

Monumental Brass Society

OCTOBER 2011



BULLETIN 118

The *Bulletin* is published three times a year, in February, June and October. Articles for inclusion in the next issue should be sent to the **Hon. Bulletin Editor**, William Lack, 2 The Radleth, Plealey, Pontesbury, Shrewsbury SY5 0XF by **1st January 2012**. Contributions to **Notes on Books and Articles** should be sent to Richard Busby, 'Treetops', Beech Hill, Hexham, Northumberland NE46 3AG by **1st December 2011**. Contributors may send articles either as typed double-spaced copy or as an e-mail attachment, to either mbsbulletin@btinternet.com or richard.busby@tiscali.co.uk.

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Hon. Treasurer's Notice

On 1st January all subscriptions for 2011 became due. If you have not yet paid, please send £25.00 (associate/student £12.50, family £35.00) to Christian Steer (see above). Payment can be made using the *PayPal* system via mbs_brasses@yahoo.com or make cheques payable to the 'Monumental Brass Society'. Many thanks to all those members who have completed Gift Aid forms. Any U.K. tax-paying member can enable the Society to reclaim tax on their subscription. Complete and send in the form that can be downloaded directly from www.mbs-brasses.co.uk. U.S. members preferring to pay in dollars can send a check for U.S. \$45.00 to Shirley Mattox, 1313 Jackson Street, Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54901. For \$4.00 extra payable with subscription the *Bulletins* can be airmailed. Correspondence on all other financial matters should be sent to the Hon. Treasurer, Hugh Guilford, 14 Green Park, Prestwood, Bucks. HP16 0PZ.

Personalia

We congratulate Bob Hutchinson who has been awarded a D.Phil. from the University of Sussex on '*Piety in Peril: A group of religiously conservative church monuments in Sussex and Hampshire in the 16th century.*

We welcome as new members:

David Bellamy, Homestead Lodge, Wigsley Road, Harby, Newark, Nottinghamshire NG23 7KF

Michael Burrows, 645 Foxhall Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP3 8NE

Laura Callingham, Room 28, 101-103 Redland Road, Bristol BS6 6QY

B.K. Fenning, 13 Penvale Close, Barrripper, Camborne, Cornwall TR14 0QP

Christine Holland, 63 Sheet Street, Windsor, Berkshire SL4 1BY

Esther Ketskemety, c/o Victoria and Albert Museum, Department of Furniture, Textiles and Fashion, Cromwell Road, London SW7 2RL

Joanna Mattingly, 21 Broad Street, Truro, Cornwall TR1 1JD

Caroline Metcalfe, 51 Court Crescent, East Grinstead, West Sussex RH19 3TT

Adele Sykes, Sunnymede, Selby Road, Camblesforth, North Yorkshire YO8 8HX

Jane Williams, 15 Broadfields, Winchmore Hill, London N21 1AB

It is with very deep regret that we report the death of Rita Grimes who had been a member of the Society since 1974. She served as Hon. Assistant Secretary from 1977 to 1985 and was elected an Honorary member in 1985.

We are also sorry to announce the passing of Prof. Sir Frederick Warner of Southwell, Nottinghamshire; Geoffrey North of Halifax, Nova Scotia; Rev. Trevor Rogers of Leamington Spa, Warwickshire; and Richard Denyer of Bacton, Herefordshire who joined the Society in 1953, 1975, 1994 and 2005 respectively.

Cover illustration

Retiring President David Meara accepts a leaving present from his successor Martin Stuchfield at the 2011 A.G.M. (see p.348). (photo.: William Lack)

Diary of Events

Saturday, 14th January 2012 at 2.00p.m.

GENERAL MEETING

SIR JOHN SOANE'S MUSEUM, LONDON

This General Meeting will be held in the Seminar Room at the Soane Museum, 13 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3BP. **Jerzy Kierkuć-Bieliński**, Exhibitions Curator, will provide an introductory talk relating to the house and museum. Sir John Soane, 1753-1837, one of England's greatest architects, won the important commission of architect to the Bank of England in 1788. In 1792 he bought and rebuilt no.12 Lincoln's Inn Fields as a home for his family with an office at the back. In 1813 he moved next door into no.13, which he rebuilt as a new home but also as a museum. He was now Professor of Architecture at the Royal Academy and displayed his collection so as to educate and inspire 'Amateurs and Students in Painting, Architecture and Sculpture' After his wife's death in 1815 Soane lived alone in no.13 until his own death, constantly adding to and rearranging the displays. The museum was opened in Soane's lifetime but visitors were not admitted in 'wet or dirty weather'!



(rubbing: Society of Antiquaries)

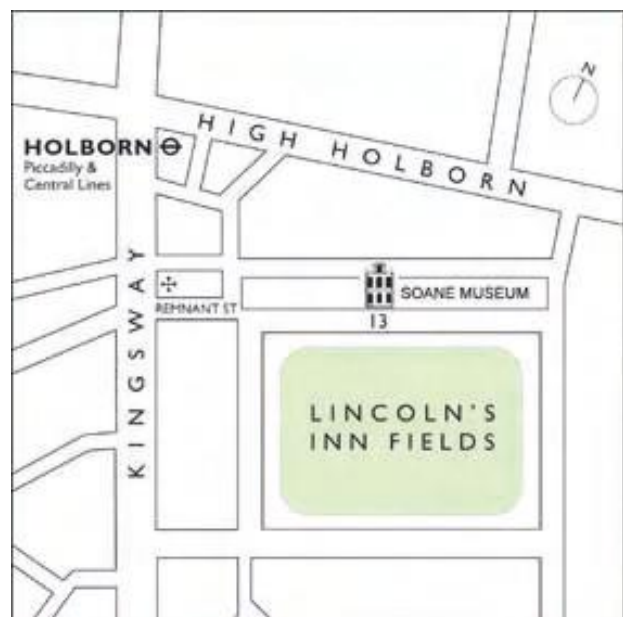
Members will be afforded the rare opportunity to view the brass depicting a group of four kneeling sons, c.1520, which are normally confined to a display cabinet in an area of the Monk's Parlour not accessible to the general public.

In addition, **Stephen Freeth** will speak on *Brasses in Museums* and **Sophie Oosterwijk** on *Children on Brasses and Monuments*.

Please note that it is necessary to book due to security considerations. It is also regretted that numbers are strictly limited to twenty-five. This General Meeting is free to members although places will be allocated on a 'first-come, first-served basis'. Please apply to Martin Stuchfield at Low Hill House, Stratford St. Mary, Suffolk CO7 6JX or email: martinstuchfield@btconnect.com.

The Museum is open with free admission from 10.00a.m. for members who wish to visit prior to the meeting.

The Soane Museum is located a short distance from Holborn (Central and Piccadilly) Underground Station. Exit onto Kingsway and take the 3rd turning on the left into Remnant Street which leads into Lincoln's Inn Fields. The Museum is nearly half way along on the north side. Please see map.



Saturday, 31st March 2012 at 2.00p.m.

GENERAL MEETING

SOUTH MIMMS, HERTFORDSHIRE

This visit to South Mimms church will provide members with the opportunity to see the recently moved brass to Thomas Frowyk, [1448], together with the series of 17th century brasses. The visit will include talks by **Jessica Freeman** on *The Frowyk family of South Mimms and London* and **Derrick Chivers** on *The Monumental Brasses of South Mimms*.

MEETING REPORTS

St. George's Chapel, Windsor Study Day – 4th June 2011



West end of St. George's Chapel, Windsor
(photo.: David Griffith)

Held on a beautiful and hot summer's day, the Study Day at St. George's Chapel was an extremely good opportunity to get behind the scenes and find out more about it from its earliest origins to the present day.

After being warmly welcomed by the stewards, the delegates were divided into three groups and given guided tours of the Chapel which included information about its history and details of the royal burials. My group was led by one of the Military Knights of Windsor, who explained his role there and also told us about the present-day Order of the Garter. It was fascinating to hear about how it has changed and evolved over the centuries since its foundation. The highlight of the tour for me personally was the part where we sat in the stalls in the chapel and were able to look at the stall-plates of the Companion knights, past and present, and the helms and banners of the current Companions which are on display. After the tour we were given an opportunity to wander round the Chapel on our own.

After a break for lunch, we congregated in the Vicars' Hall for a series of talks. **Clive Burgess** gave a very interesting introduction to the foundation of the College of St. George, before handing over to **David Lewis**, who talked about the relationship between the college and the medieval town of Windsor. **Jerome Bertram** then gave us an insight into the commemorative brasses of the Canons of St. George's, both in Windsor and elsewhere, and what may be learned from them. Finally, **Lesley Boatwright** moved us forward in



Sir Thomas St. Leger and wife Anne of York, 1475 (LSW.II)
(photo.: Martin Stuchfield)

time by bringing to life the period following the death of Henry VI, after which claims of miraculous cures were used not only to promote the dead king as potential saint, but also to emphasise political allegiances during the Wars of the Roses. The use of Henry VI's tomb in this process brought a different outlook on medieval commemoration.

After tea, we resumed with an interesting talk by **Nicholas Rogers** on the chantry foundation plate of Anne of York and Sir Thomas St. Leger and how it was a carefully constructed political statement as well as a performing a commemorative function. The afternoon ended with **Tim Tatton-Brown** giving a fascinating insight into the tomb of Henry VIII which was destroyed during the Civil War and of which no illustration exists. It was a very interesting and informative day. Although I attended as a non-member I was made to feel extremely welcome and found it a very enjoyable experience.

Laura Callingham

Standon, Hertfordshire – 25th June 2011

A fund-raising event was held for St. Mary's Church, Standon at which a number of Society members spoke on the medieval monuments on display in the church. This was an extremely popular event with over 100 in the audience!

We were welcomed to the church by **Rev. David Payne**. In his introduction, David showed great enthusiasm for sharing and preserving the church's history whilst celebrating its simultaneously being a lively place of worship. The warm reception he offered and his genuine interest in the monuments ensured that we all felt very much at home.

Caroline Barron began the afternoon's talks with a brief introduction to medieval Standon. This provided some welcome context, both historically and in terms of the church's place within the manor. **Linda Monckton** then told us more about the church building itself. We learned to recognise the significance of some of its architectural features, particularly those connected with the church's links with the Knights Hospitaller.



*John Ruggewyn, 1412 (LSW.I)
(photo.: Martin Stuchfield)*

There are an astonishing thirty-two monumental brasses at Standon. Sadly, we did not have time to cover each one but **Martin Stuchfield** gave us a whirlwind tour of eight of them before tea. It was striking how many were merchants from London: Standon was something of a medieval stockbroker belt in the 15th century. During tea (which was truly magnificent!) we had the opportunity to look at the brasses. We were especially pleased to have the carpets lifted to inspect them in more detail.



*John Field, Alderman of London, 1474 (LSW.III)
(photo.: Martin Stuchfield)*

Jane Williams then shared with us the fascinating story of the life and family of John Field, 1474, the London alderman whose tomb and brass are located in the north aisle. **Christian Steer** stepped in at the last minute to tell us about Ralph Sadleir, 1507-87, assistant to Thomas Cromwell, ambassador to Scotland, Secretary of State to Henry VIII and Chancellor to the Duchy of Lancaster. Both Ralph and his son, Thomas, have large and elaborate monuments in the chancel, thought to be from the Southwark workshops of the early 17th century.

The day finished with questions and discussion, followed by a splendid pub supper in the sunshine and an evening concert of church music through the ages. Many thanks to everyone at St. Mary's, Standon, for their generous hospitality, and to all the speakers for a series of enjoyable and informative talks. It was a thoroughly pleasant day.

Laura Wood

Annual General Meeting – 23rd July 2011

East Horndon, Essex



*East Horndon church with the derelict Edwardian churchyard gates
(photo.: Martin Stuchfield)*

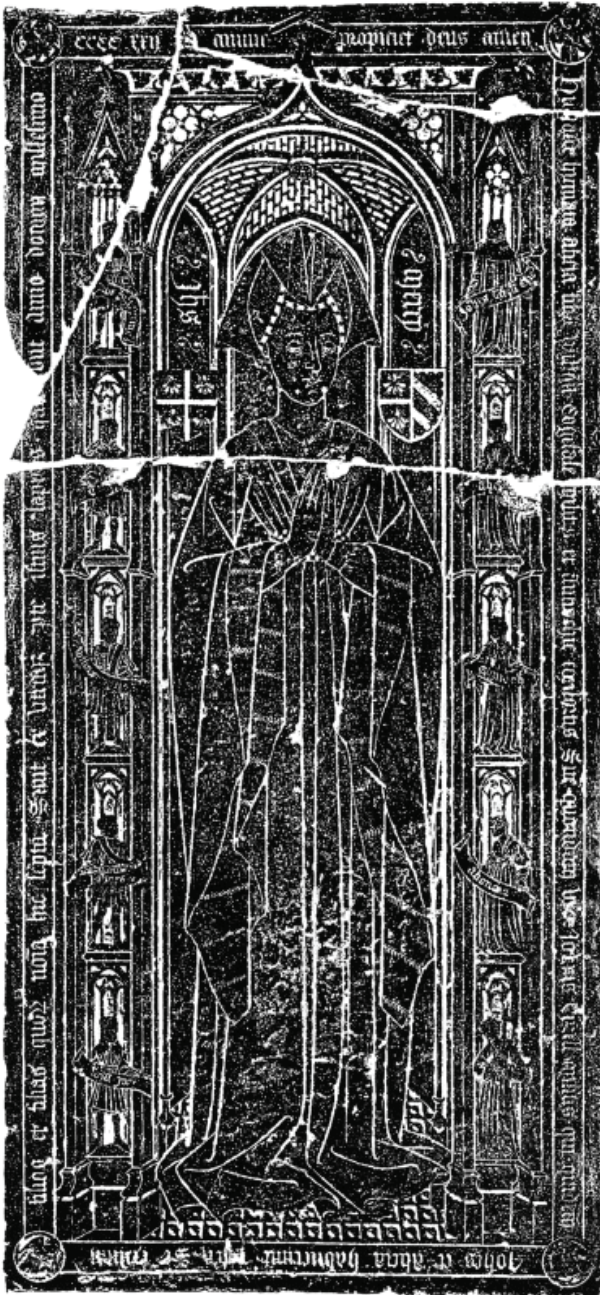
The happy venue for the 2011 A.G.M. was the sad church of All Saints, East Horndon, isolated on its hill top above the modern A127 trunk road and overlooking the Thames Estuary. A landmark to travellers for centuries, it never has had a settlement to support it. Its access track through a wood and meadow is difficult to find. Apparently totally constructed of 16th century brick and Tudor clay tile, its squat and massive tower is surmounted by a smiling wind vane.

But this is Essex; the tower internally seems mainly timber-framed, above the nave is a delicate crown post roof and above the chancel a wagon roof in oak. The ancient church was rebuilt by the influential Tyrell family several times, but over the last four centuries it waned. Closed in 1898 it was a decade before it re-opened, again only to suffer relentless decay. It finally closed in 1965 to become a victim of severe vandalism, damage and loss. Almost everything was lost including the brass effigy of Anne, wife of Thomas Tyrell, 1476 (LSW.I), and the man in armour with eight sons, c.1520 (LSW.3), from an altar tomb in the south transept. Much was moved, stolen, or removed such as the glass, pulpit, the roodscreen figures, oil lamps, font, organ and four bells, two medieval helms and gauntlets. Fortunately the church was rescued by the active group of the Friends of All Saints and is now vested in the Churches Conservation Trust.

Following a sojourn at Layer Marney church the muddy-limestone (lias) incised slab to Lady Alice Tyrell, 1422, now rests serenely under the exquisite 15th century arcade between the chancel and south chapel. Past-President, Frank Greenhill in his *Incised Effigial Slabs* (1976) states that ‘This slab, is the finest . . . in the whole of Britain’. Members could not keep away from admiring its shimmering beauty and elegant mastic-less engraving.

After the formal business of the meeting (see p.348) our member **Rachel Canty** spoke about the slab. Lady Alice, wife of Sir John Tyrell, stands in horned headdress under a brick vaulted canopy with scrolls on either side of the head, *IHS* and *Mercy*, with the arms of Coggeshall (*argent, a cross between four scallops, sable*) and of Coggeshall impaling Tyrell. She is surrounded by weepers under canopies in the form of nine named children and one unnamed. There are evangelistic symbols at each corner and a marginal inscription – all in the same form as with major monumental brass compositions of the 15th century. It dates from some years after Alice’s death and after the 1437 death of her husband who had taken Holy orders the year before. It would have been commissioned by her soldier son Thomas who was serving in Normandy. This explains why the stone appears foreign, only three such imported slabs being known in this country. It was Thomas who undertook a rebuilding of the church in 1452, from which time originated the delicate south chancel arcade under which his mother lies. Thomas’s own tomb, in its pretty brick-vaulted recess which was intended to double as an Easter sepulchre as he requested and it is of a quality commensurate with his status. This echoes the tomb between the Clopton Chapel and the chancel at Long Melford which we examined and studied in September 2010.

Chris Starr recounted the sad decline of the church and the efforts to reinstate it to the condition we can now appreciate and enjoy. It was he who had been the driving force behind the formation of the Friends of All Saints, East Horndon.



*Lady Alice Tyrrell, c.1450, East Horndon, Essex
(rubbing: Martin Stuchfield)*

David Lillistone gave an interesting account of the Tyrells of Gipping, Suffolk and of their monuments. One of these, in Stowmarket church, is an abused slab bereft of all its brasses. It has been attributed to Margaret Tyrrell, c.1470, and bears indents for a lady, five sons, seven daughters, three shields and a marginal inscription. It was pointed out that the arrangement of the children resembles that of the East Horndon slab. His account too tied with our study day at Long Melford when we learnt of John Clopton – who later did so much for Long Melford Church – being the only Suffolk person in a group arrested



*Margaret Tyrrell, c.1470, Stowmarket, Suffolk
(rubbing: David Lillistone)*

for conspiracy in the wars of the Roses to avoid execution. At East Horndon we learnt that a William Tyrell was beheaded in 1462 for involvement in the alleged conspiracy.

It was an afternoon of complex Tyrell family history, involving land ownership, public service through centuries as M.P.s, speaker of the House of Commons, J.P.s, sheriffs, military service and Royal service, all as befitted the richest non-aristocrats in

Essex, who used their wealth to embellish East Horndon church. All this sits in the quiet space of this church on its ancient site whose very walls oozed history and the continuity of family and worship, and whose fragile existence was so nearly lost. Our heartfelt thanks go to John Vigar of the Churches Conservation Trust and volunteers, and to the Friends of All Saints' who keep the church clean and an increasing part of the churchyard kempt and who provided refreshments for us. Perhaps the mural monument to Rev. Harry Powell, whose slab still lies in the chancel, epitomised the church: 'Thirty Six years Rector of this parish who after a life of primitive simplicity spent in humble endeavour to serve his heavenly master by a sincere and unremitting attention to all the duties of a Christian Minister he was suddenly called to his great account February 1831 in the 60th year of his age'. I felt him still guarding his church and the memory of the Tyrells.

Rosalind Willatts

A.G.M. formal business

Apologies for absence were received. The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on 10th July 2010 were approved by the meeting and signed. The Annual Report 2009/10 was also approved, having been previously circulated. The Hon. Treasurer presented the accounts for the year ended 31st December 2010 which were approved.

David Meara spoke of his decision to step down as President of the Society after nine years with the time right for a new President to succeed him. He recalled his early years as a member of the Society with many great figures from the past such as Colin Cole, Frank Greenhill, Major Owen Evans and Augustus White. The President paid tribute to the Executive Council who have steered the Society into a better position and said how pleased he was at the continued, and ongoing, success of the Society. The Hon. Secretary thanked David Meara for the dignity and gravitas which he has brought as President and presented him with an engraving of Old St. Paul's Cathedral by Wenceslaus Hollar. Thanks were duly recorded to Derrick and Cathy Chivers for their assistance in obtaining the gift.

The meeting proceeded to elect the Hon. Officers en-bloc: Martin Stuchfield as President; Jerome Bertram, Paul Cockerham, Nigel Saul, Nicholas Rogers and David Meara

as Vice-Presidents; Christian Steer as Hon. Secretary; Hugh Guilford as Hon. Treasurer and Nicholas Rogers as Hon. Editor.

The newly-elected President thanked Hubert Allen, David Griffith and Bob Hutchinson as the retiring members of the Executive Council. Rob Kinsey and Janet Whitham, as duly nominated members, were elected to fill the vacancies created.

At the Executive Council meeting held on 15th October 2011 the following appointments were approved:

Hon. Archivist: Jane Houghton

Hon. Bulletin Editor: William Lack

Hon. Conservation Officer: Martin Stuchfield

Hon. Heraldic Adviser: Thomas Woodcock,
Garter Principal King of Arms

Hon. Internet Publicity Officer: Jon Bayliss

Christian Steer
Hon. Secretary

Transactions Editorial Committee

The *Transactions* represent the Society's flagship publication. Indeed, the Society has been extremely well served by the calibre of its recent editors – namely Stephen Freeth, Jerome Bertram and currently Nicholas Rogers who have served for a combined period of twenty-three years.

The Executive Council consider the *Transactions* to be of such importance that the Hon. Editor should receive additional support for the future management and production of this publication. Accordingly, Claire Daunton, Rob Kinsey, Nicholas Rogers, Christian Steer and Martin Stuchfield have been appointed to form an experienced Editorial Committee. Brief biographies are set out on p.349.

Historically the *Transactions* have been produced in arrears. However, the future aim is to ensure that the *Transactions* appear in the Autumn/Winter of the year to which it relates. Obviously, a catch-up process is required and, in this respect, the 2010

Transactions accompany this *Bulletin*, resulting in members receiving two issues during the current year. Furthermore, it is envisaged that the 2011 *Transactions* will be mailed with *Bulletin* 120 (June 2012) with the 2012 issue despatched with *Bulletin* 121 (October 2012).

Contributions are warmly welcomed. The 'Notes for Contributors' have been revised and are easily accessed via the Society's website (www.mbs-brasses.co.uk).

The Executive Council have approved a number of proposals made by the Editorial Committee. These will take immediate effect and include:

- 1 to introduce abstracts (limit of 250 words) for papers which will assist in the vetting of material and facilitate early application for grant funding;
- 2 to peer review papers prior to publication to facilitate the *Transactions* achieving enhanced recognition as an academic publication;
- 3 to contain the length of papers (limit of 8,500 words excluding footnotes) unless the author is able to justify an increase prior to submission;
- 4 to contain the length of book reviews (limit of 1,500 words) for publications relating to monumental brasses and associated means of commemoration. A further reduction (limit of 1,000 words) is being introduced for publications reviewed on related themes. The review should (wherever possible) appear in the appropriate issue of *Transactions* coinciding with the year of publication;
- 5 to contain the length of obituaries (limit of 2,000 words);
- 6 to continue publishing reports concerning the conservation of brasses subject to the text and illustrations not exceeding more than ten per cent of the respective issue. The Portfolio of Small Plates is also being retained; and
- 7 to introduce themed issues as 'one-off special editions' or produced as occasional publications.

A generic email address has been established (mbstransactions@yahoo.co.uk) to assist in prompt communication.

Members will have noticed that the 2009 *Transactions* appeared in a new and enhanced format. The additional colour plates and

embellishments, such as gloss lamination of the cover, have been achieved together with a substantial reduction in cost to the Society. The initial changes outlined above constitute part of a continuing process of improvement.

Biographies:

Claire Daunton (née Gobbi) has been a member of the Society since 2008. Claire worked as an archivist and university administrator before completing a Ph.D. in medieval history at the University of East Anglia. She has a special interest in stained glass and is now based at Trinity Hall, Cambridge. She is currently writing a book on artistic patronage and the parish in late medieval Norfolk.

Rob Kinsey has been a member of the Society since 2007. Rob is a member of the Executive Council and is Reviews Editor (see *Bulletin* 116 (February 2011), p.302). He has a general appreciation of monumental brasses with a particular interest in the brass commemorating Sir John de Creke and wife, Alyne, c.1340-5, at Westley Waterless, Cambridgeshire. He is interested in medieval gentry and the legal profession in medieval Cambridgeshire.

Nicholas Rogers has been a member of the Society since 1977. Nicholas has served on the Executive Council from 1983-7 and from 1988 to present. He has been Hon. Editor since 1997. He is a Bye-Fellow and Archivist at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge and Hon. Curator of the Cambridge Collection of Brass Rubbings.

Christian Steer has been a member of the Society since 1999. Christian has served on the Executive Council from 2006-9 and is Hon. Secretary. He is currently working on a part-time Ph.D. at Royal Holloway, University of London on *Funerary Monuments in Medieval London*. He is secretary and a trustee of the Harlaxton Symposium. He has a general appreciation of monumental brasses and indents.

Martin Stuchfield has been a member of the Society since 1970. Martin has served on the Executive Council from 1982 to present. He is President of the Society having previously served as Hon. Assistant Secretary 1985-91; Hon. Treasurer 1991-94; and Hon. Secretary 1994-2007 and 2009-11. His entire career has been spent in the printing and publishing industry.

AROUND THE COUNTRY

Kent



*Palimpsest reverse on the inscription to James Donet, 1409 (M.S.I), Rainham, Kent
(rubbing: William Lack)*

During the course of conservation at **Rainham** several palimpsests were discovered. The earliest was unexpectedly found on the reverse of the inscription to James Donet, 1409 (M.S.I). It shows a complete inscription in French which reads ‘+ Letice de Wate iadis la fem(m)e Thom(a)s ate Wyche stoke / fisshmongere gist icy dieu de salme eit mercy Amen’ (Letice de Wate formerly the wife of Thomas ate Wyche stockfishmonger lies here. God have mercy on her soul. Amen.). Sally Badham has dated this as c.1380. The short period between the obverse and reverse and the fact that the reverse is worn suggests that it was laid down in a busy church, probably in London.

Several palimpsest fragments were found on the reverse of the brass to John Norden, 158-(M.S.VI). The most interesting is a small piece of Flemish canopy work, c.1340, which links directly with another fragment at Paston, Norfolk on the reverse of the brass to Erasmus Paston, c.1580 (M.S.I). The other discoveries will be illustrated in a forthcoming *Palimpsests* supplement.

The parish have conducted a search and it has become apparent that the scroll, listed by Stephenson as M.S.II and ‘loose in the vestry’, is now lost. This originally formed part of a brass to a priest, c.1500, and was laid on an altar tomb in the chancel. The cover slab also has indents for an effigy, inscription and ?Trinity.



*Lost scroll from Rainham, Kent
(rubbing: Society of Antiquaries)*



*Link between palimpsest reverses at Paston, Norfolk (upper)
and Rainham, Kent (lower)
(rubblings: Martin Stuchfield)*

Lincolnshire

From **Wroot** comes this rather fine 18th century inscription with emblems of mortality to Sarah Clifford, died 1714, here illustrated for the first time. However, its whereabouts have been known since the 1960s (*M.B.S. Trans.*, X, p.116). The church is a complete Victorian rebuild and this is one of two 18th century brasses, undoubtedly saved from a previous church on the site.

Patrick Farman



Yorkshire

This unusually-shaped oval plate at **Thrybergh** is engraved with Latin inscriptions to Frances, wife of Sir John Reresby, Bart., and mother of John Reresby died 1668; and also to an ancestor, John Reresby, who died in 1463. Although not listed by Mill Stephenson, it has been recorded in the *Yorkshire Archaeological Journal* and in Melvyn Jones, *Aspects of Rotherham*.

Patrick Farman



Top Gear goes brass rubbing



In the programme broadcast on 31st July 2011 Jeremy Clarkson and James May tested two electric cars, a Nissan Leaf and a Peugeot iOn. They stopped in Lincoln to re-charge the batteries from an ordinary electric supply – which took 11 hours. During this wait they explored the city and were filmed rubbing facsimiles in the Minster. The programme created some controversy, not from the poor quality of their rubbings, but because Nissan felt that *Top Gear* had deliberately misled viewers and had not been fair to their product.

The illustrated woman

Dacia Houser, an American enthusiast, has been a fan of brasses since she was a child. She grew up in Ashland, Oregon and was enthused by the brass museum and an annual Shakespeare Festival.



She has sent us this photo of a tattoo on her right arm. Readers will recognise the brass of Sir William Fitzralph from Pebmarsh. She says 'I hope, as people who love brasses, that you enjoy this as much as I do. :)'

A sixteen-fragment indent restored



St. Lawrence, Ipswich

For more than a century the upper part of an indent, correctly orientated, was visible to the west of the front row of choir stalls in St. Lawrence Church, Ipswich. It showed the top of a single canopy with two shields, all in good condition. When in 2008 all the pews were removed and the Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service began to investigate and record the floor of the church, including what lay beneath the modern surface, the rest of the intriguing slab was found to be in pieces, which when put together did not make up more than about two-thirds of the whole. In around 1900, a gas-fitter had put his hammer through the slab to allow a thin gas pipe to pass through it in order to light the choristers' music.

In 1887-8 Benjamin Page Grimsey published *A Monograph on the parish of St. Lawrence, Ipswich*, first in instalments in the *Ipswich Journal*, and then in book form 'For private circulation'. Most unfortunately, he published a detailed drawing of the whole slab titled 'EDMUND DAUNDY 1515 TOMB STONE (1888)'. His overall measurements were at least accurate: 84 by 27 inches.

In the 1820s David Elisha Davy found the slab too worn to be certain of its design or he would have sketched the indent outlines. For 120 years we have been waiting eagerly to see how



Drawing of 'Daundy' slab by Benjamin Grimsey

Thomas Wolsey's uncle was represented. Early topographers reported that Edmund and Ann Daundy (his first wife) had 'fair tombs breast high', and in 2008 the top slab of Ann's tomb was found under the chancel floor, broken and too fragile to lift, its English inscription beautifully lettered.

On 20th September 2011 Jane Houghton spent much of the day making a wonderful rubbing of the slab fragments, expertly reassembled in a steel box and hoisted against the south chancel wall by Julia Park-Newman, conservator. What the rubbing revealed was exciting, surprising and disappointing in roughly equal measures. The slab had belonged to a man in plate armour with sword, dagger and bascinet, his brass made much earlier than 1515, perhaps about 1450. One strong candidate can be suggested for the man commemorated, but all the evidence is circumstantial.



*Man in armour, c.1450, St. Lawrence, Ipswich
(rubbing: Jane Houghton)*

The late Peter Northeast spent years transcribing most of the medieval wills of Suffolk (they are now HD 2448 in SRO, Ipswich). The only 15th century St. Lawrence will for someone who was not a merchant but a major landowner is that of Thomas Fastolf, widower, who was sick and near to death when he made his will on 10th September 1452. Remarkably, it was proved next day in the archdeacon's court in St. Mary-le-Tower church.

Thomas arranged an annuity for his sister Margaret, but she made her will a week later and died soon after. Perhaps she had been keeping house for him and caught the same fatal illness. She, like her brother, was to be buried in the church, lying before the image of St. Nicholas the bishop. Thomas had just completed his year as bailiff (joint mayor), having worked his way up the borough hierarchy from attorney, treasurer and justice.

Thomas was the third son of Nicholas Fastolf (descended from the Caistor Fastolfs) and his wife Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir of Sir John Braham, and pedigrees show him marrying Margaret daughter of Thomas Denston. His maternal grandmother had been an Amoundeville. His will named his late wife Alice, perhaps a second marriage. He owned several manors: Okenhill in Badingham, Braham Hall and Boyton Hall in Brantham, Capel, Bergholt, Lawford, Mistley and Little Bromley. With property in two counties his will should have gone to Canterbury.

His son Thomas (probably born about 1450) and three daughters, as well as his four servants were all provided for, and his Ipswich property was to be sold to endow the stipend of a suitable priest to celebrate in St. Lawrence for two years for the souls of his parents, eldest brother John, his benefactors and all the faithful departed in the church. He was generous to the poor, the church, and all three houses of friars in the town were to pray for his soul. His executors were men of substance: John Braham, John Walworth, Robert Braunford, chaplain, and Robert Joce.

The younger Thomas, who was a claimant under the will of Sir John Fastolf of Caistor, 1459, eventually owned and improved the Ancient House in the Buttermarket and built Pond Hall at Nacton, east of Ipswich. He represented the borough in the parliament of 1488.

John Blatchly

The Portable Antiquities Scheme

This chronological listing of finds registered under the scheme continues from *Bulletin* 102 (May 2006), pp.28-9. While not on the scale of the Staffordshire Hoard, these discoveries are nevertheless of interest. All pieces are shown at half-size. Thanks are due to Sally Badham and Stephen Freeth for their help.

Fyfield, Essex

June 2005. Ref. ESS-C57D13.
Lombardic letter 'R', c.1270-1350,
Main Group size I;
(another letter 'E' found in same
field but not yet recorded)
43 x 35 mm, thickness 3 mm.



Covehithe, Suffolk

Jan. 2005. Ref. SF-1019A2. Lombardic
letter 'E', c.1270-1350, Main Group size II.
37 x 31 mm, thickness 3.1 mm.



Foulsham, Norfolk

April 2006. Ref. NMS-B28BE2.
Part of scroll, '...iro', fractured, 15th cent.
28 x 45 mm, thickness 3 mm.



Fransham, Norfolk

May 2006.
Ref. NMS-A43A01.
Part of scroll, fractured,
'...ni fili dei', 15th cent.
27 x 82 mm, thickness 3 mm.



Fincham, Norfolk

June 2006. Ref. NMS-6A9F01.
Part of scroll, '...iiii', 15th cent.
36 x 35 mm, thickness 2 mm.



Bures, Suffolk

July 2006. Ref. SF-F09CE6.
Lombardic letter 'E', c.1270-1350, Main
Group size II. 39 x 29 mm, thickness 2.3 mm.



Great Gaddesden, Herts.

July 2006. Ref. BUC-DF9997.
Part of marg. inscr. 'ia...', 15th cent.
26 x 45 mm, thickness 3 mm.



Great Gaddesden, Herts.

July 2006. Ref. BUC-DFAF82.
Part of marg. inscr. '...ei...', 15th cent.
28 x 17 mm, thickness 3 mm.



Barton-on-Humber, Lincs.

Nov. 2006. Ref. NLM-ECCA47.
Frag. of ?mantling.
25 x 36 mm, thickness 1.8 mm.



Ashmanhaugh, Norfolk

Feb. 2007. Ref. NMS-4AB793.
Part of inscr. '...e', 15th cent.
32 x 36 mm, thickness 3 mm.



Binham, Norfolk

Feb. 2007.
Ref. NMS-406E97.
Left knee of man in arm.,
c.1420, London B.
107 x 68 mm,
thickness 2.5-3.0 mm.



Leatherhead, Surrey

March 2007. Ref. SUR-135314.
Part of inscr. '...ta', worn;
palimp., on rev. inscr.
35 x 22 mm, thickness 2 mm.



Fransham, Norfolk

April 2007. Ref. NMS-7DD034.
Part of ?scroll with 2 crosses.
25 x 35 mm, thickness 3 mm.



Swardeston, Norfolk

May 2007.
Ref. NMS-74A0B4.
Part of inscr. 'ilton Q. / whos',
c.1505-22, Norwich 4;
palimp., on rev. 2 lines.
51 x 62 mm,
thickness 2.5 mm.



Horsham St. Faith, Norfolk

July 2007. Ref. NMS-CC09E7.
Part of inscr., 15th cent.;
palimp., on rev. canopy work.
24 x 39 mm.



Snetterton, Norfolk

Dec. 2007. Ref. NMS-19F131.
Part of inscr. 'lit', 15th-16th cent.
c.35 x c.40 mm.

**Edgefield, Norfolk**

Dec. 2007. Ref. NMS-2FA944. Part of inscr., broken,
'tmetson Rector / .t(ur) deus ame(n)', c.1520-30,
Norwich 6;
palimp.,
on rev.
inscr. 'hoc
speculo spe./
.us carius
tibi me.',
c.1515-25,
Suffolk 3.
53x126mm,
thickness
3 mm.

**Stokesby with Herringby, Norfolk**

Dec. 2007. Ref. NMS-AC6983.
Part of inscr. 'do.', 15th cent.
31 x 30 mm, thickness 1.1 to 1.5 mm.

**Washingborough, Lincs.**

2007. Ref. LIN-88AB05. Part of
Lombardic letter 'M', c.1270-1350,
Main Group size II.
45 x 28 mm, thickness 2 mm.

**Bredon-on-the-Hill, Worcs.**

Jan. 2008. Ref. DENO-D4BDB5.
Part of Lombardic letter 'E', early 14th
cent., Main Group size III variant.
35 x 29 mm, thickness 3.1 mm.

**Godstone, Surrey**

Jan. 2008. Ref. SUR-E6EFF1.
Part of inscr. '...pa...', 15th cent.
26 x 44 mm.

**Shadingfield, Suffolk**

May 2008. SF-2A0495.
Frag. of inscr., 'E. / ccc.',
c.1500, Norwich 3;
palimp., on rev. drapery
64 x 48 mm,
thickness 3.6 mm.

Dereham, Norfolk

July/Aug. 2008.
Ref. NMS-A3D9E6.
Part of inscr., 15th cent.
49 x 50 mm, thickness 3 mm.

**Surlingham, Norfolk**

July/Aug 2008. Ref. NMS-0F77B3.
Part of canopy.
c.33 x c.33 mm.

**Morley, Norfolk**

Aug./Sept. 2008. Ref. NMS-EE1748.
Part of inscr., 'iiis w.', late 15th or
early 16th cent.; palimp., on rev.
inscr. 'a(n)i(m)a'.
22 x 42 mm, thickness 2 mm.

**Swaffham, Norfolk**

Sept./Oct. 2008.
Ref. NMS-6A09B5.
Part of inscr.
c.63 x c.45 mm.

**Postwick, Norfolk**

Jan. 2009. Ref. NMS-A92281.
Base of eff.
42 x 36 mm, thickness 2.5 mm.

**Middleton-on-Sea,
West Sussex**

April 2009. Ref. SUSS-3BA9B2.
Shield, 14th cent., probably
not a monumental brass.
72 x 61 mm, thickness 2 mm.

**Offley, Herts.**

March 2010. Ref. BH-29D542.
Part of dog;
palimp., on rev. 2 lines.
15 x 28 mm, thickness 1.8 mm.

**Forton, Staffs.**

April 2010.
Ref. WAW-F89803
Part of shield, 16th cent.;
palimp., on rev. ?right
shoulder of man in arm,
c.1345-50. 63 x 32 mm,
thickness 3.2 mm.



In Brass and Glass – Heythrop, Oxfordshire

Accessible only on foot across the adjoining field, all but hidden from sight by a dense grove of trees and bounded by the low stone wall that separates it from its Victorian replacement, the chancel is all that remains of the old church at Heythrop, Oxfordshire.¹ Inside, set against the south wall, is an ornate table tomb, its cover stone inlaid with a brass to John Ashfield, 1521, his wife Elenor and their immediate family (Fig.1).

John was the eldest son of John Ashfield of Heythrop and Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire by his first wife Margaret, daughter of Richard Forde of Penshurst, Kent and his wife Mary, daughter and heiress of Thomas Carew of Beddington, Surrey. Elenor was the daughter of Humphrey Seymour of Even Swindon, Wiltshire, by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Winslow of Burford, Oxfordshire.² Elenor's father was the younger son of Sir John Seymour of Wolf Hall, Wiltshire and therefore kin to Jane Seymour who would become the third wife of Henry VIII. Elenor would survive her husband by upwards of twenty years and died in 1542-3.³

The elder John Ashfield, a wealthy wool merchant, is said, at his own expense, to have rebuilt the nave of the parish church of St. Mary the Virgin, Chipping Norton.⁴ He died in 1507 and was commemorated in the church by a brass to himself and his first wife⁵ which is now sadly mutilated.⁶

One imagines the elder John as a self-made man, who had achieved his social position and wealth through his own labours; a canny old bird determined to ensure that no-one would get the better of him in matters of business. Perhaps because of this he was a rather litigious character.

Shortly after young John and Elenor were married, John's father sued Humphrey Seymour (his son's father-in-law) in Chancery before Henry Deane, Lord Keeper of the Great Seal and at this time Bishop of Salisbury,⁷ alleging that the sum of £100, which should have been paid to him by Elenor's father in several instalments as part of the marriage settlement, had not been forthcoming. Humphrey Seymour counter-claimed that John had not handed over various properties, including lands in Kent, Oxfordshire and Sussex which he had purchased and had by deed promised to bestow upon the newlyweds.⁸ Such disputes took the form



Fig.1. John Ashfield, 1521, and wife Elenor (M.S.I)
Heythrop, Oxfordshire

of claim and counter claim and this case was no different from thousands of others. This acrimonious legal action, initiated by none other than his own father, was surely hardly conducive to John and Elenor making a success of their marriage. Unlike his own brass, that laid down later to his eldest son John and his family at Heythrop, is complete. The armed figure of John is a London 'F' Style



Fig.2. John Ashfield and sons in stained glass
Heythrop, Oxfordshire

product while that of his wife is an example of the London 'G' Style.⁹

The upper dexter and lower sinister shields bear *Argent, a trefoil slipped between three mullets gules* (Ashfield), the lower sinister Ashfield impaling *Gules, two wings conjoined in lure or* (Seymour) and the upper sinister Seymour impaling *Argent, a lion rampant per fess gules and sable* (Lovetoft).¹⁰ The shields on the sides of the tomb chest, a mixture of styles, are blank and devoid of decoration.

What makes the Heythrop brass of more than passing interest is that above the tomb is a contemporary three-light 16th century stained glass window with kneeling effigies of the same members of the Ashfield family. John appears in the easternmost light, in armour with tabard bearing the arms of Ashfield and facing to sinister (Fig.2); while Elenor wears a pedimental head-dress and a damaged heraldic mantle (Fig.3). Their children also appear, the sons kneeling behind their father and the daughters behind their mother. Beneath the figures is a Black Letter inscription: 'Orate pro animab(is) Johannis/ Ashfield Elianore uxoris eius/ qui istam fenestram fieri// fecerunt anno domini MCCCC/xxii de quibus/ animabus/ propitiatur Deus amen'. (The single oblique lines indicate the divisions of the window, the double oblique lines the end of the first line of the inscription and the commencement of the second). Above the effigies are the remains of an heraldic crest.

The window and tomb beneath it were obviously designed as a unified composition, ensuring not only the commemoration of the departed but also the solicitation of prayers for the well-being of their souls.¹¹ This is confirmed in John Ashfield's will, made on 26th December 1521, wherein he requested



Fig.3. Elenor Ashfield and daughters in stained glass
Heythrop, Oxfordshire

burial in the chancel of St. Nicholas at Heythrop 'before the ymage of our Lady', asked 'that a priest shall syng for me in the Church of heythrop by the space of a hole yere' and bequeathed 'to make a wyndowe upon the south side of the Chauncell of the Church of heythrop £3 6s 8d'.¹²

This window was one of at least three which the Ashfield family gave to the church in the first quarter of the 16th century. When complete, the glass also included figures of St. John the Baptist and an angel holding a shield bearing the arms of John Ashfield impaling those of Seymour quartering Winslow of Even Swindon. Presumably the surviving helm and mantling formed part of this element of the composition.

On his visit to the church in the 17th century, the Oxford antiquary Anthony Wood, 1632-95, also recorded figures of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. John the Evangelist in this window. However, it is likely these did not form part of the original composition and had been reset here by the time Wood visited.

On the night of 19-20th March 1941 twelve high explosive bombs were dropped in and around

Heythrop, causing considerable blast damage to the window.¹³ The recovered glass was stored in the cellar of the premises of Thomas and Sons (Decorators) at 52 Holywell Street, Oxford. Following the end of the war, the surviving glazing was conserved and restored, but when the glass was reset,¹⁴ the figures of the Virgin and the two saints were placed in the east window where they remain.¹⁵

From John's will it is known that the sons who appear on the brass and in the window were named Humphrey, Michael, William and Anthony; the daughters Dorothy, Joyce, Cecily and one whose name is not recorded and who, it is assumed, must have died young. Of the four sons, three married and had issue.¹⁶ William, the third son, became a priest. In his will, made on 26th October 1549, he makes provision for his burial in the chancel of St. Andrew's church, Oddington in Oxfordshire and requests that the 'stone whiche I have payed for now lyinge at John P... in Oxforde shall ly upon my grave'.¹⁷ The three named girls also married and had issue.¹⁸

One of the bequests made by John to his eldest son Humphrey of 'a thousand shepe' confirms the basis and the continuing source of the Ashfield family's prosperity and wealth in the 15th and 16th centuries. So, although John Ashfield and his late father might have married into the ranks of the gentry, styled themselves esquires on their brasses and displayed coats-of-arms upon them and in the stained glass windows they financed, they were both still very much engaged in the wool trade which had brought them their social status and so much wealth.

Jonathan Moor

- 1 Designed by A.W. Bloomfield and built in 1879-80 at the expense of Colonel Albert Brassey of Heythrop Park. Albert's father was Thomas Brassey, the Victorian railway contractor, who purchased the burnt out shell of Heythrop Park and restored it as a wedding present for his son in 1870.
- 2 See 'The Visitations of the County of Oxford taken in the years 1566, 1574 and 1634 with the gatherings of Oxfordshire collected by Richard Lee in 1574' in *Harleian Society Visitation Series*, Vol.5 (1871), pp.170-71. By his father's first marriage, John had three younger brothers, George, Thomas and Anthony. Along with their sister Alys, all mentioned, together with the issue of John's father's second marriage, in the latter's will made in March 1506-7. The National Archives: Public Record Office PROB 11/15.
- 3 Her will was proved in 1544. In it, Elenor requested burial '... In (th)e chauncell of (th)e churche of saynt Nicholas of hethrop byfore (th)e Image of o(ur) ladye', where her husband had been buried over twenty years before. See *Probate Records of Oxfordshire: Courts of the Bishop and Archdeacon 1516-1732*, Vol.1, (A-K), British Record Society (1951), p.19. The original is held by the Oxfordshire Record Office under reference 178.176.
- 4 In his will he left monies towards the maintenance of both the bells and torches; tantalisingly provided funds in the sum of 10s. for "my grave and sepultur(e)" (but unfortunately gives no further details) and requested burial in the church "of our blisshed lady in Chepyng norton". TNA: PRO PROB 11/15.

- 5 The number of children once depicted on this brass tallies with the number known to have been born to John's first wife. Confusingly, his second wife was also called Margaret; the daughter of Humphrey Colwick of Worcester, she bore her husband four sons – Christopher, Edmund, Nicholas and George and three daughters, Jane, Elizabeth and Anne. *ibid.* It would seem then that here was once another example (c.f. John Tame at Fairfield, Gloucs.) where a member of the mercantile class was represented on his brass not in civilian attire, but in armour.
- 6 The brass originally comprised the figures of John (depicted in armour) and his first wife, four sons, one daughter, a foot inscription, Trinity and four shields. All that now remains in the church is the female effigy and inscription which are still set into the original slab which is mounted murally in the north aisle. The prayer scroll from John's effigy also survives but has been for many years in the keeping of the Society of Antiquaries of London. The lost sons are shown on a rubbing in the Society of Antiquaries.
- 7 Appointed Bishop of Salisbury in December 1499, Henry Deane, c.1440-1503, became Archbishop of Canterbury in April 1501; he was the first monastic to be elevated to the See of Canterbury in 135 years; as things turned out, he would also be the last.
- 8 See TNA: PRO C 1/236/23 and also C 1/245/44 for Humphrey Seymour's answer to John Ashfield's bill of complaint. John Ashfield also sued Thomas Edyn of Stoke, Kent, gentleman, again in Chancery, regarding the non-release of deeds relating to lands in Stoke, Kent and in Chipstead and Woodmansterne, Surrey, in 1502-3.
- 9 A similar incongruous juxtaposition of these styles occurs on the brass to Olyver Hyde and wife, 1516, at Denchworth, Berkshire (now Oxfordshire).
- 10 Peter Heseltine, *Heraldry on Brass: The Mill Stephenson Collection of Shields* (1994), p.80.
- 11 A similar pleasing juxtaposition of brass and glass may be found at Waterperry, Oxon. In the nave lies the brass to Walter Curson, 1527, his wife Isabel and their family, while in the south aisle there is a contemporary stained glass window commemorating the same individuals. However, this union of brass and glass is not quite what it seems, for Walter Curson and his wife were buried in the church of the Augustine Friars in Oxford. It was only when that religious house was suppressed (in 1538) that their son Richard arranged for his parents' brass to be removed to Waterperry church where it was 'united' with the stained glass window in which the family also appears.
- 12 PROB11/20, PCC 26 Maynwaring, National Archives, Kew.
- 13 The real targets of the bombing raid made by the Luftwaffe were the numerous airfields sited around this part of Oxfordshire. Some recovered fragments of glass were temporarily misplaced and initially found a home in the Bodleian Library; thereafter in the Oxford City and County Museum at Woodstock.
- 14 Joan Howson, 1885-1964, who re-installed the glass after the war was a prolific restorer, working at New College, Strawberry Hill and Westminster Abbey. By today's standards she was, an 'interventionist' in her approach, sometimes re-arranging glass quite radically. I am most grateful to Anna Eavis (editor) and Joseph Spooner of 'Vidimus' (the on-line publication devoted to stained glass) for information received about the Tudor glass at Heythrop; and on its subsequent repair and restoration after World War II.
- 15 The figures of the Blessed Virgin Mary and St. John the Evangelist may once have formed part of a Crucifixion scene and are probably back where they belong. However, it is likely that other fragments, now in the upper lights of the east window, do not belong there. Wood also recorded in this window the arms of Ashfield impaling Winslow suggesting that it too was erected by the family. In another window, on the south side of the old church, he noted the same arms with a date of 1523. See P. Newton with J. Kerr, *The County of Oxford, Corpus Vitrearum Medii Aevi* (Great Britain), Vol.I (1979), pp.109-11.
- 16 Humphrey married Anne, daughter of Edward Conwey of Arrow, Warwicks.; Michael married Jane Dineley; and Anthony married Alice Shelton.
- 17 The surname of "John P..." is indecipherable. Unfortunately, William gives no further details about his memorial or its cost, but it is likely to have been a brass, now lost; the only surviving brass at Oddington is that commemorating Ralph Hamsterley, an earlier rector.
- 18 Cecily married Anthony Kinsman of Loddington, Northants.; Joyce married John Leveson of Wolverhampton, Staffs.; and Dorothy married Richard Pauncfote of Hasfield, Gloucs.

Notes on Books, Articles and the Internet

Nigel Saul. *For Honour and Fame: Chivalry in England 1066-1500.* (Bodley Head. £25.00. June 2011. ISBN 978 1 8479 2052 2). xiv, 416 pp.; 21 illus. (some coloured); refs; bibliography (pp.371-88); index; hardback. 'The aim of the present volume is to build on the foundations which [Maurice] Keen laid [in his book *Chivalry* (1984)]. It introduces us to a society whose values were very different from our own.' (*Preface*, p.viii). Its 18 chapters begin with the 'Origins of English Chivalry' and end with 'The Decline of Chivalry', plus conclusions to be drawn from the whole study. In Chapter 15 'Memory and Fame' (pp.283-304), tombs and brasses receive special mention, notably that of Sir Hugh Hastings, 1347, at Elsing, Norfolk, and its now well-known use in a law suit in 1408 in the Court of Chivalry, when a full description of the then complete brass, and some of the window glass, was recorded (see pp.289-91). The brass is illustrated from a rubbing by Jon Bayliss. Two other brasses mentioned and illustrated are those of Lady Joan Cobham, 1434, at Cobham, Kent (M.S.XIII; from a drawing by Waller in the Society of Antiquaries); and that of Bishop Robert Wyvil, 1375, at Salisbury Cathedral, Wiltshire (M.S.I; after E. Kite). The importance of heraldry, commemoration, status and ancestry are all discussed and put in context. Brasses also receive passing mention in several other chapters, but this only becomes evident by reading the whole book, as they are not, of course, the main subject of this work. Reviews of the above appeared in the *Sunday Times* (by Jonathan Sumption) and *The Guardian*, 22nd July 2011 (by Miri Rubin). 62 sample pages can also be seen on the publisher's web site at <http://rhwidget.randomhouse.co.uk>.

Hans Gerd Dormagen, 'Die Grablege der albertinischen Wettiner im Dom zu Freiberg', in *Mitteilungen des Freiburger Altertumsvereins*, 99 (2007), German text, pp.23-108, 30 illus. from 'positive' rubbings, location plan. In his note on the Meissen Cathedral brasses in *Bulletin* 116 (February 2011), Paul Custerson expressed his regret at being unable to view the brasses at Freiberg as the choir was closed for restoration at the time of his visit. This extremely important collection of brasses to members of the Saxon Royal Family were formerly not well-known to us. They were briefly listed by Cameron (1970) and described by Malcolm Norris in *The Memorials* (1977), pp.216-9. Hans Dormagen has now filled this



Herzog Heinrich der Fromme, 1541, Freiberg Cathedral

gap and provided a detailed catalogue with illustrations of all the brasses. He describes each brass and its heraldry, transcribes the inscriptions and provides copious references. There are 29 brasses, most of which pave the choir in similar fashion to the brasses at Cobham. They date from 1541 to 1643 and were engraved by the Hilliger family workshop in Dresden. Eleven of the brasses are large rectangular plates (2.5 x 1.4 m and larger) while the brasses to children are smaller. The brasses are intricately engraved and of excellent quality.

Suffolk Brasses

Peter Heseltine has recently transcribed two important manuscript sources on Suffolk brasses. The first, by David Elisha Davy, 1769-1851, is among the British Library's Additional MSS.

Arranged by parish, Davy, and other sources, are listed within each entry, and there is a full list of sources used at the beginning of the transcript, including the Hengrave deposit above. The other manuscript, in Cambridge University Library, is known as the 'Hengrave Hall Deposit'. Peter will make a copy available of the lengthy Davy manuscript on CD only for £5.00 (incl. postage), but will e-mail the shorter Hengrave Hall manuscript (300 KB), which includes transcript, notes, references and place index. The transcripts are a true 'labour of love' and will be a helpful adjunct to anyone undertaking or contemplating research into the county's brasses.

Exhibition catalogue

Treasures from Heaven: Saints, Relics and Devotion in Medieval Europe. Edited by M. Bagnall, H.A. Klein, C.G. Mann and Jane Robinson. (British Museum Publications. £30.00 hardback, [£25.00 paperback]. 2011. ISBN 9780714123301 (Hdbk)/ 9780714123325 (Pbk). 288 pages; 200 colour illustrations. Catalogue of an exhibition at the British Museum, 23rd June–9th October 2011. At the time of writing this is on sale at half price in the British Museum shop.

Exclusive offer to Society members

Ashgate Publishing are offering an exclusive 20% discount on two publications:

Charlotte A. Stanford, Commemorating the Dead in Late Medieval Strasbourg. (Ashgate Publishing. £70.00 + £3.95 P&P (subsequent items free). November 2011. ISBN 978 1 4094 0136 0). 348 pp., 37 b/w illus. The Book of Donors for Strasbourg Cathedral is an extraordinary medieval document dating from c.1320-1520, with 6,954 entries from artisan, merchant and aristocratic classes. These individuals listed gifts to the cathedral construction fund given in exchange for prayers for the donors' souls. Charlotte Stanford's study is the first to comprehensively analyse the unpublished Book of Donors manuscript and show the types and patterns of gifts made to the cathedral. It also compares these gift entries with those in earlier obituary records kept by the cathedral canons, as well as other medieval obituary notices kept by parish churches and convents in Strasbourg. Analysis of the Book of Donors notes the increase of personal details and requests in 15th century entries and discusses the different memorial opportunities available to the devout. This study draws a vivid picture of life in late

medieval Strasbourg as seen through the lens of devotional and memorial practices, and will be of particular interest to scholars of art history, memory, and medieval urban life.

Marie-Helene Rousseau, Saving the Souls of Medieval London. (Ashgate Publishing. £65.00 + £3.95 P&P (subsequent items free). March 2011. ISBN 978 1 4094 0581 8). 256 pp., 3 b/w illus. St. Paul's Cathedral stood at the centre of religious life in medieval London. It was the mother church of the diocese, a principal landowner in the capital and surrounding countryside, and a theatre for the enactment of events of national importance. The cathedral was also a powerhouse of commemoration and intercession, where prayers and requiem masses were offered on a massive scale for the salvation of the living and the dead. This spiritual role of St. Paul's Cathedral was carried out essentially by the numerous chantry priests working and living in its precinct. Chantries were pious foundations, through which donors, clerks or lay, male or female, endowed priests to celebrate intercessory masses for the benefit of their souls. At St. Paul's Cathedral, they were first established in the late 12th century and, until they were dissolved in 1548, they contributed greatly to the daily life of the cathedral and enhanced the liturgical services offered by the cathedral. Using the large body of material from the cathedral archives, this book investigates the chantries and their impacts on the life, services and clerical community of the cathedral, from their foundation in the early 13th century to the dissolution. It demonstrates the flexibility and adaptability of these pious foundations and the various contributions they made to medieval society; and sheds light on the men who played a role which, until the abolition of the chantries in 1548, was seen to be crucial to the spiritual well-being of medieval London.

The offer is valid until 25th November 2011. Visit www.ashgate.com/history to order using the promotional code H11FAB20. This offer is not available in North America. Both these volumes will be reviewed in the *Transactions*.

(C.S.)

I am grateful to Christian Steer and William Lack for information received.

Richard Busby