



THE MOXON MAGAZINE

The Magazine for the Moxons, Established by James Moxon in
1988, Founding Editor, and First President of the Society.
No. 27 April 2001 Published April and October.

Editorial

"TEMPUS FUGIT" said the Romans - and they were not wrong! It seems only weeks ago since the October Magazine was published. We apologise for its lateness, which was due to a variety of problems which all conspired against us at the same time!

When we were five years old (a long time ago for some of us!) the previous year had been a fifth of our life - 20%. Now, for someone aged 70, the last year was only 1/70 of their life - 1.4%. Is this the only reason that time appears to go by quicker as we get older? Or is it that the pace of life has also drastically increased.

In 1879 my Grandfather went to Texas. It generally took 4-5 weeks for him to get a reply to a letter sent to his father in England. (Although, when he arrived back in Liverpool on a Saturday afternoon, he sent a card to his father, asking to be collected from Tamworth Railway Station the next day (Sunday) at midday - and was met on time!)

A few years ago, I could write to an overseas member, and, even if they replied promptly, it could take two weeks for their letter to arrive. Now, by e:mail, I often get a reply the same day!

We recently bought a mobile phone for emergency use e.g. if ever stranded in the car. We did not bargain for its complexity! But Dymps is slowly mastering this new technology - and will then explain it to me! There are over twenty different ringing tones - we selected Bach's 'Tacet' and 'Fugue'! Will we ever manage to keep abreast with the ever changing World?

I am delighted to report that The "Moxons" are generally keeping up. Now, just over 45% of Members have e:mail, and the number is growing.

The pace of life really is increasing, and it is not just because we are getting older! See you all at Kew later this year!

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following New members to The Moxon Society:

Diana Moxon of London.) Daughter and Son

Neil Moxon of Preston.) of Ron Moxon.

David Bewley of Nepean, Ontario, Canada.

Sara England of Guildford, Surrey.

Geof R Moxon of Balmain, Sydney, Australia.

Nicola J. Hutchinson of Weaverthorpe, N. Yorks.

The Moxons and Kew

IT HAD LONG been our late President's desire that the Society should hold a Gathering at Kew - and it is a great pity that he will not be there, with us, to enjoy the occasion this coming August/September.

The Moxons have been associated with The Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew since around 1850, when James Edward Moxon (the second son of Thomas Moxon of Leyton) became passionately interested in botany. It was not, however, until 1915, that the Director received notification that a sum of £30,000 was being bequeathed, at some time in the future, for the furthering of the study of botany.

The bequest was being made in the will of Alfred and Louisa Moxon, the children of James Edward Moxon. Louisa died in 1920, but Kew had to await the death of Alfred in 1930. See colour photographs on page 7.

The fund is now known as the Bentham-Moxon Trust.

A detailed account of the lives of Alfred and Louisa Moxon - and their bequest to The Royal Botanic Gardens - was given in an article written by Jimmy in MM16 October 1995.

This talented and illustrious branch of the Moxon Family are descended from John Moxon of Yarmouth (1689-1736), and much has already been written about them in previous Moxon Magazines (see References on page 6)

I have no wish to repeat what has already been written, and would refer our readers to the back issues (you do keep them - don't you?)

Moxon Family Pictures

SUSAN LOWTHER-PINKERTON, Member of Alderton, near Ipswich, herself a descendant of John Moxon of Yarmouth, and her daughter, Susan Hall, have many Moxon family portraits and miniatures.

Before Jimmy left for Ghana, for the last time, he had made a tentative arrangement with Paul Davies, Secretary of The Bentham-Moxon Trust at Kew, to photograph all Susan's pictures. When Paul read of Jimmy's death, he wrote to Jimmy's sister, Margaret Eastwood, and this led to Dymps and I joining Paul on his photographic mission.

We met him at Ipswich Station, and the three of us then drove to Alderton, where Susan made us most welcome. After Susan's excellent lunch, Paul set to work, having brought with him, miniature flood lights, camera and tripod.

Later, Paul took some further photographs of miniatures held by Susan Hall, Susan Lowther-Pinkerton's daughter.

We extend the Society's thanks to Paul

and both Susans for enabling all these photos to be reproduced by the Society, and a number reproduced in the Moxon Magazine.

Moxons of Yarmouth - Family Tree.

OUR "CENTRE PAGE COLOUR SPREAD" shows many of the Moxons descended from John Moxon of Great Yarmouth (1689-1736), except for the American branch and current generations - due to lack of space.

Of necessity, the pictures shown on this tree are small, and in many cases the originals show the descendants down to waist level, and a few to full length. Providing there is sufficient support from the Membership, it is proposed to publish an A5 booklet containing all these pictures in colour and enlarged format.

Further information on page 5.

The 2001 Gathering will be held on Friday 31st August to Sunday 2nd September - see announcement on page 2.

On display at The Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, will be samples of Louisa Moxon's water colour paintings of alpine plants, of which over 1000 were donated.

We hope you will all enjoy your weekend in Richmond, visiting Kew, Hampton Court and Syon House.

See page 5 for further information about this family.

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Presidential Letter No 3

SINCE I LAST wrote a piece for the Magazine we have had a superb meeting at Bristol which was well organised by Diana Trotter with the assistance of Gillie and John McKeown. Diana, who very kindly volunteered to take this job off my hands, is now busy organising the next "Gathering" in Kew, Richmond, London.

Your Society continues to grow, at the time of writing this we have 125 fully paid-up members spread around the world as follows:

United Kingdom	83	members
France and Holland	3	members
United States	19	members
Australia	9	members
West Indies	1	member
Canada	6	members
Philippines	1	member
New Zealand	3	members

The response to the Society's offer to help with the publishing costs of individual family histories has been successful started and 4 are being prepared now. (*)

There is still the question of how the Society can do more to help you with your research projects. The incidence of computerised data banks and indexes is one way forward but it is necessary for each member to have access to compatible machines. The problems of compiling a centralised source of information are;

1 Our membership is scattered around the world and not localised like a County family history society in England. We need world wide coverage of Moxon records.

2 Having compiled a mass of information, how do we store it, manually or electronically?

3 How does one disseminate this around the world?" Those with computers can access web sites and read CD's, whilst those without this facility would have to use manually prepared records. Can we afford the time and money to keep two types of records?

On a more positive note in this area, there are some new developments on-coming, one of which is in the form of the National Burials Index. This is due out in April/May in CD-ROM form and I have discussed with John Moxon Hill, our Chairman, the possibility of the Society purchasing a copy which Sue and I will hold and use to answer questions from members. This would be contingent on the information being presented in a manner that facilitates reasonably easy access.

We have a Committee Meeting coming up on 17th. March, and I propose to have some discussion on this to see if we can find some volunteers to take on these tasks.

John C Moxon.

(*) Booklets being prepared by:
Gwen Sauvage - Staffordshire Moxons
Don Moxon - Moxons of Ferry Fryston
Ron Moxon - Descendants of Nathaniel Moxon, born Market Bosworth, lived Lancashire.
Len Moxon - Moxons of Cambridge.
and these are in addition, to Jane Micklethwaite's Biography of Rev. George Moxon.
Well Done ! let's have more !

Kew Gathering and Symposium

Friday 31st August to Sunday 2nd September, 2001.

Gate Hotel, Richmond, London.

THIS YEAR the venue for our Gathering and Symposium is in London, where we are taking the opportunity to visit Kew and find out all about the Bentham-Moxon Trust - formed largely from the bequest from brother and sister, Alfred Edward and Margaret Louisa Moxon. (See further details on page 5) Our host, at The Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, will be Mr. Paul Davies, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer - The Bentham-Moxon Trust. A number of Margaret Louisa's water colour paintings of alpine plants will be on display.

We have booked in to the Gate Hotel in Richmond, near the Park, which is one of the most pleasant areas of London, and near to those places which we wish to visit.

As optional extras we propose to visit Hampton Court, returning by boat on the Thames, and Syon House, with a flying visit to the Public Record Office first thing on Saturday morning.

With so many interesting places to visit in London, we realise that members may have alternative ideas and, with this in mind, we have not included any entry fees to our chosen venues in the overall price, thus leaving members free to either come with us, or "do their own thing".

London is, of course, much more expensive than The Provinces. Diana Trotter,

Gathering Organiser, visited St. Mary's University College, in Strawberry Hill, which is where we thought the Gathering might be held. From the brochure it seemed ideal, and reasonably economic. However, after a visit to St. Mary's, Diana felt some basic requirements were lacking, and has now selected the Gate Hotel.

The Price will be £170 per person, and an application form is enclosed with this Magazine: please return it to Diana as soon as possible, so that she can make all the final arrangements. This price does not include Saturday evening dinner, which is being funded by the MFRT.

We look forward to a most interesting, and exciting weekend, and hope that many members will be able to attend.

Please return your application form to Diana in good time!

Roots 10 *continued from foot of page 3*

Robert Carter Writes: *The altar stands in the former medieval chantry dedicated to St Nicholas in the south aisle of the Church and belongs to the chapel restored in 1932 and dedicated in memory of B H Moxon.*

The dedication is still to St Nicholas but it is usually referred to as the Shelley Chapel. This recalls the Moxon connection with Shelley and perhaps an endowment of the chantry by the lords of Shelley.

It could also be a geographical description. The township of Shelley, which was in the ancient parish, lies to the south of Kirkburton and part of its boundary skirts the churchyard.

My thanks to Robert Carter of Kirkburton in particular, for allowing us to use his research, and the photographs on this page, in the writing of this article. Also many thanks to Wendy Kaye for her contributions.

JMH



ABOVE: Yew Tree Farm in Kirkburton - now looking very different from the farm that would have been known by the Moxons who lived there from the late 1500's to 1771.

BELOW: The Springfields Mill complex in Kirkburton. Benjamin H Moxon moved his business from Huddersfield to these premises in 1879. It remained here until the new mill opened in 1950.



Roots 10 The Moxons of Kirkburton, Yorkshire and their Descendants

THE VERY FIRST Moxon Magazine, published by our Late President and Editor, James Moxon, in April 1988, included the reprint of an article originally published in *Wool Record* in August 1987. It described the company *Moxons of Huddersfield* established by Benjamin H Moxon in 1887. Originally the firm had premises at *Old Providence Mills*, Marsh, in Huddersfield, moving to *Springfield Mills* in Kirkburton two years later. In 1950 a new factory was opened at *Southfield Mill*, Kirkburton by Benjamin's son, Matthew Moxon and his wife, Ella, who had "cut the first sod" on the site in 1948. The article gave some clues to Benjamin's origins, but no firm details.

In the early years of the Moxon Society, research was concentrated on Members' genealogy, and since no Members were descended from Benjamin at that time, no further investigations were made.

Last year Wendy Kaye, of Salt Spring Island, BC, who is a Gt.granddaughter of Benjamin, joined the Society. We were able to help her by furnishing a copy of the above article, which also included the fact that a local historian, Robert Carter, had researched Benjamin's ancestry. Last year Wendy visited England and met Mr. Carter. Most of the details of Benjamin's ancestry have been taken from Mr. Carter's notes, for which we are most grateful.

The only "suspect link" in this family tree (shown on next page) is between John Moxon



Matthew Moxon and his second wife, Ella, who, in 1948, helped "cut the first sod" on the site of the new factory, Southfield Mill.



**Wendy Kaye
Member of Salt Spring Island, B.C..Canada.**

(2,H) and John Mokeson (2,G). The Historian of Kirkburton, Dr. H.J.Morehouse, records that John and Olive Mokeson had thirty children, of whom only four reached adulthood. The Parish Registers in fact only record eight children, of whom three survived! However, it does seem highly probable that John was the son of John and Olive.

Robert Carter has studied the indenture, drawn up for the sale of Yew Tree farm in 1771, which is most revealing, in that it traces

encased in stone.

It is obviously of two builds. The older part near the track and a later addition. There is an interesting inventory of 1739 itemising goods in "the new house" which is probably the extension.

It was, for several centuries the home of a family called Moxon.

In the eighteenth century, if not earlier, besides farming, this family were engaged in the tanning industry. When Moxons sold the house in 1771, one of the appendages to the house and land was a tanyard.

The tanning of leather was a very important industry in Kirkburton at this time. Indeed it was an important industry in the whole country in that pre-plastic Society. In the eighteenth century there were at least four working tanyards in the township. Like the textile industry we often find that it was carried on in association with some other form of business.

Two excellent Inventories survive for the Moxon Family which illustrate their involvement in agriculture, Thomas Mokeson in 1723 and John Mokeson in 1739.

We will attempt to obtain copies of these, and other wills, and report in a future Magazine.

It would appear that after Yew Tree Farm was sold, the next generations turned away from farming and tanning, to farming and the wool business. Benjamin Moxon (3,I) was described as a Clothier in 1823, and his son, William (4,J) as a Wool Sorter.

Benjamin Horncastle Moxon (4,K) therefore had the woollen/weaving industry in his blood, and in 1887 took over part of Springfield Mill in Kirkburton. Robert Carter writes:

The earliest building probably dates from the late 1820's. The Main Mill, at right angles to it, is dated 1834, and is a fine building, almost Georgian "country house" style, and is listed Grade II. It is believed that Benjamin Moxon occupied the rather later building behind, and to the west of Main Mill.

Here, the business flourished, and by the late 1940's, Benjamin's successor, Matthew Moxon (3,L) was planning a completely new mill at Southfield. Following Matthew's death in 1953, the business was sold, but is still known as "Moxon's Mill".

Benjamin Horncastle Moxon was highly thought of in Kirkburton, and has an altar in Kirkburton Church dedicated to his memory. (See colour photo on page 10).

John's (2,G) descent back for five generations to Thoas (Thomas) Mokeson, born 1556 (5,B).

The title reads, "Indenture of Lease and release dated 4 June 1771: John Moxon of Yew Tree Tanner and his wife Olive (née Senior) John son and heir of the late John, son of late Thomas, son of late John who was son and heir of John Mokeson deceased and which John Mokeson last named was the son and heir of Thomas Mokeson by Dorothy his wife, once Dorothy Broadhead, spinster, both also long deceased, on the one part and Joseph Allen of ffurnivals Inn London, Gent on the other part".

Thomas was the son of Robert, who in Frances Collins' transcription of the Kirkburton Parish Registers, notes that "Robert Mokeson of Yew Tree Homestead, witnessed the Will of Richard Boothe of Ryley in 1587."

Thus it appears that Robert rented the farm, but his son, Thomas, bought it.

Three of these early owners/tenants of Yew Tree Farm made wills:

Robert Mockeson (4,A) 1596
John Mokeson (2,C) 1668
and, John Moakson (1,D) 1685.

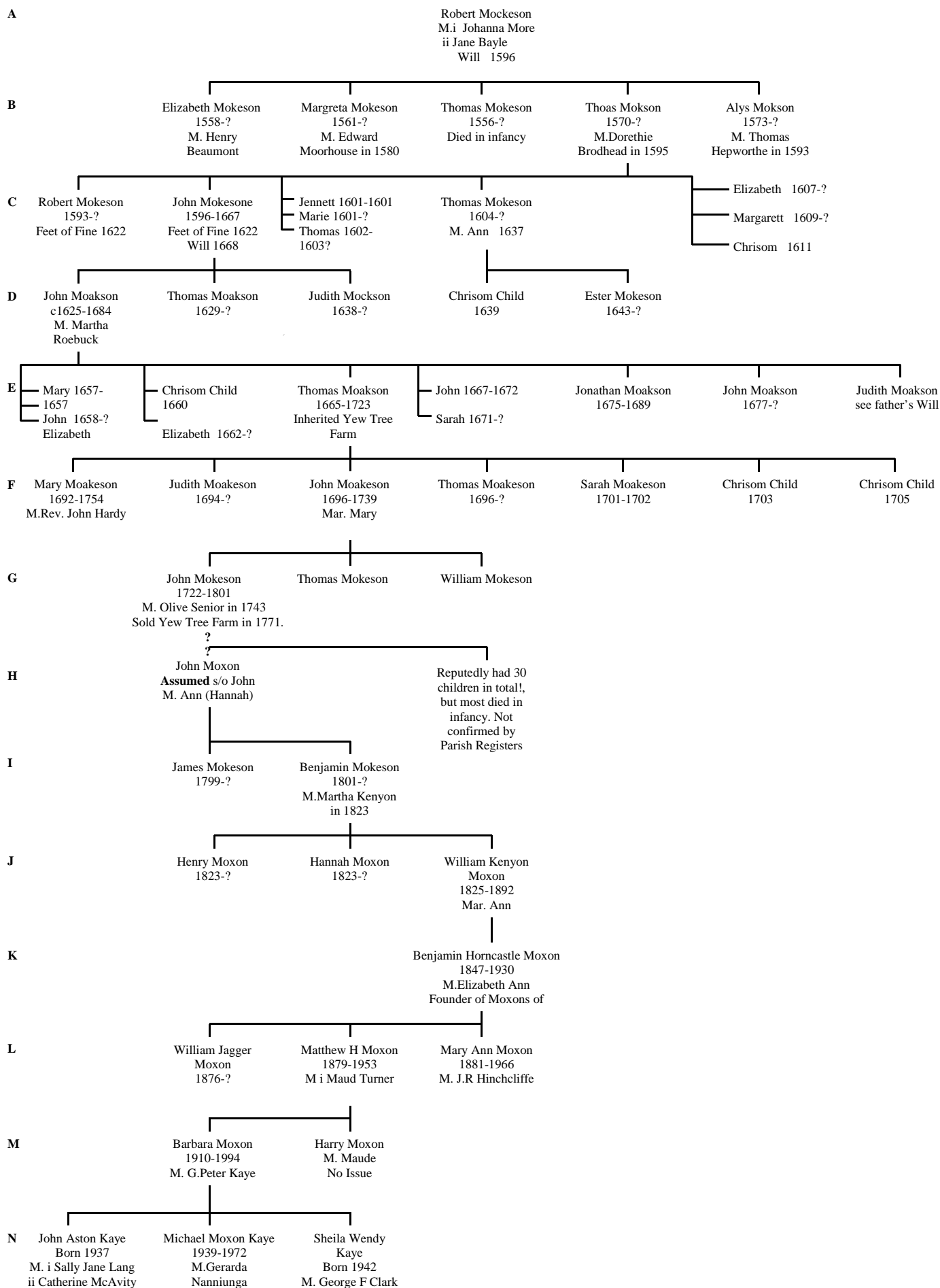
The Society does not have copies of any of these wills, the content of which would, no doubt, add to our knowledge of this family.

On 11th June 1996, Yew Tree Farm became a listed building. The notes to accompany a tour given to Skelmanthorpe Local History Study Group in July 1996 state:

It is certainly an ancient homestead. The listing describes it as dating from about 1700, but although the windows are obviously later, I suspect that it could be much older. I wouldn't be surprised if it was a medieval timberframed building which has been

continued at foot of page 2.

The Moxons of Kirkburton, Yorks., and their Descendants



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The Moxons and Kew

We continue with more about the Moxon descendants of John Moxon of Yarmouth.

Jack's Appeal

IN REFERENCE (J) (see page 6) we republished an article written by Thomas Frank Moxon "Life in the Colonial Clippers of the 'Eighties". Thomas Frank Moxon was the grandson of Thomas Moxon of Leyton, and known by the family as "TF". TF's grandson, Tom Moxon, Member of Upper Coomera (near Brisbane) has TF's original log book which he kept during that voyage. In it are two "gems". The first is "A good cure for toothache":

Insert one or two small grains of gunpowder in the cavity of the tooth and cover with cotton wool. Prepare to waltz around for a bit!

The second is this delightful poem, never



Thomas Frank Moxon
dressed in his Panamanian Consul Uniform.

before published, entitled: "Jack's Appeal"

I am a man before the mast,
I sail the trackless sea,
And on this simple subject, pray!
Can you enlighten me?
Why common sailors are so called?
Will you to me confide?
Why, this demeaning adjective,
To us should this be applied?
For speaking of a man ashore,
I never hear you say,
A common this, or common that,
Be his calling what it may.
Although he be a scavenger,
A tinker, or a sweep,
Then why turn common on to us,
Who ply the wintry deep?
Among the nations on the earth,
What would old England be,
Without her laurels, dearly won
By her children on the sea.
And is it not your proudest boast,
That England rules the wave,
Which she couldn't do if merchant man,
Did not its dangers brave.
To young ladies of our country,
Who ought our calling bless,
For the foreign silks and satins,
Of which you make your dress:
Whence comes that ostrich plume so gay,
Where comes that silk so fine,
They were brought by us o'er the stormy sea,
Across the raging brine.
And many sleepless night were spent,
On bringing them to you,

The Descendants of John Moxon of Yarmouth (1689-1736) Colour Booklet.

It is proposed to produce an A5 Booklet featuring enlarged versions of the colour photographs depicted on the Family Tree exhibited in the centre pages, plus a few others. Many of the original pictures are "half" or "full" length, and these will be shown in full. (29 in total)

The booklet will **only** be printed if **not less than 20 copies are reserved in advance**. The cost will be approximately £5 each, plus postage and packing.

To reserve your copy, please advise the Editor (see panel on the back page) by **30th June 2001**, by letter or by e:mail. Do not send any money now. If publication proceeds, you will be invoiced on delivery, for payment in Sterling only. Booklets should be available for distribution at the August/September Gathering at Kew.

JMH

Yet you despise the sailor man,
Who brings such goods to you.
And ye young city dandies,
Who smoke the fragrant weed,
I think from you the sailor,
Deserves his well earned need.
Although he has a laugh at you
With your eyeglass and cigar
And hands that never would deign to touch
Those of a hardy tar.
For if you had to fetch yourself,
Over the ocean main,
Those nice cigars and cigarettes,
You'd never want one again!
And ye young English children,
How would your puddings shapes,
If we did not bring from foreign lands,
Its spice and sundried grapes?
But there! eight bells has gone my friends,
And I must go out on deck:
And keep my watch, mid the snow and sleet,
Ice forming round my neck.
But before I go I have a boon,
Which I must ask of you,
Always do to other folks,
As you'd have them to you do,
And when you speak of sailormen,
Don't call them common too!

Loch Etive T.F.Moxon
March 31/83 (1883)

The Estate of Thomas Moxon of Leyton.

IN REFERENCE (M) we reproduced the account of Thomas Moxon's death, written by his second son, James Edward Moxon. James was the father of Alfred and Louisa Moxon,

and had settled a large sum of money in trust for the two children. It was later some of this money which was bequeathed to the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew.

Although Thomas Moxon was a wealthy financier and stockbroker, surprisingly he did not leave a will. After his death, his two eldest sons, Rev. Charles St. Denys Moxon and James Edward Moxon were appointed Administrators of the estate.

Member cousins, Tom Moxon of Upper Coomera and Simon Moxon of Brisbane, both Gt.gt.grandsons of Thomas of Leyton, have inherited documents concerning the estate settlement. It took 22 years!

James Edward, himself a financier and stockbroker at the time of his father's death, appears to have done most of the work. He kept a detailed book of all transactions, and stated that probate had been granted for a sum under £120,000 - a vast fortune in those days (1869).

Thomas had not only invested his own money, but also that of many clients. All had to be sold, and clients repaid. Many of the investments were long term, and the term had to conclude before realisation. This undoubtedly took many years.

Rev. Charles St. Denys Moxon died in 1881, and James Edward in 1890, leaving their younger brother, Captain Thomas Moxon, late of the Indian Army, to finally settle the estate.

In 1890, before James Edward died, a hiccough occurred. In the late 1850's, Thomas of Leyton had become associated with the Blaenavon Company (a Welsh coal and iron business) and became one of four persons in 1859 to whom leases were granted for aggregate rentals of £8,000 per annum. In 1864, Thomas severed all connections with the company, obtained a Deed of Release for all his liabilities from the other directors, and sold all his shares. Later, the company got into financial difficulties, and in 1890, knowing that the estate had still not been settled, the then directors attempted to claim a large sum of money, attesting that Thomas was still liable for his share of the annual rentals! Fortunately, the "Release" had been carefully filed. Never-the-less, James Edward sought legal advice, and a document dated 1890 "The Estate of Thomas Moxon Deceased - Case to Advise" still exists. This lengthy and wordy document, advised that there was no case to answer, and gives all the legal arguments. It appears that the directors did not pursue the claim any further.

With this claim out of the way, the estate could be now be settled, but James Edward died.

It fell to Captain Thomas to organise the final document, some 30 ins. by 20 ins., obviously drawn up by a lawyer. By now, many of Thomas of Leyton's children had died, and their shares were now to go to the grandchildren. The document sets out the amount each would receive, and all had to sign - some twenty signatures in all. The signatures were all obtained by 1891, 22 years after Thomas of Leyton died.

Simon Moxon's 65th Birthday.

DYMPS AND I have recently holidayed in Australia and New Zealand. Our daughter, Fiona, is now working in Sydney, so that was "excuse enough" to make our third visit

"Down under" and to see more of the two countries we love so much.

Our visit to Brisbane, where we stayed with Simon and Margaret Moxon, fortuitously coincided with Simon's birthday on Sunday 5th November.

To celebrate, they had invited Tom and Jenny Moxon, Glen Moxon (Member of Byron Bay) their daughter, Lucy, Blair and Beth Wilson, Tom's brother-in-law and sister, and friends, Bill and Helen. It was a great party!

Photographs are printed on page 7.

Tom brought over Thomas Frank Moxon's log books of his first voyage to and from Sydney in 1833, and James Edward Moxon's accounts concerning Thomas Moxon of Leyton's estate, and the copy of the "Case to advise" (see articles above). Simon has the copy of Captain Thomas's settlement document. So on the Monday I spent an enjoyable couple of hours going through these, and making notes.

We are all aware of Graham Jagger's great interest in Joseph Moxon, F.R.S. (1627-1691) - Printer, Globe Maker and Hydrographer to Charles II. Tom Moxon has two copies of Joseph's books, both owned originally by James Edward Moxon -

"A Tutor to Astronomy and Geography". This book is the fifth edition, printed in 1699, after Joseph had died. James acquired this book in 1875.

"Mechanick Exercises" third edition, printed in 1703. Also acquired in 1875.

Simon has a third book by Joseph Moxon - a first edition of "A Tutor to Astronomy and Geography", printed by Joseph Moxon himself in 1670, and sold at his shop in *Russell Street at the sign of the Atlas*. Simon "picked this book up" at a second hand book shop many years ago.

I am sure that, on hearing the above, Graham turned bright green!

References:

Previous articles concerning this family have appeared in past issues of the Magazine:

a) MM2 October 1988 - "The Three Brothers who emigrated to Australia in the 1880's". Also, "Lost Moxon Tribe Resurfaces after 150 years" - the descendants of Samuel Barker Moxon.

b) MM3 April 1989 - "The Australian Connection" - I The Forefathers

II The Founders

III The Successors

and "200 year old Moxon Heirloom", carved from Dartmoor bones.

c) MM4 October 1989 - "Response to the Australian Connection"

d) MM5 April 1990 - "The Lost Tribe" is alive and well!

e) MM6 October 1990 - "Lost Tribe" Reunion.

f) MM9 April 1992 - "Dr. Alvin Moxon", "The Moxon Dairy" and "The George Moxon family of Brookings, Dakota".

g) MM14 October 1994 - "Three Cousins in search of an Ancestor".

h) MM15 April 1995 - "A Boost of Huguenot Genes Turns Moxon bankers to Botany", and "The Twin Wills of Alfred Edward Moxon and Margaret Louisa Moxon".

i) MM16 October 1995 - "The Alf and Rita (Louisa) Story".

j) MM19 April 1997 - "The Will of Laetitia Moxon", and "Life in the Colonial Clippers of the 'Eighties' by Thomas Frank Moxon.

k) MM20 October 1997 - "The Second Will of Captain Thomas Moxon".

l) MM23 April 1999 - "Roots 6 The Moxons of Gt. Yarmouth".

m) MM26 October 2000 - "Death of Thomas

Moxon of Leyton".

Doug & Susan Moxon's Indian Restaurant

WHILE WE WERE in Sydney, Doug and Susan Moxon invited us for dinner at their Indian Restaurant in Balmain, Sydney. Doug (Member) is the son of Glen Moxon, Member of Byron bay, who we met at Simon and Margaret's house in Brisbane.



Doug's brother, Geof, who subsequently joined the Society, arrived to meet us later in the evening.

We had a most excellent dinner with them, which was by far the best Indian meal we have ever had.

If you visit Sydney, then do go for dinner! (I am sure, under the circumstances, our Members will forgive the inclusion of an advertisement in these pages!)

See also colour photo on page 10.

JMH

Ever been stumped for a Christmas Present Idea?

RON MOXON, Member of Fulwood, Preston, solved this problem last Christmas in a unique way! He gave his two adult children presents of Life Membership of the Society.

Welcome Diana Moxon of London and Neil Moxon of Fulwood to Membership of the Moxon Society. We look forward to meeting you soon at a future Moxon Gathering.

NOTE to other Members:

Why not solve next year's Christmas present problem in the same way? We "oldies" in the Society could do with some new, enthusiastic blood!

Contact Sue Moxon, Membership Secretary, for further details. See "box" on last page for Sue's address, telephone number or e:mail.

JMH

2nd. Lt. P.B.Moxon Battle of the Somme

IN THE BOOK, "The battle of the Somme" by Gerald Gliddon Published by Alan Sutton Publishing of Stroud Glos., the following is recorded on pages 116/427;

"Basil Hallam Radford. Better known as "Gilbert the Filbert" was a singer and entertainer, a society favourite and one of Lady Diana Cooper's many admirers.

Radford was in charge of a Kite Balloon Section of the RFC and on the 30th August took up a balloon behind Beaumont Hamel from which they looked across the mills and railway stations of the Ancre valley into Thiepval. He shared the balloon with 2nd Lt P B Moxon. The wire broke and the balloon became freed from its ground anchor and subsequently pointed its nose upwards and rose rapidly. Moxon jumped to safety with his parachute but Radford was to fall minus his 'chute onto the Acheux Road. His 'chute was found nearby. Radford's body was truncated and only identified by his cigarette case. He was buried in Couin Military Cemetery.

A curious postscript to this accident is that Lord Brabazon engaged Radford's batman who remained with him for the rest of his life as a butler etc."

The book has no other reference to Lt Moxon or to any other Moxons despite the fact that my Dad was there! Acting Sgt R S Moxon 10th Batt. Royal Fusiliers, first as a sniper and later in the Intelligence Corps.

John C Moxon

Is any Member able to tell us anything about 2nd. Lt. P.B.Moxon?

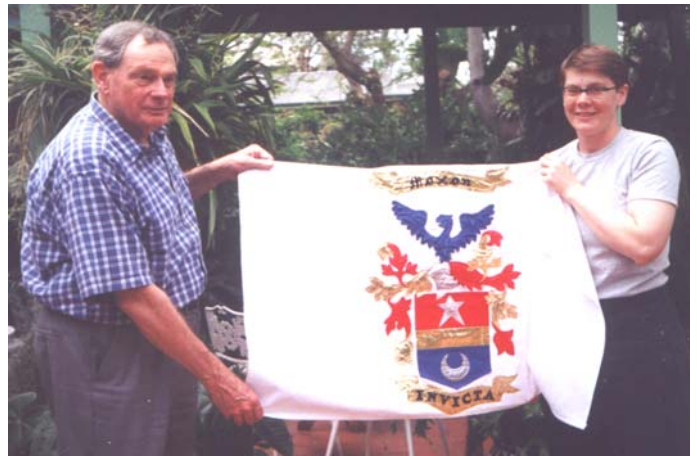
Ed.



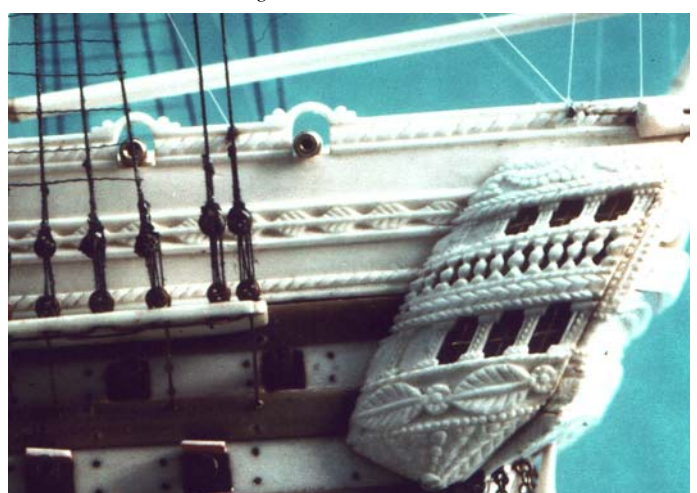
Alfred Edward Moxon and Margaret Louisa (Rita) Moxon
 Son and Daughter of James Edward Moxon, and grandchildren of Thomas Moxon of Leyton.
 Louisa donated over 1000 water colour paintings of alpine plants, and later, by their wills, a sum of £30,000 to The Royal
 Botanic Gardens at Kew, incorporated into The Bentham-Moxon Trust.
 Photographs of miniatures owned by Susan Lowther-Pinkerton, Member of Alderton, Ipswich.



Simon Moxon's 65th Birthday Party - 5th November 2000 - Brisbane
 LEFT TO RIGHT: Margaret M, Lucy M, Tom M, Jenny M, Glen M,
 John & Dymps Moxon Hill, Simon M, Blair & Beth Wilson. See page 6



*Simon Moxon and daughter, Lucy, holding the "Moxon Flag", which
 Lucy had made for the 1994 Gathering in Hull. See article in MM14
 October 1994. We are delighted to show it now in colour!*



*Model ship made by French prisoners of war captured by the British, and
 held in prison hulks moored at Dartmouth. The individual planks were
 carved from the bones in their food, small metallic parts made from gold
 earrings, and the rigging, originally made from human hair. It was
 acquired by Thomas Moxon of Twickenham in 1792, and passed down
 through the generations to Tom Moxon of Upper Coomera, near Brisbane.
 See full article in MM3 - April 1989. It looks better in colour!*

The Moxons of Yarmouth



Shield adopted by Thomas Moxon of Leyton

John Moxon
of Yarmouth
1689-1736
M.Sarah Palmer

John Moxon
of Yarmouth
1720-1809
M.Mary Horfoe



John Moxon
1750-1826

Sarah Moxon
1756-1841

Mary Moxon
1758- ?
M.Joseph Nose

Thomas Moxon
of Twickenham
1760-1843
M.Anne Browne

Elizabeth Moxon
1765-1844



Ann Mary Moxon
1787-1837

John Moxon
1788-1866
M.Sarah Ann Drake

Elizabeth Charlotte
Moxon
1790-1884

Thomas Moxon
of Leyton
1792-1869
M.Elizabeth Browne

Rev.George Browne Moxon
1794-1866
Rector of Sandringham
M.Bertha Browne

The original was just labelled "John Moxon". The Victoria & Albert Museum have identified the date of the dress as c1825-c1835. Thus this is John Moxon 1788-1866.



Ann Penrose Moxon
1840-1932
M.John Hill Gough

Dr.James Henry Harman Moxon
1847-1883
M.Julia Isobel Parrot
(James drowned in Cam)

Rev.Charles St. Denys Moxon
1820-1881
M.Ann Sophia Fletcher

James Edward Moxon
1822-1990
M.Sarah Louisa Drake



John Moxon
1842- ? Unmarried
Eliza Georgina Moxon
1843-1919

Isobel Julia Moxon
1872-1909

Henry James Moxon
1875-1909

Florence Penrose
Moxon
1878- ?

Charles St.James Moxon
1845-1889

Geoffrey Charles Moxon
1868-1942
Susan L-P's G'father)

Alfred Edward Moxon
1862-1930

Margaret Louisa (Rita)
Moxon
1863-1920

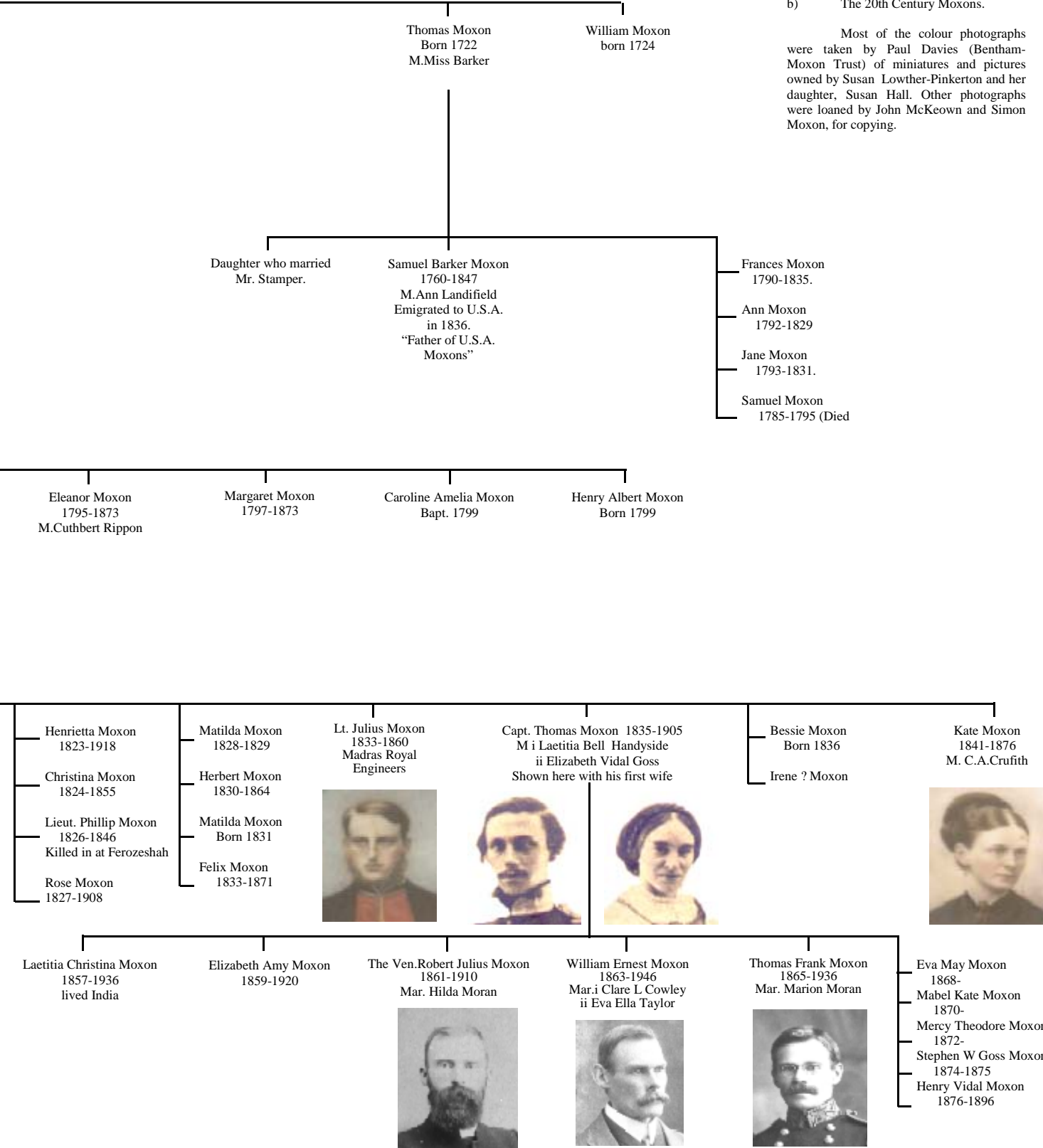


and Their Descendants

It is regretted that there is insufficient room to show:

- a) Many of the North American Moxons on this tree (and in any case we do not have photographs of any of these early Moxons).
- b) The 20th Century Moxons.

Most of the colour photographs were taken by Paul Davies (Bentham-Moxon Trust) of miniatures and pictures owned by Susan Lowther-Pinkerton and her daughter, Susan Hall. Other photographs were loaned by John McKeown and Simon Moxon, for copying.



Some More Members of The Moxon Society!

Well over half our Members are still obviously very “camera shy”!



Many Happy Returns of the Day, Les, on your 80th!
Hilda and Les Moxsom of Barnet, Herts.



Wendy Kaye
of Salt Spring Island B.C.
Canada



Tom & Jenny Moxon
of Upper Coomera, Nr. Brisbane, Australia



Glen Moxon
of Byron Bay, Australia



Chris & Aileen Moxon
of Pukekohe, New Zealand



*Dinner at Doug and Susan Moxon's Indian Restaurant,
in Balmain, Sydney.*

Left to Right: Geof Moxon (Doug's brother), Julian Moxon (Doug's son), Doug Moxon and his wife, Susan.
See article on page 6

Persuading Members to send in photographs of themselves and their spouse, is “like attempting to suck blood out of a stone” or is it that they are just shy?

JMH



Keith & Frances Lodge
of Rochdale, Lancashire, England.



*John gives instructions to the camel, before riding to the pyramids at Giza, Egypt.
(The Editor apologises for the poor quality of this picture, copied from a colour slide)*



Knowing our Moxons John C Moxon Continued from page 11

Above: John and Camper Trailer, at York Festival in June 1988.

Left: John and Sue on holiday in Ireland in 1998

Right: John's Birthday in 1996, with Yas, Richard, Christopher, Portia, Rosemary, Brett and cake.



The Benjamin Horncastle Moxon Memorial Altar in Kirkburton Church (see Roots 10 on page 3)



Knowing our Moxons - No. 16

President John C Moxon

JOHN'S INTEREST in his family history goes back over 30 years. He told me:

When I was in Canada in 1969 one wet Saturday morning, I looked in the telephone directory for St Phillips Church as I had been told by my sister that my grandfather was a vicar there. I found it, called the vicar, and went to see the church that afternoon.

Interestingly, the church had been taken over by the Hungarian community in Toronto and in one vestry there were pictures of the Budapest bridges. The local Renold manager was with me and I was telling him which bridge was which, when a voice behind me asked how I knew them. I explained I was born there and the Jesuit was quite piqued that he, a Hungarian, was not born in their capital city whilst I was. In the evening I was introduced to a lady who worked for the Anglican Synod and a few days later she then went to find the records of my grandfather and send them to me.

This got me started and I was very intrigued when I got Jimmy's letter about the book he had written on the Moxons of Yorkshire. I sent for a copy and then when Jimmy suggested a meeting of Moxons in Leeds, both Maureen and I were keen to go. (The first Gathering was held in 1989)

John and Maureen were Founder members of the Society when it was formed at the Gathering in September 1990, to come into being on 1st January, 1991.

The late Dick Moxon of Southampton had organised the events in both 1989 and 1990, and had been elected the first Vice President and Treasurer. Sadly, Dick died on 24th September, 1990, and Jimmy promptly co-opted John into the Treasurer's position (including the organisation of the Annual Gatherings) which was ratified at the 1991 A. G.M., when John was also appointed Vice President. John continued to "wear three hats" until Warren Eastwood became Treasurer at the A.G.M. in 1996, and Diana Trotter took over the Organisation of the Gatherings in 1999.

Following the death of Jimmy Moxon, our Founding President, John was appointed President in 1999.

John's career was in mechanical engineering, working his way, from apprentice, "up the ladder" with Renold, becoming a Fellow of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, and later, "Acting" MD of their plant in Manchester.

He had been born in Budapest: four years later, the family moved to Istanbul, then to England three years afterwards, to live for a



year in Whitstable. Then to Canterbury, where they lived in a house initially with no electricity or gas "and loads of outhouses"! In 1941 they were bombed out, and moved to Manchester. (I feel exhausted already! Ed.)

On 25th June 1954 he married Maureen Atkins. Renold moved him around the country. Paul was born in 1956 in Cheam, Rosemary and Andrew in Bristol in 1960 and 1964.

In 1966 they moved to Wilmslow, where Maureen passed away after a rather brief illness in March 1995.

He retired in 1989, but continued in a consultancy role with Renold until May 1995.

At the Cambridge Gathering in September 1995, he met Suzanne South, who had just joined the Society. Sue was elected Membership Secretary at that A.G.M., which meant close collaboration with John. At the next Gathering in York, they announced their engagement, and were married on 6th May 1997.

On 17th April last year John and Sue moved to the Isle of Wight.

John is interested in three "ologies":

- Egyptology had fascinated him since he was 15, and he has visited the "sights and sites" in Egypt.

- Geology. This began when he became bored of sitting on the beach during summer holidays "looking at the sea", whilst the kids built sandcastles. So he started to be interested in the rock formations on the cliffs behind!

- Genealogy (I need say no more!)

In 1945 he joined the Manchester Athletics Club and became The Manchester and District High Jump Champion. A year later he took up cycling in earnest, and had some good cycle camping holidays in Scotland, as well as supporting fellow club cyclists in the Tour de France.

After moving to Bristol, he and Maureen became keen on camping,

"When we moved to Bristol, Maureen decided that she would like to try camping for her holidays and she took to it like a duck to water.

We first started off with frame tents and joined the Bristol Branch of the Camping Club. We used to go out each weekend in the summer and in the school holidays Maureen would take the kids to a place near Slimbridge on the banks of the River Severn next to Peter Scotts place. I would join them at weekends. Thus we could have a fortnights

camping in the U.K. and then a fortnight in France, and/or Switzerland. Later, after we moved to Manchester, we changed the tent for a trailer tent. As time went by we camped in the U.K., but used the Eurocamp set-up for our trips to France."

John became interested in Scouting (or rather, was "press-ganged" into scouting!):

"When I was away in Canada in 1967, Paul was in the Scouts and the Group Leader left. There was an emergency meeting called to which Maureen went. She mentioned I would probably help as Paul was interested in staying a Scout, and then forgot all about it.

About 3 months later a fellow I had never seen came with armfuls of paper and told me I was Chairman of the Parents Committee!!!! The upshot was that I became Group Scout Leader as well, and re-organised the group so that it grew to have a membership of over 100 boys and leaders. This was good fun and lasted for 9 years until I was made Chairman of the District Scout Council. I did that for 5 years, then the District Secretary's job for another 5, and also had spells on the Cheshire County Scout Council Finance Committee. For this I earned the Scout Association medal of Merit and Bar."

Amidst the many "humdrum" engineering responsibilities that John has been engaged in, some are memorable:

- Chains for rotating the nozzles on Harrier fighter engines, which lift the aircraft vertically.

- Racing motor cycle, motor car and cycle chains,

- Replica chains for the "rebuilding" of S.S. Gt. Britain. (One link was on display at last year's Gathering).

- Hoist chains on Nuclear Reactors - Magnox and AGR control rods.

- Chains on the Thames Barrage, Barking and Dartford Creeks, and counter balance chains on the Woolwich Ferry ramps.

John recounts: *The Woolwich Ferry ramps were commissioned in 1966, but they forgot to lubricate the chains! Just before the Minister, Barbara Castle, was due to formally open the Ferry, they started squealing loudly. John advised liberal lubrication, but since this would take time to take effect, he also advised that the opening party should be kept at ground level. The chains continue to operate silently - not so much Mrs. Castle, who is still operating, but making plenty of noise!*



Open-air ablutions in France, 1948

OBITUARY

John Stuart Woodford Moxon. 1930-2000

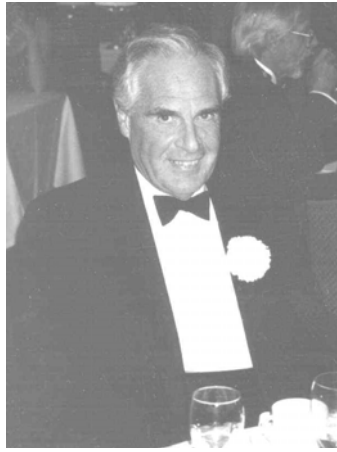
WE ARE SAD to report the death of John S. W.Moxon of Bitteswell, which occurred on 10th June, 2000.

John attended the Gathering in Leicester in September 1993, and will be remembered by all those members who also were there.

We are indebted to Mr.J.B.Cooper of Eaton, Smith, Marshall and Mills, Solicitors of Huddersfield, for this obituary.

John Stuart Woodford Moxon was born on 1st. April 1930 in Huddersfield to Philip Moxon and Nora Moxon (née Woodford). His father was in the army and was director of the family coal merchanting business which had been founded in the middle of the 19th Century. John was educated locally at St David's School in Huddersfield before being sent away to school at Uppingham.

John's mother came from Leicester and was the daughter of John and Mary Woodford. John's Woodford grandfather had set up a successful hosiery business. John's father, Philip, died young on Christmas day in 1948 when John was only 18 years old. This left John and his mother in a financially difficult position which ultimately resulted in a return to Leicester where John's mother and three sisters (being made maiden aunts) bought a house at Knighton Road, from John



John S W Moxon

Woodford's grandfather's trust. This assisted in sharing the costs of living and running the house.

Like his father before him John initially pursued a career in the army, but after his father's death and trying his hand at a variety of occupations he settled on a career with Courtaulds where he remained for most of his working life. This included a stint in New York. John was an extremely cultured person, having a wide interest in the Arts. John collected paintings, porcelain and was

interested in furniture and country houses, and was extremely knowledgeable in all of these areas. He also enjoyed travel which he combined with an interest in photography on his travels to a variety of exotic locations around the world. In recent times he had taken to enjoying world cruises.

Shortly before his last world cruise, in 1999 aboard the Oriana, he succumbed to prostrate cancer, which looked as though it was being treated successfully such that he was able to go on the cruise. After his return in April 1999 he slipped on a pavement and broke his hip which resulted in a hip replacement. Regrettably this seemed to be the start of a medically difficult final year of John's life which ultimately resulted in his death from prostrate cancer on the 10 June 2000. John was quoted to have said that he was somewhat frightened of his Moxon grandfather, Charles Henry Moxon, as "like most of the Moxon's he had a tendency to bellow"! This reflects the fact that John was fundamentally a kind and gentle man.

OBITUARY

Jack Mallin 1929-2001

WE ALSO report the sad death of another, long standing, Member of the Society, Jack Mallin, of Glendale, Arizona, who died on 2nd February, 2001.

Jack and Barbara Mallin attended the 1993 Gathering in Leicester, which they enjoyed, vowing to attend future Gatherings. Our President writes, "Jack and Barbara stayed with us prior to the Moxon weekend but immediately afterwards Maureen and I had booked to go to the Dordogne, so prior to their visit we had arranged for them to stay in an hotel in Ashton as his ancestors had lived that town.

When we took them there we found out

They renewed their marriage vows in Manchester Cathedral, 161 years after Jack's Gt.gt.grandfather, Daniel Moxon had married Helen Castle on Christmas Day 1832.

Unfortunately, first one was indisposed then the other. Then Jack suffered from cataracts, and finally, for a while, they looked after a very young granddaughter, with the result they never managed a return visit.

Jack's early career was in the U.S.Army Airforce, and for a period he was stationed in Germany. Thus he was able to travel around Europe and visit the U.K. After retirement from the Airforce, he became a Civil Servant, until his second retirement.

Jack was born in Pittsburg, but latterly lived in Glendale in Arizona. I had commented to him that Arizona was hot. "No! we live at 5000 feet altitude, where its much more pleasant."

Jack was a generous man, who was always prepared to help others. On one occasion, I had mentioned, in a letter, some information I had obtained from the 1988 Yorkshire IGI for "Moxon". By return of post a fat envelope arrived - Jack had photo-copied all the Moxon entries from the 1992 Yorkshire IGI micro-fiches for me - I still use them.

Jack was featured in "Knowing our Moxons No.11" in Moxon Magazine No. 18 - October 1996.

He had carried out a great deal of research into his Moxon ancestry, and had traced his line back to Sikstone in the 1600's.



Jack and Barbara Mallin, with Andrew Moxon, outside Manchester Cathedral after renewing their Marriage Vows.

that the hotel was on the same street in Ashton in which his ancestors had lived. It was only a few yards away from the hotel. Jack was absolutely delighted with the arrangement which we had, by accident, arranged for him."

continued from page 13

(Steve Moxon)

(and this was not for the first time) and ended up in York gaol for her trouble.

If the editor obliges, fuller accounts of these lines of research will appear in subsequent MMs. And what about a MoxSoc tour of our new found heritage sites? We can now wander across whole field systems and visit homesteads (or their replacements) in Hoylandswaine, Midhope, Cawthorne and Thurgoland which we know were all Moxon owned in very early times.

Finally, the biggest breakthrough of all is etymological. Moxon -- via Mokeson/Mookeson, etc -- we can now say actually derived from 'filius Matthew'. In the earliest Midhope deeds it can be deduced that the same person was alternatively named filius Matthew and Mokeson. I talked with the world's foremost surname expert, Yorkshireman Dr George Redmonds, who has been researching the Moxon name for 50 years. I e-mailed him the evidence. He agrees that the crucial evidential links for the root of the Moxon name have now been found. Again, space courtesy of the editor will allow the evidence to appear in a later MM. In turn, this enables us to go back even further in time to look at the activities of proto-Moxons as it were, who owned property in/near Hoylandswaine, Cawthorne and Midhope.

A full account of the origin and evolution of the Moxon name is available by e-mail: steve.moxon@ntlworld.com.

Steve Moxon

Steve Moxon is a relatively New Member of The Society, and lives in Sheffield. We will be delighted to publish further details in a future Magazine.

Ed.

JMH

Origins of the Name Moxon

Articles written by two Moxon Researchers

A Document of 1327

The earliest reference to the name "Mokeson"?

by Harry Moxon

York. Three weeks of Michaelmas 1 Edw III (1327). Westminster. Octave of Michaelmas 4 Edw III (1330).

Gilbert de la Legh quer., John de Merworth, chivaler and Margery his wife, def., of the manor of MIDDLETON near Leeds. To hold to Gilbert and his heirs, together with the homage and service of Ralph de Berton, Thomas de Fenton, Henry de Oleton and Alianore his wife, and Robert Mok (*see Harry's comments*), and of their heirs, subject, as to one messuage, one mill, 180 acres of land and 30 acres of meadow, to the life estate of Robert de Silkeston; and as to 2 messuages, and 4 bovates and 2 acres of land, to the life estate of Robert Short; and as to one messuage and 2 bovates of land, to the life estate of William de Tonge and Dionisia his wife; and as to 3 messuages and 2 bovates of land, to the life estate of William le Wright of Middleton; and as to one messuage, 2 tofts and 3 bovates and 9 acres of land, to the life estate of John de Salter of Middleton and Alice his wife. John and Margery warrant for themselves and the heirs of Margery. Gilbert gave 260 marks.

Transcript published by Yorkshire Archaeological Society Record Series Vol. XLII: Feet of Fines for the County of York from 1327 to 1347 1-20 Edward III.

Harry's Comments:

THIS DOCUMENT is interesting chiefly for the light which it throws upon the status of the Mokeson family in the 14th century. In spite of the deficiency of the spelling (**Mok**), it seems clear that the Robert specified is one of ours.

The name, Robert Mokeson also occurs as a witness in 1365 and in the 1379 poll tax records as Robertus Mokeson of Cawthorne and Robert Mokeson of Thurgoland. There may be several Roberts, however the point is that the name was one of those used by the Mokeson family. Besides the two Mokesons quoted above, there was also a John Mokeson in Middleton (near Leeds).

The connection with Middleton becomes clear when the document shows that that the lord of the manor of Silkstone also owned land in Middleton. The position of the Mokesons as servants or subjects of the feudal landowner can be seen.

The legibility of documents of this age presents problems: in this case the essential first three letters are there.

Harry Moxon

Moxon Research

Update

Major New Findings

by Steve Moxon

THE EARLIEST OCCURENCE of the Moxon name yet found -- *and the actual etymological derivation of Moxon* -- has turned up in research into the Moxon/Mokeson/Moakson south-west West Riding heartland: 1262. This is the date of a deed, which a Robert Mokeson witnessed, regarding land in the village of Over Middop (now Upper Midhope), right on the edge of habitable land, west of Penistone, but part of the area of known very early Moxon settlement which includes Hoylandswaine, Cawthorne and Thurgoland.

Curiously, historians discuss whether or not the deed is an ancient forgery (in notes accompanying transcriptions). It makes little difference for our purposes -- and even confirms the point -- because there has also come to light a large number of Moxon Midhope deeds almost as ancient, and although the 1262 item would pre-date a main series (though only by about 50 years), a forgery would point up just how established Moxons were in the place -- that the local lord, in trying to consolidate his hegemony, should chose the Mokeson name as one of those likely to carry weight by giving a stamp of authenticity through what was *then* assumed antiquity.

Vast numbers of very early deeds as transcribed 250 years ago are in the Wilson MSS, catalogued at Sheffield, though mostly held at Leeds. They throw much light on Moxon activities in Midhope and Bradfield from 1320. Both are places in Bradfield parish, and as this is adjacent to Silkstone and Penistone parishes then this only slightly spreads the focus of the origin of the Moxon surname, which near overwhelming evidence now shows is almost certainly in this neck of the woods and *not* (as was supposed in *The Moxons Of Yorkshire* booklet) in the near vicinity of Wakefield.

Before these discoveries, the earliest Moxon references were: most significantly, being the first 'snapshot', the 1379 poll tax returns -- but these show a distinct cluster of (five names) in Thurgoland/Bradfield/Cawthorne, so also support the theory of origin in the south-west of the West Riding -- and it was this fact which prompted the present research; Robert Mokeson of Thurgoland (1365); and two yet earlier mentions, one for Osset (1330s) and the other for 'Bradford' (1340s). But this last turns out to be Bradfield (a common transcription error), leaving only the one name source outside (and only just) the heartland, and therefore more likely an outlier through migration.

Other very ancient deeds pertaining to Hoylandswaine, the wider Silkstone parish and places very close by, have also come to light; including the names of actual fields belonging to Moxons which can now be pinpointed exactly using a combination of later deeds and the township tithe commutation maps of the early 19th century.

For example, 'Longerode', settled by Robert Mokeson of Thurgoland by grant in the 14th century turns up by Jowitt House in Cawthorne as 'Langeroyd', and this must be the correct identification because no field name in any other tithe map in the area is similar.

Actual Moxon name references are not infrequent: Moakson or (by 1763) Moxon Field adjacent to Oaks (itself a corruption of 'Mokes'?) in Bradfield, 'Mokerode', later Mauk Royd (Head) by Upper Midhope -- still prominent on current OS maps -- Mokin/Maukincroft in Cawthorne, Moke Field in Tankersley, and -- most intriguingly of all, Muk Hall at the top of Hoylandswaine.

This last was gleaned from handwritten notes by a local historian writing well over a century ago, and was the residence (or one of them) of the Mokeson Quakers of Hoylandswaine. Despite its unfortunate name it is presumably the earliest substantial Moxon residence so far substantiated, even pre-dating Yew Tree in Kirkburton. This last still stands, as a listed, majestic 15th century yeoman farmhouse beautifully restored, just by the churchyard in Kirkburton, and was up to 1796 in Mokeson ownership -- a branch of the Hoylandswaine lot -- for at least 300 years; the last incumbent, a John Mokeson, siring 30 children. (Yes, 30 is not a misprint!)

The Moxon Quakers were committed -- to the point of donating land for a Quaker burial ground -- and persecuted, with a John Mokeson imprisoned in 1650 and subsequently needing financial help from other Quakers. But his fate was mild in comparison with two others of the clan. In 1626 David Naryn alias Moxon, vicar of Darton, appears to have been murdered by his own parishioners, who resented his alleged strict treatment of some yet leniency for others! The poor chap had already done witnessed penance in his own church after church court proceedings, and his only wrongdoing appears to have been to try to get rid of the odd Catholic remnant in services. Another John Moxon also fell foul of the church courts. Brief details of this case appeared in a previous MM but we now have the complete records, albeit still without the final judgement. He was the subject of a considerable heap of written depositions to the courts after sermonising in Cawthorne church (being only a parish clerk -- at Sandal) and allegedly fornicating with the wife of the vicar of Meltham and keeping an unofficial ale house; but unlike David this John got much help from others to try to settle matters and the courts were complained to that they were ignoring agreements.

Piles of deeds in various collections are still awaiting initial perusal, and the publishing of late 17th century Wakefield court roles is imminent -- this should help with the mystery of why Elizabeth Mokeson dumped her children on Hoylandswaine parish in the 1680s

continued at foot of col 3, on previous page

“MOXONABILIA”

From the TIMES.

Kathleen Moxon An embezzler? or, a virtuous young woman?

IN MID-1884, Kathleen Moxon was arrested and charged with embezzlement, appearing before the Magistrate, Mr. Hannay, at Worship Street, Shoreditch, London. Halfway through, the case was adjourned for a week pending new evidence. Thus the Times published the details in two instalments on 28th July and 4th August. Both were wordy and repetitive, and if transcribed in full would have taken up well over a page and a half in this Magazine!

During the case, Kathleen's mother, her younger sister, and her brother were mentioned, but not by name. Having recourse to the 1881 Census has provided their names, and other pertinent information, which, although not mentioned in court, it would appear, was already known personally by the Magistrate.

It came out, in cross-examination, that Kathleen's father had died. He had been a "bosom" school boy friend of David Young, who was now prosecuting Kathleen. Young had offered his widow, Francis Moxon, a position as his house keeper in 1878 at 6, Canal Road, Shoreditch, next to his business, Young and Son, trading as Cement Manufacturers. It further became apparent that Francis was living with Young as his wife - no doubt as a means of providing a home for her three children, Edward, then aged 15, Kathleen, then aged 14 and Caroline, then aged 12. The 1881 Census shows that Young also had a house at Ferncote, Prittlewell in Essex, where his four adult children, a son-in-law, a sister-in-law, a grandchild and three servants lived.

David Young prosecuted "the prisoner", who was defended by Mr. Abbott, solicitor.

Young stated that the prisoner was his clerk. The Magistrate interrupted to caution Young that he was under oath, and to be careful what he swore! Young maintained that the prisoner was his clerk and that he paid her. Her duties were "office work" such as keeping accounts, copying letters &c. He alleged that the three sums of money were embezzled on May 30, June 13, and July 5 out of money he had given her to buy provisions - groceries &c. It was her duty to keep a book of accounts showing what she had received from him, and what she had spent. On May 30 he had given her £11, and, reading from the book, stated she had accounted for £7 10s 2d in purchasing provisions at the Civil Service Store. He had later made inquiries, and was told she had only spent £3 19s 2d. The other embezzlements were of a similar nature. He had not suspected anything was wrong until about a fortnight ago, when the prisoner stopped out all night. On her return, he had remonstrated with her, and advised her, that, as her mother was dying, she should not go away again. However, on Sunday 10th she did leave, having done no work for him in the interval. The mother was soon afterwards taken much worse and died on the Monday morning.

The prisoner sent a telegram to her mother from the country, and a letter, which arrived on Tuesday. As the mother was dead, he had opened both. In the letter the prisoner said she would not be returning to the house. He learned that the prisoner was staying with a Mrs. Simmonds in Kingsland Road, and called there to invite her to attend

her mother's funeral. She did so, but afterwards would not return to the house, and subsequently, having consulted the police at Scotland-Yard; he gave her into custody.

Under cross-examination, Young said it was not true that he had been living with the widow as his wife. It was not true that the prisoner had only acted for him since her mother's illness, and that he had allowed her 5s a week pocket money. It was untrue that he had attempted to take an improper course with the prisoner, and had made this charge because she would not yield to his wishes. He had not told her he would keep her as a lady if she would. He did not know that she had stopped out of the house on the night mentioned because he had attempted anything with her. He denied it. He did not know what her mother had advised, but the prisoner kept away from him from the time of her return until she finally left the house. It was not true that even in the mourning coach returning from her mother's funeral, that he attempted to force himself upon her.

With respect to the younger sister it was true, he said, that he had gone to Paris to her after the funeral. It was not true that he had gone there to ask her to live with him. He had gone to fetch her "home" as both she and her sister had been brought up by him. Asked if he had not, although the younger sister had refused to go out with him in Paris, induced her to enter an apartment with him, he said it was true. He had hired rooms at the Grand Hotel there and took her to the place. It was not true that he tried to induce the girl to live with him, nor true that at the hotel he attempted to assault her. It was true that she tried to leave, and that the door was locked. The prisoner's sister, aged about 18, was called forward and the prosecutor was asked whether the bruise said to be on her face was not caused by his attempt on another occasion. He denied it, but admitted on that occasion her screaming brought the hotel people to the landing and caused the door to be opened. The prosecutor was further questioned on this matter by Mr. Hannay, and he said the door was locked to prevent the girl leaving him at 8 o'clock at night to go away alone. He had acted out of regard for her morals.

Mr. Hannay remarked that much of what had been said might be susceptible of explanation, but it was a case full of non-importance, and he hoped the police would fully inquire into it. Mr. Statham, Barrister, said that he watched the case with a view to subsequent proceedings.

After further evidence from the prosecutor, some letters were read, written by the prosecutor to the prisoner's sister in affectionate terms, only a few hours before he had the prisoner arrested. These showed that he spoke of the prisoner as "Dear Kate", and advised that she should not be given "black medicine", and spoke of a possible "catastrophe" in the event of a certain step being taken.

The prosecutor, in answer to Mr. Hannay, said that he had the prisoner arrested for stealing his money. Mr. Hannay remarked that the prosecutor had known it, if stealing it was, three weeks before he took action, and then he charged the prisoner with embezzlement.

Mr. Hannay said there was no evidence to support the charge, and he should dismiss the case. The prisoner was discharged and left the court with a number of friends.

SONNET

Written in Pere la Chaise, on the
spot where Marshal Ney is buried.

What! Neither flower nor cypress on thy grave
While all around a hallow'd garden blooms;
And Piety low bends among the tombs,
Watering with tears the earth she could not save?

But not so sleeps the "bravest of the brave:"
The Hero of a hundred battles; gory
Though be the shroud he lies in, yet not wave
Nor storm, nor time can ere efface the story
Of his high deeds. Be satisfied, great shade
No epitaph thou need'st, or marble heap
Thee Chivalry her gallant son hath made:
And history of thee much store will rest
What need of monument, or tomb arrayed
When ev'n the Stranger comes o'er thee to weep?

EDWARD MOXON.

Transcribed from the Times 23 October, 1833.

John Moxon, Member of Southampton, and Gt.Gt.Grandson of Edward Moxon the Publisher, believes this is the only time this sonnet was ever published.

Michel Ney, Duc d'Elchingen, Prince de la Moskova (1769-1815). French marshal and Napoleonic military commander. Although made a peer by Louis XVIII, Ney supported Napoleon after his return from Elba and commanded the Old Guard at Waterloo. After the Hundred Days, he was condemned and shot for treason on 15th December, 1815.

The Will of Charles Moxon - The Royal Decorator.

IN ROOTS 8, The Moxons of Ousefleet, see MM25, April 2000, we recorded some details about Charles Moxon, known as "The Royal Decorator". On 2nd January, 1891, the Times included the following:

The will (dated July 6, 1889, of Mr. Charles Moxon, late of Beach Cliff, Westgate-on-sea, who died on October 26 last year, was proved on December 1 by Charles Frederick Moxon, the son. William Quiller Orchardson, R.A., and Mrs Ellen Orchardson, the daughter, the executors, the value of personal estate amounting to upwards of £17,000. The testator bequeaths his furniture and effects to his wife, Mrs. Penny Jane Moxon, and directs the net income of his personal estate to be paid to her for life, but if she marries again, £500 per annum only is to be paid to her.

My thanks to John and Sue Moxon, who researched the Times Index, obtained copies of these interesting Moxon articles, and also researched the 1881 Census for for the article concerning Kathleen Moxon.

JMH

Rev. George Moxon Memorial Tablets

OVER THE YEARS Mr. A.J. Condliffe, Editor and Managing Director Of the Congleton Chronicle Series, has taken a keen interest in Rev. George Moxon.

Mr. Condliffe wrote to me that he had rescued a memorial to him in Congleton Unitarian Church:

"It came about when the church, which had been closed by the Unitarians, was taken over by the Congleton Pentecostal Church in 1978, and it was anxious to remove all evidence of previous use by another denomination. It therefore removed the memorial to George Moxon, but, before it was destroyed, the pastor asked me if it was of any interest to me, perhaps for my weekly column.

I said that I thought it ought to be preserved, but where?. Re-assembling it in another church wall was out of the question, because of the cost which would be involved, so, lacking any other ideas, I got permission

to store it in the central heating boiler house beneath Astbury Church".

Later, Mr. Condliffe arranged with Warren and Margaret Eastwood to meet him at Astbury Church, together with a Chronicle photographer. The photographs he supplied are reproduced below.

After many years of "lobbying", Congleton is hoping to have a museum in the near future. Mr. Condliffe has suggested that the tablets should be donated to the museum - we whole heartedly agree.

JMH

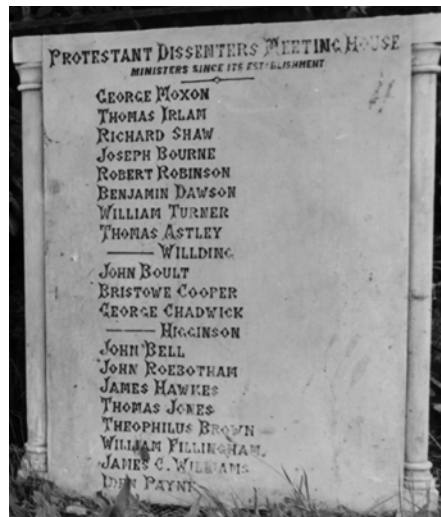
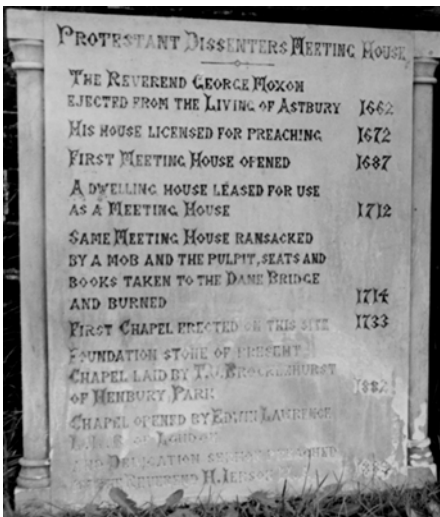
Mary Moxon's Will, continued from foot of page 16

Within a brief period of time, all this was to change as less expensive luxurious articles were being mass-produced in their thousands. Eagerly they were snapped up by the middle classes who revelled in their new and beautiful acquisitions. Many of these little domestic family heirlooms are around today, but when we use them, we cannot really comprehend how much more they would have been appreciated and treasured by their original owners, who were quite unused to such opulence.

The whole tenor of the Will is somehow evocative of Jane Austen's novels. This is hardly surprising, as Mary was a contemporary of the famous authoress. In the more formal mode of address of the time, Mary refers to her unmarried friends, the Fothergills with careful precision, the eldest of the three being the one and only Miss Fothergill, whilst her younger sisters are distinguished by their Christian names - also very Austenish this.

Those of us who have watched the recent spate of T.V. adaptations of Jane Austen's novels, will be all too familiar with the dress of the period and will be able to visualise the contents of the two clothing legacies. No doubt Mary owned a pretty sprigged cambric high-bodiced dress which would have been topped by a charming frilled and beribboned mob cap to keep her hair neatly in place. Now I am being quite carried away by this Austen business and can almost see Mr. Darcy himself leaping out of the pages of *Pride and Prejudice* to bring Miss Moxon what he would describe as a "little trinket" - a silver filigree pencil box to keep in her writing desk, or perhaps a silver pair of tongs for the sugar? What nonsense! Even so it is a romantic thought.

Joan Rendall



The Rev. George Moxon tablets, rescued from the old Congleton Unitarian Church.

An Update on Roots 7 published in MM 24 - October 1999. "Full Circle!"

IN ROOTS 7 we discussed the Moxons of Ferry Fryston. Based on the evidence at the time, Rev. Don Moxon, Member of Beccles, Suffolk, had concluded that Michael Moxon, the father of Edward Moxon the Publisher, was not the Michael Moxon baptised by John Moxon in 1772.

This assertion arose because the marriage record of Michael Moxon to Ann Watson on 30th November 1800, clearly stated Michael's age as "twenty-three" - ie. born in 1777, not 1772.

Don has now researched further. In his letter, dated 19th September - just too late for this article to be included in MM26, he writes: *Here is a photocopy of the death certificate of Michael Moxon, which I have at last managed to track down. Although the age entered is a little indistinct, it can really only be read as 69 years; I assume the little squiggle in front of it is of no consequence - a slip of the pen. We therefore have three pieces of information:*

- 1. Michael, son of John and Sarah, born at Badsworth on 26 July 1772, bapt 6 Sept 1772.*
- 2. The licence - given on 29th November*

1800 - for the marriage of Michael Moxon of the parish of Wakefield, cloth dresser, bachelor, aged 23 years and upwards, and Anne Watson of the same parish, aged 21, spinster - for the marriage to be solemnised in the parish church at Wakefield.

3. The death certificate for Michael Moxon, given age 69 years, dated 26 June 1843 - at 67 Ebury Street, in the registration district of St George's Hanover Square. Henry Moxon, Michael's son, was the informant. This proves that Michael's age on the marriage licence must be an underestimate: 23 plus 42 or 43 is three or four years short of 69.

Given the birth date at Badsworth of 26 July 1772, Michael must have been 70 by June 1843: but as this is only a year over the 69, I conclude that all three pieces of information refer to one and the same person.

Henry could be excused for not being able to give an exact age for his father, born as he was at a time when birth certificates were not issued and when he would have been unable to check the precise details.

The death indexes for the decade 1841-

1851 have no other Michael listed anywhere in the country. Although Michael, father of Edward, was alive in 1840, Anne was a widow by the time of the 1851 census.

I conclude therefore that the Michael and Edward line - leading down to the late Dick Moxon and John (Dick's son) - also descends from Samuel Moxon of Ferry Fryston, Michael's father being John, son of Samuel!

Don Moxon

Thanks, Don. This just shows how careful we genealogists have to be - you can never take anything at face value!

Ed.

“**W**here there's a Will.....”

26th in the series.

By Joan Rendall



In the name of God, Amen. I Mary Moxon of the parish of Whiteparish in the County of Wiltshire, but now resident in Leeds, in the county of York, Singlewoman, do make this my last Will and Testament and first I will that my just debts and funeral expenses be paid and discharged by my Executor.

And I give and bequeath to my Brother, William Moxon of Low Ackworth, the sum of Fifteen pounds and to his Son, William, I forgive the five pounds which he borrowed of me. And to Joseph Moxon, son of my Brother William, I leave my chest of drawers which are at present in his Father's possession.

I also give and bequeath to John Moxon of Leeds, son of my late Brother Samuel, the sum of twenty pounds. Also I give to my nephew Samuel, the son of my late brother, Samuel, the sum of Twenty pounds. Also I give to my nephew William, son of my late brother Samuel, the sum of Twenty pounds.

Also to Hannah Moxon my niece, daughter of my late Brother Samuel, the sum of Fifteen pounds, together with my watch and half of my wearing apparel, the other half I bequeath to Elizabeth Moxon, wife of my Nephew John Moxon. And to their daughter Mary Moxon, I give and bequeath my half dozen silver teaspoons and sugar tongs marked MM. And my half dozen silver spoons marked WH(?) I give them to my Nephew William son of my late Brother Samuel.

My set of valuable Books called Devotional Comments, I leave as an affectionate legacy to my Nephew and Godson, John Moxon. The other books may be divided as maybe agreed on.

My writing desk I give to my dear friend, Miss Fothergill, with its contents except a Gold ring which I bequeath to Miss Sarah Fothergill and a silver Filigree pencilcase which I give to Miss Mary Fothergill of Knaresborough, and all the rest of my goods and chattels not herein disposed of, I give and bequeath to my said Nephew, John Moxon and do appoint him, the said John Moxon sole Executor of this my last Will and Testament and that all the said pecuniary legacies by me herein given, shall be paid at the end of six months after my decease.

In witness whereof I have to this my last Will and Testament, set my hand and seal this twenty third day of February in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and thirty.

(Signed) Mary Moxon.

AFFIDAVIT.

In the Exchequer Court of York. In the Goods of Mary Moxon deceased, appeared personally James Wood of Leeds in the County of York, Yeoman and Robert Wood of the same place, Joiner, who being sworn upon the Holy Evangelist, make oath and say that having looked upon the paper writing hereunto annexed marked with the letter A purported to be the last Will and Testament of Mary Moxon, formerly of the parish of Whiteparish in the county of Wiltshire but late resident in Leeds aforesaid in the Diocese of York, Singlewoman deceased, they verily and in their conscience believe the name or words Mary Moxon, set and subscribed to the said paper writing, were and are the proper handwriting and subscription of the said Mary Moxon deceased. They, these deponents having frequently seen her write and subscribe her name. James Wood, Robert Wood. Sworn by the said James Wood and Robert Wood at Leeds aforesaid, the twentieth day of April 1830, before me

(Signed) R. Truscott. Passed 23rd April, 1830.

NOTES ON THE WILL OF MARY MOXON.

In the year 1830, the ailing Mary Moxon no doubt sat at her writing desk, drew out a pen from her prized silver filigree pencil box and wrote out her Will. In doing so she over-looked the legal

necessity of having her signature witnessed. This omission we may excuse for she was almost certainly in poor health. A few weeks later she was dead. The accompanying Affidavit is self-explanatory. In it James and Robert Wood, the deponents, swore on oath that they were both familiar with her handwriting and that her signature was genuine. A deponent is simply a person who makes a sworn statement for use in court. Thus the Will was legalised.

Although Mary over-looked the witness necessity, she made quite sure that her single,

unmarried state was in no doubt. She was right to do this, for before the passing of The Women's property Act in 1882, upon marriage women relinquished all that they owned, to their husbands. Thus only spinsters and widows would normally make Wills, as their married counterparts owned nothing to leave,

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Mary possessed a writing desk, books and of course the silver filigree pencil box, so we may surmise that she was an educated woman who read books and wrote with fluent ease.

In England, the Industrial Revolution, through which Mary lived and which was destined to change the face of the world economy, took place from about 1760 to 1830, the time of the Will making. This was an enormous change from an agrarian handicraft economy to one dominated by industry and machine manufacture.

By 1830, Britain had established her industrial leadership in Europe. Where an individual might take an entire week to fashion out a single article, a machine could stamp out hundreds. Moreover, machines unlike men, could clatter away for 24 hours a day and 7 days a week without recourse to food, warmth, rest periods or sick leave. So how is this relevant to Mary's Will?

Before 1760 few of our ancestors could have owned such little luxuries as silver filigree pencil boxes, silver spoons or tongs. They would have been too expensive and beyond the reach of most except for the aristocracy or the well-to-do.

continued at top of column 3 on page 15

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