



# THE MOXON MAGAZINE

The Magazine for the Moxons, Established by James Moxon in 1988  
Founding Editor and First President of the Society  
No.28 October 2001 Published April and October

## Editorial:

IN THIS ISSUE of The Moxon Magazine, we continue the theme of the artistic talents of the Moxons. Having seen some of Louisa Moxon's excellent water colour paintings of alpine plants at The Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, during the Gathering Weekend, we show pictures by other Moxons from this family.

The Rev. George Browne Moxon was Rector of Sandringham House, and made pencil sketches of the House, showing it in its original form, before it became owned by The Prince of Wales. (page 6)

George's great nephew, Robert Julius Moxon, himself later to take Holy Orders, produced a very good water colour painting of The Loch Etive, in 1882. It was on this ship that Robert's younger brother, Thomas Frank Moxon, was an apprentice 1880-1884. Robert was also adept at pencil sketches (pages 7, 8 and 9)

I am sure many Members have sketches, or paintings by their ancestors, which would be worthy of appearing in these pages. Let us show them, and pay tribute to their artistic talents!

You may feel that the Magazine, has, over this, and the last two issues, paid undue attention to this particular family, descended from John Moxon of Great Yarmouth. If you do, THEN DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT! We rely heavily on Members sending in material for publication. If your family has not been featured recently, or at all, then please delve into your family archives - old letters, photographs and anecdotes. Were any of your ancestors murderers, explorers, politicians, were they the victims of a crime, did they suffer under an exploitive landlord?

- tell us!

JMH

## NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to The Society:

David R. Michael of Western Australia.  
Mrs. Ann V. Wright of Bristol.  
Bob Moxon Browne of London.  
Mrs. Ann Votier of Newcastle on Tyne.  
Mrs. Margaret Beer of Croydon.  
Blair and Beth Wilson of Ascot, Queensland, Australia.

## FUN AT KEW

THE 13th MOXON Gathering and Symposium was held at the Gate Hotel in Richmond, Surrey, on 31st August to 2nd September 2001.

Members arrived mid afternoon, but the first "official event" was the 11th Annual General Meeting of The Moxon Society, which commenced at 7-00 p.m. The Minutes of the meeting are published separately and included in the mailing of this magazine.

Before the business of the AGM started, President John Moxon welcomed all the Members present, particularly the eight from overseas, who had made a long journeys to be attend. He then made a presentation to Dr. Alvin Moxon, a long standing Member of Wooster, Ohio. Alvin is not only our most Senior Member, but has made more attendancies at Moxon Gatherings than any other Overseas Member. He was presented with a folding plaque, having the Moxon Coat of Arms displayed on the left side, and the following citation on the right side.

### *The Moxon Society*

*honours*

### *Dr Alvin Moxon*

*For*

*his longstanding support of the  
Society and for the distinction  
of being the most senior member  
who has attended more*

### *Moxon Gatherings*

*than any other overseas member.*

*In the years of*

*1997, 1998, 1999, 2000 and 2001*

*See photo of Alvin on colour page 5*

The main matters arising at the AGM were:

a) The Joint Secretaries, Christopher and Jane Micklethwaite wish to retire at the next AGM.

b) We have still not found anyone to take on the role of Research Committee Chairman or Chairwoman. Maybe the position would be better termed Research Co-ordinator.

c) Whilst we have an Associate Editor, Natasha Moxon of Truro, Nova Scotia, the Editor was concerned that if any thing happened to him, there was no-one "lined up" in the U.K. who could continue to publish the Magazine.

There were no volunteers for any of these positions from those present, and this presents the Committee with serious problems. Any Member, who would consider taking on any of these positions, is asked to contact Chairman John Moxon Hill or any Committee Member.

On Saturday morning, we all boarded the coach for a short visit to the Public Record Office, where we had a brief conducted tour. There are many, many miles of shelves containing millions of documents. We were given an indication on how to find specific documents, from pre 1858 Wills, to individual records of members of the Armed Forces, old maps, or any other record. It was an excellent introduction to the workings of the P.R.O., and would help anyone "navigate" the system for a first-time visit.

Time was, however, pressing, and so back to the coach for our short journey in distance, (but not in time, due to traffic congestion!) to The Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew, where we were met by Paul Davies, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer of the Bentham-Moxon Trust, and taken to their headquarters in the Herbarium.

The Bentham-Moxon Trust now has funds valued at about £5.5M.

*continued on page 4*

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# Roots 11

## The Moxons of Felkirk, Yorkshire, their Ancestors and Descendants

FELKIRK IS NOT a village or town. The probable earlier name was "Feldkirk" - the Church in the middle of field. As the photograph shows, it is quite a large church, but there are no dwellings nearby. The congregation has to travel there from the surrounding villages.

The original family tree, now known as MX19, was submitted by John E.Moxon in December, 1986, at the time he ordered a copy of *The Moxons of Yorkshire*. John was a Senior Entomologist, working at the Lowlands Agricultural Experimental Station, Keravat, East New Britain, Papua, New Guinea.

When I started to compile Moxon Family Trees in the early 90's, I picked up John's details and tree from Jimmy Moxon's archives. Immediately, I had a problem. John's letter said that his aunt, Mrs. Mary Horbury, née Moxon, had recently compiled their family tree back to 1642, and that he enclosed a copy. HOWEVER, the tree enclosed with the letter only went back to the early 1700's - there was a page missing!

I wrote to John, at the above address, but got no response. I also wrote to Mrs. Horbury, at the address John had given some 3 years earlier - the letter was returned, annotated "Gone away"!

John had written, "My family has had its roots in South Hiendley (not far from Felkirk) for at least 8 generations. They have been primarily farmers, with strong association with the local church of Felkirk - some of the old stone farmhouses have the name "Moxon" and date engraved above the door." John's Aunt also lived in South Hiendley.

At that time we knew of no-one else who was related to this tree, so it languished on the files for many years, until Betty Trembley of Longview, WA, U.S.A., and Angela Healy of Harrogate, Yorkshire joined the Society.

The information that Angela gave us enabled her to be identified as a descendant of Jacob Moxon, and his mother, Ellin Moxon (F 5 and G5 on tree opposite). Angela is shown at M 1.

Betty Trembley's Gt.Gt.grandfather was William Moxon who lived in Barnburgh. In various Census Returns he stated he was born in

Wakefield, and based on ages given, was born around 1814 to 1816. On checking the IGI for Yorkshire I found only two baptisms for William Moxon in this period. One, the son of Jacob and Martha Moxon, baptised 17-6-1815 at Wakefield, and the other, William son of George and Hannah Moxon, baptised 19-8-1814. Unfortunately for George and Hannah (and fortunately for us!) their William appears to have died in infancy, since they baptised a second William on 22-8-1823. This enables us to identify Betty's Gt.grandfather as the son of Jacob and Martha.

Jacob Moxon (G5) was a Clerk to Felkirk



*William Moxon's Grave Stone in Barnburgh Church Yard.*

*Photo - Fred and Vera Moxon.*

**TIP:** *If lettering is faint, rub in charcoal, as did Fred and Vera!*

Church for many years. Graham Jagger obtained a photo-copy of a book which reproduced the Registers from 1701 up to 1812, which he passed on to me. This book is revealing:

- a) It states that the fate of the older Registers is unknown, and
- b) In the entries for 1706 is included, "Jacob Moxon was born A.D.1681 and on Dec. 29th 1706 commenced Clerk of Felkirk from whose copy of the Parish Register of Felkirk this copy was taken."
- c) It states that the name Felkirk was probably originally "Feldkirk" The site was established as a church around 1120.

**What were Jacob's origins? How we wish we had been able to contact John E Moxon!!**

Was Jacob born near Felkirk Church? The Registers have been mislaid, so we can never be sure. However, Jacob, even in those days was not a too common name, so it was worth looking for other possibilities - we do at least know he was born in 1681. There is an entry in the Cawthorne Parish registers "Jacob Moxon bapt. 18-4-1681", but the Cleric, or his Clerk, was lazy, and did not bother to enter either Jacob's father's or mother's name! John Mockson of Cawthorne died in 1669, leaving a will. This listed his children (shown under D1)



*Composite photo of Felkirk Church (2 photos joined together)  
Photos by Fred and Vera Moxon.*

The Cawthorne Parish Registers are missing prior to 1653, so it is likely that John (the eldest son) was born prior to that date. The other four children were all baptised and their father's name given. In his will, John refers to his brother, Richard. Apart from this reference to Richard, the only other piece of information we have about him was that he was buried on 3-7-1706. In the period 1674 to 1681, four Moxon children were baptised in Cawthorne, but none of the entries gave their parent's names. According to the Moxon records that are available, it seems Richard must have been the father. So the tacit assumption would be that Jacob's father was Richard. One other piece of circumstantial evidence points to this fact. Jacob became Clerk at Felkirk on 29-12-1706. After his father (Richard) died in July 1706, did this spur Jacob to move to Felkirk, where his mother, Ellin, died in 1713. In which case, Ellin would have been Richard's wife.

The baptisms of neither John (D1) nor Richard (D4) are known. If they were baptised in Cawthorne, then the entry is in the missing registers. Only about 20 years of Bishop's Transcripts have survived for Cawthorne for the first half of the 1600's.

The Mokeson male children that we know about during this period in Cawthorne were all the sons of George Mokeson (B3):

- John C1 (buried 1607)
- E---- C2 (may be Emor, or a girl's name?)
- Samuel C4 (bapt. 1614)
- Nathaniel C7 (bapt. 1618) We know Nathaniel's history.

From the above, the possibility that Samuel was the father of John and Richard sounds most likely.

Fred and Vera Moxon (Members of Barnburgh - not far from Felkirk) did some detective work, and traced John Edwin Moxon's parents to South Hiendley. John was still working in Papua New Guinea, but was due home on leave in July/August. There I was able to make contact. His Aunt had traced their tree back to Ellin Moxon, who was buried in 1713 at Felkirk. She had only found one earlier reference. This was a Jacob Moxon of Felkirk who had paid the Hearth Tax in 1642.

This certainly puts a question mark over the above assumption that Jacob Moxon (G 5) was the Jacob Moxon (E 7) baptised in Cawthorne in 1681!

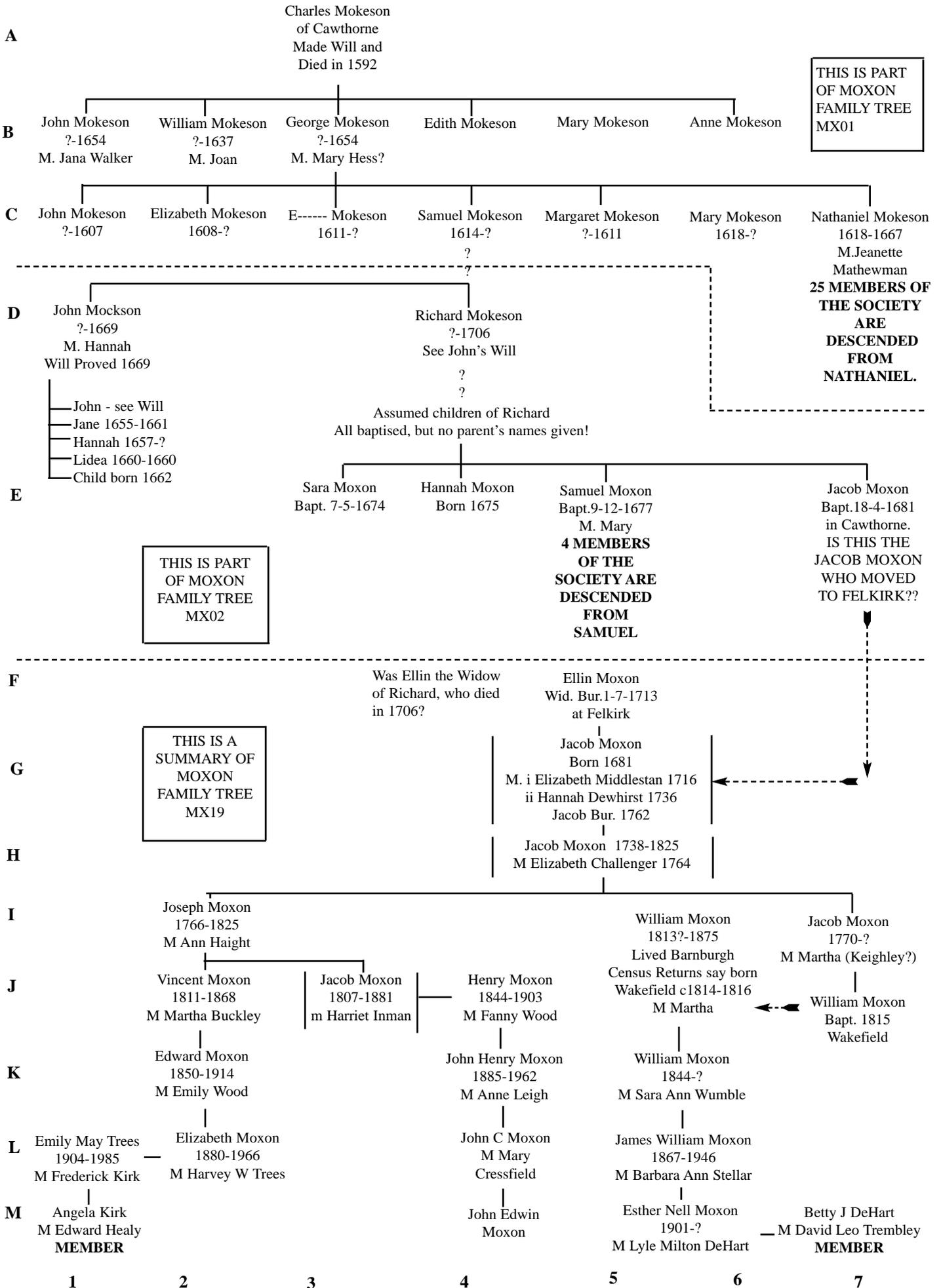
**So, we end with some questions:**

- 1 How can we be more certain that Jacob Moxon (E7 and G5) is one and the same? Especially if he could have been related to the Jacob Moxon of Felkirk who paid the Hearth Tax in 1642?
- 2 What other possibilities exist for determining the parentage of Jacob Moxon (E7), and his father (?) Richard Mokeson (D4)

IF ANY MEMBER HAS ANY SUGGESTIONS, OR CAN HELP IN ANY WAY, PLEASE CONTACT THE EDITOR.

**JMH.**

**See Betty's Family Photo on page 5**



## Presidential Letter No. 4

SINCE I LAST WROTE, the first CD of the National Burials Index has become available, and I decided to buy a copy for my own use. This No 1 issue is the first of several that will be issued at 2 or 3 year intervals as the information on burials is prepared and submitted to the organisers of this Index from the various County based Societies. This CD contains approx 5million names but the distribution throughout the UK is rather irregular. Some County Family History Societies have been very busy and have sent in lots of information but other Counties have not yet started their work on this project or reached the stage where they can submit data.

The record is on two CDs, disc 1 covers the years 1538 to 1825 whilst the second disc covers 1826 to 2000.

The data shown is as follows;

Surname and Christian names, Age (if listed), County, Place/Parish, Church, Denomination, Source (ie, parish record Name of provider/editor).

On disc 1, 1538 to 1825, there are 134 Moxons listed, Cambridge has 26 entries whilst the Yorkshire West Riding has 80 listed, the balance are spread around other counties.

On disc 2, 1826 to 2000 there are 309 listed and these come from Cambridge with 24 burials listed, Lincolnshire 51, and Yorkshire WR 207. From this you can see that the Family History Societies of YWR have been very busy.

If you have a Moxon and you know the date of death/burial and but do not know where they were buried, then send such details that you have to me, by letter (please enclose an SAE) or by e:mail. Sue and I will search this record for you, but as the number of Moxon entries is not very great please do not expect too much information from us.

In addition to maintaining your membership of the Moxon Society, have you thought of joining your "local" family history society? It can provide a very interesting sideline to one's activities during the winter months. We joined the Isle of Wight FHS as soon as we moved here a year ago and in a short time we found a couple from Doncaster with whom we have struck up a friendship and they have been good company for us on our monthly visits to the FHS meetings. They have also provided some useful details of Moxons in the Doncaster region which we have passed to John Moxon Hill.

Since we moved here we have had lots of visitors, and they all wanted to visit Osborne House, which is a palace designed by the Prince Consort and in which Queen Victoria spent a lot of her time. As a result we have already made about 6 visits to the place, so we felt we knew it well. However, the I-o-W FHS put on a guided tour one evening and when we had completed the visit Sue and I realised how little we knew about Osborne before this visit. Our visitors will benefit from this in future.

Another evening visit with the FHS was to the museum of one of the three prisons on the Island and we can say we have seen the inside

## Moxon Gathering - *continued*

*continued from front page.*

Over a quarter of this trust fund is derived from the Moxon bequest, emanating from a trust fund set up by James Edward Moxon. The trust fund was for his two children, Margaret Louisa and her brother, Alfred Edward, who died in 1920 and 1930 respectively, without marrying.

Margaret Louisa was an accomplished water colourist, specialising in alpine plants. Over 1000 of her paintings are held at the RBG. See photographs on colour page 5

Paul had arranged an extensive exhibition of her work, together with many other, most interesting, pieces of "Moxonabilia". Paul has taken a great interest in this branch of the Moxon Family, and gave an excellent talk about the Bentham-Moxon Trust and the family connections. Four Members of the Society, descended from this family, together with their spouses were present. Paul was warmly applauded at the end of his talk.

Afterwards, we had some time to look around the Gardens, have lunch, and then board the coach, at 2-30 p.m. for Hampton Court Palace.

Once again, the traffic was congested, and we arrived a little late at the Palace, where our Guide was wondering where we were! She was an excellent guide, and gave us a brief, but detailed history of the Palace and its involvement with Henry VIII and his six wives.

Remember the old school days verse "Divorced, beheaded, died, divorced, beheaded, survived!". She then conducted us around many of the principal rooms in the Palace, including the banqueting halls and the kitchens, which must have been most oppressive places to work with all the large open fires for cooking.

All too soon it was time to leave, when we had the choice of taking the service bus back to the Hotel, or taking the Thames River Ferry back to Richmond. Many of us chose the ferry, which took about 40 minutes - no traffic - just a gentle, relaxing cruise down the river - seeing

of Parkhurst prison. In one of the registers in the museum we found a very sad piece of information about a juvenile Moxon. It seems that Parkhurst was used as a holding place for youngsters sentenced to transportation between 1838 and 1863 during which time 4048 juveniles were incarcerated there of which 2524 were sent to the "New Lands". We found one William Henry Moxon from Kent, aged 10, who was released on the 4th January 1855 to go to a "Philanthropic Institution". (from which we presume he stayed in the UK rather than being sent away.) If any one recognises this boy would they please contact John Moxon Hill or myself so we can complete the story.

May I take this opportunity to wish all our membership well, to thank all of you for the support your membership gives to the Society and, in particular, our Committee Members and Officers who give their time freely for our benefit.

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how "the other half lived" in the obviously expensive homes along the river banks. Most had their own landing stage, and many had opulent motor cruisers moored alongside.

At Teddington Locks, we changed ferries, to continue on to Richmond. From the jetty it was quite a steep walk back to the hotel, through public gardens and parkland, and having exceptionally panoramic views of the winding river below.

It was fortunate that we had not organised a speaker for Saturday evening, since we had had such an interesting talk by Paul Davies in the morning. Starting at 6-30 was the soccer match between England and Germany in Munich. There were two other parties at the hotel - one a wedding reception - and it seems that everything stopped whilst the match was being televised! Subsequently, instead of starting dinner at 8-00 p.m., it was not served until 9-00 p.m.!

After dinner, President John Moxon opened "The Moxon Bookshop" where we had the three just completed - Moxon Family History Booklets for sale.

**See page 10 for further details.**

We had intended to take the group photographs at the Herbarium in the Royal Botanic Gardens, on Saturday morning, but the traffic had delayed the coach from the P.R.O. and we were running late. So the group photos were taken in the hotel gardens on Sunday morning, before we left, by coach, for Syon House.

**See colour page 5.**

Syon House is owned by the Duke of Northumberland, who spends little time there, preferring the quiet of Northumberland - not under the flight path to and from Heathrow Airport!

Again, the guide that Diana had organised was well informed and gave us a good conducted tour around those parts of the house open to the public. In all of the major rooms the ceilings were most ornate, in intricate plaster work, and often gaudily painted. Many of the carpets "mirrored" the ceiling designs.

We passed through a large anti-room, where diners waited before entering the Dining Hall, then the Dining Hall, and beyond, the Smoking Room where the gentlemen retired for a smoke after dinner. The Long Gallery, which is a feature of many large country houses, had book cases and mirrors lining the walls, and above the books there were probably over a hundred family portraits.

Looking around the bedrooms, used by visiting royalty and other VIP's, I noticed the large detached bathrooms, but instead of flush toilets, each bathroom was equipped with a commode! On querying this, I was told that because of the lack of en suite facilities, royalty rarely stayed at Syon House these days!

All too soon, after a quick coffee break, taken sitting in a sunny courtyard, it was time to board the coach, for our return to the Gate Hotel, where we said our fond farewells to each other, after, what all agreed, was a great weekend.

**Our grateful thanks to Diana Trotter for organising such a splendid Gathering.**

JCM



***Moxon Gathering 2001. In the garden of the Gate Hotel, Richmond, Surrey.***

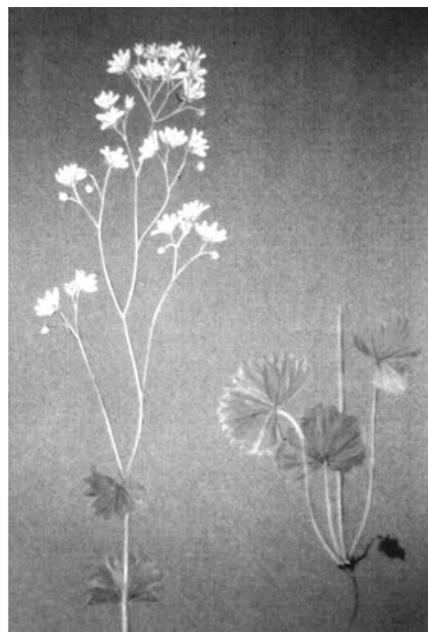
**SEATED - LEFT TO RIGHT:** Gillie McKeown, Vera Moxon, Gwynneth Moxon, Alvin Moxon, Diana Trotter, Margaret Eastwood, Dymps Moxon Hill and Margaret Moxon.

**MIDDLE ROW:** Fred Moxon, Rosie Watsam, Beth Wilson, Wendy Moxon, Anne Moxon, Dr. John Moxon, Sue Moxon, Jackie Williams, Barbara O’Niel, Warren Eastwood and Jenny Moxon.

**BACK ROW:** John McKeown, Don Moxon, Blair Wilson, Graham Turner, Harry Moxon, Simon Moxon, Greta Moxon, Jim Moxon, Tom Moxon and President John Moxon.



*Moxon Coat of Arms Tee-shirt.  
Modelled by Margaret and Simon Moxon and daughter, Greta.  
Produced by their other daughter, Lucy Moxon.*



*One of Margaret Louisa Moxon’s Water Colour Paintings.*



*Alvin Moxon, who was presented with a Citation marking his long Membership of the Moxon Society.*

*See “Fun at Kew” on page 1*



**LEFT:**  
**BACK ROW L-R:** Dr. George Moxon, Arnold Butter, Dr. James Moxon.

**FRONT ROW:** Ruth Moxon Monkman, Magdalene Moxon Dooley, Esther Nell Moxon DeHart Tucker.

**See Roots 11 on page 2.**

Esther Nell Moxon was Betty Trembley’s Mother.



*Margaret Louisa Moxon  
From a miniature owned by Susan Lowther-Pinkerton.*

# Rev. George Browne Moxon 1794-1866

## Rector of Sandringham 1829-1866



GEORGE BROWNE MOXON was the third son of Thomas Moxon of Twickenham, and his wife, Anne née Browne.

The Rev. Charles St. Denys Moxon wrote "A Simple Record of the Moxon Family", which was published in "The Moxons of Yorkshire" in 1987. Charles was the eldest son of George's brother, Thomas Moxon of Leyton. Readers should refer to M of Y page 65, for a detailed biography of George Browne Moxon.

This account records that George went to Corpus Christi College, Cambridge and graduated B.A., receiving Holy Orders from Bishop Bathurst of Norwich. In 1829 he was presented to the living at Sandringham, then a sleepy little "backwater" village.

This all changed when the House, originally owned by the Henley Family, was purchased by Royalty - "as it threw him out of his usual quiet ways, his old haunts and occupations".

George married Bertha Browne in 1849, but Bertha died of consumption two years later. "First his youngest sister made it her home; and dying there was buried in the Churchyard. Then for the rest of his life he had the companionship of his eldest sister, Eliza Charlotte".

"He was treated with the greatest respect by the Prince and Princess of Wales, who often called at the rectory."

Many of this family were accomplished artists, and George appears to have been no exception. Two of his pencil drawings are shown here.

### Acknowledgements:

The portrait of George is taken from a photograph taken by Paul Davies (Bentham-Moxon Trust, Kew) of a miniature owned by Susan Lowther-Pinkerton.

The Photograph of George in the Park and copies of his two drawings (Ref: PD 659/53) were supplied by Norfolk Record Office, who gave their permission for reproduction in this Magazine.

The Rev. R.G.Hall, current Rector of Sandringham, has also kindly given his permission for reproduction.

Our thanks to all.

JMH



### ABOVE:

Two Pencil drawing by George Browne Moxon c1850, showing front and rear views of Sandringham, when owned by the Henley Family. The House was later modernised by The Prince of Wales

LEFT: Rev. George Browne Moxon in Sandringham Park, with his sister, Elizabeth Charlotte, and two nieces, Eliza Georgina (left) and Ann Penrose, daughters of John Moxon (1788-1866). Photograph taken in 1863.

BELOW: Enlargement showing the group.

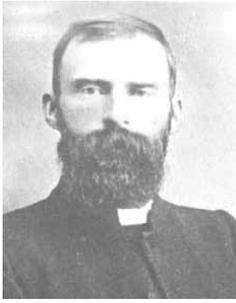


# The Ven. Robert Julius Moxon

1861-1910

Archdeacon of Grafton, NSW, Australia

1897-1910



ROBERT JULIUS MOXON was born on 3rd September, 1861, in the Madras State, India, the eldest son of Capt. Thomas Moxon, of the Indian Army, and his wife, Laetitia Bell nee Handyside.

Like his Great Uncle, George Browne Moxon (see page 6), he took Holy Orders, eventually becoming Archdeacon of Grafton in NSW, Australia, and, like many in this family, was also a talented artist. A short biography of Robert Julius was published in Moxon Magazine, No.3 (April, 1989).

In 1879, he left school and, at his father's request, joined the shipping firm of Shrimpton in the City, staying for four years. However, in June 1882 he was working in Wolverhampton, possibly on detachment for Shrimptons?

It was from Wolverhampton that he started out for his short "cruise" on the loch Etive. This is recorded on pages 9 and 10. His excellent water colour painting of the Loch Etive, is shown on page 8.

He was also a very competent sketcher, as was his father, his uncle, James Edward Moxon, and his Gt.uncle, Rev. George Browne Moxon. This skill is demonstrated in his sketch of the Old Laurence Church and Parsonage below.

John McKeown, grandson of Robert Julius, writes "The main references to him in print are contained in the book "Cathedral on the Clarence", of which I have a copy. However, this book does not mention the cause of his death, which was typhus (or 'enteric fever' as it was sometimes called at the time). The book does however mention RJM's weak constitution and implies that he also died from overwork.

This book mentions and quotes from a work by RJM, "A Short History of the Work of the Anglican Church in the North Coast Districts forming the Coastal Division of the Diocese of Grafton and Armidale". The length of the title makes me fear for the interest of this work! I have the text of a fairly jolly poem by RJM, written for a local dinner or gathering and containing details of the work of local farmers and bushmen. (Will publish in a later Magazine. Ed.)

I have three quite good water colour sketches of sailing ships at sea or coming in to the Clarence River."



The Ven. Robert Julius Moxon, laying the foundation stone for the Anglican Church in Maclean, near Grafton NSW. The date on the stone is August 28, 1893. Photograph held by Geof. Moxon.



The Plaque in memory of Ven. Robert Julius Moxon in Grafton Cathedral. Photo - Margaret Moxon of Brisbane.

Many thanks to Geof Moxon of Sydney, Margaret Moxon of Brisbane and John McKeown of Clifton, Bristol, for their material used in this short article. **JMH**



Old Laurence Church and Parsonage (not far from Grafton, on the Clarence River.)  
Sketch by Robert Julius Moxon in 1879  
Sketch now in Geof Moxon's collection.



The Ven. Robert Julius Moxon (Arrowed) with The Bishop, and other Clergy. Picture undated, and believed to be outside Grafton Cathedral From Geof Moxon's Collection.



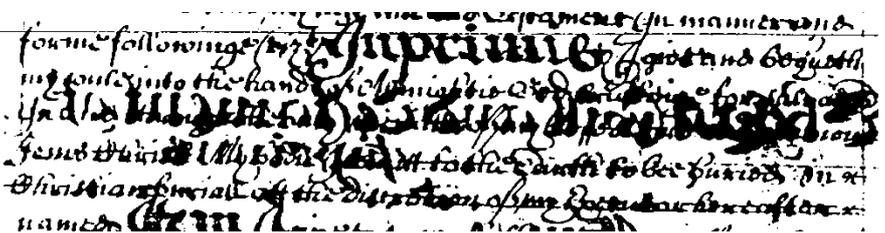
**TOP:** Grafton Cathedral, where Robert Julius Moxon was Archdeacon from 1897 until his death in 1910.  
**ABOVE:** The Altar in Grafton Cathedral. (see page 7)  
 Photos by Margaret Moxon of Brisbane.

Water colour painting of the Ship Loch Etive by Robert Julius Moxon. Robert's younger brother, Thomas Frank Moxon served aboard the Loch Etive for four years from 1880, plying between England and Australia. Painting now owned by Geof Moxon of Sydney. (see pages 7 and 9)



**RIGHT:**  
 Prominent Clergy of Grafton Cathedral.  
 Robert Julius Moxon is third down the list.  
 Photo.- Margaret Moxon of Brisbane.

**Samuel Moxon -** continued from page 11  
**LEFT:** Typical Dress for a young gentleman around London in 1670 - probably how Samuel dressed.  
 Picture courtesy of the Victoria and Albert Museum.  
**BELOW:** Part of Samuel Moxon's will - no wonder our researchers had difficulty in the transcription!



## Robert Julius Moxon's Holiday Cruise.

by  
Geof Moxon of Sydney,  
RJM's Gt. Grandson

THE ATTACHED is a copy of a narrative by Robert Julius Moxon recorded in June 1882. The original is hand written in a notebook which is in the possession of my father, Glen. He deciphered the handwriting, typed it out verbatim and posted it to me. I scanned it into a Word document.

Robert Julius has adopted a rather laconic, diary style, and has left a lot unsaid. It would seem that he was living and working in Wolverhampton at the time, although I don't know at what profession. He would have been 21 years of age. A lot of names cross the reader's eye and away into the mists of time. I suspect we shall never know who they were.

Thomas Frank (Tom) and William Ernest (Will) are RJM's two brothers. Although no mention is made of the name of the ship in which they are sailing, I think that it must have been the "Loch Etive". In the last paragraph he "Said goodbye to poor old Tom" which would indicate that Tom was permanent crew of the ship. As we have on record that Tom's period of service aboard "Loch Etive" was four years starting in 1880, the dates fit, and this would be the start of Tom's second, or possibly third, voyage to Australia. He doesn't mention if Will actually accompanied RJM and Tom in the ship or not. I think RJM and Dr. Paramore must have landed in Plymouth.

Looking at RJ's painting of "Loch Etive", I am tempted to conclude that it was probably painted about this time, as the shore features seem to be chalk cliffs, which are not a feature of the Australian coastline. In the narrative, he states that he climbed into the maintop and drew. I have in my possession an album of his wherein there are a number of maritime sketches in indian ink as well as some other ship paintings. Probably these were all made during, or around the time of, the voyage he describes.

I hope that our little contribution will add something to the growing fund of Moxon knowledge.

Tuesday 27/6/1882 - Left off work at 5 o'clock and went home and had some tea, then went to the station and had the pleasure of missing my train, through a porter's mistake as to the platform from which it started. Finally left W/Hampton at 7.30 and got to London at 11 o'clock. Will and Tom were on the platform at which I was very glad. We all went to Gower Street, and thence into the city. Will got out at Moorgate Street while Tom and I went on to Aldgate and then to the sailors home in Well Street. Had some difficulty in getting a bed as it was past midnight, but at last turned in to bunk No. 416 next door to Tom. Had a yarn with him for about half an hour, and then proceeded to my bed, which I sincerely wish I had never entered. I had not been in bed 10 minutes, 'ere I was attacked by bugs, and in consequence suffered

torture all night, and when morning dawned and I discovered by what I was attacked I set to work and had a hunt and soon 17 long streaks of blood ornamented my pillow, representing the squashed corpses of 17 of my vile tormentors. (I must have killed many more during my nocturnal struggles). At 7 o'clock I roused out Tom with great difficulty and we went down to breakfast, which was beastly, and then we went to the ship. During the morning we attempted to turn out the house, and got it a bit tidy, and certainly got rid of a tremendous lot of rubbish, but without much effect. About 11 o'clock I started off to the city by myself, went into Grants, and walked with Will to the bank, and the "Jerusalem" and then I went and saw Harkness for a few minutes but found him very busy. Went to Aldgate and got my traps and then down to the docks again. Then Tom & I came back to the city & had dinner & then back to the docks again, but as the ship was hauling out, we strolled about a bit. Went on the "Keewatin", the "Supra" & one or two others. Got on board at last when she was hauled alongside the "Devon" & moored. Turned in for an hour or so & had a snooze. About 4.30 Tom & I again went into the city & went to Shrimpton & Co. & then to Grants to call for Will. Took train from Fenchurch to Shadwell & then went on board but as the ship was not off for some time yet, we got off while Captain was below, & strolled about the dock again. Got locked into London Dock, & had a 2 1/2 mile walk to get round to the ship & were only just in time. Began to move about 10.30 & were finally in the river by 11.30 in tow of tug "Hibernia" as before. Got to Gravesend about 2 o'clock. I slept, or rather, dozed until 6.30 & when I awoke we were out of sight of land, a glorious morning with a light green rippling sea, & a slight haze. Turned out & went on to poop for a bit, & then had breakfast, which wasn't at all bad.

All the morning the men were rigging out jib boom & bending jibs etc. Passed Margate at 8 o'clock & doubled the North Foreland soon after. Passed Ramsgate 9 o'clock & Deal at 11.15. Large 4 masted ship "Drumlaurig" passed us in tow, homeward bound, under 2 fore topsails, 2 main topsails, main top gallant sail & royal. Passed Dover at 1.15 soon after dinner (soup & bread) "Sydenham" bark in tow - "Coramandel" bark in tow - & "P.B. Webster" under sail, all passed to starboard. home-ward bound. SS "Hoopoe" passed us under steam bound down. Passed Hastings at 6.45 & Eastbourne at 8.30. The latter looked very pretty, as it was almost dark, & it's hundreds of lights shone very brightly. Went up to mizzen top. Sighted Beachy Head light on starboard bow, at 9 o'clock & cast off the Tug, which came alongside to get letters etc.

Set fore-top-mast staysail & inner jib first, while Tom & another went aloft & loosed foretopsails. Helped haul in the hawser, no light job, & got in a filthy state & then helped sheet home foretopsails & hoist upper foretopsail. Went up twice in the dark to the foretop with ropes etc. Then helped set main topsail & mizzen topsails, then mainsail & fore sail, & finally fore, main & mizzen topgallant sails. Ship looked very fine under sail, though there was very little wind, but

a splendid moon. Finished working by 1.50 am or thereabouts. A large British India steamer passed astern in the dusk (either the "Goorkha", "Canara" or "Manora"). The wind all day had been fresh from the west, but fell towards evening, and there was a heavy dew. I turned in about 1.30



Geof Moxon

Friday June 29th: Turned out at 8 o'clock; almost a dead calm & sails flapping idly against the mast. We were quite out of sight of land, on the starboard tack. Had breakfast in our room. A slight breeze sprang up from the east at 9.30, so we squared the yards & stood down channel at about 3 knots. White painted Barque on port beam all morning. We kept company with this barque nearly all the time down to Falmouth) A large Brig rigged steamer passed to starboard bound down. Fished all the morning with Mac & the Captain but caught nothing. Had dinner at 12 o'clock, beef, soup & bread. Captain pressed me to come into the cabin to meals in future. Wind shifting about all round the compass during the afternoon, & it was nothing but bracing the yards about in consequence. Went up with Mac to the maintop & read up there a bit & drew. Found it a very different job to going up mizzen shrouds, but much jollier when up, as there was more room. Mac didn't seem to like it, & soon went down. Helped steady the starboard tack during the evening. Large ship (light) under top gallant sails on our port bow. Walked the poop & yarned with Mullens & the Pilot until 11 o'clock & then turned in & slept until 8 o'clock.

Saturday July 1st. Went at first to fish but caught nothing. White barque (previously mentioned) on our port quarter. Ship on starboard tack, though it was nearly calm with a long roll from westward. Ships head NNW. Had breakfast in the cabin. Barque "Ada Midmore" passed us to windward (starboard) bound up with main topmast & all above etc. carried away. Fished & read in the morning but caught nothing. Wind shifted into the W. about 12.30, so we got the ship close hauled on the port tack, set the spanker & stood in for land - ships head N by W 1/2 W. Barque "Naomi" on starboard quarter under royals, but as the wind freshened she took them in. Had dinner in cabin & carved. Sighted land on starboard bow at 6.15, and fog came on directly afterwards. Brig rigged steamer passed to starboard, bound up (supposed Wilson Line). Had tea & directly after wore ship. Hove the deep sea lead & got 35 fathoms; & set the fog horn going. Heard the siren on St. Catherines & with its 2 mournful wails, our horn & the horns of other ships around. We had quite a concert, only a most lugubrious one. Sharp lookout kept on the forecandle head. Walked the poop 12.30 & then turned in, after a yarn with the Captain. Went forward & had a yarn with the Bosun, & then came & read with Tom. I finally went to sleep

Sunday July 2nd. Turned out at 7 o'clock & had a good wash on the main hatch. Weather as thick as ever & dead calm; fog horn been going

all night. Got some books from Tom & read to Amy & Ethel, under the break of the poop & then read to the whole lot for sometime. Thick fog all day & that dismal horn kept hard at work. A little breeze about 12 o'clock & ship was put on port tack but we made no headway hardly. Fog cleared for a few minutes about 8 pm & showed 15 sail & 1 steamer on starboard side, & 7 sail & 1 steamer (the Jersey Packet) on the port side. (4 of these were ships & 2 Glasgow boats deeply laden. Turned in about 10.30.

Monday July 3rd. Turned out at 8 o'clock (8 bells) - fog still thick & horn hard at it. Played draughts after breakfast with Mac. Fog cleared off about 12.30 & it turned out a lovely day. Lots of sails in sight. Ship on starboard tack & we set spanker mainsail & main topgallant staysail. Barque "Naomi" & Barquentine "Friedrika Wilhelmina" passed on port quarter (one tack ahead of us) under full sail. Large ship, painted ports, under royals on starboard quarter (afterwards turned out to be ship "Medea" London to Capetown). Put ship about at 1 o'clock & stood in for Portland. Captain gave Mac & Me the job of easing over & hauling on spanker guys; I also went aloft & helped furl main top gallant staysail & helped haul main t.g. starboard brace on poop. Sighted Portland on starboard bow about 3 o'clock. Had a game quoits after dinner. Put ship about again at 4 o'clock & stood off shore. Worked as usual on the poop & helped generally at the braces. Went over to the weather side to the boom-kin to unjamb port main brace & nearly had my finger pulled off. Lost my hat overboard. Splendid breeze but dead ahead & ship began to toss a little. Felt a little sick but was soon all right & ate a good tea. Ship "Medea" on tack ahead of us. Fished & caught 17 mackerels. Sighted Portland light again at 10 o'clock. Ship a little steadier & not heaving over so much. Turned in about 10.30

Tuesday July 4th Was rather poorly all day though not at all sick, as I kept on deck & worked hard. We did nothing but tack, tack every hour or two as the wind was still dead ahead. In the evening off the Start, when we took in mizzen top gallant sail, & main top mast & top gallant stay sails (The latter had been set again in the morning)

Wednesday July 5th Blowing harder than ever. There was a sharp squall about 7 bells in the morning watch which woke me up with a start & I nearly tumbled out of my bunk, as ours was the lee side. Heard the Mate singing out pretty loud to stand by topgallant halyards & then let the mizzen fly, but it soon passed off. I was sick in the afternoon very badly, but kept about deck as usual & worked. Fore top gallant sail split in the morning, & it & the main top gallant sail were taken in. During 1st dog watch reefed all three upper top sails & took in mainsail & outer jib during a squall. Tacking & wearing all day just like Tuesday. Off Plymouth evening & sighted Eddystone light, about 15 miles on starboard beam.

Thursday July 6th Still strong wind & heavy head sea, ship plunging & tossing tremendously, but as I had got over my sickness, I enjoyed it very much. Shook reef out of main & mizzen upper topsails & set main sail, I mean topmast

stay sail, but soon had to take in the latter. Heavy squall struck her about 11 o'clock in the morning. Ship heeled over awfully & wind & sea tremendous to us landsmen, & even the men found work very difficult from the force of wind & rain. As I wrote my diary the ship was jerking about so much that sitting steady was a difficulty, let alone writing. Another heavy squall at 8 bells (noon). Upper main topsail split clear in two, sail was sent down & a strong one sent up & bent & then reefed. Main sail was hauled up & spanker brailled in. Sea very heavy & wind & rain tremendous. When the men came down from aloft after about an hours work, grog was served out all round. Later on set reefed main sail again Sighted land on the starboard bow at 5 o'clock Had a good look at the Eddystone lighthouse through my glass about 6 o'clock & could see the spray breaking very high, though we were between 12 & 15 miles off. Had tea in the saloon again but rather a small company present. Stood right in for land until 9 o'clock & then tried to tack, but gave up as it would have taken her masts out of her, so we wore ship, took in spanker, hauled up main sail & stood off from shore. Another very heavy squall, just after we had tacked. A brig carrying 4 topsails, main & foresail, spanker, fore topmast staysail & jib passed us hand over hand, shipping water at every plunge, but evidently carrying on as a piece of bravado, as we were down to reefed upper topsails only. White barque "Naomi" far astern though she was ahead of us in the morning. Light iron barque under single topsails & fore topmast staysail passed us bound up. Turned in about 11 o'clock

Friday July 7th Turned out & had a good wash at 8 o'clock, very fine morning above but sea still very heavy & ship pitching very much (wore ship at 3 am) land in sight at 8 o'clock on lee bow & beam (starboard). Barque "Plimsoll" (wooden Yankee Clipper) passed to leeward (starboard) bound up channel, under reefed foresail, 4 topsails, mainsail, spanker, fore & main topmast staysail, jib & mizzen staysail, rolling tremendously & shipping a sea every plunge. Settled to go on shore with Dr. Paramore about 10 o'clock. We stood right in for land & ran up ensign to our peak & a Cutter came alongside. Got a tackle out to jack yard arm with a chair, & were lowered into the boat, not at all a pleasant job, though it was rather a lark after all. The rain simply came down in sheets. Said goodbye to poor old Tom as he sat on port bulwark amidships. Before we were many yards from the ship the rain completely hid her from sight. Got on board the Cutter & went down below at once, where there was a splendid fire, at which we dried ourselves & soon came up on deck. The rain had cleared off & it was simply glorious. Got on shore at 3 o'clock & went straight to the station & started for Exeter at 3.40. Left Dr. P & family at Saltash & got to Exeter at 10.30 & after having a good tea, went to the waiting room & slept for an hour or two.

*Many thanks to Geof and Glen for this explicit and interesting article.*

*See page 8 for Robert's water colour painting of The Loch Etive.*

## The Moxon Bookshop

WE ARE DELIGHTED to inform our Members that the first three "Moxon Family Booklets" in A5 format, are now available:

### BIOGRAPHY OF REV. GEORGE MOXON

Compiled by Jane Micklethwaite, it covers the three periods of Moxon's life - In England - his ministry in Springfield - and finally his return to England, to face more tribulation.

36 pages, including 15 contemporary illustrations.

The normal price is £2-00 plus postage and packing, U.K. £0-40, Overseas Airmail £1-20.

HOWEVER, The Moxon Family Research Trust have decided, that as a Tribute to our late President, who was so keen to get this biography written, every Member will receive one free copy. These will be despatched with this magazine.

### THE MOXONS OF ST. HELENS

Written by Ron Moxon, the history covers Nathaniel Moxon, born 1815 in Market Bosworth, who moved to St. Helens, and both his British and American descendants.

24 pages, including 10 illustrations.

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Compiled by John Moxon Hill, the booklet of 12 pages includes 24 colour pictures and 7 black and white pictures, with just a brief narrative about each. Most of the pictures are taken from Susan Lowther-Pinkerton's collection of Moxon memorabilia.

Price £6-00 (colour printing is expensive!)

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### ORDER DETAILS:

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If payment in Sterling presents a problem, please contact John for advice.

## Help Needed!

AT LEAST three other Moxon Family History Booklets are in preparation, and we hope that the publication of the first three, will inspire more Members "to put pen to paper"!

Most members will be preparing their booklets by word processing. Are there any members who have a "Desk Top Publishing Program" who would be prepared to convert word processed text and pictures into an A5 booklet format?

If so, please contact the Editor (see back page for address.)

*Will of Samuel Moxon cont'd from page 12*

was soon inducted to the parish of St. Helen's, Lancashire. Little did he know it, but his time of trial, which was to, last a lifetime was about to begin.

Charles I had appointed Laud as Archbishop of Canterbury in 1633. He was also the king's personal adviser. Laud's high Anglicanism soon aroused the fury of the Puritans who could never accept the infallibility of the bishops and the rigid control of the church. The repressive Laud persecuted the non-conformists and rejected any conciliation of the Puritan Movement. Indeed, the seething religious discontent was one of the main causes of England's only Civil War, which broke out in 1642.

At this dangerous time, with the country lurching perilously towards Civil War, we can only imagine what well-informed discussions took place in this highly talented and educated Moxon family. There were several links with the Church, for George's elder brother Josias, who preceded George to Cambridge, took Holy Orders, as did his son, George Moxon junior. Several other kinsmen of George were Cambridge educated and there they would have made daily contact with some of the greatest minds in English society. In addition, Joseph his nephew, who became Hydrographer to Charles II and was one of the Founder members of The Royal Society, must have had an enquiring mind, although still a child at the time.

Samuel's Father George, now firmly in opposition to Laud's rigid control of the established church, openly spoke out, for he was far too honest a man to keep his fervent beliefs under wraps. Thus, it was only a matter of time before he would have to flee the country for his life, which he did, taking his young wife with him in the year 1637.

They were not alone in this exodus for thousands flocked to New England in America to start a new life there, where they would be free from religious persecution. Indeed, this was the era of The Pilgrim Fathers whose first permanent colony in New England was founded in 1620.

After a year, George was selected to become the first pastor of the new settlement of Agawam on the Connecticut River, which was later to expand into the Township of Springfield, Massachusetts. At that time, this tract of land was probably marshy and insect infested with little or nothing of the creature comforts of home. Yet here George seems to have prospered and Anne, his wife bore him two more children, Union and "our Samuel" of the Will, whose date of birth was 10th March, 1645.

Thus, our testator spent his early childhood in New England and missed the turmoil of Revolution and Civil War. How eagerly his parents must have waited for news of home. Had Civil War broken out? Was Laud still in control of the Church? And later, was the tide turning? Who was winning? Had the king been taken prisoner? Had he been executed? When would it be safe to return? We can only imagine their eagerness for any vestige of news, which would take several weeks to reach them and by that time, the whole scenario might have changed yet again in England.

The king was finally executed in 1649. After a few years, with Cromwell at the helm, George

thought it safe to return to the Old Country, for the main reasons for his exile had now evaporated. This he did in the year 1653, taking the 8 year old Samuel with him. Union vanishes from the scene and may have stayed on in America. During his 16 years of absence abroad, much had changed in England and undoubtedly there would be a settling in period for George and the little Samuel. As if this were not enough, Anne, George's wife died shortly after their return. Thus Samuel was left motherless in a country that would seem quite foreign to him.

George worked for a time in Astbury, Cheshire. His great gifts of communication with others and his powerful preaching skills were soon rewarded when Cromwell appointed him as the Assistant Commissioner for the Triers for Cheshire, who in the absence of the now vanished bishops, had to monitor and approve all those clergy who were considered competent and suitable enough to be preachers. Here then, Samuel grew from childhood to manhood, now with a new Mother, for his Father married again, which is not surprising as he had children to bring up. Samuel must have bonded well with George's second wife, for he leaves her a legacy of a ring in his Will where he refers to her simply as "my Mother".

With Cromwell's death and the restoration of the monarchy in 1660, just 5 years before Samuel drew up his Will, George's earlier problems with the church resurfaced. Once again, it was not long before he was disallowed from preaching the Independent line in towns and churches. Thus, he made his parish the hills and moorlands and the barns and homesteads in South Cheshire and North Staffordshire. Like many of his contemporary Non-conformists, he adapted to a kind of nomadic pastoral career. Devoid of a stipend and now limited by failing health and the frailty of old age, the end of his long life seems pitiful yet he never gave up hope and was eventually licensed to preach in his own house. He died in 1687, 12 years later than his son, Samuel. He was 85 years old - a remarkable man living in a remarkable age.

In his Will, Samuel leaves his old Father a substantial legacy of twenty pounds, probably the equivalent of two to three years stipend at that time. It displays a sense of affection and esteem for a Father who by now, had no regular income.

It is not known where the youthful Samuel had acquired his wealth, but maybe through inheritance or through his wife's family.

Samuel died in October, 1665 and in that year, a great catastrophe befell London, where our testator was now living in the outer suburb of Whitechapel. It was The Plague. Although chiefly confined to the City, it is estimated that it took the lives of about one third of the population there. One cannot even begin to imagine the chaos and suffering that it caused. Sweeping relentlessly eastward, it reached the outer extremity of Whitechapel and it was here that the dying Samuel drew up his Will. Already widowed and aged just twenty, this is a good hint that the young couple may have been victims of the dreaded disease.

It should not be beyond the wit of man to discover the truth here, for the authorities compelled the local Parish Clerks to compile lists of

these grim statistics. Known as The Bills of Mortality, they were conscientiously drawn up and comprise the weekly lists of deaths and their causes, for the year of 1665. Some of them survive to this day.

Then perhaps it would be better if we did not know. I cannot imagine a worse death than that of dying of the Plague and nightly listening to the cries of, "Bring out your dead!", knowing that you too would soon be slung unceremoniously into a cart, like a dead animal in our current Foot and Mouth epidemic, here in England. You would realise that next, you would be tossed into a communal pit, for the churchyards were long-since full to overflowing. Thus, all dignity vanished when so many died and one's corpse might literally be rubbing shoulders with that of a dirty tramp.

In the Will, Samuel leaves most of his wearing apparel to his cousin, James who was almost certainly the great Hydrographer's son. His wife's clothes are left to his sister-in-law, probably his wife's sister. Samuel's new "suite" of clothes leads us to suppose that this would have been his bridal attire, for at the age of twenty Samuel could not have been long married. In the mid-seventeenth century, a full outfit of good clothing would have been a costly acquisition indeed and would therefore have made a valuable bequest.

At first glance, it is not immediately self-evident that Samuel was drawing up his Will for the two of them and not for himself alone. Anxious that his young bride's relatives are not overlooked, there are several bequests to her side of the family. Possibly Samuel discussed the wording of his Will before his wife's untimely demise when she would have made her wishes known. Father Hill, who was one of the benefactors, was most likely her Father and his surname was added to distinguish him from Samuel's own Father who out-lived him by 12 years. Unfortunately, the wording is very obscure here. The bequest to Rebecca, the dead wife's sister, has already been mentioned. Master Burton inherits money that "Ellinor left for my wife" which implies that both he and Ellinor may have belonged to her side of the family.

At a guess, Elizabeth Glover may well have been a servant in the young couples' household, for she was certainly present to witness the Will, although she was unable to sign her name. I feel sure that her small legacy would seem like a fortune when compared with the pittance that servants could earn at the time.

Finally, it should be noted that at least four of our stalwart committee members spent several hours each trying to decipher the wording of the Will. In the end the document was placed in the hands of a specialist to transcribe, although it is to their credit that he agreed with almost every word of the text that they had fathomed out. Our grateful thanks go to each and every one of them.

JR

*See colour page 8 for a picture of a young London Gentleman of the time, dressed as Samuel would have dressed.*

# “**W**here there's a Will...”

27th in the series

By Joan Rendall

## Will of Samuel Moxon

Dated 5 October 1665

Proved 9 October 1665



### In the name of God, Amen.

I, Samuell Moxon, of the parish of St Marie White Chappell, London, Gentleman, being sicke and weake, but of perfect minde and memorie (praises be therefore given to Allmightie God) doe make and ordaine this my last will and testament In manner and forme followinge, (viz't), Inprimis [first] I give and bequeth my soule into the hands of Allmightie God, trustinge for salvation In and through the only merittes of my blessed Lord and saviour Jesus Christ.

My bodie I Com[m]itt to the Earth, to bee buried in Christian buriall at the discretion of my Executor hereafter named.

Item I give unto my father George Moxon [?]Twenty pounds. Item I give unto my Brother James Moxon Five pounds.

And unto my own sisters Martha and Rebecca Five pounds apeice, and my wives weddinge Ringe I give unto my said sister Rebecca.

And the least Ring upon my Finger I give to my Mother. And to my Aunte Smith I give five pounds. Item I give unto my sister in Lawe Rebecca Moxon Five pounds and all my wives weareing apparel.

Item I give unto my Coussen Robert Lilley Fower pounds that he owed my Father Hill, and fortie shillinges more I give to Buye him a ring,

And I give him my new suite of Clothes,

And all the rest of my weareing apparell I give to my Cozen James Moxon. Item I give to Mr Dun... [?]Twelve shillinges to buy him a ring

Item I give unto Elizabeth Glover thirtie shillings.

Item I give unto Master Burton That Twentie shillinges in his hand that Elliner left to my wife.

Item I give unto my loveing friend Thomas Bingley of London, gentl[e]man, Tenne pounds, And I nominate and appoint the said Thomas Bingley my full and sole executor of this My last Will and Testament.

In wisse whereof I, the said Samuell Moxon, have hereunto sett my hand and seale, the fifth day of October in the yeare of our Lord God One thousand six hundred Threescore and five, And in the seaventeenth yeare of the Raigne of our soveraigne Lord Charles the second, over England etc, King, defender of the faith.

Samuel Moxon

Signed, sealed, published and declared by the Testator, Samuell Moxon, for and as his last Will and Testament, .

In the presence of us,

Robert Lillie,

Rebecca Moxon,

the marke of Elizabeth Glover .

### Probate of Will of Samuel Moxon. (Translated from the Latin)

This will was proved on the ninth day of the month of October in the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and sixty five,

Before Master Peter Laye, clerk, surrogate etc,

By the oath of Thomas Bingley, the executor etc,

To whom administration was committed, he being first sworn well etc [to administer the same], and [to exhibit] a full [inventory] etc, and indeed [to render] a true [account] etc, Saving all right whatsoever.

### The Story Behind the Will

THE WILL of Samuel Moxon is one of the most interesting and intriguing documents ever to fall into the hands of the Moxon Society - so why has it never featured in the Magazine before?

Until the year 1858, almost all Wills were kept under the jurisdiction of the church and were lodged in ecclesiastical courts, for Wills were considered to be sacred documents which must be housed with the utmost care. If the testator lived in the south of the country, then his Will would normally be processed through The Prerogative Court of Canterbury, (PCC.) or if his property lay in the north, through The Prerogative Court of York, (PPY.). Exceptionally, it was possible for a small proportion of Wills to be lodged elsewhere and Samuel's Will was one of these. In fact it was recently discovered by Sue Moxon, our Membership Secretary, in the Commissary Court, Guildhall, London - and what a find for us Moxons!

Perhaps then, we should pause for a little longer than usual to set the scene for Samuel and his Will and to focus our minds not only upon his notable family but also to recall what was going on in the country around him, and believe me, it was quite a lot.

Samuel originated from one of the most talented and illustrious branches of the Moxon Family. He was the Grandson of James Moxon off Outwoodside, Yorks, (see James's Will in MM. No.26) whose seven sons were destined to contribute so much to society both in their own Yorkshire locality and nationally, also. Samuel's Father, George was James's youngest son.

George became a scholar at Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge where Oliver Cromwell had just finished his studies. At college George made a name for himself as a skilful writer of Latin lyric verse. Later he was ordained into the priesthood in the year 1626.

George married Anne, a Cheshire girl and

*continued on page 11*

### THE MOXON SOCIETY

#### OFFICERS

**President:** John C.Moxon.

**Membership Secretary:** Suzanne Moxon.

Both of 1, Pinetree Close, Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO31 8DX. Tel: 01983 296921

e:mail john@jcmoxon.freeserve.co.uk

**Chairman & Editor:** John Moxon Hill, 15, Belvedere Rd. Earlsdon, Coventry. CV5 6PF. Tel: 024-76672797

e:mail john.moxonhill@which.net

**Joint Secretaries:** Christopher and Jane

Micklethwaite, 59, Grantham Rd., Sleaford, Lincs. NG34 7NG. Tel: 01529 304426

e:mail cjmicklethwaite@hotmail.com

**Treasurer:** Warren Eastwood, 4, Southdown Close, Macclesfield, Cheshire, SK10 2JU. Tel: 01625-424731. e:mail

warrenandmargaret@amserv.net

**Associate Editor:** Natasha Doreen Moxon, 740, Truro Heights Road, RR1 Truro, Nova Scotia, Canada B2N 5A9. Tel: (902)897-6866.

e:mail natasha.moxon@ns.sympatico.ca

The Moxon Society Web Site moxon.org.uk

**Web Master:** Harry Moxon.

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