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*Lent Term 2008*

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## **A Message from the President**

As blossoms whirl in the breeze and flocks of birds slowly return to Cambridge, it's accompanied with prayers of evading the "Frosty Saints" of May. Nonetheless, our Society will assiduously press on despite the forecast of weather. Our Membership Secretary, David Broomfield has recorded a fascinating detail stemming from the Vestry in Trinity College as a part of our Heraldic Survey to celebrate Cambridge's 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. His findings are meticulously uncovered in this term's issue as "The Seckford Monument". We would like to invite other members to inform us of any other intriguing details that might be of interest for the Heraldic Survey related to the University of Cambridge and Colleges.

We were also honoured to welcome two special speakers this past term. The first was Dr Vittoria Feola, Fellow at ULB in Brussels, Belgium and visiting fellow at Goldsmith College at the University of London. Dr Feola gave this year's Mountbatten Commemorative Lecture on "*The Court of Chivalry in Stuart Heraldry*" which was a supplement to her PhD research on "*Elias Ashmole and the uses of Antiquity*". Dr Feola touched on the significance of the history of law and the *institution* which flowed perfectly in introducing our subsequent speaker.

The second special guest we welcomed was Dr Cheesman, Rouge Dragon Pursuivant from The College of Arms. Dr Cheesman enlightened us in the story steeped in tumult and victory to achieve the Armorial of Haiti. The progression of the talk was somewhat in harmony with the visit of Dr Feola, and her research on Elias Ashmole where alchemy, astrology and magic were Ashmole's muses to mythology as a "standard means of cloaking political ideas in metaphorical rhetoric". Dr Cheesman also demonstrated the symbolism and complexity vis-à-vis his thorough research and book, *The Armorial of Haiti*, which detailed this unique case where European Heraldry and African Colonial Heritage intersected to create unique titles such as the Comte de Marmalade.

Concluding this term's events, for our Annual Dinner we enjoyed a pause from our usual venue of Clare College and indulged in an evening of Venetian fancy dress at St John's College. Professor Lester Hillman recalls the night's festivities as we continue the Venetian theme into the Accession Banquet, which will resume this year at Clare College.

Non vedo l'ora di rivedervi tutti molto presto, un affettuosissimo saluto dalla vostra presidentessa,

***Monica Lee Morrill***

P.S. – Please also see the many happy announcements we've highlighted on the last page of this issue.

## **NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS**

### **CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY HERALDIC AND GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY Annual General Meeting - 10<sup>th</sup> May 2008**

Members are invited to attend the Society's AGM in the Thirkill Room, Clare College Old Court, at 3-00 p.m. on Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2008, to discuss the following Agenda.

#### **AGENDA**

1. Apologies.
2. Minutes of Previous A.G.M. held 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2007
3. Matters arising from the previous minutes
4. President's Report
5. The Society's Accounts
6. Secretary's Report
7. Election of Officers and Members of Committee
8. Matters submitted under item 6.6 of the Constitution
9. Any other urgent business.
10. Date and place of the next A.G.M

## A VENETIAN CARNIVAL AT ST JOHN'S COLLEGE

*Lester Hillman*

Intrigue was to the fore at the Society's Annual Dinner held in St John's College on Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2008. Our evening had begun close by the watchful eye of the Porters Lodge. We scurried in under cover of night with masks held high. We sipped peach bellinnis nervously, it being International Womens Day there was a heady cocktail of social and political foment in the air. In the Old Music Room on the Octave of St David's Day Vivaldi's 'Spring' cycle mingled with bicycle bells on the main thoroughfare a few inches away.



We processed to the Wordsworth Room but only 30 sat down to dinner, our masks had swelled the numbers conspiring at the reception and it was as if full half had melted away.

The "ante cibum" and "post cibum" of St John's College were delivered with scholarly assurance by Julian Cable and he has kindly written an article about College Graces elsewhere in this issue

Our President drew upon the poetry of Veronica Franco '*In praise of Venice, the one and only miracle of nature*'. Silently above us Wordsworth's portrait presided centre stage in this his room. His '*Sonnet on the Extinction of the Venetian Republic*' paints perhaps a darker picture.

Not for us 'Venetian Red' (a toxic cocktail of ferric oxide) we drank Birgi Bianco followed by Diverso Zinfandel. The deepest green of the walls suffused the room. Our Editor, Chartered Alchemist and newest Honorary Vice President, mischievously described it as arsenic green. So we looked to the table for Venetian Glass and the reassurance of Byron

*Doge: 'Tis said that our Venetian crystal has  
Such pure antipathy to poison as  
To burst, if aught of venom touches it'*

*The Two Foscari V.i*

No glasses shattered but ours was clearly a gathering awash with verse. Verses are etched into the windows of the Wordsworth Room. Later in the evening these were refreshed with a downpour worthy of Shakespeare's Venice. A Venetian curtain call of gentle rain from heaven - to misquote the Merchant of Venice.

The Loyal Toast rang out at 9pm to the toll of the College Bell. That following, at the quarter hour, signalled a toast to the health of our Honorary Vice President and Senior Treasurer. Simultaneously in Clare College Gordon Wright's arrival at his tenth decade was being honoured and CUHAGS was pleased to add an unique syncopated chime.

We paid tribute to those who had made the Dinner such a delight, to our President, to Ambrogio Caiani, hidden behind a beaked mask and Junior Treasurer Jacob Davis. We were sad that he was absent, cloaked in invisibility or disguised but evidence of his faultless administration was unmistakable.

There was time to congratulate Sra Jane Tunesi of Liongam on her Master of Studies and Lester Hillman on his Professorship. There was ringing endorsement of the formal congratulations to Derek Palgrave on his Honorary Vice Presidency.

Enticed with more Prosecco we were invited to conclude our evening in yet another room, the Samuel Butler, but not before a mass masked photo call and an entreaty to don masks for the Accession Banquet in June. As we left a final Venetian stage set was offered by the bride over the Cam.

Our pilgrimage to St John's will be richly recalled but ours was a Johnian Feast graced thrice over. St John of the Cross, patron saint of poets was surely invoked on such a night and our Dinner was held on the Patronal Feast Day of St John of God patron of booksellers and printers.

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# CAMBRIDGE COLLEGE GRACES AND RELATED CUSTOMS

*Julian Cable*

In writing this article, the author is indebted to Reginald Adams for his book, *The College Graces of Oxford and Cambridge*<sup>1</sup>, and also to the article *Cambridge College Graces*<sup>2</sup> by the late S. J. Mitchell, sometime Fellow-Commoner of Christ's College.

The saying of Grace in Latin before and after dinner has long been a distinctive hallmark of formal dining in Hall in Cambridge and Oxford colleges. In some colleges, this task is performed by the presiding Fellow or the Chaplain, though more commonly by a Scholar. This author himself had the duty and privilege of reading Grace in Hall at his own college, Selwyn, on numerous occasions during two years spent as a Scholar while an undergraduate.

In some colleges, the summons to dinner is by the tolling of the Chapel bell, though unusual variations exist or have existed at some Oxford colleges. At The Queen's College, the call to dinner is by the sound of the trumpet. At New College, until about 1830, the signal for the start of dinner was proclaimed by two choristers intoning in unison, very slowly, the words "Tempus vocandi à manger, O seigneurs" – a curious mixture of Latin and medieval French, meaning "Time to call you to dine, my masters". Back in Cambridge, the tradition of using these words has been wonderfully revived this academical year by our current President, Monica Morrill, to summon CUH&GS members and their guests to dinner, at both the St Nicholas Feast and the Annual Dinner.

Once gathered in Hall at the start of dinner, with junior members ready at their places along the low tables, all stand at the entrance of the Fellows proceeding to High Table, announced by the butler sounding a gong or using a gavel, or, at Magdalene College, by the announcement "*Stand in the Hall, please*".

Each college has its own Latin text for Grace. In some colleges, before dinner, this is shortened to the two-word formula "Benedictus benedicat" (May the Blessed One bless) – especially on more informal occasions, such as when the Fellows dine alone. In some colleges, the pre-dinner Grace takes the form of an introduction based on two verses from Psalm 145, beginning "*Oculi omnium in te sperant, Domine*", followed by a prayer and a blessing, often beginning "Benedic, Domine". CUH&GS members will be familiar with the Clare College Grace before dinner in this format, declaimed superbly on many occasions by our illustrious Senior Treasurer, Dr Gordon Wright. The text is as follows: "*Oculi omnium in te sperant,*

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<sup>1</sup> Published by the Perpetua Press, Oxford (1992), ISBN 1 870882 06 7

<sup>2</sup> In *Cambridge*, the magazine of the Cambridge Society, No.24 (1989)

*Domine; tu das iis escam eorum in tempore opportuno. Aperis tu manum tuam, et imples omne animal benedictione tua.*”

*“Sanctifica nos, quaesumus, Domine, per verbum et orationem, istisque tuis donis, quae de tua bonitate sumus accepturi, benedicito per Christum Dominum nostrum. Amen.”*

Translation (from Reginald Adams’ book):

*“The eyes of all wait upon thee, O Lord; thou givest them their meat in due season. Thou openest thine hand and fillest every living thing with blessing.”*

*“Sanctify us, we beseech thee, O Lord, through thy word and prayer, and consecrate these thy gifts, which through thy generosity we are about to receive, through Christ our Lord. Amen.”*

A commonly-used shorter version at some colleges omits the psalm and opens with the prayer *“Benedic, Domine, nos et dona tua”*, or alternatively *“Benedic, Domine, nobis et donis tuis”* – by a quirk of grammar, the verb *“benedicere”* may take either the accusative or the dative case. At Newnham, in the phrase where *“sumpturi”* would normally be used, this is replaced by the feminine form *“sumpturae”*, unless men are present.

Trinity is unique in having two High Tables, and the Grace before dinner is recited antiphonally between the Master and Vice-Master (or the presiding Fellows at each of the two tables).

After dinner, in some colleges a simple two-word formula is used: *“Benedicto benedicatur”* (May the Blessed One be blessed), or alternatively the versicle *“Laus Deo”*, pronounced by the Head of House or presiding Fellow, with the response *“Deo gratias”* said by all. At Selwyn, this latter formula was replaced in the 1990s by the use of the versicle *“Benedicamus Domino”*, with the response *“Laus Deo”*. Then follows a toast proposed to Church and Queen, drunk sitting down, in memory of an early Master at the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century<sup>3</sup>, who had a disability which made him unable to stand.

A curious tradition exists at Jesus College at the end of dinner: as the Fellows leave the Hall to retire to the Senior Combination Room, the last Fellow to leave – the Junior Fellow – gives a deep bow to all present, and all applaud, the amount of applause according to collective judgment of how well he is thought to have bowed! As well as different texts being used for Grace before dinner and after dinner, in some colleges a further distinction is made: between Ferial (everyday) use, and Festal use (for special feast days). The festal after-dinner Grace is often comprehensive in scope, including prayers for the monarch, the church, and for commemorating benefactors. At Trinity, members of the Royal Family are mentioned in order of precedence. At Jesus, a prayer for Parliament is included.

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<sup>3</sup> John Richardson Selwyn, second Master of the college, 1893-8, younger son of George Augustus Selwyn, in whose memory the college was founded.

St John's is unusual in using a lengthy after-dinner "post cibum" Grace every evening. This is somewhat longer than the "ante cibum" one: the first section includes a prayer of thanksgiving for the munificence of the college's illustrious and pious Foundress, Lady Margaret Beaufort, mother of King Henry VII, who also founded Christ's College a few years earlier (in 1505). The second section includes a prayer for our Sovereign Lady, Queen Elizabeth.

At some feasts, a setting of the Grace might be sung by the choir. The author of this article has, while an undergraduate, set to music the Grace of his own college, Selwyn, for four-part unaccompanied choir. Just one Cambridge college, Queens', uses an after-dinner Grace in English instead of Latin:

*"For these and all his mercies, for the Queens our Foundresses, and for our other benefactors, God's holy name be blessed and praised. God preserve our Queen and Church."*

The Cambridge college with the most extensive collection of Graces is Christ's, where there are four, respectively titled Ante prandium, Post prandium, Ante coenam, and Post coenam. Strictly speaking, "prandium" denotes luncheon (which, until comparatively recent times, was the principal meal of the day), while "coena" denotes the evening meal (though this distinction has been lost). One of these Graces, *Post prandium*, is illustrated in the accompanying picture, on a broadsheet printed in the first half of the 17<sup>th</sup> century for use of the reader on duty at Christ's College.



It is greatly to be hoped that the use of Latin Graces in Hall will continue to survive in an era where fewer junior members coming up to Cambridge will have had a decent grounding in Latin while at school. An encouraging sign is that new Latin Graces have continued to be composed in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, for Girton and Wolfson Colleges, the latter in fact having a choice of three possible texts for Grace before dinner, with one of these, uniquely, being a verse in hexameter form:

*"Sanctificet nobis victum qui cuncta creavit."  
("Let him who hath created all things bless for us what there is to eat.")*

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# **THE SECKFORD MONUMENT**

## **TRINITY COLLEGE, CAMBRIDGE**

### **A brief outline of the Heraldry & Genealogy**

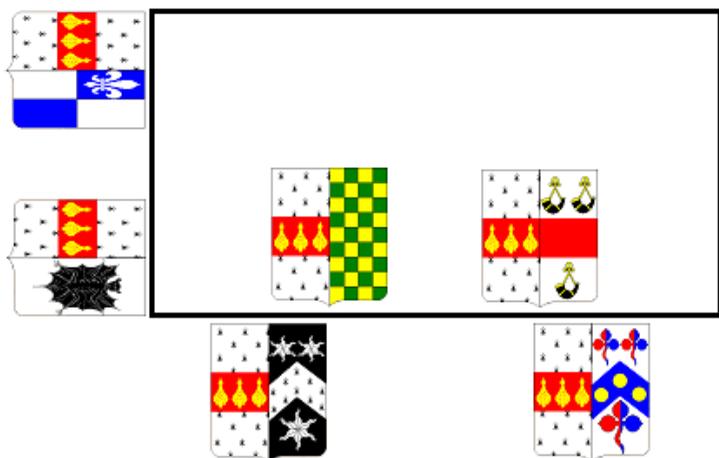
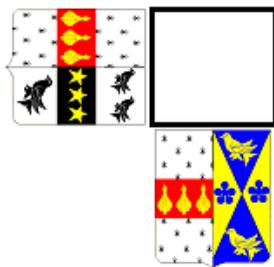
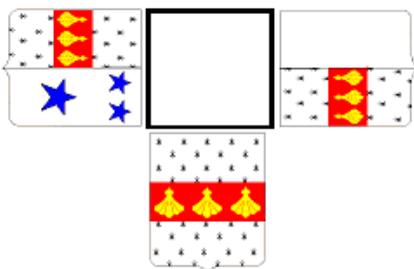
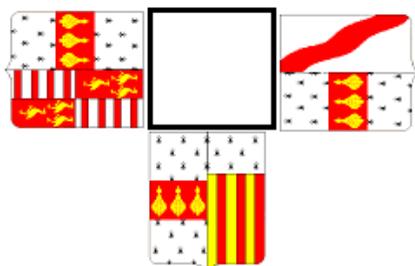
***David Broomfield***

In the Vestry, just off the antechapel, in Trinity College is the recently restored monument to Thomas Seckford. The technical description is: “Painted stone canopied tomb-chest with effigy... much damaged and mutilated, chest with panelled front with inscriptions, hour glass, and two shields of arms... effigy of boy in academic dress lying on side with head originally propped on right arm, forearms and head missing, canopy in two stages each of two bays, the lower stage with Corinthian columns and panelled responds supporting an ovolo-moulded cornice carved with cherub-heads, now defaced, the upper stage with flanking Corinthian columns on pedestals and a central corbel supporting round-headed arches below a plain ovolo-moulded cornice, the corbel being in the form of a horizontal robed figure, now headless.” (*City of Cambridge Survey RCHM part 2*) In addition, now restored, are three of the original four obelisks the faces of their bases being adorned with shields of arms.

In total there remain 14 shields. The shields give the ancestors and relations of Thomas Seckford. Thomas was born in 1608. He was the eldest son and heir of Sir Thomas Seckford of Seckford Hall in the County of Suffolk. The Seckfords had been seated there since the reign of King Edward II. Their coat of arms was “Ermine on a fess gules three escallops or”. In some cases traces of gold paint can still be seen on some of the shields, in others it looks white.



**Seckford Hall**





Thomas Seckford senior was a graduate of Corpus Christi College, he was knighted in 1607 and died in 1610. Young Thomas Seckford therefore inherited the considerable Seckford properties at the age of two and came under the guardianship of his uncle Henry Seckford. In 1624 at the age of 16 Thomas came up to Trinity College. Once at the University he, “showed himself a model (rare and too ripe for his age) of piety, ability, memory, docility, and erudition”, a typical Cambridge undergraduate in fact. Within a few months he was dead and the memorial was commissioned by his uncle. Thomas’ death brought to an end the main Seckford line, his tomb is as much a memorial to his family as it is to him.

Thomas’ grandfather, Charles, another graduate of Trinity who died in 1591 aged 40, had married Mary Stenyngge (or Steynynge). Their arms appear impaled at the base of the monument, Seckford impaling “Argent a bat displayed sable”. The bat, or “rere-mouse” as it is sometimes called in heraldry, is a rare charge.

Charles’ father, Francis, was the eldest of seven brothers. At least three of his younger brothers are also commemorated on the tomb. Francis himself married Ellen daughter of Mr Whittington. The Whittington arms are “Argent three mullets azure” and appear on the left hand side of the front left obelisk. His next brother was Sir Thomas Seckford (1515-1587) who was a courtier to Queen Elizabeth I and who commissioned a series of maps of the English Counties which bear his quartered coat of arms and are usually known by his name. He married Elizabeth Harlow (d.1586) their impaled arms appear on the front face of the right front obelisk, Harlow being “Per saltire or and azure two martlets in pale and two cinquefoils in fess all counter-changed”.

The next brother was John, he married Agnes daughter of Mr Cranwell. Their impaled arms appear on the left hand face of the left rear obelisk. The punning Cranwell arms “Gules three cranes or” are shown quartering “Argent four bars gules” so far unidentified. Finally the sixth brother Sir Henry Seckord (d.1610) was another courtier of Queen Elizabeth who turned to privateering and had a fleet of ships preying on French and Dutch shipping. Henry’s third wife was Rebecca the granddaughter of Sir Thomas Rowe, Lord Mayor of London in 1568. The Rowe arms “Argent on a chevron azure between three trefoils slipped per pale gules and azure as many roundels or” appear on the bottom right of the base of the tomb-chest. One of the annoying factors on the tomb is that none of the Seckford shields show marks of cadency, a crescent for a second son and star for a third etc. would have proved very useful!

The father of Francis, Thomas, Henry and John was Thomas Seckford (c.1495-1575). He married Margaret the daughter of Sir John Wingfield, another distinguished Suffolk family. The arms of Wingfield “Argent on a bend gules cottised sable three pairs of wings conjoined in lure argent” do not appear on the existing tomb. We are sadly missing one obelisk (rear right) which would have had probably two sets of arms on it. My feeling is that one of these would have been for Thomas Seckford and Margaret Wingfield.

Thomas' father married Margaret daughter of John Purrye or Purry. The Purry arms "Argent on a fess between three martlets sable as many mullets or" can be seen impaling Seckford on the right face of the front right obelisk. Thomas' father was George who married Margaret daughter of Mr Goldingham. The Goldingham arms "Argent a bend wavy gules" appears on the right hand face of the left rear obelisk. George's father, also called George, married Mary Jenny, although, rather confusingly she is given as Jermyne in the Visitation of Suffolk. However Jenny makes sense as the Jenny arms, "Paly of six or and gules a chief ermine" appear (impaled with Seckford) on the front face of the left rear obelisk. They also appear as the last of the quarterings the Seckford family habitually used which would imply that Mary Jenny was an heraldic heiress of her family. It is thus possible to trace, with a degree of certainty the ancestors of young Thomas back seven generations using the coats of arms on the tomb.

This brings to an end the arms of Thomas Seckford's immediate ancestors and relations that appear on the tomb, but there are a few more that can be accounted for. Sir Thomas Seckford (d.1587) commissioned a tomb for his father in Great Bealings Church in Suffolk. The arms on this tomb show four quarterings and are the same as those used by Sir Thomas on his maps. The quarterings are 1<sup>st</sup> Seckford (but with the escallops "argent" 2<sup>nd</sup> "Argent a fess gules between three hunting horns sable adorned or" for Hunter, 3<sup>rd</sup> "Checky or and vert" for Hackford" and 4<sup>th</sup> "Paly of six or and gules a chief ermine" for Jenny. These are all the arms for heiresses from whom the Seckfords claimed descent. All three quarterings are allowed to the family in the Visitation of Suffolk that took place in 1577 and from which most of the genealogical information in this article comes.

The arms of Hackford are shown impaling Seckford on the front of the canopy on the left, those of Hunter are shown impaling Seckford on the front of the canopy on the right. The arms of Jenny have already been mentioned.

There only remain four more shields to account for. The first is young Thomas Seckford's own arms, he was not married and so the full shield of Seckford is shown on the front face of the front left obelisk. Immediately to the right of this (right face of the front left obelisk) is the curious shield of Seckford impaling a completely blank shield. The impaled shield is blank because the wife's family were not armigerous, but who were they? Thomas' father had married an Anne Kirbie. There are no arms for a family of this name in the heraldic reference books. There are arms for two different Kirby families, based in Durham and Kent, but these do not accord with any on the tomb. The proximity of this shield to Thomas' own leads me to believe that they are for Thomas Seckford senior and Anne Kirbie.

In a prominent position at the base of the tomb chest on the left are the arms of Seckford impaling Brewster "Sable a chevron ermine between three estoiles argent". My suspicion is that these are the arms of young Thomas' uncle Henry. Henry paid for the tomb and so would be expected to display his arms in a prominent position.

In addition to this when Henry's brother Thomas dies in 1610 Thomas' widow is named as trustee of the estate together with Henry and an Edward Brewster. This may well be Henry's brother-in-law.

To the rear of the monument at the base are Seckford impaling "Quarterly azure and argent in the first quarter a fleur de lis argent". The only arms that accord with these (though the fleur de lis is described as "or") is that of the Metham or Meteham family. If I am correct in my attribution of the Seckford/blank and Seckford Brewster arms then all the near relatives and all the immediate ancestors are accounted for. As young Thomas had seven great-great uncles and four of them had their arms recorded on the tomb I would suggest that one of the three remaining brothers (Anthony, Humphrey and a second brother called Thomas) are the likeliest candidates.

A curiosity about the Seckford family is the complete lack of genealogical information about them on the internet. Type in almost any name and you can expect some "hits". Not for the Seckfords. Even more curious is the complete failure to find any names in the telephone directory, not even for Suffolk. Although curiously they do survive in the United States. It would appear that young Thomas really was the end of the line as far as the English Seckfords were concerned and this in spite of having no less than seven great-great uncles. In 1625, in the Oxford Peerage Case, Sir Randolph Crewe said "Where is Bohun? Where is Mowbray? Where is Mortimer? Nay, which is more and most of all, where is Plantagenet? They are intombed in the urns and sepulchres of mortality." Four hundred years after the birth of young Thomas we might well add "where is Seckford?"

With thanks to Adrian Ray who pointed out the existence of the tomb to me and to Derek and Pamela Palgrave for invaluable genealogical research.

### **Sources:**

*City of Cambridge Survey RCHM part 2, Trinity College*  
*The Visitations of Suffolk*  
*Burke's General Armory*  
*Papworth's Ordinary of Arms*  
*Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*  
*Translation of the tomb inscription - courtesy of Trinity College*

### **Editor's Note**

This article by David Broomfield has come about as a result of his dedication to the Heraldic Survey initiated by our Society. We are still seeking more volunteers to enable us to complete the survey over the next year or so.

## SOCIETY'S FINANCIAL POSITION

### Balance Sheet as at 30th September 2007

Assets	2007	2006
	£	£
Cash in hand and at banks	1,941	1,606
Premium Bonds	1,000	1,000
Stock of ties and scarves	121	147
Payments in advance Freshers Fair	55	75
Insurance	<u>24</u>	<u>24</u>
	3,141	2,852
Deduct: Accrued expenses		
Subscriptions received in advance	<u>80</u>	<u>110</u>
	<b>£3,061</b>	<b>£2,742</b>
 Sundry Debtors	 <u>45</u>	 <u>      </u>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>£3,106</u></b>	<b><u>£2,742</u></b>
 <b>Represented by:</b>		
<b>General Fund</b>		
As at 1st October 2006	1,782	1,854
Deduct: Contribution to Golden Jubilee celebrations	<u>500</u>	
	1,282	
Surplus/Deficit for the year to date	<u>864</u>	<u>-72</u>
Balance as at 30th September 2007	<b>2,146</b>	<b>1,792</b>
 <b>Eve Logan Fund</b>		
Balance as at 30th September 2007	<b>31</b>	<b>31</b>
 <b>Publications Fund</b>		
Balance as at 30th September 2007	<u>929</u>	<u>929</u>
	<b>£3,106</b>	<b>£2,742</b>

## CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE : 2008-2009

Office	Candidate	Proposer(s)	Second(er)s
President	Ambrogio Caiani	Monica Morrill	David Broomfield
Senior Treasurer	Dr Gordon Wright	Ambrogio Caiani	D. C. d'Arcy Orders
Secretary	Richard Fellows	Ambrogio Caiani	David Broomfield
Junior Treasurer	Jacob Davis	Kelcey Lee	Claire Pike
Committee	Kelcey Lee	Monica Morrill	Patrick Morrow
Committee	Claire Pike	Kelcey Lee	Monica Morrill
Committee	Paul Marsden	Richard Fellows	David Broomfield
Scrutineer	D. C. d'Arcy Orders	Derek Palgrave	David Broomfield

# DRAFT MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

held at Clare College, Cambridge, 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2007

## 1. Election of Chairman

In the absence of the President, it was proposed by Ambrogio Caiani and seconded by Derek Palgrave that Dr Gordon Wright, Honorary Vice President and Senior Treasurer, should chair the meeting. This was approved by acclaim.

## 2. Apologies

There were apologies from Henry Paston-Bedingfeld, Antti Matikkala, Berthold Kress, Jackson Armstrong and Robert Logan

## 3. Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous A.G.M. held on 13<sup>th</sup> May, 2006 were approved nem con.

4. There were no matters arising from the previous minutes

## 5. President's Report *(read to the meeting by the Secretary)*

I am honoured to have witnessed a very special year in CUH&GS' history involving preparations for the Golden Anniversary and the Grant of Armorial Bearings. Knowing we would be celebrating 50 years of the amalgamation of the CU Heraldry Society and the CU Genealogical Society, the Committee initially expected to get a Badge from the College of Arms. However, with a little effort, Committee insights, and the essential assistance from the Somerset Herald we managed to convince the King of Arms that we were deserving of our own Arms. Hence, this year began with a lot of extra work.

Naturally we've continued our "business as usual" department and with a busy Freshers' Fair we acquired a sizable list of interested students, yet comparatively few joined as members. Those who have joined as members have been most welcome: Jacob Davis, Claire Pike, Marius Johndal, Kelcey Lee and others. We've even welcomed new members after they've visited us as guest speakers (notably the Daughters of the American Revolution, imagine that!)

We've also welcomed some very interesting speakers giving talks covering the globe from 'Queen Victoria's Secret' to 'A King from Canada' to India's 'Princes' Chamber.' This also includes talks given by our very own members, quite a talented bunch: David Broomfield, Berthold Kress, Derek Palgrave and speaking next week, John Horton (three of the speaking events were filled because of cancellations or a vacancy). It was a bit tricky juggling talks between Tuesdays and our regular Thursdays, but the Tuesdays

brought some new faces to the audience. I'm delighted to inform you that for the first time nearly all of the speakers' events have been digitally recorded and I'm happy to provide a copy to those who are interested.

The visits this year were most enjoyable: The Fitzwilliam Museum, College of Arms (both visits referred to in the Escutcheon), and we look forward to the visit to Hinchingsbrooke House next week. The Annual Dinner was also a wonderful success this year. We had a turnout of about 45 people dining in Clare's Great Hall coinciding with two birthdays (Melvyn Jeremiah and John Long).

By now, you may already know that I've been asked to remain President until next year, which I've gladly accepted. I've enjoyed the year working with the Committee, getting to know members and welcoming speakers. However I must confess that compared to this past year I will be less active, working very hard to finish my thesis. Although I still intend to make improvements. Next year I plan to focus more on increasing our membership and student involvement, notably since we will be saying farewell to Matthew Moreau and Dr Patricia McGuire, whose presence and advice I've enjoyed -- they will be greatly missed. This year, an iota of success cannot be placed on any single person, but through the collective effort of both the Committee and Members. Hence I would like to extend my enormous gratitude to everyone who has assisted with the workings of the Society, the seemingly endless correspondence, and the preparation for this year's Accession-Golden Banquet on 9<sup>th</sup> June. Your patience and generosity during this unique year is greatly appreciated and I hope you will enjoy the fruits of such hard work at the celebration this year.

## **6. Society Accounts for the year ending 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2005**

Copies of the accounts had been distributed to those present and deposited with the Junior Proctor. The Scrutineer, d'Arcy Orders, commented favourably on the Society's financial position.

## **7. Secretary's Report**

It is my great privilege to start my report, concerning this very successful year, in the time-honoured fashion of my predecessor. The committee has worked very hard. This is attested to by the total number of executive committee meetings held between, 2006-2007. These reached the grand total of eight sessions, which compares positively with recent history. We convened three more times than in 2006 and met an equal number to 2005. This does not include the work carried out outside the committee by dedicated members, in particular with fund raising for the Coat of Arms. It is worth mentioning the particular role played by our lady president, Monica Morrill, together with d'Arcy Orders and Derek Palgrave in getting things moving along in spite of a very large number of both practical and bureaucratic difficulties.

I shall not spend too much time discussing the issue of the Coat of Arms, as I personally spent far too much time abroad to participate in either the fund raising or problem solving. It seems however fair to say that, after failing to receive the substantial discount

promised from the College of Arms, the committee efficiently and speedily raised the sum required in a short space of time. The fact that we are now at the closing stage of obtaining a grant of Arms makes 2007 an historic year for CUHAGS. A significance, that goes beyond the mere fact that this year is also the society's 50th anniversary.

Our stand at the fresher's fair was among the most conspicuous and eagerly attended. However as usual the promise of the opening week was quickly dissipated. Although over eighty people signed up to join our mailing list, only a fraction have regularly attended. Indeed as far as I am aware three new student members (one undergraduate) have actively taken part in the society's speaker meetings. Student members in particular must work hard to attract their fellow labourers in the vineyard. We cannot just keep relying on our faithful and battle hardened Old Guard.

The organisation of speakers has been outstanding. The range and breath of topics has extended from Colonial India to Canada. The expertise of speakers has also been rich and varied from a Medical doctor to a former Garter King of Arms. Sir Conrad Swan's presentation seems to have been the keynote event of the year with over five undergraduates in attendance. Though encouraging I can only re-iterate the warning made by my predecessor last year against resting on such laurels.

On a personal note I wish to thank all those who have helped 'a secretary' who was less than wholly assiduous in the exercise of his duties. My research has ensured that I have been away far more than I would have wished and anticipated. Thanks to you all.

## 8. Election of Officers and Committee

The following candidates were nominated and elected

Office	Candidate	Proposer(s)	Seconders(s)
President	Monica Morrill	D.C.d'Arcy Orders	Derek Palgrave
Senior Treasurer	Dr Gordon Wright	Ambrogio Caiani	D. C. d'Arcy Orders
Secretary	Ambrogio Caiani	Antti Matikkala	Patrick Morrow
Junior Treasurer	Jacob Davis	David Broomfield	Adrian Ray
Committee	David Broomfield	D.C. d'Arcy Orders	Derek Palgrave
Committee	Adrian Ray	Ambrogio Caiani	Dr Richard Marquis-Hirsch
Committee	Kelcey Lee	Patrick Morrow	D. C. d'Arcy Orders
Committee	Claire Pike	D.C. d'Arcy Orders	Derek Palgrave
Scrutineer	D. C. d'Arcy Orders	Derek Palgrave	Dr Richard Marquis-Hirsch

## 9. No matters were raised under Clause 6.6 of the Constitution

## 10. Any Other Business

In a response to a query about progress with the Society's petition for a grant of Armorial Bearings, Derek Palgrave replied that the design had been finalised and approved by the Kings of Arms on 9<sup>th</sup> May, 2007. It was now in the hands of the artist.

## CURRENT AND FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- 29 March 2008                    **FFHS Annual General Meeting**  
Plymouth
- 3 April 2008                    **Company & Business Records**  
*Course at Society of Genealogists, London*  
Eric Probert
- 4-6 April 2008                **Guild A.G.M. and Conference**  
Durrant House Hotel, Northam, Devon
- 12 April 2008                **Sussex F.H.G. Annual Conference**  
Haywards Heath
- 3-5 May 2008                **Who do you think you are - live**  
London - Olympia
- 15 June 2008                **Home Counties Family History Fair**  
At Bletchley Park, Bletchley, Milton Keynes, Bucks
- 5-7 September 2008        **Heraldry Society Heraldic Weekend**  
Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge
- 20 September 2008        **Heraldry for Family Historians**  
Institute of Heraldic & Genealogical Studies, Canterbury

For full details of the events listed above please visit  
<http://geneva.weald.org.uk>

# NOTICES AND GENERAL NEWS

## **Congratulations to the following members**

Dr Berthold Kress and Dr Rohan Stewart-MacDonald on their election to College Fellowships (2007) at Corpus Christi and New Hall respectively

Pamela and Derek Palgrave on their Golden Wedding Anniversary (2007)

Justin Llandro & Bryn Fenwick for having successfully passed their Vivas (2007)

Antti and Mira Mattikala on the arrival of their twin babies, Laura and Elias (October 2007)

Our President on her marriage to Gratian Yatsevitch and their forthcoming celebration and happy event

Dr Gordon Wright on his 90th Birthday

Lester Hillman on his Visiting Professorship at the London Metropolitan Business School

Mrs Jane Tunesi on the award of her M.St. in Local and Regional History

Derek Palgrave on becoming an Honorary Vice President of the Society

Professor Mark Watson-Gandy on being honoured with the Papal Knighthood by the Pope, the Knight of the Order of St Gregory the Great [http://www.cass.city.ac.uk/media/story\\_2\\_1148\\_102959.html](http://www.cass.city.ac.uk/media/story_2_1148_102959.html)

## **CUHAGS on FACEBOOK**

Several members have joined the facebook website. If you would like to follow their example, please log on to <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=11286271203>. Just a brief profile required for membership.

## **Heraldry Society Photographic Competition**

The Heraldry Society has challenged all Heraldic Photographers to submit their best exposures for judgement in this year's competition. See Heraldry Gazette for details.

## **Editor's Postscript**

I would like to thank the President, the other officers and members of committee for proposing me as an honorary Vice President of the Society. This is a great honour for which I am most grateful. It is a privilege to have been associated with the Society for so long and to have been able to contribute to many of its special projects and activities.

**Derek A Palgrave** [ [D.A.PALGRAVE.54@cantab.net](mailto:D.A.PALGRAVE.54@cantab.net) ]  
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