



THE MOXON MAGAZINE

The Magazine for the Moxons, Established by James Moxon in 1988
 Founding Editor and First President of the Society
 No. 29 April, 2002. Published April and October

Editorial

START DIGGING!

ONCE AGAIN this issue of your Magazine has relied upon a few stalwart contributors.

Joan Rendall has contributed "Where there's a Will" to every issue of the Magazine, except the very first. Well done Joan! But, despite **repeated** requests for assistance, she has now run out of suitable wills. We have plenty of wills with no substance! We have quite a number of wills which would fill up the entire magazine - they are so long! So, unless you can dig out a suitable will for Joan, No. 28 in the Series will probably be the last! **Start Digging!**

Once again the descendants of John Moxon of Yarmouth (1689-1736) have come up trumps and contributed three articles. As I said in last October's editorial, we seem to have concentrated very much on this branch of the Moxons - but if other branches do not contribute - what can we do? **Start Digging!**

Graham Jagger and Harry Moxon are regular contributors, and both have articles in this issue. Where is your article? **Start Digging!**

There is no "Roots" article in this issue. If your family has not been featured in the series, then it is because I have insufficient material to make up an interesting article! **Start Digging!**

Usually by this time, I have promises and suggestions for articles for the next magazine. At present, apart from covering the 2002 Gathering in Wakefield, I have just a single column short article (really a "fill-in") which I have written.

Please Start Digging!
Please start Digging!
Please start Digging!

JMH

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following new members to The Society:

Barbara Rowe of Salisbury, U.K.
 Julie Moxon of Janetville, Ontario, Canada
 Jean Fanshawe of Petersfield, Hants., U.K.

Wakefield Gathering 2002

30th August to 1st September

BY POPULAR REQUEST, The Moxon 2002 Gathering and Symposium will be held in Wakefield at the Travel Inn, Thorne Park, where we held the 1998 Gathering. The weekend starts on Friday 30th August and finishes on Sunday 1st September. The Gathering is being organised by Diana Trotter, whose address is given on the enclosed application form.

As usual the Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday evening at 6-00 p.m.

At 7-30 we have arranged for Mrs. Gill Briscoe, Chairperson of the Pontefract Family History Society, to give us a talk about the West Riding Settlements, which have now been fully indexed. She has also agreed to bring a print-out of the Moxon, and variant, names listed. Member Don Moxon of Beccles suggested we invite Mrs. Briscoe, who is a well-known lecturer on local history in South and West Yorkshire.

Dinner will follow at 8-30.

On Saturday, after Group photographs, we will board a coach at 10-00 a.m. for a sight-seeing tour, stopping at places of general interest and for lunch. We expect to arrive back at the hotel by about 5-30 p.m.

Saturday dinner will be in the restaurant after which we will be free to socialise.

On Sunday morning, a visit has been arranged to Nostell Priory, a National Trust property, not far from Wakefield. It is proposed that we travel in our own cars, so that those who wish to, can go straight home afterwards.

The total cost for the weekend (excluding entry fees to places of interest and lunches) will be:

£96 for Emerald card holders

£112 for Non Emerald card holders.

Anyone aged 55 or over is eligible to have an Emerald Card. If you do not already have one, please ask Diana Trotter to send you details when you send in your application to join us for the weekend.

Please also bring your National Trust Card with you, if you have one!

For U.K. members, we request a deposit of £25 when making your booking for the weekend. Since Overseas visitors may have problems in sending £25, without either them,

or the Moxon Family Research Trust, incurring about £8 in bank charges, a deposit will not be necessary.

If you are unable to attend for the whole weekend, then we would be delighted if you could join us for just part of the event. e.g. join us for the coach tour only, and perhaps Saturday evening dinner? Or for the Friday AGM, talk and dinner? Please let Diana know your requirements.

An application form is enclosed with this Magazine. Please send it to Diana as soon as possible.

In order to make the coach tour on Saturday as interesting as possible, please suggest any places of particular interest that you would like to visit. Diana can then arrange the tour taking your requests into account, although we cannot guarantee to please everyone! But we will try!

We look forward to a most enjoyable weekend, and hope as many of you as possible will join us in Wakefield.

Features in this Issue:

Editorial, Wakefield Gathering.	p1
President's Letter, "What do you think", Moxon Bookshop.	p2
Convicts (and others!)	p3
Colour page. Convicts, Julius Moxon and James Henry Harmar Moxon	p5
Convicts, Moxon Coaches & Arnold?	p6
Dr. J.H.H.Moxon, Origins of Moxon name.	p7
Walter Moxon Medal, The Day that Changed the World.	p8
Musical Moxons	p9
The Pipes - Poem by Robert J Moxon	p10
News of Members. DNA Testing.	p11
Peculiar Dates.	
Colour page. Dr. John Moxon, Ensign Philip Moxon.	p12
Knowing Our Moxons - Dr. John.	p13
A Tale of Two Swords	p14
High Blood Pressure. Obituary - Pat Evans	p15
Where there's a Will - Joyce Moxon	p16

Presidential Letter No.5

JOINING THINGS

IN MY LAST LETTER I mentioned that Sue and I had joined the I-o-W Family History Society and went on about the benefits that this had afforded us from a family history point of view and particularly, the pleasure we derived from meeting people with similar interests.

I also mentioned that we had befriended a couple called Maureen and Ray, who hail from Doncaster and who have retired to the Island. Ray is a past secretary to the Doncaster FHS and he had been helpful in supplying us with lots of information about Moxons in the Doncaster area. Arising from this friendship I have discovered that Ray is also a computer expert in that he builds his own computers (and they work). He persuaded me to fork out £20 and buy some more memory for my computer and I even managed to fit it into the computer myself. (boastful?) I now have a first rate machine that is fast and has lots of space to cater for all the needs of the Moxon society as well as Sue's and my own personal requirements. So there we are; when you join a local Family History Society you never know what benefits you will derive from it.

SOCIETY FUTURE

Your Chairman and I are giving serious thought to the matter of the future of the Society and in particular keeping alive the future of the Magazine which is our chief method of keeping in touch with our members. At present the Society is giving a lot of pleasure to its membership with this excellent publication on a half yearly basis. At the moment we owe this to the efforts of John Moxon Hill. We are thinking the time has come to find members who can start to provide a back-up service so they can take over the job of producing the magazine when John feels the need to retire from the task.

There are some other administrative duties such as those of the Treasurer and the Secretary that need also to be considered. We are putting this on our committee agenda for serious discussion.

In addition your Chairman and I are writing in this issue of the magazine about broadening the contacts between members by making our meetings more accessible to our membership. I would ask you to give serious thought to this message and let us have your comments so that the future of the Society is assured - **and is what you want!**

BOOKS

In the April magazine we told you about the Moxon Family Research Trust sponsoring the publication of books written by members about their own families. So far we have published three and some more are in the pipeline. On the basis that one should lead by example or practice what you preach, I decided to write the life story of my father. Accordingly, I set about putting down the dates of various important events in his life, such as birth, marriage and death, interspersed with family events, war service records etc.

John's narrative concludes on page 11, col 1

What do you - the Members think??

YOUR COMMITTEE is concerned that the Society ought to be "much more accessible" to many more members than it is at present. Our Annual Gatherings are only attended by 30-35 members and their spouses. It is inevitable that the elected committee members are drawn from these few. Not that we are complaining about the commitment of the present committee members! But, the committee has barely changed since the Society was inaugurated on 1st January 1991.

We wish to attract many more members to our gatherings, but realise that only a few overseas members are able to attend occasionally, due to the cost. We also realise that spending a whole weekend at a gathering may not appeal to many of our U.K. members.

There are two suggestions which we will be discussing at the committee meeting on 16th March, which is after the Magazine goes to be printed.

One suggestion, affecting our 85 U.K. members, plus spouses, is to change the format of the weekend of the gathering, so that the Saturday would be arranged so that members, who cannot attend for the full weekend, could attend just on that day. The programme could perhaps be:

10-30 am Reception and tea/coffee
11-00 am AGM
12-30 Lunch
1-30 pm Coach Tour
5-00 pm return for tea.

Those coming for the day could then depart, or could remain for an early dinner (7-00 pm) before leaving. Those coming for the full weekend would be given a talk on the Friday evening, and also possibly on the

Saturday evening, or the evening left free to socialise? Some further sight seeing could be arranged for the Sunday morning.

The other suggestion, affecting our 38 overseas members, plus spouses, is to set up Regional Branches, one in North America, covering U.S.A. and Canada (24 members plus spouses) and another in Australasia, covering Australia and New Zealand (14 members plus spouses). These Regions would organise their own local annual gatherings, as they thought appropriate, and would be allotted space in the Moxon Magazine for articles and news specific to their region, for all members to read.

Assuming the committee endorses the above suggestions, then they would be discussed in detail at the 2002 A.G.M.

Before any further action can be taken at the A.G.M., we would need to be guided by the views of the whole membership.

WHAT ARE YOUR VIEWS?

As a U.K. member, who does not usually attend one of our gatherings, would you (and your spouse?) consider attending just on the Saturday?

As an overseas member:

- 1 Would you support a Regional Organisation?
- 2 Would you consider attending a locally organised gathering?
- 3 Would you be prepared to serve on your regional committee?

Please write or e-mail your answer(s) to these questions, to either of us. (see back page).

A nil response will be taken to indicate that you are not interested in either of the suggestions!

John C Moxon

John Moxon Hill

Moxon Bookshop

BIOGRAPHY OF REV. GEORGE MOXON 1602-1687

Compiled by Jane Mickelthwaite, it covers the three periods of Moxon's life - In England - his ministry in Springfield, America - and finally his return to England, to face more tribulation. 36 pages, including 15 contemporary illustrations.

Price £2-00 plus postage and packing,
- U.K. £0-40, Overseas Airmail £1-20.

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 his British and American descendants.

24 pages, including 10 illustrations.
Price £1-00, plus postage and packing
- UK £0-40, Overseas Airmail £1-20

THE MOXONS OF GREAT YARMOUTH IN COLOUR.

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

Plus postage and packing
- U.K. £0-25, Overseas Airmail £1-20.

NEW.

CHARLES MOKESON OF CAWTHORNE AND HIS DYNASTY.

Researched, compiled and written by Joan Rendall and John Moxon Hill. 56 pages, covering the Moxons of Cawthorne, Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire and Birmingham, including 15 pictures and seven family trees.

Price £2-25 plus postage and packing,
- U.K. £0-40, Overseas Airmail £1-20.

ORDER DETAILS:

Please order from:

John C. Moxon, 1, Pinetree Close, Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO31 8DX. England.

Tel: 0198 329 6921

e:mail john.moxon@virgin.net

Payment by cheque or money order in STERLING ONLY, payable to MFRT.

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 above first four, will inspire more Members "to put pen to paper"!

Cont.on page 11 at bottom of centre column.

? What did William Moxon of Stewkley, George Reading of Coventry, John Beesley of Drayton, Berkshire and Ensign (later Capt.) Thomas Moxon of The Indian Army have in common? And which of them was "the odd man out"? Read On!

IN MM26 (October 2000) we published an account of the trial and conviction of William Moxon of Stewkley for sheepstealing, when he was sentenced to transportation for ten years. Tom Moxon (Member of Brisbane) and Val Lancaster (Member of Adelaide) both found a record that listed a "William Moxon" arriving on the convict ship Tortoise, in Hobart, Tasmania, in March 1842. But was this "our" William Moxon?

In July 2001, Lesley Albertson of Melbourne contacted me, via Gaylord "Mox" Moxon (Member of Fallbrook, California). Did we know of a Thomas Moxon who had sketched HMS Tortoise in Ascension Island in 1853? The short answer, at the time, was "No!"

It transpired that Lesley's Gt.grandfather, John Beesley, had also been transported aboard the Tortoise on the same trip as William Moxon. This fact sparked off a flurry of e:mails. Lesley found further details of William Moxon, giving his age as 37, coming from Bucks., and that he was married with 8 children. This positively identified him as "our" William Moxon from Stewkley.

Lesley had found a 10p Royal Mail postage stamp had been issued in 1980, depicting HMS Tortoise at anchor in Ascension Island.



The Ascension Island Stamp depicting HMS Tortoise.

Reproduced by courtesy of the Crown Agents Stamp Bureau, who act as official agents for the Ascension Island Post Office.

The picture was based on an original sketch by a "Thomas Moxon", held by the Royal Geographical Society. After much to-ing and fro-ing, it was established that the sketch was one of many donated to RGS in about 1915 by an A.E.Moxon - obviously Alfred Edward Moxon. Then there was some controversy about the artist! Were the initials on the sketch "TM" or "JM"? It was Paul Davies of the Bentham-Moxon Trust at Kew, who resolved the matter. The "TM" looked just like other sketches by Thomas Moxon, which Paul had seen, and the sketch was of a similar style. Paul knew that Ensign Thomas Moxon had sailed to India aboard the "Queen of the South" in 1853, but had he actually been to Ascension Island?

Lesley, through her contacts, determined from the Lloyds List, that the "Queen of the South" had: Departed Southampton 15 August, 1853. 16 August arrived Plymouth.

28 August called at St. Vincent CV. (?)
7 September arrived Ascension Island.
8 September departed Ascension Island.
28 October arrived Galle (Shrilanka)
1 November arrived Madras.

Paul wrote: An entry in the Madras Army records shows that Thomas Moxon, the son of Thomas Moxon of Leyton was appointed ensign on 15th August, 1853 and "was admitted to the Service/ arrived at Madras on the 1st Nov 53."

So - the sketch artist was definitely Ensign (later to become Captain) Thomas Moxon.

Lesley has researched some history of the Tortoise, which was launched in Bombay in 1784 for The East India Company, and named "Sir Edward Hughes". In 1807, she was acquired by The Royal Navy, and shortly afterwards, renamed "H.M.S. Tortoise". As a 5th Rate 38, she would have been armed with 28-18 pdrs (pounders), 2-12 pdrs, and 8-9pdrs. By 1841 she was ferrying convicts to Tasmania. In 1845, she was taken to Ascension Island, and moored as a hulk, where she served a variety of roles. One was as the seat of government. Marriages took place there, and it also housed a school. In 1860 she was taken out into English Bay and scuttled.

It is most unfortunate that we cannot reproduce this sketch of the Tortoise. RGS wanted a total of £73 for scanning the sketch and for giving permission for its reproduction in this Magazine (it would have added 25% to the production costs!) - so their offer was refused!

Val Lancaster (Member of Adelaide) has found a record of William Moxon marriage in the Tasmanian Pioneer Index:

William MOXOM, aged 45 married Mary HURST aged 28, Hobart 7-3-1853
Pioneer Index Victoria 1836-1888 - also 1889-1901

William MOXOM, died aged 70, born BUCKS, died 1869

MOXOM, un-named, born, Father William, Mother Mary HURST at Kingower 1857.

Val wondered if he married bigamously!

The law used to be that where a spouse had disappeared for seven years, it could be assumed they had died, and the spouse could then re-marry. The Australians were/are a pragmatic lot! After seven years a convict, who was unlikely ever to see his family again, could obtain permission to re-marry.

Lesley had gleaned this information. She wondered if another convict on the Tortoise, who was transported for polygamy, was ever allowed to re-marry! (I swear that at this point, in reading her e:mail, I heard a chuckle!)

Yet another convict on the same trip on the Tortoise was George Reading, from Coventry, who was found guilty of stealing £5 and some velvet material, and sentenced to transportation.

Dr. Roger Hancox of Abingdon, has access

to several letters that George wrote home. One was to his brother in London, in the form of a detailed log of everything which had happened to him from the judge passing sentence, to the Tortoise's approach to Cape Town, where the letter was posted. It gives a very detailed picture of a convict's life, first aboard the "Warrior Hulk", where George and William were both imprisoned, prior to being transferred to the Tortoise, for transportation to Hobart. (See colour page for pictures of the warrior Hulk, and a ship very similar to HMS Tortoise.)

George's indomitable spirit, which is most evident from the tone of the letter, obviously carried him through this ordeal. The letter is also significant to us, since it reflects the life William Moxon lived whilst held on the "Warrior Hulk" in Woolwich Docks, and during the voyage half way around the World.

George lived in Smithford Street, Coventry, with his wife and family, and Roger tells us, had some illegitimate children by a woman living in Bishop Street, close by. The Blitz destroyed all this area.

Text of letter from George Reading to his brother Mark. Where words are indecipherable they are marked with dots, e.g. Where it is possible to put an interpretation on words these have been put in brackets, e.g. []

Coventry 1841 February 5 Saturday I was Taken into Cuesty and Taken To Gaol and thear I remained Till monday Week the 14 of February and then I was Taken before the magestricks.

Then I was Fulley Committed For Trial and I remaind in Gaol Till the 24 of march and then I was Tried and the judge Sentance me To 10 years Transportation and I Stopped in Gaol Till the 21 of April on Saturday and then I was Taken From Coventry and then Taken me to woolwich that day Mr. Carter and Mr. Prosser Taken me and I got into woolwich about halfe Past 3 in the afternoon and when I got thear I was Striped of my Clous and then I was Put into a tub of warter and well washed all over and I neaver Saw my Clous after and then I Put on thear dress wich was Course brown dress and then I had a hion Put round my leage and that was Fastned on my leage and I weared it day and night and it waid Three Pounds and I wared it day and night and then I went on bord the warrer hulk a veary good hauld Ship and the next day I went out to work in the dookyard and I youst To onload and load Shipping of all Sorts of Stors Such as Iron and wood and Copper and Stone and bricks and all kinds of things For work and the dookyard his Veary large and woolwich his Veary Plesent Town and it tis Suported by Ship Carpenters but it tis Veary Could Cuntry and while I was thear I worked at

continued on next page

continuation of George Reading's letter:

the largest Ship that Ever was built at woolwich and the name of it was the Trafalguer and the Figuerhead of it was Nelson and it looked Veary hansom and it was wone hundard and Twenty Gun Ship the largest Ever was built at woolwich and I Saw it lance and it was lance on the 21 of june the monday and the quean was thear and her attendance and a great many nobles and lades of all ranks I never Saw So many People togeather in my life and it was Veary butifull Sight To See and Veary hot and on the 23 of june Wensday I Saw the king and quean land at woolwich and thear atendance and thea all looked well and hartly and it was the king and quean of belgam and I Saw the Finest Steam Veasel lance thear that Ever was lance and built thear by memory of man and I Saw Too more lance thear while I was at woolwich and the hulk that I was in was Veary Clean and Veary holsom and thear was Veary large Chappel in the Ship and Veary hansom and it would hold Eight hundard People and I youst to go Twis in aweek and we had areagluer Parson out of the Town and he had Veary Good Sallery For it I left woolwich on the Saturday 21 of August and I went To Chatterm that day and went on bord the Tortouis and Came back again to Sheariness whear I Stopped Till Monday and then we Seat Sale For Portmsouth and we Got into Portsmouth on the 27 of August on Friady and we had Veary Pleasant Voige and I Saw dover Castle and it tis Veary Pleasant Place as it Stands on a veary hig hill and as we Passed through the downs it was Veary Clarm and Veary Plesent it was Wendsay the 25 of August when we Passed through and we had Veary Plesent Sale to Portsmouth and we got into Portsmouth on the 27 of August and it tis Veary Pleasant Cuntry all round and I Stopped at Portsmouth Till the 11 of September and then we waid anker on Saturday at Eight in the morning and then we Came to Plymouth on the 13 of September on monday and we had Veary bad Sale to Plymouth and it tis Veary Pleasant Cuntry and it tis in deven there Sea Port and we Stopped thear Till the 3 of October on Sunday and then we waid anker and Seat Seal in the afternoon on Sunday at 4 oclock and we went through the English and Irish Channel Till we Came to the bay of biskey and then the Gentlemen on bord the Ship thought it was not Safe and we Came back again on the 7 of October into Plymouth harber again and we had Veary bad Passage and on wensday we had I thought we Should have been lost but Providence as brought us Safe back again and we Sailed in the Four days about one Thousand miles and while we Stopped in harber the Ship went under it thourough repare and From the 7 of October on thursday we Stopped till The 26 of October and then we waid Anker again on Tuesday and we Seat Sail again at 4 in the afternoon and we went through the English and Irish Channel and the Irish Channell was Veary bad again and we Got into the bay of bisky and we Sailed through with Great Pleasuer on the 28 and the 29 and then we Came to the Western ocean on the 30 of October and we Sailed through the Western Ocean on the 4 and 5 of October Till we Came and we Crossed the Ineadre ilands on the 7 of November and it on

the Cost of Afreace [Africa] and it tis Veary Plesent Cuntry and we Sailed on till the 12 of November Veary Plesent 12 Freaday the First day that we had wine and it was Veary hot day and we had not much wind that Saturday 13 was Veary brisk wind and was Veary Plesent Sunday 14 we went 10 knots ahour day and night Monday 15 the weather his Veary Clarm and did not go above 9 knots in the day and night and the weather his Veary hot and Plesent and Some of hour men go without thear Shirts and we lues the Sun about halfe Past Five in the afternoon and we have but Veary little rain at this time and I had my iron Taken of my leage on the 29 of October and I Veary Glad as it was Veary Great Easment to my mind and I heave Seen mass of Papoises and thea was in the Western Ocean and thea are Veary large and the Weather his Veary hot that I due not wear nothing but my Sheart and Trousers and Shues as the Climent his So Veary hot hour nights hear his hotter than any day that you have in Summer with you Tuesday 16 was Veary Clarm and Plesent Wensday 17 Veary Clarm and hot and I Saw Many Flying fish and we Passed the Canary hands and it his wone of the Spanish Iland in South of Afreace thursday 18 Veary hot and Good Sailing and we Passed Saint iland [spanish] iland Fready 19 the day was Veary hot and Plesent and Veary Good wind and I Saw many Flying fish that day Saturday 20 the Climent was Veary hot indeed and Good wind we went 10 knots ahour and Every knot his wone mile and I Saw wone of the highest mountans that Ever was Seen and the name of it his Saint (Tan Toneyon) and it tis wone of the Spanish iland in South of Afreace and it Contains about 15 Thousand Inhabetance Sunday 21 the day was Veary hot and Plesent and Good Sailing Monday 22 the day was Veary hot and Veary fine and I Saw thousands of flying Fish and thea are Veary Small about the Sise of aring and Small wings Tuesday 23 the day was Pleasant and Veary hot and Good wind and Veary Good Sailing Wensday 24 the day was Veary hot and Good Sailing and we have 12 hours Sun at this time thursday 25 the day was [So Luckseffes] hot that the Sweat run of me as I was riting theas Few Lines and we are Getting nearer under the Sun Every day and I Saw a veary hansom butterfly that day on the Ship and that his not usual to See at Sea and we have had 3 or 4 martens with us for about aweek and then thea left us and we have had a howell Come to hus and the Saiolers Caut it and I had it in my hands and it had long hears as long as your Finger and thea killed it and Stuffed it and that his Veary unusal thing to See at Sea as we was So many hundards miles from land and and the Climent his Veary hot now and we yous a great deal of Vinegar to Shrink the decks for the good of hour health but I bless God I ham quite well and the men Drink a great deal of Vinegar to keep the Scurvy away and I due not drink it my Sealf but I rub my temples with it and it Suites me much as the weather his So Veary hot Several of hour men fall with the heat but thank God I Stand it well hour Coldest nights his twis as hot as any day that you have in Summer thursd afternoon we had Veary heavey rain and it did [Continue] till the 26 of Fready and we had Veary weat day and night and ruff Sailing and it rained all the day Veary heavey rain

indeed we was in South of Afreace Ocean Saturday 27 we had a great deal of rain and the Sea was Veary rought and it was Veary hot and we Can See to rite letters at 5 in the morning the days are Veary long Sunday 28 the day was Veary hot and we had good wind and Veary Good Sailing we went about 7 knots ah our we never Sailing day nor night Monday 29 the day was Veary hot and we had Good Sailing and I Saw a dolphin Catch a flying Fish in his mouth and the Sailors Triad to Catch it but thea Could not and the dolphin his of a large Sise and Veary hansom resembls a mackrell and the Sise of it tis from 15 to 20 and 25 pounds this I Saw in the South of Afreace and on the 29 we Crossed the Eegualactel line and we Crossed it with Veary Great Pleasuer and the Sun was Veary hot as we was under the Sun and it tis 5 thousand 3 hundard miles from England and I ham well and hartly Tuesday 30 the day Veary hot and we had Veary Good Sailing and we had Veary heavy rain that day and the Climent his so hot that I heave not Sleep on my bed for 4 weeks and the men Sleep in all directions on the deck and maney of hour men Go without thear Shirts and I my Sealf Sleep on the deck with my blanket under me but we have a Good bed for Each man and we have a good Place to Sleep in we Sleep 4 in wone burth and thear his wone burth above another 2 high and the burths his 7 feet Squear and 3 feet high and the deck that we are in his 15 yards wide and thear his 4 hundard Prisners and that his all the Prisnors we have and the Place His Veary hot and we have 3 hare Pumps to work the foul hear out and the freash are in and the are work night and day as the weather his So Veary hot and I have to look over twenty men to See as thea due thear little work and I never Sile my hands for any thing if I have [a mind] and I hope I shall due well Wensday December 11 never was out in Such a day in my life thear was not a Cloud to be Seen all the day and it was Veary hot and we had Good Side wind and Veary brisk and the Sailors Caut Veary hansom bird on the riggon.

It was Veary large and Cant tell you the name of it Thursday 2 the day was Veary Plesent and Veary hot and I like the Sea much and hour Ship his reconed to be wone of the finest and fastest Ships that Plowes the Salt Seas Fready 3 the day was Veary fine and Veary hot and I Saw Veary hansom bird and it was all white and its Tail was 2 feet long and as Small as arats tail and the name of it his his the Long Tailed Smellet and I Came by that day a great quanty of Popoises and thea are of a large Sise and Veary brown Saturday 4 the day was Veary hot and Plesent and thear was not a Cloud to be Seen all the day and good Side wind Sunday 5 the day was Veary Cloudy and dull but we had Good Sailing and hot and I Saw a great many flying fish that day many thousands and thea look Veary hansom when thea was flying Monday 6 the weather was Veary hot and we had Good Side wind Veary fast Sailing and I Put down Every day as thear Should be no mistake in the days Tuesday 7 the weather been Veary hot and we had Good Side wind and we went 9 knots a hour and we have had Veary Plesent Voige at Present and I ham aloud one halfe a

continued on page 6

CONVICTS

See article on pages 3, 5 & 6

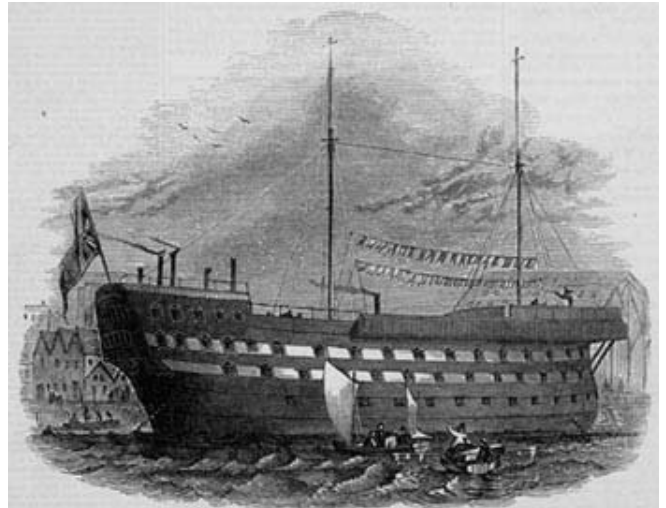


H.M.S. Triton

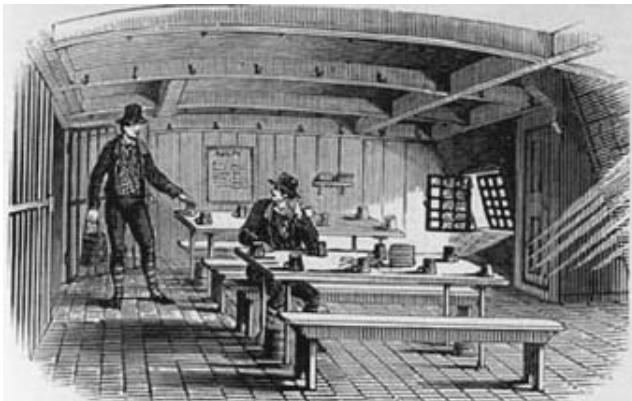
Oil painting by Nicholas Pocock, 1796

A very similar ship to H.M.S. Tortoise.

Published by Courtesy of the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich.



The Warrior Hulk



Below decks on the Warrior.

The three engravings of the Warrior were first published in the Illustrated London News in 1846.

They are published by Courtesy of the Image Library at the Public Record Office



Prisoners on board the Warrior.

James H.H. Moxon

See Article on page 7



Memorial to
James Henry Harmar Moxon
Photo Bob Moxon Browne.



Lt. Julius Moxon, with Sword.

See article "The Tale of Two Swords" on page 14
Photo of a miniature, owned by
Sue Lowther-Pinkerton, by Paul Davies.

Graham Jagger's 60th Birthday Party

See Article on Page 11

It is regretted that this
photo has disappeared!

Graham, holding his balloons

continuation of George Reading's letter.

Pint of Good wine Every day Wensday 8 the day was [Lucifer] hot as I was riting theas few lines the Presperation run of me Veary fast and we had Good wind Thursday 9 Veary Plesent but dull Sailing and little wind Freaday 10 we Passed by that noble and Eachant Place Called the isle of Saintea leaner whear that noble Boneaparth ended his days and I little thought of Ever Passing that Place when I first heard of it and the druping that hangs Over his Toom Stone whear his body was buread and God knowes whear my Poor bones may lay but I ham well and harty Saturday 10 Veary fast Sailing that day Sunday 12 the fastest Sailing that we Ever had yeat thear was four hours that we went 13 knots a hour and Good Side wind the Sun rises at 5 in the morning and Sets at 7 at night and you Can See to rite a letter at halfe Past 3 in the morning and till and the Sea his butifull and Plesent and I Enjoy it much and I Saw Great many marble Fish and thea hear Smooth and dark Sise and the are large and heavy I Saw wone of them leap out of the warter 6 feet and the Sise of them his 1 hundard and halfe waight Monday 13 the day was rather Cooler but Good Sailing and Side wind from the South Tuesday 14 the weather was Veary weat but fast Sailing Wensday 15 thursday 16 Fready 17 and Saturday 18 the days was Veary dull and foggey and Slow Sailing on Sunday 19 we had wone of hour Prisnors died and he was buread in the afternoon and he was buread in the deep and he had 2 Eaighteen Pound Shots fastned to his feet and he went down in wone mennet and was Seen no moor Monday 20 I Saw 2 large wales and thea was Veary large Tuesday 21 the Shortest day the Sun rises at halfe Past 4 in the morning and we had Good wind Wensday 22 Thursday 23 and Fready 24 Saturday 25 we had Veary Good wind and faist Sailing Sunday 26 Monday 27 and Tuesday 28 and Wensday 29 we had Veary Slow Sailing and Veary hot and we got into Timons bay near to the Cape of Good [Hope] in the afternoon and we have had Veary Good Voige and we have been 9 weeks and 1 day and it tis 9 thousand miles from England and the Place his Veary Plesent whear we hear Timones bay near to the Cape of Good Hope my Dear brouther and Sister and Children I have wonce moor the Pleasuer of Taking up my Pen in aforen land to rite theas lines to you by the blessing of God and I hope thea will find you all in Good health as I ham happy to Say I ham in Good health at this time and I bless God for it and I never Engoyd my health so well in my life and dear brouther and Sister I have rote to my Poor dear unfortunate wife and I due hope as Soon as you receave this letter you will delay no time in Sending to her and I hope by the blessing of God that She his well and be Sure and send my kind love to her and God bless her and I Told her to be Sure and Send To you as Soon as She had receaved my kind letter and I hope She will and my Dear brouther and Sister and dear Children I will rite to you again before I leave this Cuntry and I Cant Say any thing in this has it tis filled up with my jurny and I have Sent wone to you all as you may keep it for my Sake and God bless you all till you hear from me again So No moor at this

Time. from your Loving brouther George Reading and God bless all of you.

This text was copied from the transcription prepared by Barbara Drew, and sent in digital form to me by Dr. Roger Hancox, for which we give many thanks. It was first published in "Tasmanian Ancestry", by the Genealogical Society of Tasmania Inc., Vol 14, No.5, and has been reproduced by their kind permission.

My thanks also to Lesley Albertson and Paul Davies, for their very considerable help in the writing of this article.

The odd one out was of course Ensign Thomas Moxon - the others were all convicts



Lesley Albertson of Melbourne.

JMH

Another Convict!

JUDITH AYRE, Member of Beverley, has found the following entries in The Hull Advertiser:

6 July, 1816. "Sarah Harrison has been committed to the gaol of this place charged with stealing three damask napkins and a piece of Manchester quilting, the property of John Moxon Esq., of this place"

20 July 1816. "At the General Quarter Sessions for this town and county yesterday the following persons were convicted and sentenced Sarah Harrison for stealing wearing apparel etc. the property of John Moxon and others ... to be transported for seven years."

This John Moxon was undoubtedly a member of the Banking and Shipping Moxons of Hull.

In 1806 John Moxon was granted his Moxon Coat of Arms. These are depicted on page 99 in "The Moxons of Yorkshire".

Arnold Moxon



MOXON COACHES

FRED and VERA MOXON, Members of Barnburgh, write:

Those of us who attended the first Moxon Gathering, in 1989, at Leeds, will remember Bill Moxon arriving in one of his splendid coaches, in which we were to travel around parts of Yorkshire. It did put the "icing on the cake" when, in large letters on the side of the coach we read "MOXONS TOURS".

Bill who is on our Thorpe Hesley family tree, was awarded th OBE in 1989 for his services to the Community and Transport. Tragically Bill died in 1992, but his family carried on his business, and in 2001, to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Company, have bought a special anniversary coach.

The Moxon Society sends their congratulations to Bill's family.

Erratum

IN THE ROOTS 11 article in MM No. 28 (last October) there were four errors. I am grateful to Don Moxon for pointing them out.

It appears that I was getting my "Jacobs" and "Josephs" a bit mixed up! Moxon Tree MX19 is correct - the problem arose in drawing up the summary tree for Roots 11.

G 5 Jacob Moxon, born 1681, married twice, 1st Elizabeth Middlestan, then Hannah Dewhirst.

H 5 Jacob Moxon 1738-1825 only married once - Elizabeth Challenger.

A third entry was missed altogether! Jacob Moxon, 1807-1881, was the son of Joseph and Ann Haight (I 5) and the father of Henry 1844-1903 (J 4).

A further query concerned the text, about three quarters of the way down column 3. John Edwin Moxon's Aunt had referred to a Jacob Moxon of Felkirk paying the Hearth Tax in 1642. Don points out that the Hearth Tax was payable in 1672, not 1642. John's Aunt may have been referring to the Protestation Returns of 1642. We do not know which! Unfortunately, although we had made a contact with John Edwin Moxon whilst he was on leave in Yorkshire, he has now returned to Papua New Guinea, and has not answered any e-mails - so we have lost touch with him again!

I apologise if these errors caused anyone a problem.

Ed.

DORIS MOXON Member of Beverley, sent this photograph of Arnold Moxon to Fred and Vera Moxon, of Barnburgh, asking if they knew anything about Arnold Moxon. He is not one of Doris' relatives.

Fred and Vera could not help - can you? Please contact Doris direct, or the Editor.

Doris's address: 13, Grayburn Court, Grayburn Lane, Beverley, HU17 8SP

JMH

DR JAMES HENRY HARMAR MOXON

A Memorial Resurrected

By Bob Moxon Browne

READERS of The Moxon Magazine for October 2000 will remember the reproduction of newspaper cuttings researched by John and Sue Moxon, relating to the death by drowning of Dr James HH Moxon. Dr Moxon was the son of John Moxon of Hanover Terrace, and grandson of Thomas Moxon of Twickenham. Unfortunately this sprig of the family died out with the deaths of Dr James HH Moxon's three unmarried children.

James HH Moxon took a doctorate in law at Trinity, Cambridge and qualified as a barrister, but never practised, instead returning to his old college to teach law. He was a sportsman, coaching Trinity's boat to head of the river in 1873. He was also "well known in aquatic and skating circles".

His death was macabre. There was an inquest, and the jury's blunt verdict was "deceased, while in a fit, was suffocated in a ditch".

Dead, but not forgotten. As part of an ongoing family history project, I recently acquired rights over a "Moxon" burial plot in Norwood cemetery, jointly with my American cousin, Valerie Browne Lester, a direct descendant of Dicken's illustrator Hablot Browne ("Phiz"), who was himself closely related to the Moxons of Yarmouth via their double intermarriage into the Browne family. The plot in question contains a number of memorials, including those of John Moxon of Hanover Terrace and his descendants, and two Brownes, Phiz's elder sisters Kate and Emma (Kate's burial was organised and paid for by James Edward Moxon, father of the Bentham-Moxon Trust benefactors, Alfred and Rita Moxon).

One gravestone had fallen over, embedded face down in mud, so that the inscription could not be read. Deducing by a process of elimination who the incumbent of the grave might be, and mindful of how he had met his death (of

which the position of the stone appeared as a horrible reminder) I resolved to have the stone restored to its upright position. This has now been done, and the newly cleaned inscription is plain to see. It reads:

JAMES HENRY HARMAR MOXON LLD.
of **TRINITY COLLEGE CAMBRIDGE**
SECOND SON OF THE LATE JOHN MOXON
BORN 12 AUGUST 1847 DIED 25 MAY
1883. IN THE MIDST OF LIFE
WE ARE IN DEATH
ALSO OF HENRY JAMES
ONLY AND BELOVED SON OF THE ABOVE
WHO DIED 15th AUGUST 1909 AGED 34 YEARS
"WITH CHRIST WHICH IS FAR BETTER"
IN LOVING MEMORY OF
JULIE ISABEL
WIDOW OF THE ABOVE
JAMES HENRY HARMAR MOXON
DIED 9th AUGUST 1920
"TO GUIDE US TO OUR HOME ABOVE THE
SAVIOUR CAME"

Bob Moxon Browne.

See colour photo. of the Memorial on page 5



THE EARLY HISTORY OF THE MOXON FAMILY

By Harry Moxon.

STEVE MOXON'S article in the April, 2001 issue of the Moxon Magazine suggested that he wishes to question the account of the early history of the Moxon family as it has been developed in these pages. It may be useful at this stage to recapitulate this story so that those who wish to challenge its historical accuracy will know what it is that they have to challenge. It is much to be hoped that those who have different arguments or relevant insights should bring their views to the magazine so that the different points of view can be contrasted.

My belief is that the name Moxon was derived from that of Meoc, as is that of the town of Mexborough. Meoc came to prominence for arranging the defence of what at that time were new settlements. OE Meoces Burg means "Meoc's fortified city", as opposed to the neighbouring town of Conisborough (OE Cyninges Burg) "The King's fortified city". The defences of that latter would obviously have been based on the well-known castle. It is not known what the defences of Mexborough consisted of.

The evidence seems to be that in both cases, the defences were sufficient to keep out the Danish and Scottish marauding bands, which were much a problem for 10th and early 11th century Yorkshire. At least this was so until the time of the Norman conquest. It seems to be a reasonable supposition that if he was sufficiently well-known to be commemorated in the name of the town, his sons would have been likely to have called themselves Meoc's sons.

The events which followed 1066 bring us to the most traumatic period in the story of Meoc's sons. William was accepted as king by the

south of England, who found it more politic to throw in their lot with the victor of Hasting. The North, and Yorkshire in particular, remained loyal to Edgar the Atheling as the legitimate heir of Harold. 1068 saw Yorkshire in open revolt against William. The defeat of the revolt, and the savagery of the bloodshed and repression which followed it, was compounded by renewed raiding by the Danes and the Scots in 1069 and 1070. Their defences shattered by William's army, the South Yorkshire settlements were easy prey to pillage. Either our ancestors were driven from their homes by the victorious Normans and their followers, or, more likely, some of the younger sons were able to escape from the carnage and establish homes for themselves in the wild areas at the margins of cultivation.

The area around Cawthorne, Silkstone and Hoylandswaine was at this time uncultivated and mainly forested. Wakefield was a clearing on the banks of the Calder with a large wooded area (Outwood) to the north. Beset by the twin evils of war and dispossession the line died out in their original homes.

As P.H.Reaney observes (The Origin of English Surnames) "From the Norman conquest onwards, we find a different type in which the name of the father or of some ancestor is added as an attribute to the christian name. Some names of this type quickly became real family names, many of them still surviving as real patronymics, perpetuating the name of some early ancestor regarded as the father of the family, though, of course, the family is older than the surname." Moxon is one of these. Surnames originally were not the same as family names. It was possible for different members of the same family to have different surnames, or for one person to be known by more than one name. The use of surnames was

to uniquely identify a particular individual. Reaney quotes an instance where in one document, a person is referred to by three different names, one being the name of his village, one his father, and one the name of the manor owning the village. As Reaney observes, any one of these could have survived to become a family name. In our case, the one which did survive was the patronymic, but we cannot exclude the possibility that there may be people with the same ancestry as ourselves whose forebears came to be known by perhaps an occupational, or a geographic name.

A careful analysis of similar words shows that, in the course of the evolution of spoken English from its origins in Old English to time when written documents have survived, "Meoc's son" is most likely to have evolved into Mokeson, on the analogy of "smeoc" becoming "smoke", and "Leofric" "Loveridge", but that other possible forms of the name would include Mekson, Mokson, Megson and Mogson.

The name Mokeson is recorded in a number of surviving legal documents of the 14th century. Mekson is found in 1379 Scarcroft, Mokson in 1379 Ripley, Megson occurs in 1379 Wakefield, Mogson in 1600 Ousefleet. The coincidence that all these should have originated in South Yorkshire makes it highly likely that these are all variant forms of spelling of the same original name, the forms Mekson and Mogson eventually being assimilated into the more common forms. The two which have stood the test of time and survived into the present day are Megson and Mokeson/Moxon.

After Norman rule had been established, successive kings granted manorial rights of ownership to the land which the Mokesons and other survivors had broken in. The Moxons remained living off the land, until the feudal system crumbled and the former peasants were able to own their own land, and we enter the dawn of recorded history.

WALTER MOXON, M.D.Lond., F.R.C.P. AND THE MOXON MEDAL.

IN MM No.4 (October 1989) Joan Rendall's article "Where there's a Will" recorded, and discussed, the Will of Walter Moxon. In 1886 this brilliantly talented physician chose to end it all by taking poison, believing he was suffering from an incurable disease.

The Moxon Trust was founded in his memory with a sum of £515 8s 6d raised by subscription and given to the College shortly after his death. The income from the residue after the cost of erecting a bronze tablet in his memory at Guy's Hospital had been met, is used for a triennial gold medal, awarded to a person (not restricted to British subjects) who has distinguished himself by observation and research in clinical medicine. The award is made by the College on the recommendation of Council and the medal is awarded on the occasion of the Harveian Oration.

The medal depicted in the picture was presented to Sir Arthur Hurst, M.D., F.R.C.P. 1939. It was first awarded in 1891, and most recently in 1999.

Joan's article mentioned the Walter Moxon Medal. More recently, President John Moxon gave me a copy of an obituary for Sir John McMichael, which listed the Moxon Medal among his awards. This prompted a letter to the Royal College of Physicians asking for infor-



Obverse. Head and shoulders portrait of Moxon: lettered round it: IN HONOREM GUALTERI MOXON M.D. MDCCCXXXVI - LXXXVI

mation. They responded very quickly, and gave permission for the pictures of the medal to be reproduced, for which we are most grateful.

Graham Jagger has been researching Walter Moxon's father, William Milson Moxon. We published Graham's article in MM No.25 (April 2000)

JMH



Reverse. Lettered round an elevation of the fourth building of the College in Pall Mall East: OB ARTEM MEDICAM STUDUS ET EXPERIMENTIS AUCTIONAM, and, below COLL. REG. MED. LOND. and SIR R. SMIRKE R.A. ARCHT. ALLAN WYON SC: on the rim SIR ARTHUR HURST, M.D., F.R.C.P. 1939.

Gold, 2½ inches (64 mm) diameter.

Permission for reproduction of the medal pictures applies to this issue of the Magazine only. Any further reproduction requires the express permission of RCP.

THE DAY THAT CHANGED THE WORLD

By Matthew Walters. 16th.September, 2001.

A city tonight lies in tatters,
Torn apart by anger and pain.
People in buildings sent crashing to the
ground,
The damage they could not sustain

Fifty stars shine down on a country,
Destroyed by people who hate.
The world looks on in disbelief,
All we can do is wait.

A dented North tower - surely an accident?
A pilot who had lost his way.
Passengers, crew, and people inside,
Left stranded to hope and pray.

But it happened again, and again, and again,
And it soon became painfully true.
Lives cut short in such dramatic style,
So many destroyed by so few.

Mothers, Fathers, Brothers, Sisters,
Sons, Daughters, Husbands, Wives
Ordinary people like you and me,
Desperately clinging on to their lives.

The tallest buildings in the U.S.A.
Reduced to a matter of feet.
In clouds of smoke, rubble and dust,
Not able to withstand the heat.

Now - Days on - reality dawns,
Many people missing feared dead.

Questions unanswered - only one thing is known,
Evil had reared its ugly head.

People work on to dismantle the rubble,
Knowing it's a life threatening task.
Families are watching at home and abroad,
Not really wanting to ask.

But they know in their hearts there is little hope
Of finding anyone alive.
The terrorist attack made sure of this,
That few would survive.

They didn't just destroy some buildings,
They destroyed America too.
The horror and shock is felt world-wide,
Affecting me and you.

The world stands united and will work to find,
The demons who committed this attack.
These cowardly beings will be found,
The world will fight back.

Matthew Walters (aged 12)
16th September 2001

Kenneth Moxon, Member of Castell Talybont, Conway, submitted this poem, written by his grandson, Matthew, who became a pupil at Newtown High School, Newtown, Powys, in September 2000. The poem was written as homework, just after the terrorist attacks on New York and Washington. His teacher was impressed, and requested permission

to send it to The Times Educational supplement. It was entered for the "Poet of the Week" since it was National Poetry week (September 2001). His poem was selected and published on Friday, 5th October, 2001. The County Times also published both his photograph and the poem.

Matthew is twelve years old, and in 2000 was selected to attend a series of lectures by editors, authors and journalists, organised by the Powys County Council.



*Matthew Walters -
Our youngest contributor
- well done Matthew!*

Article sent in by Kenneth Moxon, Member of Talybont, near Conway, Matthew's Grandfather.

Ed.

MUSICAL MOXONS

by Graham Jagger

THERE ARE a number of professions which keep turning up in Moxon family trees. That of clergyman springs instantly to mind, as does medicine. The study of Moxon parsons would be a study in itself, and the story of Dr Walter Moxon (a supposed distant kinsman of Edward Jenner) is still unfolding. Almost serendipitously my attention was drawn (by my aunt Joan Packham, herself a Moxon descendant - she shares my Moxon blood from her father's mother) to an article in a magazine about a musical Moxon. From further research I have amplified this article and present it here. In addition I also mention another musical Moxon whose recordings are still available.

Reginald Moxon Armitage, the son of Harry Armitage and his wife (nee Moxon) was born at Wakefield on 15 July 1898. From an early age he was fascinated by music and as a child spent hours every day tinkling on the family piano, even though his legs couldn't reach the pedals. While still in his teens he became the organist at Wakefield Cathedral, followed by a period as assistant organist at the Chapel Royal, St. James's. At the age of 18 he was appointed organist and director of music at St. Anne's Church, Soho.

As Reginald was shortsighted, his war service was limited thus enabling him to study at the Royal College of Music and to spend four years at Christ's College, Cambridge, where he ultimately gained his Bachelor of Music and Master of Arts degrees. By this time he discovered that he had the indefinable but unmistakable touch which the writing of popular songs requires. Perhaps he developed this gift by his study of the works of Gilbert and Sullivan of which he was a devoted admirer.

The story now takes a strange turn. Perhaps the thought crossed Reginald's mind that Cathedral authorities might not appreciate an organist with popular songs being played on the radio and a successful revue running in the West End. In any event he decided that it was time to change his name. Two of the top stars in the music halls of the 1920s were Noel Coward and Maisie Gay. Perhaps these artists were among Reginald's favourites: in any event, by the mid-

1920s Reginald Moxon Armitage was calling himself Noel Gay.

The secret of his ensuing popularity was the employment of simple repetition, exemplified in his greatest success, "The Lambeth Walk", in which both words and music are constantly repeated. It did, indeed, as was said by Lupino Lane, who launched it as a dance as well as a song, embody the cockney spirit to a remarkable degree. Other examples may be cited; for instance, "There's something about a Soldier that is fine, fine, fine", where the repetition of the word "fine" has a kinship with genius. "Around the Marble Arch" and "The Fleet's in Port" are yet further examples of the method.

In 1925 a review, which Gay composed, called *Stop Press*, was accepted for performance. After that success, more successes followed, with *Merry Mexico* in 1926; *Jumbles*, of which he was part-composer, in 1927; *Clowns in Clover*, of the same year; and *Hold my Hand* in 1931. In 1930 he wrote the song "All the King's Horses", for Cicely Courtneidge's musical comedy *Folly to be Wise*, and in 1933 he provided the music for Stanley Lupino's farce *That's A Pretty Thing*. Later he wrote the music for the musical play *Jack o' Diamonds*, which was performed at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, in 1935. In the same year *Love Laughs -!*, another musical comedy, with music by Gay and starring Renée Houston, was produced at the London Hippodrome.

His greatest success came in 1937 with *Me and My Girl*, for which he wrote the music and composed the song "The Lambeth Walk", which was made famous by Lupino Lane. *Me and My Girl* ran for more than 1,500 consecutive performances and Gay's tune soon found its way into the nation's heart. In 1938 he wrote the music for *Wild Oats*, another long-running production. He also wrote songs for *The Little Dog Laughed*, which was first performed in 1939.

During the years of the Second World War he wrote music for a number of light-hearted revues, which included *Lights Up* and *Present Arms* in 1940, *Susie* in 1942, *The Love Racket* in 1943, and *Meet Me Victoria* in 1944. He continued in a similar vein after the war with *Sweetheart Mine* in 1946 and *Bob's Your Uncle* in 1948. In 1949 he composed the music for the pantomime *Aladdin* which was performed at Richmond.

Noel will be particularly remembered for "Run Rabbit Run", made famous by Bud Flanagan, "Leaning on a Lamp Post" and, of course, "The Lambeth Walk".

In the early 1950s Noel wrote little music: he had been going deaf for a number of years and had to wear a hearing aid. The

name of Noel Gay lives on through the Noel Gay Entertainment Group, a company

founded by him in 1934, initially for the purpose of publishing popular music. Under the guidance of his son, Richard Armitage (born 12 August 1928 at Wakefield, died 17 November 1986) this company has developed into one of the biggest television and representational agencies in Europe. His clients included David Frost, Rowan Atkinson, Esther Rantzen, Russ Conway, Russell Harty, Jonathan Miller, John Cleese, the King's Singers and many more. The publishing side had several hit copyrights, including the Scaffold's "Thank U Very Much". Reginald Moxon Armitage (alias Noel Gay) died in London on 4 March 1954 at the age of 55.

A second musical Moxon was Alice Moxon. I have not yet been able to trace her parentage or even her date and place of birth, but she was probably born in about 1900.

Unlike Reginald, Alice made music with her voice: she was a soprano. Details of her early life are obscure but it is probable that she would, like most professional singers of her day, have started her career singing in the chorus, probably in Gilbert and Sullivan operas which were hugely popular at the beginning of the last century.

As the Great War drew to a close, the musical life of England began its renaissance. New musical societies were born and old ones resurrected. In October 1919 the Malvern Choral Society was formed and almost from the beginning began to make a name for itself by holding regular festivals, using top-flight soloists from London. Many then famous names appeared in its early programmes. Alice Moxon's first solo appearance as a fully-fledged diva seems to have been at the Malvern Festival in 1924 where, under the baton of Sir Ivor Atkins, she sang the soprano part in Elgar's *King Olaf*. The other soloists were Archibald Winter (tenor) and Percy Underwood (bass).

This performance seems to have been successful since Alice was invited back to Malvern for the Festival in the following year. Her programme on this occasion included songs by Greig, Vaughan Williams, Parry and Bridge.

Alice's association with Malvern does not appear to have continued after these two years: her name does not appear in any subsequent Malvern Festival programmes. However, it was not long before her career took a new turn. In 1929 she made her first appearance under the baton of Malcolm Sargent in an HMV recording of Gilbert and Sullivan's *Iolanthe* in which she sang the part of Celia. In 1931 and 1932 she recorded, again with Sargent, *The Gondoliers*, singing the part of Cesilda, *Ruddigore*, singing



Noel Gay at the piano
(© Getty Images)

continued on next page

continued from previous page

Zorah, and *Princess Ida*, singing Lady Psyche.

Her last Gilbert and Sullivan recording was made in 1933 when she sang the part of Constance in *The Sorcerer*, this time with Isidore Godfrey.

A review in the Gramophone Magazine described Alice's performance in the 1929 recording of *Iolanthe* as "captivating". A later reviewer was less kind: of her performance in the 1932 recording of *Princess Ida*, Michael Walter wrote that "Alice Moxon is no more than adequate as Psyche; she sings with expression, but I find it hard to find any marks of individuality in her solos."

In 1935 Alice made what appears to be her last recording in a performance of Sir Edward Elgar's *The Starlight Express*. In this work she co-starred with Stuart Robertson to whom she was by then married. Perhaps this was not surprising since they had both worked together in some of the Gilbert and Sullivan recordings. Stuart Robertson was born in 1901 and died in 1958. Alice's career seems to have come to an end after the 1935 recording. It is perhaps a tribute to the regard in which she was once held that Alice's recordings are still available from specialist record shops. (Try surfing the web for these!)

The thread that links Reginald Moxon Armitage and Alice Moxon is the music of Gilbert and Sullivan. It is tempting to assume that Alice and Reginald were related; but more research is necessary before we can come to anything other than a speculative conclusion.

Perhaps a search of the soon-to-be-released 1901 census will shed more light on the family backgrounds of these two interesting Moxons. I would be delighted to hear from readers of any further information concerning these two musicians, particularly their ancestry. I can be reached through the Editor, or by email at gj5@tutor.open.ac.uk.

Editor's Note:

Our late President and Editor, Jimmy Moxon, published an article about Noel Gay in MM No.2 (October 1988).

Although Graham's article covers some of the same ground, it includes much new material, and also the details about Alice Moxon. We have therefore decided to print Graham's article in full.



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President John Moxon was intrigued when he received Julie Moxon's application form to join the Society recently, which arrived in an envelope carrying the above logo. The business belongs to her father, but is now only very much part-time.

THE PIPES

Lines purporting to be by a Scottish settler in New South Wales, composed by the Revd. R.J.Moxon, the future Archdeacon of Grafton, when Vicar of Christ Church, Tenterfield, Hogmanay, January 1st, 1895: Transcribed by John McKeown

In from the bush at daylight, I came on my old brown mare,
Whilst the New Year's sun shone cheerily through the fresh crisp morning air;
And the granite crests of the mountains looked down on river and plain,
And bade them awake from their short night's rest, for the day had come again.

In from the bush this morning, with a cheerful heart I came,
For though I have lived here twenty years, I'm a Scotchman all the same;
And a man of Scotland is always Scotch, though he lives in New South Wales,
And has changed his wild ancestral home for these sunny hills and vales.

Yet as I stood midst the happy crowd that saw your sports today,
A lonely man - from the lonely bush - with hair that is turning grey,
Upon the skirl and drone of the pipes my thoughts began to roam,
And I saw once more the bonny sight of my own dear native home.

Instead of the hills beyond the town, I saw Ben Cruach's height,
Rising up from the mist-hung valleys to greet the morning light;
Whilst the murmuring voices of those around me changed to the sullen roar
Of the foaming burn that ran in the glen, before my father's door.

I seemed to see, for a moment's space, the faces of long ago,
And my mother's voice spoke to my ear in the music's ebb and flow;
And the boyish fancies and hopes and fears of forty years long dead
Took tone from the piper's changeful mood and circled around my head.

For so it is with us Gaelic men, when our nation's music plays,
We feel the bond that draws us close to the scenes of other days.
We feel the pride of our ancient name, the blood of our Northern race;
And the wild weird note of the Highland pipe is sweet in this distant place.

You men of the brother English blood should not forget to-day
That the pipe has joined with the fife and drum in many a bloody fray:
That the kilts and bonnets of Highland troops for many passing years
Have marched through the whistling shot and shell with the British grenadiers.

You see this medal upon my breast, with its ribbon and its bars.
It tells a tale of the brightest day in the darkest of England's wars.
It tells how helpless mothers and maids were saved from death and shame
By the trusty steel of the Scotch Brigade that to their rescue came.

'Neath the burning heat of the Indian sun, shut close by a ruined wall,
In the daily dread of a fearful death from Sepoy steel or ball;
Month after month they had waited there, 'mid want and death and pain,
For the peace and rest which it almost seemed they would never see again.

Until one day, in the evening's heat, whilst the rebel bullets fell
In a ceaseless stream on the tottering buildings, riddled by shot and shell,
Suddenly out of the smoke and din, nearer and nearer drew
The whistle and squeal of the Highland pipes, and the kilts that led them through,

Faintly at first from the distant streets, swelling or sinking low -
Drowned for a time by the rifle fire and the shouts of the flying foe -
Rising at last, as out of the smoke that swathed us like a pall,
The pipes and plaids were met by the cheers of the men on the ruined wall.

We had fought our way through the endless streets, ablaze with a sweeping fire,
We had left our dead at every turn - we were coated with blood and mire.
But when evening fell over Lucknow's gates and the day's hard task was done,
We were safe in the British quarter-guard and the victory was won.

Oh! sweet is the song of the feathered world, and sweet is the well-sung lay,
And grand is the roll of the regiment's band, as it marches on its way;
But sweeter and grander than all and each, as it fell on the English ear,
Was the slogan proud of the Highland pipes and the swell of the Highland cheer.

So whenever you hear the bagpipes drone and watch the plaids go by,
Remember the story the music tells of deeds that can never die;
And see how Briton and Scot alike may find in the Pibroch's tone
A living link by which the two great races shall be made one.

Robert J. Moxon

News of Members. Graham Jagger's 60th.

GRAHAM JAGGER, a regular contributor to these pages, see his "Musical Moxons" on page 9, celebrated his 60th Birthday on 25th January. Angela arranged a party for him on the next day, Saturday, at the St. James' the Greater Church Hall in Leicester. It was a large, happy gathering of family, and Fred and Vera Moxon, Joan and Robert Rendall and Dymps and me.

Our colour photo, on page 5, shows Graham, standing rather sheepishly, like a six-year old, holding up celebration balloons.

Happy Birthday, Graham!
JMH

John McKeown

JOHN MCKEOWN had a double bypass and aortic valve replacement operation on 28th January at the Bristol Royal Infirmary. He had been waiting for this operation for some considerable time.

A couple of days later, I enquired of Gillie how it had gone. "Very well" was the response. He had already telephoned Gillie from the hospital that morning, before she went into see him.

A week later, I telephoned again, and was surprised to be told by Gillie, "You can speak to him!". He was already back at home, feeling sore and weak, but making good progress.

The latest news is that he is continuing to improve steadily.
God Bless you John.

Presidential Letter continued from page 2

I included the different jobs and countries that he worked in. I am sure you know what I mean.

Having done that I proceeded to write briefly about each event in the order they happened. This did not read at all well so it was then necessary to refine the text in order to give the story a theme, make it flow and to bring to the fore my father's persona. It was this last aspect that caused me to seriously reflect upon this rather distant figure that was my father and I had to really think about what he did and the experiences he went through. I began to see him in a quite different light and it has been a very worth while exercise that has resulted in my understanding him much better.

However, I am left with the sad feeling that I should have asked him many more questions than I did when he was around.

JCM

PUBLICITY

MR, A.J.CONDLIFFE the Retired Editor of The Congleton Group of Newspapers, has long been interested in Rev. George Moxon, and has been of considerable help to the Society. Margaret Eastwood sent him a copy of Jane Micklethwaite's "Biography of Rev. George Moxon".

Mr. Condliffe has published a good account of the book in his paper, covering an area equal to an A4 sheet!

Let's hope it results in some sales!

A Little Useless Comment Which May Be of Interest to our Readers

WHAT A GOOD THING that Graham wasn't celebrating his birthday in the year 1752 - for in that case he would have only been 59 years old and there would have been no partying!

Before 1752 New Year's Day fell on Ladyday, 25th March. Thus January, February and most of March followed on under the same year as the preceding December.

By the mid-eighteenth century, all this was becoming somewhat confusing as most of Europe had already dropped the Old Style Julian calendar and replaced it by the New Style Gregorian one, which began each year on 1st January. There was even more turmoil to come. In earlier times, it was believed that the Earth made a single rotation around the Sun every 365 days - in one year. By the eighteenth century, it was known that this was not so and in reality its circuit takes approximately 365 days and six hours. Nowadays, we allow for these extra few hours by adding a Leap Year every four years.

Thus the year 1751-2 saw the adoption of the New Style Gregorian calendar, starting each year on 1st January. At the same time, eleven whole days were missed out altogether, for that single year, thus making the seasons fit more accurately with the calendar. If this adjustment had not been made and if we had not decided upon the Leap Years, eventually Christmas Day would have been celebrated in Mid - Summer!

Many people were infuriated by the new policy and some even accused the government of shortening their lives by three months. Taxation became an issue as well, for why should working people pay a full year's tax when the 1751 - 2 year was only nine and a quarter months long? In the end, people power prevailed and it was agreed that the taxes would continue to be levied on the old New Years Day of 25th March. This did not quell the bitter acrimony for what about the missing eleven days?

Thus by Act of Parliament it was decided that the eleven days would be added on to the 25th March every year and that in future the end of the tax year would be made due on 5th April and the new financial year would commence on the following day, 6th April. The people had won!

No government since has ever dared to challenge the electorate about this matter, still leaving the end of the tax year 5th April.

Joan Rendall

Help Needed.

Continued from page 2.

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

If you are not very proficient, help can be given. Go On! Have a go! GO ON, GO ON, GO ON! (with apologies to The Inland Revenue)
Please contact the Editor. (see back page)

DNA & Genealogy Are we all related?

FOLLOWING DISCUSSION at the last Society A.G.M. concerning the use of DNA (Male Y- Chromosome) we now have a plan formulated. After an original plan had been circulated to Committee Members, Harry Moxon advised that his researches showed that the DNA Test of the Male Y-Chromosome was in fact only a partial test. There are 22 markers in the full test, but Oxford Ancestors, the leading U.K. firm in this work for genealogy purposes, only check 10 markers!

So how reliable are their results? The question we asked was, "If we checked one male Moxon descendant of Charles Mokeson of Cawthorne, who died in 1592, and one male Moxon descendant of Robert Moxon of Silkstone, an adjacent village to Cawthorne, who died in 1531, and both results were identical: what was the probability that the two shared a common ancestor?". Oxford Ancestors explained that they analysed the 10 most significant markers, and the answer was 96%.

Based on this it seems worthwhile proceeding. For £660 we can have 6 tests carried out.

ANALYSIS of MEMBERS of the 6 "Most Popular Trees"

MOXON TREES	HEAD	No. of MEMBS	No. of MALE MOXONS
MX01)	Charles	29	14
MX14)	Mokeson		
MX31)	1592 Cawthorne		
MX15)	Robert	8	2
MX26)	Mokeson		
MX27)	1531 Silkstone		
MX12	Willm./Ralph Moxon c1515 Rothwell	4	1
MX05	John Moxon 1689 Yarmouth	15	8
MX11	John Moxon 1735 Stewkley	8	2
MX06	Samuel Moxeson Ferry Fryston	6	2

NB MX12 & MX05 are connected in 1600.

Subject to individual Member's agreement, we will initially test one male Moxon from each of the above six trees. Any subsequent testing will depend on the above results.

This program is being funded by the Moxon Family Research Trust

JMH

Knowing Our Moxons

Continued from page



Views of John and Anne's house and garden in Frome, Somerset, where the Penstemons make a gorgeous display.

John tells me, "The house was built in 1778, a rural mid Georgian; its Venetian windows, popularised by those who had been on a Grand Tour, were beginning to go out of fashion in fashionable Bath!

Pictured is dear "Duke", now in his Happy Hunting Ground. We bought him from a dog's home for Dad after Mother died."



Ensign Philip Moxon Killed at Ferozshuhur in 1845 Commemorative Memorial in Winchester Cathedral.

See "A Tale of Two Swords" on page 14

FAR LEFT TOP: Memorial to those Killed in Action *

NEAR LEFTTOP: Enlargement of Central Plaque *

ABOVE RIGHT: Colours actually carried by Ensign Philip Moxon. Photograph by courtesy of the Curator, Winchester Cathedral

ABOVE: Ensign Philip Moxon's sword, inherited by Simon Moxon in Australia. Photograph by Margaret Moxon.

BOTTOM LEFT: Part of the Plaque showing Ensign Philip's name. *



* Photographs by President John Moxon, who, because of the highly polished metal work, had difficulty in coping with the light reflections.

Knowing our Moxons - No. 17

Dr. John Moxon, M.B.E.

Chairman of the Moxon Family Research Trust.

JOHN ERNEST UNSWORTH MOXON was born in Fepham, Sussex, the son of John Evelyn Moxon and his wife, Florence Ernestine nee Woodell.

It is now some time ago that I suggested that, as the Founding Chairman of the Moxon Society, and currently the Chairman of the Moxon Family Research Trust, he would be an ideal "subject" for "Knowing our Moxons"! However, I had to press him (quite hard!) to give me facts about his life outside the Moxon Society. Eventually these arrived, and I can do no better than to reproduce them, exactly as written, below:

John writes:

The evening we returned from the successful first Moxon Week-end in 1989, I took into my father some photos of a number of our ancestors' headstones, grouped under the shelter of a tree. They were in a beautiful country churchyard at Mavesyn Ridware in Staffordshire, and as they were our direct forebears I had found them quite moving. My 98-year-old father glanced at them politely and said "I'll look at them later, I rather want to watch the snooker."

On a previous occasion I told him of Jimmy's comment "Your father must know all about William Moxon born in Rugely, he was his father's brother." Of course he remembered Uncle Billy; he and his older brother had stayed with him for a month, and when chasing around the orchard they bumped into Aunt Kate and knocked her over. After a thrashing, they were sent home in disgrace, and the family never communicated with each other again! This demonstrates how varied is peoples' interest in their family histories.



John's father, John Evelyn Moxon, on the occasion of his Hundredth Birthday.

I was not particularly aware of my own interest until approached by the late Dick Moxon (see footnote). In no time he and Jimmy kindled my interest and when, after an inaugural meeting the Moxon Society was formed, I was surprised to find myself elected Chairman. Dick very sadly had died, and perhaps my ability to persuade Jimmy that there were varying views on matters was felt useful, in spite of my ignorance of genealogy.

In no time, we all found a mutual interest in



*John and Ann Moxon
Setting out on a Mediterranean Cruise.*

meeting fellow Moxons and their families; the high attendance rate of so many, year after year, is a remarkable testimony as to how we have taken to each other. The annual "get togethers" go from success to success and are much looked forward to. I stood down as Chairman after five years.

Educated at Aldenham School in Hertfordshire, I trained at St Thomas's Hospital and after further training replaced a retiring sixth partner in a practice in Frome, Somerset. Shortly after, I married Ann and we have three children. I was much involved with the Cottage Hospital, including Casualty and Maternity; we provided Police Surgeon, Factory Act, School Medical and other services. All this made for a very complete and fulfilling professional life as a Family Doctor. When I retired after fourteen years as senior partner, the practice had grown to twelve partners and cared for 26,000 patients.

I found time to be a founder member of the Bath Health District Management Team; this involved the six of us, including one GP and one Consultant, overseeing one large and thirty small hospitals and all other medical and nursing services in the District. Later, serving on the District Health Authority, and on retiring being appointed to the Wiltshire Ambulance Trust, gave me as a full time General Medical Practitioner the unusual experience of every aspect of administration in the National Health Service.

I have greatly enjoyed many years as an active member of the Rotary Club of Frome. Attending Buckingham Palace to receive the MBE from the Queen (the day before the great fire at Windsor Castle) was most inter-

esting, as was a recent invitation to one of her Palace Garden Parties. The greatest consumer of my time is my garden, just under an acre; I take a special interest in penstemons. Next, comes my heading-up an appeal for £485,000 towards special equipment for the hospital which will replace our hundred-year-old one. In three years we have raised two thirds of this, but have another year's work ahead of us.

On retiring, I started a weekly class in Pottery at our local college. This gives me great pleasure; I prefer clay modelling to throwing. I am still an active school governor.

Ann and I have enjoyed holidays in many parts of the world, though are not so fond of the longer plane journeys now.

I feel the Moxon Society has now proved itself to be soundly founded. The Annual gatherings are well-supported, always with some new members to meet the regulars. Careful thought is given to making them interesting and varied to tempt our UK members as well as those from overseas.

The start of publication of family booklets, the results of individuals' research, is also an encouraging milestone. I enjoy the company of Moxons and helping in a small way to further the development of the Moxon Society.

John Moxon

It is most unusual for the "subject" to be so helpful with a "Knowing our Moxons" article - it is an excellent precedent!

Ed.

Footnote: Dick Moxon of Southampton organised the Moxon Gatherings in 1989 and 1990. For those Gatherings, Jimmy nominated John to be Chairman. At the 1990 Gathering it was decided to form the Moxon Society, to come into being on 1st January, 1991, and John was formally elected Chairman. Sadly Dick, who had been elected Treasurer, died in the October of 1990.



*John and Ann,
with children, (left to right) David, Christopher and Penny.*

A Tale of Two Swords

See Colour Photographs on pages 12 and 5.

DETAILS IN THIS ARTICLE have emerged during the past year as the result of information supplied by Simon and Tom Moxon and their wives Margaret and Jenny, all of whom were present from Australia at last summer's Richmond-on-Thames Reunion, by Robert Moxon Browne, QC, who is researching both the Browne and the Moxon families, from the Curator of Winchester Cathedral, Mr John Hardacre, from The Moxons of Yorkshire and from various Regimental Histories and works about India on the Internet.

The story of the Two Swords relates to the Moxons of Pontefract, Hull and Great Yarmouth, whose family tree is to be found in The Moxons of Yorkshire Table 5, pp 48 and 49. The owners of the swords, Philip and Julius Moxon, were the sons of Thomas Moxon of Leyton, Essex, and Elizabeth Browne, who married in 1820 and according to the tree had 20 children. The lives of 16 of these, including Philip and Julius, are briefly described by the eldest, the Revd. Charles St. Denys Moxon, on pp 73-76 of The Moxons of Yorkshire. The other four children were born dead. Thomas Moxon of Leyton was a banker. The story of the swords and their owners was referred to in an excerpt from their brother Captain Thomas Moxon's Testamentary Letter printed in the Moxon Magazine of October 1997: "The swords of my deceased Brothers, the one (Philip's) taken out of his dead hand on the field of Ferozeshah in 1845 and the other (Julius's) the good conduct prize at Addiscombe (Addiscombe College, The East India Company's equivalent of Sandhurst - JFM) in 1858 and which occupy a memorial case in my drawing room, I wish to be retained as a memorial".

Philip's sword is at present in Brisbane, Australia, in the care of Simon Moxon, a grandson of William Ernest, Captain Thomas's second son, and Julius's sword is with Tom Moxon, also of Brisbane, a grandson of Thomas Frank Moxon, the youngest of Captain Thomas's sons by his first marriage. It is likely that one of the swords was destined for the Ven. Robert Julius Moxon, Captain Thomas's eldest son, also in Australia at the time of his father's death in 1905, but since Robert Julius died in 1910 the sword would have passed to one of the surviving brothers.

Philip's sword has the inscription: "From T. and E.M. to Ensign P.M., 18th January 1845", Philip's parents' Addiscombe graduation present.

Julius's sword's inscription reads, "Julius Moxon Cadet. This sword was presented to him at the public examination in the year 1858 by the Honourable court of Directors of the East India Company as a mark of their approbation of his general good conduct while at the company's military seminary." This military seminary was Addiscombe College, where Philip had trained 13 years earlier.

A photograph of Philip's sword appears on page 12 and shows a strong, scabbardless

weapon, quite able to kill or wound if sharpened.

The three brothers, Philip, Julius and Thomas, all served in the Indian army in the days before the Mutiny, when a large part of India was still governed by the East India Company. Philip was commissioned as Ensign in 1845 in the 1st Bengal European Light Infantry, a regiment which subsequently changed its name twice, in 1861 becoming the 101st Royal Bengal Fusiliers, thus forming a two-battalion unit with 104th Bengal Fusiliers, and then in 1881 being renamed the 1st Battalion Royal Munster Fusiliers as a result of the Cardwell territorial army reforms. Julius joined the Madras Engineers as Ensign on 4 February 1859 but, despite being nursed by his brother Thomas, died the following year of tuberculosis at Quilon on the Coromandel Coast. Thomas was appointed Ensign on 15 August 1853 and arrived that November in Madras to join the 45th Light Infantry. He served there and at Rangoon. During this period his first four children were born, and he returned to England with the rank of Captain shortly before his first wife Laetitia Handyside's death in 1865. He then briefly took over the family banking business, held an army supply appointment and lived a mainly civilian life at Ifracombe, north Devon. No mention has ever been made in our family records of a sword belonging to Captain Thomas, though there is likely to have been one.

Philip's death in battle in December 1845 during the First Sikh War has become the stuff of legend. This war resulted from aggressive behaviour of the Sikhs of the Punjab trying by attacks on the British to defuse internal jealousies resulting from the death of their great leader Ranjit Singh, thus allowing the East India Company a pretext to advance across the Sutlej river, control of whose headwaters, together with those of the Chenab, Jhelum and Indus, effectively gave control of the Punjab. Ranjit Singh had trained the Sikh army (known as the Khalsas) to a high efficiency, using British and foreign experts and British artillery supplied by the Company to counter threats to the area from Afghan tribesmen. The battles involving Ensign Philip took place in December 1845 at Moodkee and Ferozeshah, small towns 50 miles south of Lahore. These may seem insignificant names from a time Britain had best forget, but my son Simon lives in Moodkee Street, Rotherhithe, and the name of Ferozeshah is commemorated (though wrongly spelt as Ferozshuhur) in a monument still in Winchester Cathedral.

These two battles matched a Sikh force superior in artillery against a brave and even reckless British army consisting largely of infantry of mixed European and Indian troops. The British army was commanded by General Gough, an Irishman, impetuous, hardy and very brave; but his orders were seldom clear and his staff had the genial habit of keeping no records of the instructions they issued and frequently

By John McKeown

forgetting what they had ordered. Lawrence James in *Raj - the making and unmaking of British India* says that "Gough's tactical thinking belonged to what might be called the Ritchie-Hook school of warfare" (Brigadier Ritchie-Hook was the aggressive "biffer" of the enemy in Evelyn Waugh's trilogy *Sword of Honour - JFM*) "He is brave as a lion but has no headpiece" commented one of his officers. There was therefore a sort of advance Balaclava malaise in the British command, and the favourable outcome of both battles was due more to the surprise withdrawal of the Sikhs than to superior British tactics. In a British army of 18,000 men there were 2,400 casualties from these battles combined, 51 of them officers killed in the battle of Ferozeshah alone. The battle of Moodkee gave the British a Pyrrhic victory, and the Sikhs then withdrew to their nearby prepared positions at Ferozeshah. British tactics at Ferozeshah were frontal infantry attacks on entrenched artillery supported by Sikh infantry, even rasher than at Balaclava, and it was in one of these attacks that Ensign Philip Moxon was killed, sword in hand and carrying the regimental standard. At 19 years old, he was the youngest, or perhaps the second youngest, officer to be killed at Ferozeshah.

An account of how he met his death was given to Charles St. Denys Moxon by a private soldier of the 37th Queen's Regiment, who brought home Philip's silver watch and sword. The Regimental History of the 1st Bengal European Regiment says that Philip fell in an assault on one of the Khalsa entrenchments and that the regimental standard "bearing the bloodstains of the gallant Ensign Moxon and found in his hand" was rescued at great personal risk by Ensign P.R.Innes, the future historian of the corps. Who it was that, in Captain Thomas's words, "took Philip's sword from his dead hand" is not known. Philip was buried on the field of battle.

Since Winchester has traditionally been the headquarters of light infantry regiments (e.g. the Rifle Brigade and the 60th Rifles), it is not surprising to find Charles St. Denys knowing of Philip's regimental standard's display in the Cathedral there.

The Curator of Winchester Cathedral writes that the standard hung in the Cathedral until 1996 (having been laid up there in 1871) but was taken down during filming of a Thomas Hardy novel and is now in store. He has kindly provided a photograph of it. He adds that the story of the blood-stained standard is still a favourite of the Cathedral guides and that he is grateful to the Moxon Society for confirming it. Bob Moxon Browne tells me that the Curator is now considering whether the standard should be displayed in the Winchester Army Museum since there is renewed interest in it.

As to the difficult question whether Philip
continued at foot of column 1 on page 15



High Blood Pressure? *Then take MOXON!*

WHEN A FEW Years ago, our late President, Jimmy Moxon, decided to stay on in Ghana, later than he had anticipated, he ran short, of what we lay-people would call, blood pressure pills. He consulted his local Doctor, and was prescribed "Moxon". *This intrigued him - well it would - wouldn't it!*

Moxonâ is the registered brand name of Duphar S.A. - a pharmaceutical company of Barcelona, Spain.

A letter to the company asking how they came to use the name "Moxon", elicited an informative and humorous reply.

Dear Sir,

We are as intrigued as you are with the difference that we wonder how on earth a pack of Moxon from Spain has ended up being prescribed in Ghana. We are not aware of any exports taking place from Spain.

Evenso, emotionally speaking we believe that your curiosity is of a much higher order than ours and we are happy to inform you on the background of our Moxon. Moxon as a brandname is derived from Moxonidine, the International Nonpropriety Name (INN) for Pharmaceutical Substances as approved and administered by the World Health Organization.

We are very happy with Moxon as brand-name as it reminds the prescribing physicians of its scientific name which is always the name used in medical papers, clinical trials and pre-

sentations at international congresses. From a marketing point of view it is then for us easier to relate the scientific background to daily practice. In the U.K., by the way, the same product is called Physiotens or Fysiotens.

It depends on deposited trademarks and/ or the local Health Authorities whether a certain name can be used or not. Physiotens/Fysiotens was accepted as trademark in Spain but rejected by the Ministry of Health because of an existing pharmaceutical product called Fosintens. So although we like the name Moxon we actually had a preference for Physiotens/Fysiotens because that is our international trademark, and you can imagine that also has its plusses, mainly from a viewpoint of economies of scale and being then able to design and use global campaigns.

It may then be of interest to you to know that Moxon is a very honourable product, a centrally acting anti-hypertensive, known to have a high degree of efficacy and relatively few side-effects. It is new, it is innovative and we have great expectations of the product.

The Viagra family, on record back to 1243 when it was documented that the 1st Earl at age 87 made use for the first time of his lus Prima Noctae, may have different notions on the fame their family name is currently enjoying worldwide. I hope you can appreciate the joke!

*(signed) Herman Th. van Heemstra
Duphar S.A. (also in representation of Nezel S.A.)*

JMH

*A copy of part of the
literature accompanying
Jimmy's medication*

MOXON®

NOMBRE DEL MEDICAMENTO
Moxon®

COMPOSICIÓN CUALITATIVA Y CUANTITATIVA
Un comprimido recubierto contiene 0,2, 0,3 o 0,4 mg de moxonidina.

FORMA FARMACÉUTICA
Comprimidos recubiertos por vía oral conteniendo 0,2 mg (rosa pálido), 0,3 mg (rojo) de moxonidina.

continued from previous page.

could have actually used his sword at Ferozeshah or Moodkee rather than simply brandishing it, this seems unlikely if he had to carry the standard as well, but there is no doubt (as *The Raj: an eye-witness history makes clear*) that these officers' swords were used with deadly effect both in battle and in controlling dangerous situations. Simon Moxon's wife Margaret tells me of a family legend that Philip was killed with his own sword as he stormed the Sikh trenches: but considering the strength of the enemy artillery this also seems unlikely. At any rate, there is no written evidence available to confirm such a theory, while there is a clear statement in Charles St. Denys's account, presumably based on what the private soldier told him, that Philip fell "riddled with shot".

Philip's death had a devastating effect on his father, who never fully recovered from it. The story of the Sikh Wars illustrates the reckless waste of manpower and lack of imagination current in the British army at the time, a recklessness that was to bring its nemesis for the British in the Indian Mutiny twelve years later.

John McKeown

OBITUARY

Pat Evans of Calgary.



WE ARE SAD to report the death of Pat Evans, Member of Calgary, on 23rd September last year, at the Peter Logheed Hospital in Calgary. Pat had been seriously ill for several years.

Dymps and I met Pat, and her husband, Taff, in 1996 when we went on a coach tour through the Rockies. The tour started in Calgary, so we

Will of Joyce Moxon

continued from foot of column 3, page 16

If she had married well as the document seems to imply, then perhaps the single guinea left to her was just an indication that her Aunt Joyce had not overlooked her by excluding her altogether from the bequests.

Joyce Moxon comes over as a proud woman, not lacking in self-esteem. She was conscious of her standing in society and wanted the little confined world in which she lived to be aware of it, too. Indeed, she requests that her body be interred in a private handsome manner and wishes to be carried to her final resting place in a hearse. She refers to her estate as "my fortune".

The Will of her Father, John Moxon (1650 - 1727), was published in the Moxon Magazine in April, 1990. In it is written:

"For divers valuable Causes and Considerations and thereunto which I forbear to mention, I Give, Grant, Divise and Bequeath to my daughter, Joyce Moxon, her heirs and assigns for ever, that Close, lying within the Liberties of Littleover aforesaid, called Ousten Hill, with all the appurtenances to and belonging and appertaining."

We shall of course, never know what Joyce did to merit such favour in her Father's eyes. Could it be that she gave up the chance of marriage to care for the aged yeoman in his widowhood? What is clear, however, is that Joyce held her Father in such high esteem that she made a request in her Will that she may be interred in Littleover Chapel, "as near my late Father as the grave-stones will admit". Time never diminished Joyce's deep affection for this parent, as her Father had died almost 40 years previously.

It is to be hoped that they were reunited at last and now, may they both rest in peace.

JR

arranged to meet Pat and Taff on the evening before the tour started. They arrived to collect us from our hotel, but because of parking restrictions, had to pull up opposite the hotel, and some way down the road. In true "Brit" style we took the direct route to the car - diagonally across the road. Our first sight of Pat was when she leapt out of the car, gesticulating wildly. Apparently it is against the law to cross a road diagonally in Canada!

We had a very pleasant evening, going first to a restaurant for some excellent Canadian steak, and then back to their house. Before they bought it, it had been rented out to two ladies - who, it transpired were prostitutes and grew cannabis in the basement!

Pat and Taff had been married 37 years, and with their two daughters, emigrated to Canada in 1975.

Gail Thorne, daughter, tells us that Pat was continuing her genealogy research up to a year before her death.

We send our heartfelt condolences to Taff, their daughters and three grandchildren.

Our thanks to Gail for keeping us informed about their loss.

JMH

“**W**here there's a Will....”

28th in the series By Joan Rendall

Will of Joyce Moxon of Etwall

Dated 25th January 1766 Proved 1770



In the Name of God Amen, I, Joyce Moxon of Etwall in the County of Derby, being in Health of Body and of sound and disposing Mind and Memory, (praised be God for the same), Do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament in Manner and Form following:

And first and principally, I commend my Soul to God in Hope thro. the Merits and Mercies of Jesus Christ, of a joyfull Ressurrection. And my Body I commit to the Earth to be interred in a hadsome (handsome?) private Manner in Littleover Chappel, as near my late dear Father as the Grave Stone will admitt and to be carried there on a Hearse.

And in respect of my Fortune, whether real or personal or of what Nature or Kind whatever it be I dispose of it in Manner following:

And first, my Will and Mind is that all my just Debts, Legacies and funeral Expences shall be truly paid and Discharged by my Executor herein after named.

Item. I give and bequeath to my Nephew, Thomas Moxon, the Son of my Brother, Nathaniel Moxon, and to his heirs and Assigns for Ever, One Close or Piece of Land Situate, lying and being within the Liberty or Parish of Littleover, aforesaid, called or known by the Name of Oustinhill, with all the Appurtenances thereunto belonging.

Item. I give and bequeath to John Moxon, the Son of my Brother, Nathaniel Moxon, and to his heirs and Assigns for ever, all the rest, residue and Remainder of my Land whatsoever, together with my Part of the Beast Gates in the Hullocks, and also my Part of the Beast Gates in the Blagraves, together with the Part or Proportion of Lot Gorse and Commons to them belonging.

Item. I give to Nathaniel Moxon, Son of Nathaniel Moxon aforesaid, the Sum of five Pounds.

Item. I give to the poor of the Parish of Etwall, the Sum of One Pound.

Item. I give to my niece, Bromley of Farewell Hall, in the County of Stafford, one Guinea.

Item. I give to my Nephew, Thomas Moxon, Two Silver Salts and six large silver spoons.

Item. I give to my nephew, John Moxon aforesaid, One large silver Cup, together with all the Residue and Remainder of my real or personal Estate of what Nature or kind soever it be.

And I do hereby nominate and Appoint the aforesaid John Moxon, sole Executor of this my last Will and Testament and revoking all former Wills by me heretofore made, do declare this to be my last Will and Testament.

In witness whereof I, the said Joyce Moxon, the testatrix, have hereunto put my Hand and Seal this twenty fifth Day of January, in the year of our Lord, one Thousand, seven Hundred and sixty six.

(Signed.) Joyce Moxon.

Witnesses.

E. Talbans. E. Davenport. J. Davenport

NOTES ON JOYCE MOXON'S WILL

The spinster, Joyce Moxon came from a family of prosperous yeomen farmers who lived in Derbyshire in the very heartlands of England, about as far as from the coastline as it is possible to get.

Indeed, at that time when nothing could travel faster than a horse, it is doubtful whether Joyce ever set eyes on the sea, a privilege that nowadays perhaps we take too much for granted. Almost certainly Joyce may have feasted her eyes on a seascape painting in some

wealthy neighbour's house, or listened, fascinated by the wild nautical stories of a local seafaring man, but that is all. The whoosh of the waves as they break over the shingle or the plaintiff cries of seagulls, which now the television brings right into our homes, would be quite unknown to her or her family, for paintings cannot transmit sounds. Thus these Midland Moxons' lives were inevitably limited by the land and their interest lay in and around it and the wealth it could produce. It is no surprise therefore, that the Will is of a distinctly distinctly pastoral nature.

Now to the contents of the Will itself. The clearly defined Close would have been a small enclosed space. As a horse was expected to plough one acre of land in a full day's work, many of these closes were of this dimension. It is interesting to remember that in later Victorian times, enclosures of ten acres were more usual.

The invention of steam powered agricultural machinery meant that ten acres could be ploughed in the same time and the cumbersome device could turn more easily in the larger fields. Then many hedges were dug out, but this was long after Joyce's time when most of the land was unenclosed and how beautiful it all must have looked.

With reference to the Beastgates, these were simply the legal rights to pasture one's cattle on the common ground.

Joyce's nephews, John and Thomas both received bequests of silver in the Will. The Industrial Revolution, which was to have such a profound effect upon the civilised world, commenced at about the time of Joyce's demise, thus her silver, being of the pre-Industrial age, would have been hand-crafted and extremely valuable, a testimony perhaps to the prosperity of this branch of the Moxon family.

It should be remembered that both the nephews, John and Thomas his brother, became important figureheads in our Moxon descent. Whilst John was founding what was to become a large branch of the Staffordshire Moxons, based in Rugeley, Thomas sired a family of Market Bosworth Moxons which became the Leicestershire branch. Many of their descendants are alive and well today and both Staffordshire and Leicestershire Moxons are currently members of our society, myself included.

The niece Bromley of Farewell Hall, Staffordshire, poses problems. Who exactly was she and why was her Christian name not mentioned in the Will? The picturesque village of Farewell lies between Rugeley and Lichfield leading us to suppose that she was somehow associated with our Rugeley Moxons.

continued on page 15, column 3

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