air photographs from the 1940s and 1950s show the house in its parkland and reveal the earthworks of the medieval priory which once occupied the site. More recent air photographs also record the demise of this grand house; the garden is overgrown, half the parkland quarried away, the house is reduced to a single storey building now used as a cowshed and barn.

Researchers can visit the Public Search Rooms on Tuesdays to Fridays without an appointment, but there are a number of collections which can only be accessed by staff with a certain amount of preparation; for these a written enquiry is imperative. A telephone call in advance of a visit is advisable; staff can give advice about the best ways to approach the record and how fruitful the search is likely to be. If researchers cannot visit, staff will deal with written enquiries (letter, fax, e-mail or completed Enquiry Forms), but the waiting list is on average 3 - 4 weeks long so be prepared to wait for a response after your enquiry has been acknowledged. It is most important to remember that the collections are organised by **County** and **Civil Parish** or **National Grid-References** and are not necessarily indexed to more detailed levels. It is no good asking for a picture of a certain coat of arms, for example; the question must be "is there a picture of X coat of arms, perhaps in St Y church in Z parish?" Similarly, specific details of family history or property ownership are not held, so the question "are there any photographs of houses lived in by my ancestors A, B and C?" cannot be answered until the properties in question are known and located.

For more information and Enquiry Forms contact the Swindon Public Search Rooms; telephone 01793 414600, fax 01793 414606, e-mail info@rchme.co.uk or write to the NMR, Kemble Drive, Swindon, Wiltshire, SN2 2GZ.

SECOND-HAND AND REMAINDERED

John Horton

Having developed a taste for heraldry, you will no doubt want to do some reading about the subject. Unlike the Society's library, many libraries class heraldry books under "Reference" - and so do not lend them - and, in general, very few heraldic texts can be found even in the largest bookshops. Those that can be bought are frequently expensive. Nevertheless, there is a way to collect an heraldic library at relatively little expense.

The source of a budding heraldist's salvation are bookshops which sell second-hand books and those that sell that rather newer phenomenon, remaindered books. Although heraldic texts are being published every year and these contain new developments in heraldry, this does not mean that the older texts are in any sense useless. A second hand bookshop is very often a happy hunting ground for anyone seeking a copy of one of the authoritative heraldic volumes that is both still in good condition and reasonably priced. Similarly, shops selling remaindered books are a good source of new books published in the last year or two, that are in perfect condition and costing a fraction of their original price. I have recently found Neubecker's *Heraldry - Sources, Symbol and Meaning* at £3-99. The price new had been £29-95.

The aim of this article and its sequels in an occasional series is to review some of the books you might come across, so the rest of this initial offering is devoted to that classic of English Heraldry, *Boutell's Heraldry*.

If you only ever buy one book on heraldry, *Boutell's*, as it is familiarly known, surely should be it. That the name of its original author forms part of its title already hints at its status as a classic. I own a copy of the 1958 edition which was edited by C W Scott-Giles, O.B.E., Fitzalan Pursuivant of Arms Extraordinary. In the preface, the editor begins by noting the provenance of *Boutell's* from among the heraldic writings of the Rev Charles Boutell, M.A. The earliest ancestor of *Boutell's* was *The Manual of Heraldry*, first published in 1863 and which ran into three editions. The author rearranged material from this to produce *English Heraldry* (1867) which itself ran to ten editions - the tenth (1908) being edited by A.C. Fox-Davies, a well-known heraldic author himself. (I hope to review some of Fox-Davies volumes later in this series).

Boutell's as we now know it really dates from 1931 when V. Wheeler-Holohan drew on both of Boutell's works to produce *Boutell's Manual of Heraldry*. He both updated the material from these previous volumes and reillustrated it, besides adding 32 colour plates. Later editors, including J P Brooke-Little (Norroy and Ulster King of Arms for many years and recently retired from being Clarenceux), have updated both text and illustrations.

What perhaps now most characterises *Boutell's* is the clarity of both its text and its diagrams. It is indispensable for all students of heraldry regardless of whether their interests are historical or contemporary, genealogical or artistic.

Forthcoming Conferences and Other Events

- 7 April, 2001
Institute of Heraldic & Genealogical Studies
HERALDRY DAY SCHOOL
79-82, Northgate, Canterbury, Kent
- 20-22 April, 2001
Federation of Family History Societies Spring Conference
FROM THE CUP OF LOVE
Leicester University, Oadby
Incorporating the Federation AGM & Council Meeting
- 5-6 May, 2001
Society of Genealogists
2001 FAMILY HISTORY FAIR
Westminster
Showcase for Societies, Official Bodies & Commercial Firms
- 19 May, 2001
East Anglian Day Conference
FAMILY HISTORY ODYSSEY
The Latton Bush Centre, Harlow, Essex
Hosted by the Essex SFH
- 16 June, 2001
Institute of Heraldic & Genealogical Studies
PALAEOGRAPHY DAY SCHOOL
79-82, Northgate, Canterbury, Kent
- 8-13 July, 2001
Jewish Genealogical Society of Great Britain
21ST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON JEWISH GENEALOGY
To be held in London - details from Dr A P Joseph
- 31 August-
2 September, 2001
Society of Genealogists Autumn Conference
FORWARD TO THE PAST
Imperial College, London
Incorporating the Federation AGM & Council Meeting

Please note that further details of the above events are available on the Genealogical Websites www.genuki.org.uk and www.pro.gov.uk/events/eventlist.htm

BOOK REVIEWS

British Civil Registration : Second Edition; *Tom Wood*, published by FFHS (Publications) Ltd, Bury, Lancs, 2000. 84 pp, A5 format, paperback. ISBN 1 86006 116 8, £4-50.

Since the first edition of this book appeared in 1994, significant changes have taken place. In particular, the Registrar General's Office has moved from London to Southport, with the closure of St Catherine's House and the opening of the Family Records Centre at Myddelton Street in London. Most of the offices now are linked to the Internet so the author has given website details listing the relevant URLs. The outcome is the inclusion of a considerable amount of additional information which has increased the size of the booklet by 50%.

Readers will find advice on using the indexes of births, marriages and deaths throughout the British Isles including the Republic of Ireland, and also recommendations on the best way to obtain certificates. The author makes the point that it is not always necessary to go to a distant location to examine the indexes as microform copies are widely available in places like local record offices and libraries, local LDS family history centres or in the hands of local family history societies. He has included an Appendix listing the precise whereabouts of many of the surrogate copies.

The cost of certificates varies considerably depending on where the application is made and whether it is made in person or by post. Priority applications are available for certificates relating to events in England and Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland but additional fees are payable. Scottish Certificates may be ordered over the Internet. The Republic of Ireland will provide uncertified photocopies, in response to postal applications, for very much reduced fees.

Until the advent of the National Index to the 1881 Census, which is now so readily available as a CD-ROM set, it was important to use the Civil Registration Indexes to discover where and when ancestors were born and then to apply for some certificates in order to find their actual addresses. Only then was it possible to consult the relevant Census Returns for full details of the family with its inter-relationships, ages and places of birth.

Although working from Census data alone may provide the researcher with sufficient evidence to trace ancestors back to a time prior to Civil Registration, it would be unwise to dispense with certificates altogether, so Tom Wood's revised booklet has not been in vain. Not only is it very well written by a competent family historian but it also contains plenty of practical detail borne of his experience.

It is a first class manual for anyone who needs to make use of Civil Registration data. It combines the important explanatory information with comprehensive listings of names, addresses, telephone numbers, fax numbers, E-mail and website addresses. The copy in my study is always within armslength.

Derek A Palgrave

An Introduction to Poor Law Documents Before 1834: Second Edition; *Anne Cole*, published by FFHS (Publications) Ltd, Oram Street, Bury, Lancs, 2000. 44 pp, A5 format, paperback. ISBN 1 86006 127 3, £4-50.

The use of Poor Law Archives has been very much neglected by both local and family historians but there is no doubt that they contain a wealth of biographical and genealogical information. The author, Anne Cole, has been working on these records for many years and has a very comprehensive knowledge of their value as historical sources.

In the seventeenth century very few people were well-off so, during hard times, many were in need of assistance. The Poor Laws were designed to provide a safety net by placing an obligation on the parish to raise funds locally for the relief of its own poor. The collection of Poor Rates was recorded and the disbursement of funds for those in need was entered in the Account Books of the Churchwarden or the Parish Overseer.

New people moving into the parish were a potential problem until the principle of legal settlement was introduced, allowing parishes to refuse support to anyone whose place of settlement was elsewhere. This led to a great deal of bureaucracy when newcomers were examined before a JP in order to establish their true places of settlement. Documents generated in this way often provide a comprehensive account of an individual's life history listing many former places of residence and employment.

Ideally, anyone who moved from a parish, in which he or she was legally settled, was entitled to a Certificate of Settlement to present to the Parish Authorities in the new place of residence. In the event of any newcomer subsequently becoming chargeable on the parish, a Removal Order would be issued obliging him or her to return to the appropriate parish of settlement.

Such documents were deposited in the Parish Chest and, in relatively recent times, they have been transferred to local record offices where, like the parish registers, they may be consulted in the public search rooms. In some counties, indexes of the names occurring in Poor Law documents have been compiled, thereby improving access to this fascinating material.

The parish officers, often in conjunction with the local magistrates, were also involved in dealing with parish workhouses, rogues, vagabonds, local paternity issues to secure Bastardy Orders, Maintenance Orders, etc. These matters generated even more documents which in many instances have been filed with Quarter or Petty Sessions records.

Ann Cole has described how these various records came into being, what they look like (including several illustrations), what sort of information they provide and also how to go about finding them in local record offices. Her lucid explanations lead the reader through an array of sources which are well worth consulting not only for the evidence of where and when one's ancestors actually were but also for the insights into their lifestyles, occupations, social and economic background and personal circumstances.

Derek A Palgrave

Notice to Members

The Society invites a volunteer to take on the post of Secretary until the end of the current academic year. Ideally he or she should be a student member who is computer literate but this is not absolutely essential. Please contact the President, Anando Mukerjee, Hughes Hall, Cambridge, CB1 2EW [Telephone 01223-505230: E-mail anandomukerjee@hotmail.com]

News of Members and Former Members

Congratulations to former Society Presidents, who have been adding new generations to their family trees. We have much pleasure in announcing the arrivals of Chloe Elizabeth, daughter of Matthew Dietz and Marion, on 22nd August, 2000, and Joanna Jane, daughter of Katharine Clare and Keven, on 20th November, 2000. Matthew was President in 1992-3 and Katharine in 1994-5.

Editor's Postscript

The Escutcheon is compiled for and by the members of the Society. I would like to thank all those who have sent in articles and reports for inclusion in future issues of our Journal. I look forward to receiving further contributions from them and from any other members with information of interest to our readership. If you wish you may contact me by E-mail (see address below), but conventionally posted typescripts, *Word* files on floppy disk or attachments are all acceptable.

The Society's affiliation to the Federation of Family History Societies allows us to submit abstracts of the articles that we publish in *The Escutcheon* in the Federation's publication *Family History News and Digest*. In general each issue of the latter contains approximately 600 abstracts thereby drawing the attention of researchers around the world to the considerable body of genealogical literature which is continuously appearing in print. In the longer term it seems likely that this material will appear on the Federation Website.

Incidentally readers who are already on the Internet may like to visit the Society's website <http://www.cam.ac.uk/societies/cuhags> which features several back numbers of *The Escutcheon* published since 1995. John Horton has inserted links so that individual articles may be accessed with ease.

In the past we have published lists of surnames, associated with specific locations, which occur in the ancestry of our readers. This was to enable others with similar links to make contact. If you would like to take advantage of this option please let me know.

Derek A Palgrave

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