### SOMERSET HERALDRY SOCIETY



Journal No 8 January 2006

# STEPHEN FRIAR HITS HEADLINES

Stephen Friar appeared in the Times of 6th January. It seems that he is opposed to the caravan, a travelling home of extreme age and presumably oriental origin. For this I wondered whether his arms should not be shown with an abatement, so on searching I found a note on it in the Concise Encyclopaedia of Heraldry by Guy Cadogan Rothery, first published in 1915 as the ABC of Heraldry, republished under the new title in 1994. He writes:

**Abatement or Rebatement**. Marks of dishonour invented by certain writers and intended to be used in debruising coats of arms. As a matter of fact the only

THE TIMES FRIDAY JANUARY 6 2006

### Caravan hater votes with his feet

A councillor excused himself from a meeting to discuss plans to extend a holiday park after admitting that he hated carayans.

Stephen Friar told colleagues at West Dorset District Council that his dislike was such that he had already made up his mind which way he would vote and that it would not be fair on the holiday park if he were to participate in the discussion.

In his absence, the planning committee approved 50 new pitches at the Littlesea Holiday Park, near Weymouth. After the meeting, Mr Friar said: "Dorset is part of the World Heritage Coast and these sites have an intrusive effect on the landscape. Secondly, I don't like sitting in my car behind a slow-moving caravan which refuses to pull over and let me through. In this part of the world, that happens a lot."

Fiona Bewers, of the Caravan Club, said: "Modern cars and caravans can more than adequately go at their maximum speed limit of 60mph."



Bookplate by Andrew Jamieson, abated as noted in the text

abatements ever adopted were those relating to illegitimacy of birth. The abatements were: (1) Delf tenné, assigned t o o n e revoking receding from his o w n challenge (2) Inescutcheon reversed sanguine in fess point, assigned for dishonourable conduct to a woman, or flying from the banner of his prince. (3) A point dexter tenné, assigned a vainglorious boaster. (4) A point in point sanguine, cowardice. (5) plain sanguine, for lying to prince or commander.

(6) A point champagne

tenné, for slaying a prisoner after demanding quarter. [This should have been awarded to Edward I of England, after the Siege of Caerlaverock (AMF)] (7) A gore sinister tenné, for behaving in a cowardly way towards an enemy. (8) A gusset sanguine, borne on the right for adultery, on the sinister for drunkenness. (9) The whole armorial shield reversed, for treason. All these eight first named abatements are coloured sanguine or tenné. This is important to remember, for the charges

themselves, when of other tinctures, are quite honourable.

Of these various sins, surely Stephen cannot realistically be accused of revoking a challenge, dishonourable conduct to a woman, cowardice, lying, slaying a prisoner, cowardly behaviour to an enemy, adultery or drunkenness or indeed treason; however, I think we might justly attack him for appearing in a national newspaper and the closest mediaeval sin is vainglorious boasting. I therefore propose that his arms should be abated by a point dexter tenné, charged with a motor caravan proper. It must of course be shown proper to indicate that it is improper to criticise the said travelling home.

# GILLESPIE IS CHIEF HERALD

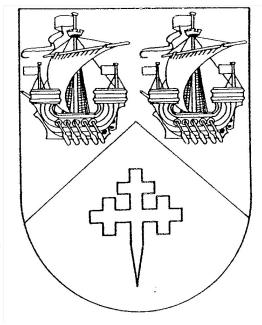
Congratulations to Fergus Gillespie on his appointment as Chief Herald of Ireland on 31st August 2005. He was previously Deputy Chief Herald and Keeper of the National Library's Genealogical Office. He succeeds Brendan O'Donoghue, who retired in September 2003. Fluent in several languages, Mr. Gillespie uses the Irish version of his name, Fergus Mac Giolla Easpaig. Recently, the Office of Chief Herald was

presented with a tabard by the Heraldry Society of Scotland, and it is hoped that the new Chief Herald will don this during the formal opening ceremonies at the XXVII International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldic Sciences to be held in St Andrews in August this year.

Earliest references to heralds of arms in Ireland date back to 1382, when records show that John Chandos was appointed 'Ireland King of Arms'. When heraldic responsibility passed to the Irish state in 1943, Dr Edward MacLysaght, styled Chief Herald of Ireland, succeeded to the functions and powers of Ulster King of Arms. The title of 'Ulster' was then attached to the existing post of Norroy King of Arms.

Roland Symons

(who did the writing and the drawing)



Arms of Fergus Gillespie: per chevron Azure and Argent in chief two lymphads sails set oars in action flags flying of the second, in base a cross crosslet fitché Gules

## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS Spring 2006

| Wed 15th February                    | 4.00 pm<br>6.00 pm<br>7.30 pm | Meet at the Grammar House for tea, followed<br>by a visit to Langport Church<br>Supper<br>AGM, then a talk by Ralph Brocklebank on<br>taking applications for arms through the<br>College of Arms  |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| Sat 18th March                       | 11.00 am<br>2.00 pm           | Heraldic tour of Bath with Roland Symons: meet at the west door of the Abbey Talk by Stephen Slater and Russell Fletcher: Brush up your Heraldry: marriages and quarterings. Manvers St Baptist Centre. This is a City of Bath Heraldic Society meeting. |
| Sat 1st April                        | 2.30 pm                       | Visit to Oake and Milverton Churches led by<br>David Hawkings. Lunch at Royal Oak on<br>Milverton/Taunton road at 12.30 pm.  |
| Sat 6th May                          | 2.30 pm                       | Visit to Bristol Cathedral   |
| Sat 17th June                        | 11.30 am<br>2.30 pm           | Ottery St Mary Church<br>Sidbury Church followed by Sand. Entry and<br>tea £7.50. We can have lunch in a nearby pub  |
| AUTUMN EVENTS<br>Sat xxth September  | 2.30 pm                       | Visit to Shrivenham Church, near Swindon with Arlene Fisher. Pub lunch first   |
| Sat 14th October<br>Wed 8th November | 10.00 am<br>6.30 pm           | AGM of the Associated Societies of SANHS Annual Dinner: speaker Mark Dennis  |

#### SOMERSET HERALDRY SOCIETY

|                        | Objects                                    |
|------------------------|--|
| Ronald Gadd, MBE, RD   | The aims shall be to promote and           |
| Alex Maxwell Findlater | encourage the study of heraldry especially |
| Anthony Bruce          | in the historic county of Somerset.        |
| nber David Hawkings    |  |
|                        | Address for correspondence                 |
| [                      | Alex Maxwell Findlater<br>Anthony Bruce    |

Annual Subscription
The Grammar House, The Hill, Langport,
for ordinary members £10 pa
for family members £15 pa
Telephone & facsimile 01458 250868
email alex@findlater.org.uk

#### **GILL FORREST 1946—2005**

Gill died on the evening of our annual dinner, Wednesday 26th October. Ron was with her to the end and nursed her throughout her illness, which, in its final phase only lasted for about six weeks. Although she died young, only 59, her life ended in a flourish, for after courting with Ron for some ten years they bought a house together and moved in, making it their own, designing and planting the garden and brewing up splendid meals, some of with members enjoyed, in her well-appointed kitchen. This makes it all the harder for her family to bear, but she herself was so blessed with this and of course with the love and care of Ron himself.



She was full of fun, vivacious, a party-goer, but a discriminating one, who did not take things too seriously, particularly heraldry. She enjoyed weekends away with Ron and these often centred on heraldic meetings or Ron's Aircrews Association duties. The mother of three, she retained her beauty and her figure, and Ron and she made a fine couple. She played badminton twice a week and was a picture of health; how cruel that this health turned out to be more apparent than real. Her delight was her garden and nothing gave her greater pleasure than to go off for a jaunt and come back with something from a garden centre on the way.

From the inception of the Somerset Heraldry Society, she regularly attended events, including all our visits to historic sites, which she particularly enjoyed. We all enjoyed her infectious enthusiasm for life and we shall greatly miss her. We offer our condolences to Ron.

Three short appreciations by Society members

**from Joan**: The place of her delight - her garden - was the setting for an Heraldry Society supper party. An abundance of savoury food was followed by cake and strawberries and cream. Gill, ever thoughtful of others, even provided a special plate of gluten-free food for "our Ruth". A person of happy memory we shall not forget.

**from Hattie**: Because of Gill's happy presence the SHS events were always tremendous fun and immediately became a gathering of good friends, bent on enjoyment. She always dressed beautifully and looked immaculate, and was unfailingly warm and laughing.

**from Anthony**: At every meeting of SHS, without exception, when Gill was there the atmosphere was warmer and more friendly. She had a knack of making one feel welcome to the company. It was always a joy to hear from Ron and Gill of their travels together in Europe and of how they so companionably shared their interests.

#### REVIEW OF RECENT MEETINGS



Our guest Robert Noel, Lancaster Herald, Society member Antoinette Passmore in front of the great fireplace in the undercroft

Noel who was to be our speaker. We got underway rather late, because the projector had not been set up and didn't work. However, the caretaker of the palace manfully donned the electrician's tabard and we were able to enjoy Robert's interesting talk, though not before all his slides hit the deck, resulting in a somewhat disordered, but by no means disorderly talk.

The burden of his talk was how various and idiosyncratic were the petitioners whom he shepherded through the grant process. He showed slides of arms which were either very traditional, or very modern, or indeed so crowded that it was difficult to discern the theme at all, except that the clutter of the shield was positively Victorian. It was clear that the eclectic Robert, despite the leaky roof above his bed of which he reminded us a few times, granted to her ancestor

In the space between this Journal and the last we have had three meetings, the visit to Wells and Dinner in October, the visit to North Cadbury Church and Court in November and most recently the "indoor" meeting in Langport in January, when we held a Symposium.

We arrived in Wells in dribs and drabs, first to St Cuthbert's the parish church. This is often overlooked, but is a wonderful building and has quite a lot of family heraldry as well as two fine versions of the Royal arms from the 17th century. We were also lucky enough to be shown the Bubwith almshouses, where there is a small window with mediaeval glass and in the main East window a number of coats of arms associated with bishops of Wells.

Next we went to the Bishop's Palace for drinks. Here met Robert



Antoinette sent me this picture of her arms from a manuscript of ca 1520, when a crest of a sea-hare (puss = hare and mare = sea) was

is an excellent midwife to an aspiring armiger. At the end there were many questions, all of which were dealt with fully.

The dinner was again in the Bishop's Dining Room and was excellent. Alex proclaimed Ron's speech, with interruptions from the Guest Speaker, but none too serious. A very enjoyable evening was had by all and we were only sorry that Ron could not be with 118.





Pew end from North Cadbury

In November we visited North Cadbury and the report of this appears on the next page. Perhaps we ought to attempt some more joint meetings, as this one went very well and we even acquired a new member: welcome Judith Graham.

Our January Symposium on interesting heraldic curiosities and queries centred on three shorter topics, firstly a presentation by Tony Wood, based on the illuminated broadsheet which he had done about ten years ago to show the integration of heraldic painting and calligraphy. The broadsheet concerned John Fordham, Bishop of Durham, and incorporated a wonderful achievement of his arms as bishop, impaled, with the coronet and mitre above for a Bishop Palatine. He explained that it was illuminated because of the use of burnished gold and silver, which would come alive when the page was moved.

David Hawkings brought up the question of how a coat of arm originates and who would be entitled to it. The discussion ranged on to the probabilities of a coat being

available to other members of the same name and it was suggested that the answer was to follow the genealogy, but that even in the absence of a firm link, some logical conjecture might be employed. Finally Ron Gadd showed us books with some Portuguese armory, which made an interesting contrast with British styles and discussed the Portuguese.



The main oriel window at North Cadbury

#### VISIT TO NORTH CADBURY

On 12th November, we visited North Cadbury, where we were able to see both the Church and the Court. We were lucky that the Somerset Archaeological Society were able to make this a joint visit, thus allowing both groups to enjoy this lovely time capsule. Many of us met for a lunch in the Catash pub in the village (Catash is the name of the Hundred, although the origin of the name does not seem clear) and this was a good start, and most enjoyable.



The south front, but only the projecting central section is eighteenth century

First to the church, where looked we at architecture, from the early C15, heard from Mary Siraut how the manor was part of the Newmarch inheritance half of which came to the Moels family, who in turn ended in an heiress who married Botreaux. She explained church that the refounded in 1417 by the widowed Lady Botreaux as college of seven chaplains, which unfortunately never thrived. There are tombs of both Botreaux and.

successors here, Hungerfords (from Farleigh Hungerford). The particular glory of this church is the collection of C16 pew ends, which are carved in a style both energetic and expressive, and include a number which reflect the heraldry of local families, such as Pauncfoot, Carent, Stourton and Boys. There are also various references to families, such as the knot badge of the Hastings, successors to the Hungerfords and the ragged staff of the earls of Warwick as well as purely religious symbolism such as the Virgin and Child, a Glastonbury Cross (a cross flory) and the monogram IHS (for the Greek  $I\eta\sigma\sigma\varsigma$ , or Jesus).

Then on to the house, next door, via the front lawn where we admired the classical proportions and symmetry of this glorious front, which looks across the valley, now dominated by the A303, towards Cadbury Castle and other wooded slopes. We entered the house through the dining room, passing from the eastern end of the house to the centre through the drawing room to the saloon, with its gracious gentle curve, which is somewhat reminiscent of the astonishing saloon at Culzean Castle, with that romantic drop to the ocean created by Adam. Here the aspect was no less romantic, but pastoral rather than astonishing.

From the saloon, we went into the great hall and here we were brought firmly back to the C16. In fact the dining room and the drawing room were also C16, when they had been built as mainly service accommodation. It is a tribute to the skill of the architects of that earlier house, that when stripped out in the C18, the proportions of the empty shell were so perfect for these gracious living rooms. We looked at the armorial glass in the oriel window of the great hall, showing all the many family associations of Sir Francis Hastings, who had this house from his brother the Earl of Huntingdon, but alas lived in it for only a few years. One of the roundels has the date 1594 which is consistent with the dendro-dating of this part of the building. The Hastings were the heirs of the Hungerfords and so had a rich harvest of heiress quarterings to honour.

Onwards and upwards, we looked at a bedroom with a lovely painted frieze and at the sunken lead bath in the next room; it has its own boiler and relies on gravity from the height of the water table in the hills opposite to feed it to the first floor. Then on up again and suddenly we found ourselves in a roof-space from 1300; this was above the original great hall, which is now used for stairs and a bedroom above the billiard room. The timbers were dendro-dated when the SVBRG did their investigations in 1997. Jane Penoyre, who led that team talked to us about this roof and the development of the house, also about the roof over the present great hall which dates from 1589/90, again based on dendro-dating. In this case the dating was very useful as it was not easy to date the style of the roof. The tour of the house took in as much of the top floor as members were minded to explore and we were also able to look at a late C16 plasterwork ceiling in one of the bedrooms above the present great hall.

Finally, we were introduced to the fruits of the Cadbury lands, for Mrs Montgomery offered us tea and cakes and started to talk to us about the cheese which they have always made, but which her son James is now making commercial basis and whose fame stretches as New far as York. Nothing daunted Joan Jordan asked what the cheese was like and heypresto a piece appeared



The roof dendro-dated to 1300 above the first great hall.

and was savoured and enjoyed by everyone. Very many thanks to Mrs Montgomery for her hospitality.

Alex Maxwell Findlater

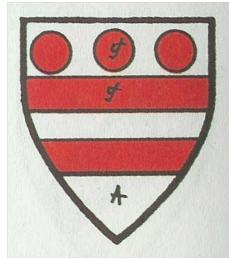
# THE HERALDRY OF THE HUNGERFORDS A WEST COUNTRY DYNASTY by Stephen Slater

As I stare out of my office window across the grasslands of Salisbury Plain, I realise that the scene, populated as it is by numerous small flocks of sheep, is little changed from the Middle Ages when in all probability the same flocks would have been owned by those medieval magnates, the Hungerfords.

Recently the Somerset Heraldry Society was welcomed by Mrs Montgomery in her home, North Cadbury Court, a house which for several generations was a Hungerford property. I know of few families that made fuller use of their heraldry than the Hungerfords and we saw at North Cadbury their arms: Sable two bars argent and in chief three plates which were included as a quarter in the shield of the Hastings - how the Hastings had the right to use the Hungerford heraldry you shall soon read.

The Hungerfords 'happened' on the scene in England during a period of great turmoil, firstly with the Hundred Years War and then that time of dynastic strife we now call The Wars of the Roses. The Hungerfords rose to prominence in the household of the Dukes of Lancaster and later served all too faithfully the cause of the 'Red Rose'. This cost them dearly with two heads of the family (no pun intended) being executed for their adherence to Henry VI.

The Hungerfords inherited the North Cadbury estates through the marriage in the 15th



de Moels arms, Argent two bars Gules and in chief three torteaux (from Foster)

Century of Sir Robert Hungerford to Margaret, daughter and heiress of William, Lord Botreaux (d. 1463). The Botreaux family had previously inherited the same property through marriage to the heiress of de Moels. Both the latter families had had extensive lands in the West Country, these swelling greatly the Hungerford coffers during the fifteenth Century.

The arms of de Moels (Argent two bars gules in chief three torteaux) and Botreaux both feature amongst the Hungerford quarterings at North Cadbury Court, those of the latter family usually appear as a red griffin on a white field (Argent a griffin segreant gules) or as three black toads on a white field (Argent three toads sable). The usual explanation for these latter arms being an heraldic pun on the Cornish word for toad

'botral' although I have not been able to verify this. Another more colourful explanation came from the folk of Farleigh Hungerford (the main Hungerford home) who, because of the nefarious goings on at Farleigh castle, said that the toads represented the poisons used by a Hungerford husband keen to rid himself of a troublesome wife!

Early seals of the Hungerfords (and other manifestations) have them using arms Per pale indented Vert and gules, a chevron or. These are said to have been originally the arms of the de Heytesbury family, an early Hungerford having married their heiress, but I am inclined to believe (there being very little evidence of the de Heytesbury family) that these are the original Hungerford arms.

In the middle of the 14th Century another Hungerford married the heiress of the FitzJohn family of Cherhill in Wiltshire and from that time the arms of the latter family: Sable two bars argent in chief three plates became thought of as



FitzJohn family of Cherhill in Hungerford ancient or perhaps Heytesbury quartering St Wiltshire and from that time the arms of the latter family: Sable talbot crest and the swan supporters, but without reflexed two bars argent in chief three chains as born by the Luttrells

those of the Hungerfords. The taking by one family of another's arms was not unusual during the late medieval period especially if the heiress wife came from a more prestigious family in both land and titles. Often the Hungerfords quartered the 'FitzJohn arms with those of de Heytesbury, interchanging them regularly.

The real founder of the Hungerfords was Sir Thomas who died in 1398. Said to be first Speaker of the House of Commons, Sir Thomas' adherence to the Dukes of Lancaster brought him both status and land. He purchased the estates of Farleigh Montfort (later known as Farleigh Hungerford) near Bath, and Heytesbury below Salisbury Plain. The land between the two estates was used for a complex system of sheep rearing, the losses to the Hungerford flocks being so low as to be the envy of any modern farmer.

Sir Thomas' son Sir Walter added to his father's possessions and by the middle of the 15th Century the Hungerfords were one of the West Country's wealthiest families. Sir Walter was later advanced to a peerage as Lord (Baron) Hungerford styling himself 'of

Hungerford and Homet', the latter place being a township in Normandy; he was also made a Knight of the Garter, something he valued most highly. Lord Walter loved his heraldry and used it whenever and wherever possible; he married an heiress of the Peverel family whose arms included three wheatsheafs or 'garbs' and from this time the crest of a garb between two sickles became known throughout Wiltshire although even more popular was the Hungerford family badge of a 'sickle' or knot of 3 interlaced sickles. Often the sickle was placed on the Hungerford liveries of red and green, these colours being used to decorate all manner of Hungerford property.

Lord Walter was a remarkable man, serving no less than three King Henrys (IV, V and VI) variously as Treasurer, Steward and roving ambassador. He also served Richard II and wore that monarch's famous livery collar of a white hart and broomcods; this was stolen from Lord Walter by an unruly mob, the collar was at that time valued at £20, an enormous sum.



Later seal of Walter Lord Hungerford, ca 1420. Note the two banners, dexter the old Hungerford arms and sinister Thomas, both men being two sickles

Hungerford and his son Sir Thomas, both men being executed for their adherence to two sickles

Lord Walter died in 1449 and was succeeded in his barony by his son Sir Robert; it was this gent who married the Lady Margaret Botreaux thereby adding that family's estates to those of the Hungerfords.

Lady Margaret Hungerford and Botreaux, as she liked to be styled, was a woman much in the mould of her friend and distant kinswoman, the Lady Margaret Beaufort. She was much involved in that period of strife we call the Wars of the Roses and outlived both her son, Robert 3rd Lord Hungerford and his son Sir Thomas, both men being executed for their adherence to the Red Rose.

The noble Lady Margaret had a splendid chantry chapel added on to the side of Salisbury Cathedral as a burial place for herself and her husband's family. She saw to it that the chapel walls and ceilings were liberally scattered with the arms of the Hungerfords and their marital alliances, furthermore, the chantry inventory makes mention of many another fitting which bore Hungerford heraldry, these included altar cloths embroidered with "my Lorde Hungerforde his creste and his armes richely embowdered" whilst a fine pair of silver gilt candlesticks are 'pounced' (ie sprinkled)

with "ye armes that longeth to the Passion; and also the Hungerfordis Armes, the Botreaux armes, and ye Beamondis (Beaumont) armes".

Despite the Lady Margaret entreating her family to show loyalty to the new rule of Edward IV and the House of York, they still in the main supported the House of Lancaster. The main line ended in an heiress, the Lady Mary Hungerford; her marriage was 'purchased' from Edward IV by his good friend and wenching mate, William Lord Hastings of Kirby Muxloe in Leicestershire. The titles and lands of Lady Mary's father and grandfather had both been attainted but she was still one of the richest heiresses of her time and Lord Hastings married her off to his own son and heir, George Hastings; thus North Cadbury was to remain in Hastings hands for several generations.



Seal of Robert Lord Hungerford after 1449. This time the FitzJohn arms, with banners of Peverill and Botreaux. The crest is the garb between two sickles again, and the supporters are the Botreaux griffon and the talbot, which used to be the crest.

The Hastings arms (Argent a maunch sable) are much in evidence in the glass at North Cadbury Court but they take up a small portion of the shields which are in the main filled with the heraldic quarterings o f the Hungerfords. George Hastings was later created Earl of Huntingdon. The earls were also very keen to use the Hungerford sickle which they married to the Peverel garb by means of a knotted cord; this 'cognisance' is also much in evidence at North Cadbury.



FIG. 230.—Arms of George Hastings, Earl of Huntingdon (MS. Add., 22,306): Quarterly, I. argent, a maunch sable (for Hastings); 2. sable, two bars argent, and in chief three plates (for Hungerford); 3. argent, a griffin segreant gules, armed azure (for Botreaux); 4. paly wavy of four or and gules (for Moleyns).



Seal ca 1460 of Elizabeth Botreaux, the heiress, who married Robert 2nd Lord Hungerford. On the dexter banner are impaled Hungerford (St John) and Botreaux (the griffin), on the sinister Botreaux and Beaumont, for her mother. Thus the dexter banner is the achievement of herself and her husband as Lord and Lady Hungerford and the sinister of her parents as Lord and Lady Botreaux. She was *suo jure* Baroness Botreaux, as is shown by the legend, *Sigillum margarete dne (domine) de hungerford et de botreaux*. This impaled achievement is called *baron et femme*, appropriately here, but elsewhere also, even if the husband is not a baron!

The maunch mentioned in the Hastings arms is the heraldic treatment for a medieval lady's sleeve, the pocket that hangs down was where the lady would keep her prayer book; the word maunch also happens to be the French name for the English Channel, so called as it does resemble the shape of an old sleeve.

As to the rest of the Hungerford story, let's return to Lady Mary's father, who was

attainted and executed at Salisbury in 1469. He had a younger brother, Sir Walter who, although supposedly less a 'Red Rose' than his ancestors, was considered enough of a threat by Richard III to be placed in the Tower of London. When in 1485 Richard went north to intercept the forces of Henry Tudor he sent for The Constable of the Tower, Sir Robert Brackenbury to rendezvous with him bringing those 'miscreants' Sir Walter Hungerford and his friend Sir Thomas Bourchier. As it happened Sir Walter and Sir Thomas managed to give their gaoler the slip, the next time they all met up was on the field of Bosworth where, according to some records, Sir Walter slew Brackenbury.

After Henry Tudor's victory at Bosworth the Hungerfords were able to regain much of their estates including Farleigh Castle wherein (during the period of the Hungerford attainders) the Duchess of Clarence, wife of the gent that ended up in a malmsey barrel, gave birth to a baby girl who later gained an unfortunate notoriety as the Countess of Salisbury, who in her eighties was chased round the block on Tower Hill before having her head lopped off by the executioner. Lady Salisbury's demise cannot have been far from where, not so many years before, Lady Mary Hungerford's fatherin-law, Lord Hastings lost his head to a rusty sword this time at the behest of Richard III.

By the 18th Century the Hungerfords were on the decline and one by one the various branches in the West Country died out, but some 500 years after their great adventure on Salisbury Plain, I still feel their presence, not so much by the flocks of sheep but by their sickle badge which is carved on and in many a Wiltshire church, a memory from the time when there were many local priests saying masses for their souls.

But my favourite place of pilgrimage has to be the church of Seend that sits atop a ridge opposite Salisbury Plain; looking up to the crenellations on the outside the nave you can still view a series of carved devices, the intertwined sickles of the Hungerfords, the knot badge of the Bourchiers and the ship's rudder of the lords Willoughby from nearby Broke House. I cannot but think that the three badges represent three West Country companions who were together on that fatal day in 1485 when the Red Rose finally outflowered the White Rose on Bosworth Field.



Detail from a window at North Cadbury

# THE 27th INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF GENEALOGICAL AND HERALDIC SCIENCES

#### 21st to 26th August 2006 ST ANDREWS SCOTLAND

This year the Congress will be plane or train ride from Society are encouraged to book

The theme of the Congress is should give plenty of scope. visits to castle and palaces, a day Edinburgh Tattoo. There are ceremonies, dinner, dancing and is a full partner programme,



held in St Andrews, an easy car, Somerset. All members of the early to avoid disappointment.

Myth and Propaganda, which There are days-out arranged, for in Edinburgh, a visit to the also the normal opening music, which fill the week. There which, for the less modernist,

means something for the husband or wife to do while one is enjoying the heraldry.

The Congress starts when we all arrive on Sunday night and settle in. On Monday in the afternoon are the opening ceremonies, with the Princess Royal, and with lots of colour and pageantry, including heralds in their tabards. The English ones say they will not wear tabards as the Sovereign isn't present, so they will wear Court Dress; only if you come will you know whether they change their minds.

The hosts are the Lord Lyon, Robin Blair (bottom left) and the President of the SGS, Sir Malcolm Innes of Edingight (bottom right) who was Lord Lyon and is now Orkney Herald Extraordinary. The workers on the ground are the Heraldry Society of Scotland and the Scottish Genealogy Society. Those of you who know members of these two societies will already be expecting a wonderful time. After a week filled with fun and scholarship, we all depart after Saturday lunch.







After the Congress there is an Heraldic Tour. This starts after Saturday lunch, visiting St Andrew's Church, Dundee and a special Civic Reception in the St Nicholas Room, Aberdeen; then on Sunday King's College, St Machar's Cathedral, for its wonderful ceiling, Fyvie and Huntly Castles; on Monday a tour of Elgin followed by a visit to Elgin Cathedral and to Glen Grant Distillery; on Tuesday St Adamnan's Church Kilmaveonaig, Blair Atholl, St Mary's Grantully and Dunkeld Cathedral; and on Wednesday Falkland Palace, Dunfermline Abbey and Palace, Culross Abbey and Palace and finally Broomhall, the home of Lord Elgin, chief of the Bruces.