

THE SOMERSET DRAGON

THE JOURNAL OF THE SOMERSET HERALDRY SOCIETY

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A word of warning to all potential contributors. The society recently had to pay a penalty of £304 to the Associated Press for using a photograph without permission and thus infringing copyright regulations. This happened over ten years ago but no matter. Please check the copyright situation when you submit articles for publication as we certainly don't want any repetition. But do keep the offerings flowing!

Can anyone identify the arms to the right? For more information on this fascinating set of pictures see the article on pages 14 and 15 and a further picture on page 16.



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WHAT'S IN A NAME BY STEPHEN SLATER

Recently I added another armorial bookplate to my little, but ever growing, collection. The name on the plate seemed to ring bells with me and I thought I needed to find out more.

The plate is for Mr Edward Loveden Loveden, of Buscot Park, Berkshire, who died in 1822, when his estates passed to his only son Mr Pryse Pryse! So you see where I'm going, or more probably, not!



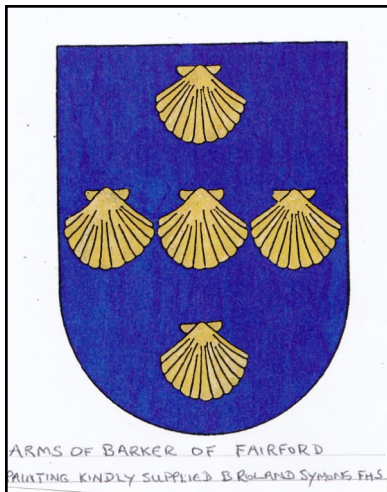
Edward was born Edward Loveden Townsend. In 1772 he took for his own surname and arms that of Loveden, to succeed to the estates of his maternal uncle, Edward Loveden. The younger Edward, already wealthy, went on to marry three heiresses, the first being a Miss Pryse, her estates eventually passed to her son by Edward, Pryse, who, to please his mother, changed his own surname from Loveden to Pryse, thereby becoming Pryse Pryse!!

The Lovedens had been settled at Buscot for three centuries before Edward Townsend (Loveden) succeeded to the estates, their arms granted in 1589 were: Gules a bend between three sinister hands coupé argent. The crest (also on the bookplate) a leopard sejant or ducally crowned argent. The motto: *Manua Juxta Nardu* = A just hand is a precious ointment.

In 1794, when aged 43, Edward Loveden married his last wife, Anne, daughter and heiress of Thomas Lintall of Norbiton Hall, Surrey, she was at the time just 21.

Edward by this time was a very rich man with many interests including politics, military affairs and such like. But he was also a kind man and felt due to assist a neighbouring friend of the gentry, Mr Barker of nearby Fairford Park. The latter gent had a large family and Edward Loveden allowed one of the younger Barker boys, Thomas, to often stay at Buscot. The older man coming to see young Thomas much as his own younger son, Edward even helped to finance Thomas in his studies when he was a lay Fellow of Merton College, Oxford.

The Barkers of Fairford had a pleasingly simple coat of arms, the painting here kindly supplied by our own Roland Symons. Blazoned it is: Azure five escallops in cross or.



It is difficult to imagine that the life of young Mrs Loveden was very exacting or exciting in her Berkshire backwater. Despite all Edward's wealth, he was often away and there's only so much sewing and reading of 18th century romances that a young lady can cope with- but then comes along this handsome young Oxford student, Thomas Barker!

The fact that young Thomas seemed often to stay at Buscot at times when Edward Loveden was away soon became noticed by the servants and the increasing affair between the two young people soon became common knowledge to those 'below stairs'. As for Thomas and Anne, they seemed to think that their doings were so secret nobody, especially those of the lower classes, would suspect.

But the butler at Buscot, Mr Hastings, certainly knew, so did many others of the household including the coachman, who was concerned that the extreme stress to the springs of the barouche was making it unsafe and despite the blinds being pulled down Mrs L would appear 'heated and very red'. The servants also noticed that at Buscot itself suddenly the door edges and hinges to Mrs Loveden's private apartment had been well oiled, so as to make them silent. The great question was when to make old Mr Loveden aware of the increasingly intimate nature of his wife's and young Thomas Barker's attachment.

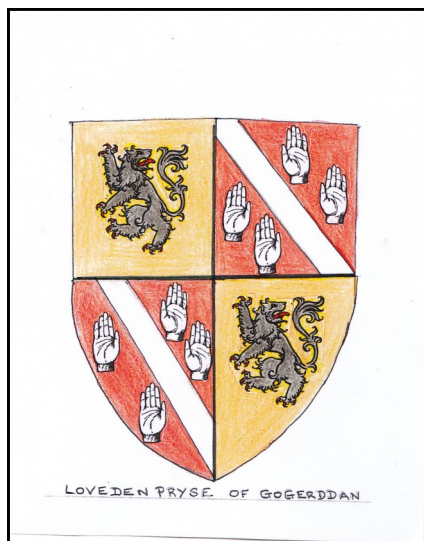
The butler and other staff did try their best to warn off Thomas Barker- going so far at one point for Mr Hastings to spring out with a loaded pistol on Thomas (during one nocturnal tryst)- asking him on his honour and as a gentleman, never to visit Mrs Loveden again, this the young man promised to do. Of course Thomas did no such thing and therefore the Buscot household felt there was no other way left open to them than to firstly inform Edward's son, Pryse of the affair and later to let Edward have the letters intercepted between Anne and Thomas- their contents decidedly 'explosive'.

Edward had been warned by friends and family of Anne's infatuation but he could not believe that young Thomas, a scion of a good family, a gentleman and someone that he, Edward had treated like his own son, could be responsible for such unseemly behaviour. Now that he had irrefutable evidence of that betrayal (the letters) there was only one thing to do, bring a case for adultery (or given the archaic language of the day 'criminal conversation') against the young couple.

Here is not the place to detail the hectic tooings and froings of the London lawyers in the early nineteenth century on behalf of loveden vs Loveden, it seemed to involve so many degrees of the English legal system that I was totally baffled - suffice to say, at one point a law lord could not believe the sordid actions laid bare in his court room were possible to people of the 'delicate classes'. The next judge to whom Edward Loveden appealed, suggested the previous judge was rather naive in his judgement. The case of Loveden vs Loveden rumbled on for months until it reached Parliament. In the end Edward was granted his divorce but was still expected to pay his ex wife a certain sum annually, but this was much less than suggested previously. Parliament was so embarrassed by the farce played during the Loveden divorce bill, it actually caused a change in the law to make sure such a fiasco never happened again He, Edward, who seemed, by most accounts a good man now suffered in the knowledge that he was regarded by many in county society as an old man cuckolded in his marital bed by a man half his age.

When Edward Loveden died in 1822, his only son, Pryse Pryse, seemed to favour his mother's Welsh estate, Gogerddan, over Buscot. His descendants were created baronets and used the quartered arms of 1 and 4 Pryse: Or a lion rampant regardant sable with 2 and 3 Loveden.

The last baronet, who went under the splendid name (they were always changing names) of Sir Pryse Loveden Saunders-Pryse, died in 1962.





Gogerddan is now part of the University of Wales. Buscot Park is owned by the National Trust but lived in still by the Henderson family (Baron Faringdon).

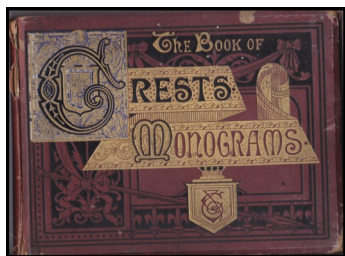
Lord Faringdon's bookplate, an appropriate follow up to Edward Loveden's, was kindly sent to me recently by Lord Faringdon's/Buscot librarian.

I'm not sure what happened to Anne Loveden, but the affair seems not to have done young Thomas Barker any great harm, he went on to be Chairman of the Thames Conservancy and a leading figure in the Royal Agricultural Society. The splendid family mansion of Fairford Park like so many of its kind was pulled down in 1957, having been used by the military during the Second World War.

SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE YEAR 2023 ARE NOW DUE.

£15 SINGLE MEMBERSHIP £20 DOUBLE

PLEASE SEND DIRECT TO OUR TREASURER CAROL HAINES. ADDRESS ON BACK PAGE. MANY THANKS.



CREST COLLECTION IN NEED OF A GOOD HOME!

The society has recently been offered an Edwardian Crest Collection. The crests are mounted in three ring binders and there must be at least a thousand examples. The Duke of Marlborough and Earl Lonsdale feature on the page below. Similar pages on ebay are up for £12.50 and complete collections for £100 plus. The cover illustrated above is my own and not included. If anyone is interested in acquiring the collection please contact me.



THE 'OLD' AND THE 'NEW' by ROLAND SYMONS PART II NORLAND COLLEGE



On 25th September 1892, Emily Ward set up the Norland Institute on Norland Place in Holland Park, Kensington, to train nursery nurses for children on the principles of Friedrich Froebel the founder of the kindergarten system. Norland was the first educational establishment in the world to offer any kind of childcare training. In founding Norland, Emily Ward created the profession of the trained nursery nurse on which all future nursery nurse training would be based. To differentiate these nurses from housemaids, a distinctive special uniform was worn. The original uniforms were pink then blue, only changing to the current, beige much later due to the need for dye for the war effort. While the uniform has evolved over time, it is still worn by Norland students whilst training today.

Norland College, as it became known, moved to Bath in 2003. Its first home was York Villa off the London Road. The house was named after George III's second son, Frederick Augustus, Duke of York. In 2017, the college opened its new state-of-the-art purpose-built learning and teaching facilities at Upper Oldfield Park. Since 2019, Norland has held degree awarding powers which means it is able to award its own undergraduate and taught postgraduate degrees, a major step towards its ambition to become the first early years university in the world.

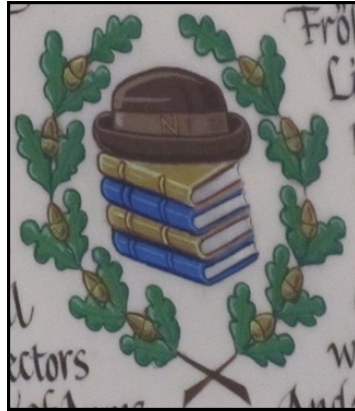
To celebrate its 130th anniversary and the first graduation of its students with a Norland-awarded degree, the college commissioned a coat of arms which was granted in November 2021, and which was revealed at its first graduation ceremonies in March 2022. The design reflects Norland's heritage. The agent was David White, now Garter, Principal King of Arms. The Grant was signed by him and by Timothy Duke, Clarenceux, King of Arms and Robert Noel, Norroy and Ulster King of Arms. Their seals of office are affixed at the foot of the Grant. It was one of the first to be granted by these Kings of Arms, whose appointments occurred in 2021.

The heraldic *blazon* of the arms and badge is as follows:

Arms : Or, a barrulet fracted and there conjoined to an annulet conjoined to a palet azure all between four speedwell flowers proper.

Crest : Upon a helm with a wreath Or and azure within a nest azure an owl affront and at the feet three owlets Or.

Badge : Enclosed by the branches of oak crossed in base proper fructed Or a stack of four closed books bound alternately Or and azure thereon a Norland Nanny hat proper.



The rationale behind the design and tinctures is as follows

The four speedwell flowers and the blue show the badge Norland has used since the early 1900s, which is worn on the distinctive Norland hat. The actual word means ‘to thrive’, which seemed very apt for Norlanders and their work with children. The gold colouring reflects the ‘gold standard’ of early years training supplied by Norland.

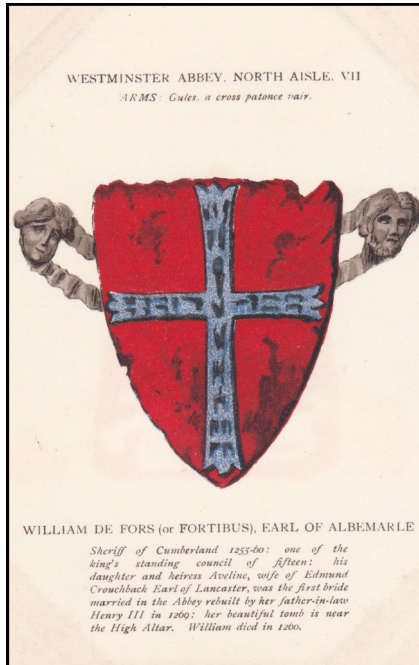
The blue cross pattern can be constructed using the wooden blocks from the Froebel educational toy Box 5. Very cleverly, this can be described in heraldic terminology!

The crest of a guardian owl with three owlets of different sizes in its nest mirrors the wise watchfulness of Norlanders, while the motto is taken from the Revised Version of St Paul’s first letter to the Corinthians, chapter 13 verse 8.

The missing colour is the brown of the Norland uniform. There is no heraldic colour called ‘brown’, but brown, together with the blue and gold, features in the hood of graduate students.

The whole Grant is a tribute to the origin and intention of Norland College.

ANCIENT SHIELDS IN WESTMINSTER ABBEY



This issue's offering, William de Fors Earl of Albermarle is the last in the series and is No, VII in the North Aisle. The caption informs us that the earl was 'sheriff of Cumberland 1255-60: one of the king's standing council of fifteen: his daughter and heiress Aveline, wife of Edmund Crouchback Earl of Lancaster, was the first bride married in the abbey rebuilt by her father-in-law Henry III in 1269: her beautiful tomb is near the High Altar. William died in 1260.' The arms are described as *Gules a cross patonce vair*.

OUR SOCIETY THE CURRENT POSITION

- * We have around twenty members, assuming those on the books last year have paid their subs for 2023!
- * Subscriptions are £15 single membership and £20 double.
- * Outgoings are largely to pay for the production, printing and distribution of The Somerset Dragon plus contributions to churches etc that we visit during the course of the year.
- * The Somerset Dragon appears three times a year—April, August and December and usually contains three articles plus an assortment of shorter pieces.

* We aim to have an AGM, an annual lunch and a spring/summer visit. Last year we fused the three in order to avoid unnecessary travel.

* We publicise details of Saturday lectures offered by the Bath Heraldic Society, to which many of our own members belong.

* We have a small committee but given the fact that our chairman is based in Hampshire, the secretary lives in Wiltshire and only our treasurer resides in Somerset, when it comes to the officers of the society, meetings in person are few and far between.

* If more is required in the shape of meetings, visits etc all we need are enthusiastic volunteers to organise them.

AN 18th CENTURY ARMORIAL

It is almost four years since we featured an illustration from *The Universal Magazine of Knowledge and Pleasure* which ran from 1747 to 1803 or *The British Magazine*, a short lived publication which appeared in the period 1760 to 1762. It seems high time for another offering so here is Cooper Earl of Shaftesbury, which appeared in *The Universal* in 1771.



B.D.V. CIGARETTES THE HERALDIC SERIES By STEPHEN TUDSBERY-TURNER

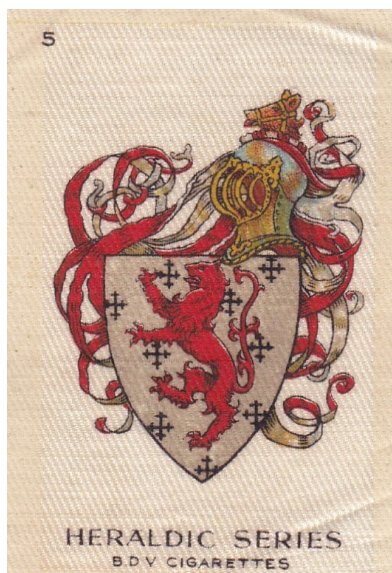


Silks, a superior version of the standard cigarette cards, were a popular form of tobacco advertising in the period leading up to and including the Great War. The pictures they contained were printed by lithography on to pieces of satin, certainly very different from the usual card. The most prolific producer of silks was the London based firm of Godfrey Phillips & Co Ltd. Production of their silks commenced in 1910 and lasted until 1925.

In 1924 Phillips produced a series of heraldic silks to accompany their B.D.V. cigarettes, a popular brand that first made its appearance in the early Edwardian period and remained in production until 1948. The name was taken from Boyd & Dibrell, Virginia, the American suppliers of the tobacco. The Heraldic Series came in four sizes Small (a) measured 68 x 47 mm and small (b) 68 x 43 mm) and these were for packets of ten cigarettes. Medium measured 68 x 60 mm and were for packets of twenty, while Extra Large, measuring 150 x 100 mm were for those who preferred to buy their cigarettes in boxes. The small and medium sets numbered twenty-five designs while the extra large made do with fifteen.

According to the architectural historian Dr Peter Harrison, writing in No. 90, the December 2015 issue of *The Heraldic Craftsman*, 'of all those relating to heraldry the series depicting coats of arms in 1924 are, to my eye, simply magnificent'. Unfortunately there is no clue as to the identity either of the artist responsible for the design of the arms or of their owner.

It has been suggested that the arms are in fact spurious but that the artist was inspired by existing coats. Take No.5 as an example. The position of the helm makes it clear that the arms purport to be those of a peer of the realm and with that in mind one is reminded of the arms of the Earls Manvers, but here there are no supporters nor coronet of rank. Moreover, when it came to the armorial devices, the field should contain an orle of cinquefoils and not a scattering of cross crosslets and the lion rampant should be sable and not gules.



All in all most intriguing and more research clearly needs to be done. Ideas and observations on the subject will, as always, be gratefully received. Perhaps someone will actually identify one or more of the six examples we have used in this issue.

THE SOMERSET HERALDRY SOCIETY

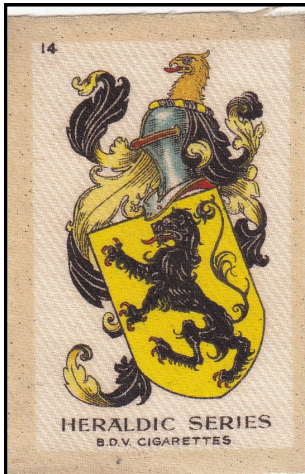
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THE SOMERSET DRAGON

Editor Stephen Tudsbery-Turner	Treasurer Mrs Carol Haines
28, Kinneir Close	Soundings
Corsham	Water Street
Wiltshire	Curry Rivel
SN13 9AT	Langport
	TA10 OHL

Email: tudsberyturner@tiscali.co.uk
Contributions welcome



FUTURE PLANS

We are still working on the possibility of a combined AGM, Annual Lunch and a Visit to somewhere of heraldic interest. Members will be notified as and when this will take place—with a bit of luck late spring or early summer. It is a question of 'watch this space'.