THE MOXON MAGAZINE

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EDITORIAL

We will spare our readers the headline "Editor struck down with malarial bug" but since this is the reason for the late appearance of the April issue of the magazine it is worthy of a mention. Happily a short stay in hospital on arrival in England from "The White Man's Grave" brought about complete recovery from the worst attack experienced in 48 years of persistent African mosquito bites.

In order to do justice to the amount of research material in our hands, which reveals a fascinating story covering as many as eight generations of adventurous Moxons, we have spread the promised story of the Australian connection - its Forebears, its Founders and its Followers - over as many as five of our eight pages in the current issue. Even so we have only touched the fringe of a much fuller story, confining ourselves to the bare bones of one enterprising family only. There are in Australia, and in New Zealand too, many other sagas of comparable interest (for example the Cambridgeshire Moxons who have made a great impact in New Zealand) and it is hoped that in future issues we can do justice to these too.

We are also for this reason having to hold over until October several excellent articles contributed by our readers and researchers, who we hope will bear with us patiently. If we could afford from our limited budget a "bumper issue" we could increase the number of pages, but that must await raising our subscription list from just over 100 (down on last year) to our immediate target of 200.

The most exciting Moxon event of 1989 is to be our combined Gathering and Seminar in Leeds from 28th-30th July. We have booked accommodation for up to 20 at Devonshire Hall at the University of Leeds, some of whom will be our regular researchers who need to get to know each other (mostly we are just "names") and to compare progress in our respective fields. The others, we hope, will be Moxons and friends who wish to take advantage of this Gathering to meet and get to know other Moxons and to see something of the Yorkshire Heritage that is our common good fortune. When we know the wishes of the members of our party we can make detailed plans both for research discussions and for daily visits to points of Moxon interest according to choice. In spite of the short notice (less than three months) we do hope that as many of us as possible will complete the form (TODAY!) and register their booking for the Moxon Gathering in Leeds from 28th till 30th July.

The Trustees of the Moxon Family Research Trust (see p.5) are grateful indeed to Ian Moxon of Stoke and Hanley who has with the greatest vigour and expertese secured the approval of the Charity Commission for our Deed of Trust which is currently being engrossed and circulated for signature. Ian has kept the wording of the Deed short and to the point. In essence the Trust's purpose is "to advance the education of the public... and carry out research in subjects of academic value into the family name of Moxon (and kindred names)... and to publish the useful results of such research, to research into the movement of persons with such surnames away from their home territory." With our Trust having now achieved charitable status it behoves us to build up our initial capital of £155 to more practical proportions to enable us to make full use of our fast growing store of Moxon archival material. It is too rich a harvest to be allowed to lie fallow but must be sifted, edited and placed in circulation. The Moxon Magazine will ventilate all that it can a little at a time, but the task of preparing a definitive Moxon History from all available sources is a challenge that we have yet to face. Only by contributing to the Trust Fund, each of us according to our budget, shall we be able to forge ahead. All bequests, legacies and contributions will be promptly acknowledged in these columns. Why not kill two birds with one stone and drop a line to Dick Moxon today, (a) pledging your support for the Trust Fund and (b) making your booking for the July Gathering in Leeds?

Subscriptions to "The Moxon Magazine"

The cost of subscribing to "The Moxon Magazine" is £7.50 per annum (post free UK) which covers two issues (April and October) each year. Extra copies or back numbers may be ordered at £3.75 per copy (add 20% for overseas airmail postage). Send your orders to "The Moxon Magazine", c/o The Tortoise Shell Press, 28 Corve Street, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1DA. Sterling or US dollar cheques made out to Moxon Paperbacks.

NEW YEAR HONOUR FOR BILL MOXON

MR16

Charles William (Bill) Moxon, M.B.E., of Worksop was invited by Her Majesty the Queen to Buckingham Palace in March to receive from her the medal that he had been awarded in the 1989 New Year Honours. The citation stated that the award had been made for his services to the Passenger Vehicle industry over the past 40 years. Bill bought his first coach second-hand soon after his discharge from the R.A.F. after the war. Today his fleet of sixteen "Moxon Stratocruisers" is a familiar sight throughout Britain and the continent of Europe. The latest addition is designed to accommodate handicapped people in comfort and incorporates a passenger lift, making it possible for the handicapped to enjoy full touring holidays at home and abroad.

OBITUARY

MX 16/5

The death took place on 7th May 1989 at Farnham, Surrey, of Oliver Moxon, J.P. one of the most appreciative readers of The Moxon Magazine. At the time of his death he was contemplating a feature for the October issue on his great-great grandfather Charles Moxon, known in his day as "The Royal Decorator" (see 'Moxons of Yorkshire' pages 88/9). Oliver, who wrote several best selling novels after the war, latterly owned Moxons of Boscobel in Jamaica, an internationally famous sea-food restaurant. He was a popular local government councillor in an all-Jamaican constituency. Oliver is survived by Benita his widow and five children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Professor Richard Moxon leads new Oxford research laboratory for bacterial meningitis

The English "Who's Who" for 1989 boasts two Moxon entries, Professor E.R. Moxon M.B. B.Chir. FRCP., Head of Paediatrics at the University of Oxford since 1984, and the Reverend Michael Moxon B.D. Vicar of Tewkesbury Abbey since 1981 and Chaplain to Her Majesty the Queen (see MM1, p.1). Both are founder members of the Moxon Family Research Trust, of which Professor Moxon is Chairman.

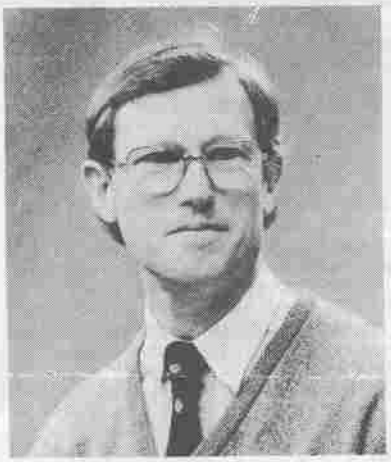
Professor Moxon, who was born in 1941, was educated at Shrewsbury School and at St. John's College, Cambridge. He is the grandson of Canon R.S. Moxon D.D., author of Part I of "The Moxons of Yorkshire". He has specialised for more than twenty years in children's diseases both in Britain and in the U.S.A., where for ten years he served first as Assistant and then as Associate Professor at Johns Hopkins Hospital at Baltimore. He is the author of numerous specialist articles both on children's and on nervous and infectious diseases. He is married with three children.

In September 1988 the following article appeared in "The Newsletter of the National Meningitis Trust" explaining Professor Moxon's responsible role in heading the new Oxford Research laboratory for bacterial meningitis.

"A new laboratory, exclusively for research into bacterial meningitis, has been set up by The Meningitis Trust with a grant-funding commitment totalling £600,000.

Named after the Meningitis Trust, the laboratory is housed within the Institute of Molecular Medicine at Oxford, a prestigious multi-discipline centre using the most up-to-date discoveries of cell and molecular biology to solve the problems of human disease.

Top national and international meningitis expert, Professor E. Richard Moxon, Professor of Paediatrics at Oxford University is heading the project.



Professor E. Richard Moxon

His team will include a senior postdoctoral research scientist, two postdoctoral research fellows, two scientific officers and ancillary staff.

As well as funding salaries, the Trust is also providing equipment for the laboratory and more than £122,000 for consumables over the five-year grant period.

The IMM has been built at the John Radcliffe Hospital by a consortium including The Medical Research Council, the University of Oxford, the Wolfson Foundation and the Edward Penley Abraham Research Fund.

The director is Professor Sir David Weatherall.

Working alongside the meningitis team in adjoining laboratories will be scientists investigating other infectious diseases, immunology, haematology, human genetics, neurosciences, malaria and cancer.

Although each of the groups working in the Institute will be independent and self-funding, they will be able to share equipment, library and other facilities and there is expected to be close interaction between them.

Professor Moxon's grant application for funding was refereed by senior members of the Trust's panel of experts and was strongly recommended.

The Trust Committee, approving the application, were excited by the chance of setting up a meningitis laboratory in such a specific scientific environment.

They were also very excited about a project seeking to answer basic questions that, in the long run, are vital to the understanding, the prevention and eventually the eradication of meningitis.

With the new technology and the new team of scientists at the Institute of Molecular Medicine laboratory, there are high hopes of finding some answers over the next five years.

Professor Moxon who has been researching meningitis for many years, says the Meningitis Trust funding has "revolutionised" the situation for his research programme at Oxford.

"The long-term funding has produced a confidence amongst the group which is incredible. They know they can now concentrate on tackling the problem of meningitis without spending precious time and energy worrying where to find funding."

DO COME TO LEEDS IN JULY FOR THE FIRST MOXON GATHERING!

The first ever gathering of country-wide - hopefully world-wide - Moxons is planned to be quite a modest affair at the end of July, when we have made a booking for up to 20 (though we could book for more) at Devonshire Hall, University of Leeds from Friday evening 28th July until Sunday afternoon 30th July. The original idea was for Moxon researchers to meet and compare notes and co-ordinate efforts on current and future programmes and this they can still do. But it was felt that even more Moxons and friends might like to have this opportunity to meet and get to know each other and perhaps spend one day visiting places of Moxon interest in Yorkshire.

We ask therefore that everyone wishing to participate in the Leeds Gathering should complete the yellow form enclosed and return it as quickly as possible and to arrive <u>not later than the middle of June</u> so that the necessary arrangements may be made and deposits paid.

The full-board tariff at Devonshire Hall is £24.95 per diem per head (£13.95 bed and breakfast), so that Friday evening till Sunday afternoon will cost £59.80 (including VAT and a £3 weekend premium). Those who cannot stay throughout should deduct £5.85 for dinner omitted (if we do a tour on Saturday we may all omit lunch (£4.50) at Devonshire Hall and have a pub lunch instead).

Some of those living in the vicinity of Leeds may choose to join in some of the daytime and evening activities but not to book into Devonshire Hall. The cost of the Saturday coach tour may be in the vicinity of £5-£6 per head and meals taken with the Devonshire Hall party would be pro rata. Please state your wishes on the form. There is a standard booking fee of £20.00 per head for all those participating which will be deducted from the ultimate total, but cannot be refunded in the event of cancellation, vide University regulations.

This seems to be an excellent opportunity for us to get to know each other and we do hope that the response will be encouraging. It could be the fore-runner of further such gatherings in the future.

Sadly there is no match at Headingley fixed for July 29th, though hopefully Martyn Moxon will have recovered from his broken arm by then.

<u>Query</u> MX10 MEMBE

Mrs Doris Moxon of 35 Windy Hill Lane, Marske by the Sea, Cleveland TS11 7HB, asks for any information concerning George Moxon born at Ardsley around 1832, son of John Moxon, farmer. He married Martha Show of Drightlington on 13 August 1854 at Birstall Parish Church (certificate 141, Dewsbury registration district).

Illustrations on page 3 by courtesy of Waltham Forest Library and Archives.

<u>Hunting in Zambia</u>

Part II of John Moxon's story will appear in Moxon Magazine No 4 in October 1989.

The Australian Connection I: **THE FOREFATHERS**

The story of Thomas Moxon of Twickenham (1762-1854), whose three great great great grandchildren of the direct male line today carry forward a significant proportion of the Moxon tradition in Australia, has been told in some detail in "The Moxons of Yorkshire". And in Moxon Magazine No.2 is told the story of Thomas Moxon's cousin, Samuel Barker Moxon (1760-1847) whose five generations (and more) of male descendents have established another Moxon enclave in the U.S.A. These twin dynasties, both descended through eight generations in the direct line from Thomas and Samuel Barker's grandfather, John Moxon (1689-1736), the successful Hull ship owner, illustrate well the extent to which the Moxons of Yorkshire, largely through their Hull-based shipping business, have extended the family boundaries on a truly patrician scale across the world. The Moxons of Yorkshire have indeed become, very firmly based, the Moxons of Three Continents. Though, in India, they touched a fourth continent for a few decades, and in Africa a fifth for a generation or two no dynasties have yet emerged.

Thomas Moxon of Leyton

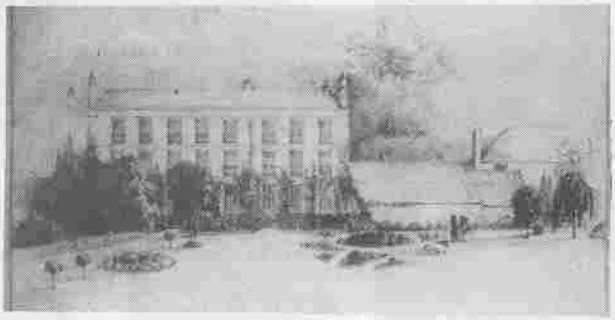
This introduction to the Australian dynasty, with which this issue of the Moxon Magazine is particularly concerned, traces the line through Thomas Moxon's son and grandson, Thomas of Leyton and Captain Thomas of the Indian Army, to his three sons, Robert Julius, William Ernest and Thomas Frank who one after the other, the youngest first, chose a little over 100 years ago, to make Australia their new home.

Thomas Moxon of Twickenham had not pursued his father's Yarmouth shipping business but had gravitated to London where he prospered considerably as a merchant banker and financier in the company that was to become Goldsmid and Moxon. Though bankrupted during the Napoleonic Wars Thomas recovered so well that, having handed over the business to his sons John and Thomas, he retired to Twickenham Lodge in 1820 adjacent to Twickenham Common.

Twickenham Lodge – the home of Thomas Moxon I

Both John and Thomas II prospered as bankers, Thomas having been one of the founder members of the London and Westminster Bank (now NatWest).

In 1837 he bought a mansion at Leyton which had been built by the Earl of Sussex, a former Lord Mayor of London. There he lived until his death in 1869. His wife Elizabeth Browne, whom he married when she was seventeen, bore him 20 children. Our particular interest is Number 11, named after his father, Thomas III, who was born in 1835. Though he did succeed to the family business at his father's death he had as a young man taken a commission with the East India Company and was stationed first at Rangoon, Burma where his eldest daughter Laetitia Christina was born in 1857, the year of the Indian Mutiny. Known to the family as Aunt Tina, she made her life in India from the age of 25 onwards, when she took the post of secretary to the Governor of Madras. In 1885 she entered the service of the Royal Family of the Akalkot State, where she tutored the young Rajah from the age of four, when he succeeded, until he left for England to become the youngest of the Indian Princes to serve in the Great War. He rose to the rank of Captain and did cavalry service at the Front. Aunt Tina died at Poona in 1934 after more than 50 years service to Indian royalty. She was very horsy and provided in her Will for her horses and dogs to be buried adjacent to her own grave. Her sister, Elizabeth Amy, Thomas's second child, was born at Bangalore in the Mysore State two years later. She also remained single and, as Aunt Betty, spent three years in Fremantle (W. Australia) looking after her brother William Ernest's four children after the death of his first wife. Later she settled in England and died in 1920. Robert Julius, the eldest of his three sons, was also born at Bangalore (in 1861) but soon afterwards Captain Thomas and his wife Laetitia Bell Handyside, left India and returned to England. Their second son, William Ernest, was born at



Lea Hall, Leyton – home of Thomas Moxon II

Ramsgate in 1863 and the third, Thomas Frank at Charlton, also in Kent, in 1865. A month after his birth his mother Laetitia Handyside died leaving Thomas a widower with five young children.

The following year he married again Elizabeth Vidal Goss, said to have been of Creole birth, who became stepmother to his five children and in due course mother of five of her own. The three boys were educated at Chigwell Grammar School, an ancient foundation, dating from the reign of Charles I, where there were Moxon family connections. One of the brothers in later years quoted proudly the founder's desire "that the boys should be brought up in the fear of God, have a knowledge of the classics, and be given a good diet of British beef and beer", a charter that was apparently fully observed. Nevertheless the five children were restless under the new home regime which, as we shall see later, no longer nurtured a united family. First to depart was the youngest boy Thomas Frank (Thomas IV) who at fourteen ran away to sea and for four years served his apprenticeship before the mast on a Glasgow based clipper doing the Sydney run, with a further three years rising to be First Mate. One of his shipmates was Joseph Conrad who was later to use his experiences to such effect in his seafaring stories. Next to depart

Captain Thomas and his wife Laetitia Bell Handyside

[continued on page 7]

The Australian Connection II: **THE FOUNDERS**

Robert Julius Moxon – Archdeacon

Captain Thomas Moxon, like so many fathers, knew what was best for his three sons - and that was to follow the family tradition of shipping. Not for them the Indian Army, which to a deeply religious man like Captain Thomas, had been something of a nightmare in the violent and cruel army conditions that had immediately followed the Indian Mutiny of 1857.

Accordingly Robert Julius, the eldest, was sent straight from school in 1879 to join the shipping firm of Shrimpton in the City, where he dutifully stayed for four years. But, in the case of Robert, father did not know best for, like his father, he was a deeply religious man and had set his heart on entering the established church. He had been baptised soon after birth at St. Thomas's, Quilon, Travancore, in the Madras State, by the Revd H. Andrews of the Church Missionary Society and had even pandered to his father's new obsession with the Plymouth Brethren when in 1880 he had allowed himself to be received into the fellowship of the Brethren at Park Street, Islington. But on arrival at Sydney N.S.W. on the "John Duthie" in mid 1883 he lost no time, whilst earning his living on the "Sydney Morning Herald" as a proof-reader, in studying for the ministry, and, to his father's dismay, since the Brethren do not accept the role of priests in the church, he was five years later ordained into the Church of England and inducted into the Lower Clarence (Maclean) parish, on the coast between Sydney and Brisbane, where he remained for four years. Within a month of his ordination he had married at Camden, N.S.W., Hilda Moran, whose sister Eva his youngest brother Thomas IV was to marry five years later. The following year the first of his seven children was born. From Lower Clarence Robert was granted wider experience in two inland

William Ernest Moxon – Shipping Manager

Of Captain Thomas Moxon's three oldest sons William came closest to his beau ideal since from the day that he left school in 1880 shortly before his 17th birthday until the day that he died in 1946 aged 83 - some 66 years - he lived and breathed shipping, in the ancient family tradition which went back to the mid 17th century.

Having served his articles for seven years with the London based shipowners J and R Grant, William arrived in Brisbane as a "new chum" in 1887 and secured his first job with the A.U.S.N. Company's receiving and traffic department.

It was this same year that his younger brother Thomas had completed seven years with the colonial clippers and returned to Sydney to go into steam on the Australian coast. He too joined the A.U.S.N. Company and gained his Master's certificate aboard their coastal vessels. It didn't take long for the two brothers to decide to pool their experience - seven years each ashore and afloat - and to try their hand with a 'private' service of small steamers along the Queensland coast. Indeed it was a success, except that they were chaffed as 'pirates' because they were carrying the cargoes that had previously 'belonged' to the old established concerns. Thomas indeed continued successfully on his own with their jointly owned company, Moxon & Co., whilst in 1890 William, eager for even greater responsibility, joined the Adelaide Steamship Company and was appointed the first Manager and Inspector for the State of Queensland. Six years later the effects of the gold-rush in Western Australia put tremendous pressure on shipping in and out of Fremantle and William was transferred there to take charge of the Company's interests in Western Australia. He stayed for 22 years. Two years before he left Brisbane for Fremantle William had married Clara Cowley of Natal with whom he had five children, the first a girl born in Brisbane and the other four in Fremantle. Both

Thomas Frank Moxon – Shipping Broker and Timber Merchant

When Thomas Frank, aged 14, ran away to sea it was a few months after his two elder brothers had been firmly articled to London shipping brokers by their no-nonsense father, the retired Indian Army captain. Evidently he possessed the character not to await the order of his going. He just went! His seven years 'before the mast' in the old style Colonial Clipper proved to be immensely useful to him in his later life and he always claimed that an apprenticeship in sail, where you had to learn to take instant decisions very often on your own, was worth a hundred apprenticeships in steam where, for the greater part, events are predictable.

So that he was barely 21 when he had already qualified as First Mate in sail and, on arrival in Sydney, was poised to qualify as Master Mariner in steam following practical experience. Small wonder that, finding his elder brother William already gainfully employed in Australian coastal shipping on the administrative side, they decided to team up as Moxon and Co. to compete with the Old Brigade in the lucrative shipping business on the Queensland coast. Ambitious to progress up the shipping ladder and contemplating marriage, William however withdrew from active participation in 1890 to join the Adelaide Steamship Company but retained his shares and interest in the business. Meanwhile Moxon and Company both expanded and flourished not in shipping alone but also in timber. Thomas became Chairman of directors of the Cairns Timber Company, of Business Investments Ltd and of Moxon's Lighterage Ltd and, extending down the coast to Sydney in N.S.W., Thomas, in association with F. Johnston, was Chairman of the Sydney branch of Moxon & Co. Ltd., Lacys Ltd and Stroud Timber Ltd. With his world-wide shipping contacts Thomas became Honorary Consul on the East Coast of Australia for Panama - a post he held with distinction for many years.

In 1893 he had married Eva Moran, the younger sister of

parishes at Tenterfield and Inverell, up to 100 miles from the coast, gaining such an envious reputation in the diocese that in 1897, only nine years after his ordination and whilst still in his thirties, he was elevated to the Archdeaconry of Grafton, his appointment carrying the titles of Sub-Dean and Canon Residentiary of Christ Church Cathedral as well as Vicar of Grafton.

In his new role the Venerable Archdeacon Robert Moxon was an immediate success. Both physically and mentally he towered "as a man amongst men" and was more than equal to the travelling involved in covering his far flung Archdeaconry, combined with regular visits to his bishop, one hundred miles distant at Armidale high on the New England Range. All this he covered by coach or on horse back. He was a renowned preacher who, though a scholar, never spoke above the heads of his congregation. He also involved himself in the construction of new churches and in improving the Grafton parish finances by venturing into agriculture. It was through the sale of cattle raised by the parish to the Tindal export meat canning factory at Ramornie that a close Moxon-Tindal family relationship developed. Hospital and prison visiting were also an essential part of his work and, with the aim of rehabilitating discharged prisoners, he would invite them home for breakfast. But constant overwork and the after effects of a bad attack of typhoid fever took their toll on his health and on the condition of his heart. So concerned, by 1910, were his congregation for his health that they raised the funds to enable him to take a complete rest in England, where he had not been for more than 25 years, but he grew steadily weaker and in April he died at the age of 48 years. His eldest daughter Dorothy, who had married into the Tindal family, was only 21 and the youngest child, Patricia Emma, who is still alive today, was only 2 years old.

Two of his three boys, Wilfred and Douglas, were old enough to volunteer for service at the Front in the Great War and Archie Tindal, who had married his eldest daughter Dorothy, was killed fighting on the Somme in 1916. Wilfred became a Civil Engineer and Doug, perhaps influenced by earlier Moxon-Tindal cattle associations, became a dairy farmer.

The death at such an early age of the eldest of the three brothers, leaving behind seven young children, was a sad blow to the others and especially to Eva, the wife of Thomas Frank, the widow's younger sister.

surviving boys (one had died) volunteered for the colours in the Great War the elder, Phil, serving in France with the 41st Bn. A.I.F. and the younger, Tom, serving on H.M.S. Shannon, though he was still only 18 when the war ended. Indeed all five of Captain Thomas's grandsons (which included one grandson in law) who were of an age to do so fought in the Great War. Clara Moxon however had died in 1904 and it was then that Aunt Betty, William's elder sister, came out from England to look after the four young children. He married again however in 1908, Eva Taylor, and had four more children, 27 years separating his eldest from his youngest child.

Williams's long stay in Fremantle was perhaps the climax of his life. There seem to have been no limits to the variety of his interests and public service. Eighteen years a councillor, 15 Chairman of the local branch of the Australian Steamship Owners' Federation, 2 years Chairman of the Fremantle Chamber of Commerce, J.P. and the holder of a gold medal for services rendered in securing Federal Unity. He was one of those who entertained the Duke and Duchess of York in Fremantle and gave great service to the Red Cross and the National Service campaign. Yet he still had time for cricket, soccer, hockey and golf as well as fishing and sailing. His one real holiday was a visit with a business friend to India where his parents had lived and his elder brother and sisters were born. Here he combined business (the shipping of horses to India) with the study of Hindu and Islamic philosophy.

In 1918 the Company transferred him back to Brisbane to take over again the management of their affairs in Queensland and inevitably all the Fremantle interests and pre-occupations followed him back to the East Coast. He prided himself that, until his retirement in the late 1920's, he belonged to the working class in the true acceptance of the term and remained in the best of health until his death at the age of 83, having outworked and outlived most of his contemporaries. The last 20 years of his life he spent at the seaside resort of Southport on the Gold Coast of New South Wales some twenty five miles south of Brisbane.

his brother Robert's wife, and they had six children, five of whom survived - four girls and one boy, Julius William Harold (Jules) who was only 9 when the Great War broke out so could not join his five cousins at the Front. He did however join the family business, Moxon & Co., on leaving school when his father was nudging 60 and eager for the apprenticeship of his son and heir who would in due course assume control. Thomas had in fact shed the shipping side of his business and had concentrated on and developed Moxon & Co as a timber, plywood and wood products industry which it continues to be till today. It was of course the coastal shipping business that had taken Thomas to Cairns in North Queensland in the first instance for the shipment of timber and, from acquiring the Cairns Timber Company, he had moved progressively into the timber business. Of the three brothers - respectively intellectual, administrative and practical - it was the youngest, who had the urge to forge his own career rather than have it planned for him, who recognising the timber industry as a long-term investment which he was able to master and develop, laid the solid foundations of a continuing family concern.

Like his two elder brothers Thomas was an avid reader, though his tastes ran more to seafaring yarns, such as those told by his former shipmate Joseph Conrad, than to comparative religion or, as in the case of William, classical history and even psychic studies and philosophy. His recreational interest was bowls.

Thomas had on marriage built himself a spacious home at Toowong in suburban Brisbane. Following his death the property passed to the Church of England, which built a church on the old tennis courts and converted the house into an old peoples' home.

MOXON TRUST

A CHARITY

As Honorary Treasurer of the Moxon Family Research Trust Fund I am very glad to be able to report real progress towards the establishment of our Trust as a registered Charity. As I am sure you know Trusts have been used since time immemorial to establish formal relationships between three parties. The first party (the donor i.e. you) agrees with the second party (the trustees i.e. us) to put into their hands money or property (the Trust property) to be used for the benefit of the third party (the beneficiary, who in this case comprises those of the Moxon Family as a whole who are concerned with making a record of the Family's history).

In approving our Deed of Trust the Charity Commission will recognise that the purpose of the Trust Fund is to advance the education of the public and especially to promote and carry out research in subjects of academic value into the family name of Moxon (and variations of it) and to publish such useful results, including those of research into movements away from the family's home territory. Provisions are made to ensure that the Charity does not cease to be charitable in law.

If you are interested in knowing more about the Trust and the many ways in which you can support it please write to me, R.E.A. Moxon, 132 Howards Grove, Shirley, Southampton SO1 5PT, and I will respond at once.

The Fund, having made a modest beginning, does now need the full support of members of the Family of Moxon if we are to tackle seriously the task of researching and recording our family history.

R.E.A. Moxon
Honorary Treasurer.

The Australian Connection III: **THE SUCCESSORS**

THOMAS WILLIAM GLENDON (GLEN) MOXON now heads the R.J.H. branch. Archdeacon Robert's seven children were very young when he died at such an early age and his eldest daughter Dorothy, known in the family as Aunt Dot, had more tragedy in store for her, for her young husband Archie Tindal, who volunteered to serve in the Great War, was killed on the Somme in 1916. Furthermore their only son, Archie II, who joined the RAAF in the Second World War was killed by a Japanese bomb in an air raid over Darwin, Northern Territories in 1943. So highly was he regarded that the airfield is now known as Tindal Field and was formally inaugurated by Prime Minster Bob Hawke in April 1989.

The two eldest boys, Wilf and Doug, also served the colours in the Great War and Doug's son Glen, who also lost his father, the dairy farmer, at the age of 48, also joined the RAAF in the Second World War and served in the bomber command in Europe. After the war Glen, then 23, served his articles as an Accountant and remained in that profession in Brisbane till he retired. Today Glen and his wife Dot, live in happy retirement at the attractive seaside resort of Byron Bay, some 30 miles south of Brisbane. In 1988 they were visited by Glen's first cousin, John McKeown and his wife Gillie.

John's mother was the Archdeacon's second daughter Marjorie who married a young clergyman who was persuaded by Aunt Tina (the Archdeacon's eldest sister) to fill a vacancy as a Headmaster in India. After many years there he and his family returned, not to Australia but to England, where he had been ordained, thus becoming the first Moxon family emigrants in reverse. John has followed his father in the teaching profession and is a Housemaster at Clifton College, Bristol. John Clifford, the fifth child, was too young for the war but subsequently served as Choirmaster at his father's old Cathedral Church at Grafton. Violet married Douglas Lampard and their son, Douglas Geoffrey, is Professor of Electrical Engineering at Melbourne University. The youngest child Patricia, only 2 when her father died, is the only one who is still alive today.

Teaching the young is clearly the Archdeacon's continuing legacy.

PHILIP SIMON MOXON is head of the W.E.M. branch. When William Ernest Moxon left Fremantle in 1918 to return to his home in Brisbane he left behind his eldest child Nora who had recently married Norman Clarke, only ten weeks her senior, also an immigrant from Queensland. They had three sons, Norman, David and Tom, each of whom married with children. David's eldest son, Graham Clarke of Albany W.A. is a keen family genealogist and has materially assisted these thumb-nail sketches with a wealth of recorded detail, interviews and family album portraits. Philip Handyside (Phil) had already left home to serve with the 41st Bn. A.I.F. in France and, back home with the family in Brisbane, he chose banking as a career, joining the staff of the Bank of North Queensland, later the Bank of Queensland, of which he became relieving Manager. Both he and his young cousin Jules however were mechanically minded and in the late 20's jointly launched Moxon Motors Ltd which became sole distributors in Queensland and the Northern rivers of N.S.W. of Graham Paige and Stutz motors. They also operated one of Queensland's first flying schools using two Gipsy Moths - one for the school and one to promote the motor business. Disappointingly the grave economic depression of the early 1930's brought Moxon Motors to a standstill and Phil went into partnership with Lionel Potier as Public Accountants, remaining with the firm, Moxon and Potier, until his retirement. Meanwhile Phil had married Laura Armstrong of Cairns, North Queensland, and in 1935 Simon Moxon was born, as the heir to this branch of the Australian dynasty. He inherited his father's fascination for the air and as a schoolboy rode his bicycle to Brisbane's airport at Eagle Farm to watch aircraft and their movements and to make a photographic record of them. The interest has remained and Simon holds a private pilots licence. He is the author of the definitive history of Brisbane Airport. Nearer to home he is also the principal researcher of the Moxons of Australia and has contributed the greater part of the data for this study of the Australian Connection of his family - in the form of books, photos, press cuttings, oral history and a complete family pedigree. Simon, like his father, is by profession an accountant. In 1970 he married Margaret Newson and they have three teenage children, Gretel, Catherine and Angus to carry forward the Moxon connection.

Simon's Aunt Janet, William Ernest's third child, who married Len Robinson is alive today and has a son Tom who lives up in the north at Cairns and has just married. Thomas Cowley, who served in H.M.S. Shannon in the Great War, was the fourth child of William's first marriage but he died early at 29.

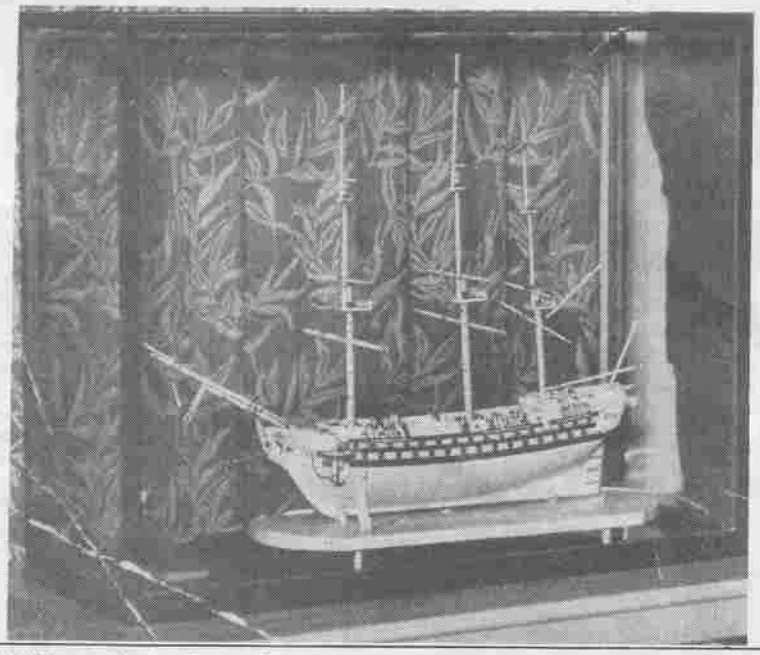
THOMAS JULES (TOM) MOXON is today head of the T.F.M. branch. When grandfather Thomas IV put down his roots in Brisbane after encircling the world several times over in his clipper days he married his eldest brother's sister-in-law Eva Moran of Camden N.S.W. and started a family of six, of whom five survived. In the family tradition his two eldest daughters married two brothers. Eva, born in 1894, married James Briggs and had two sons Tom and Phil (good family names) who themselves have a number of children (and grandchildren). Letitia, born five years later (Hereward born in between didn't survive) married Morrison Briggs and had two daughters. The elder, now Shirley Gould, lives in Cambridge and has helped in our research. She has three children in Australia. The younger Judy also married with five children. The third sister, who became Amy Wright, has two daughters with children. Then came Julius William Harold (known as Jules) in 1905 and, as we have seen, he and his older cousin Phil joined together when he was 21 to form Moxon Motors Ltd which flourished in Brisbane till the economic 'crash' came some six years later. In 1930 Jules who, like his cousin, was 'air-struck' hit the headlines by flying his Gipsy Moth in one day from Brisbane to Melbourne (1000 miles) via Sydney between dawn and dusk. He used his other Gipsy Moth for parachute jumps, with "Moxon Motors" clearly displayed!

After Moxon Motors he joined his father full-time in Moxon & Co. Ltd., now considerable timber merchants in Brisbane, Cairns and Sydney, and succeeded him in 1936. He had married Sybil Lucas in 1932 and they had three children, two boys and a girl. Thomas Jules (Tom) the eldest succeeded his father to the business (and as head of the T.F.M. branch) in 1971 and himself married Jenny Moore, with two boys and a girl. He also inherited the Moxon family heirlooms, including the priceless model French 80-gun Trafalgar ship-of-the-line.

Tom's grandfather had one more daughter, Cynthia, who never married.

Tom and family live at Yeronga just up the river in suburban Brisbane.

200 year-old Moxon Heirloom carved from Dartmoor bones



Several heirlooms from his ancestors, such as the sword of his great grandfather Captain Thomas Moxon (Indian Army retired), are in the possession today at Brisbane in Australia of Thomas Jules Moxon but without doubt the most intriguing is the model sailing ship that was acquired by his great great great grandfather, Thomas Moxon of Twickenham in the year 1792 which has been passed down the family for six generations.

In that year England was host to many hundreds of French prisoners of war, captured during the post-Revolution conflicts, and it was some of these, imprisoned on Dartmoor, who constructed this amazing model, principally from the bones of their meat rations, with human hair for the riggings.

On the death of Thomas Moxon of Twickenham in 1854 the model went to Lea Hall, Leyton the home of his son Thomas. It was not long afterwards that it met with a serious accident at the hands of Harry, Thomas's youngest boy, who was then about eight. The masts and the rigging in particular were greatly damaged. On Thomas's death in 1859 it went to his sixth son, Captain Thomas Moxon who kept it first in Kent and then in Devonshire. It was there in 1885 that Captain Thomas and his third son, Thomas Frank, who was on leave from the Mercantile Marine, repaired the damage as far as they could but much of the fine old work had to be cut away and several new spars made and fitted. The hull was virtually intact and required no repairs.

Captain Thomas died in 1905 and it passed to his widow and through her to her daughters at her death seven years later. They decided that the model ship should be given as a memento of their father to his four surviving children by his first marriage (their step brothers and sisters) and between them these four agreed that it would become the property of Thomas Frank, the youngest of them, who as it happens had assisted with its repair. He shipped it to Brisbane in 1913 where he was now in business and through him it passed in turn to his son Julius William Harold in the year 1936 and to his son, the present holder, Thomas Jules in 1971. In the year 1992 it will celebrate its bi-centenary.

[continued from page 3]

was the eldest girl, Laetitia Christina, who in the face of the most adamant paternal opposition, sailed for India in 1882 to embark on her 52 year adventure. Captain Thomas had successfully channelled his two elder sons, on leaving school, into the traditional family business which was shipping. At the age of eighteen Robert Julius started his four year apprenticeship, at the end of which in 1883 he sailed for Sydney, New South Wales. One year after him, his younger brother William Ernest

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Vicar's mistake corrected – 250 years later!

Don Moxon - one of our most active family researchers - has contributed this article which, inter alia, throws new light on the pedigree of Edward Moxon, the Victorian "Poet's Publisher". MX

Some fifteen years ago I traced back my ancestry to William Moxon who married Hannah Townsley at Hemsworth in 1764. Two years later, I found a parallel set of references in the Ackworth registers regarding a John Moxon who, at the age of 26, married Sarah Brook in 1758. The naming pattern of the children of John and William seemed to demonstrate that John and William were brothers, and that the likeliest name of their father was Samuel.

Since 1976, I have spent countless hours in record offices in Yorkshire and London trying to track down John and William's parentage but living in Suffolk I have not found it easy to do the basic research.

When news of the forthcoming publication of "The Moxons of Yorkshire" reached me I was delighted, the more so when Jimmy Moxon put me in touch with a second cousin, Hilda Clarke, whose existence I didn't even know about, but who was also engaged in the same quest as I was. Hilda and I met soon afterwards and together we have been able to tackle things more thoroughly and systematically.

In May '87, we at last found in the parish registers of Ferry Fryston a Samuel Moxon of the right era, he married Lydia Walton in 1728 and the entries recorded that they had a son William baptised in 1732 and another son, also named William baptised in 1735. Apart from a daughter, Elizabeth, born in 1730 but dying in infancy, there were no other entries right through to 1740.

In other words, this could have been the family we were looking for, except that no John was recorded, and why were there two Williams? The absence of a William buried between 1732 and 1735 was puzzling, had the first fallen into the river and been swept away, or could the incumbent have made an error in entering the name of the first child in the register? It seemed unlikely that we could ever know. Search of registers of all other neighbouring parishes proved abortive.

Remarkably, however, our persistence was at last rewarded last August when Hilda and I went to the Borthwick Institute in York. Though our forebears were labourers, we decided we should check through the Index of Wills. There we found reference to an Administration regarding a Samuel Moxon of Pontefract who died in 1763. When we looked at the micro-film of the Administration entry we were overjoyed to read that it referred to a Samuel Moxon whose only two children were John and William, both of Hemsworth. A quick check of the Ferry Fryston register for 1763 showed that indeed Samuel Moxon had been buried there and five years earlier we found the burial also of Lydia.

We have therefore proved that Samuel was our ancestor, and that the incumbent had indeed made an error when he entered Samuel's first son in 1732 as William. If ever I have the chance in the great hereafter I hope to be able to point out to Edmund Noble, vicar of Ferry Fryston at that time, the nature of his mistake!

The Samuel in question was incidentally the great grandfather of Edward Moxon, the 19th century publisher. Our discovery means that the Pedigree Table 4 on p.43 of "The Moxons of Yorkshire" and the general tree on p.107 have now to be amended. Hilda and I are now trying to locate the birth of our Samuel, c.1705. The naming pattern suggests a link with the Pontefract Moxons, and our research of the Pontefract registers seems to point to the necessity of a substantial revision of the Pedigree Table 6. Hilda and I would be delighted to hear from anyone who is interested in this particular section of Moxon family history, and has any light to throw on the Pontefract area connections in the 17th and very early 18th centuries.

Don Moxon
15 Dorothy Hodgkin Court,
Beccles,
Suffolk NR 34 9XN

2nd IN SERIES!

"Where there's a Will. . . ."

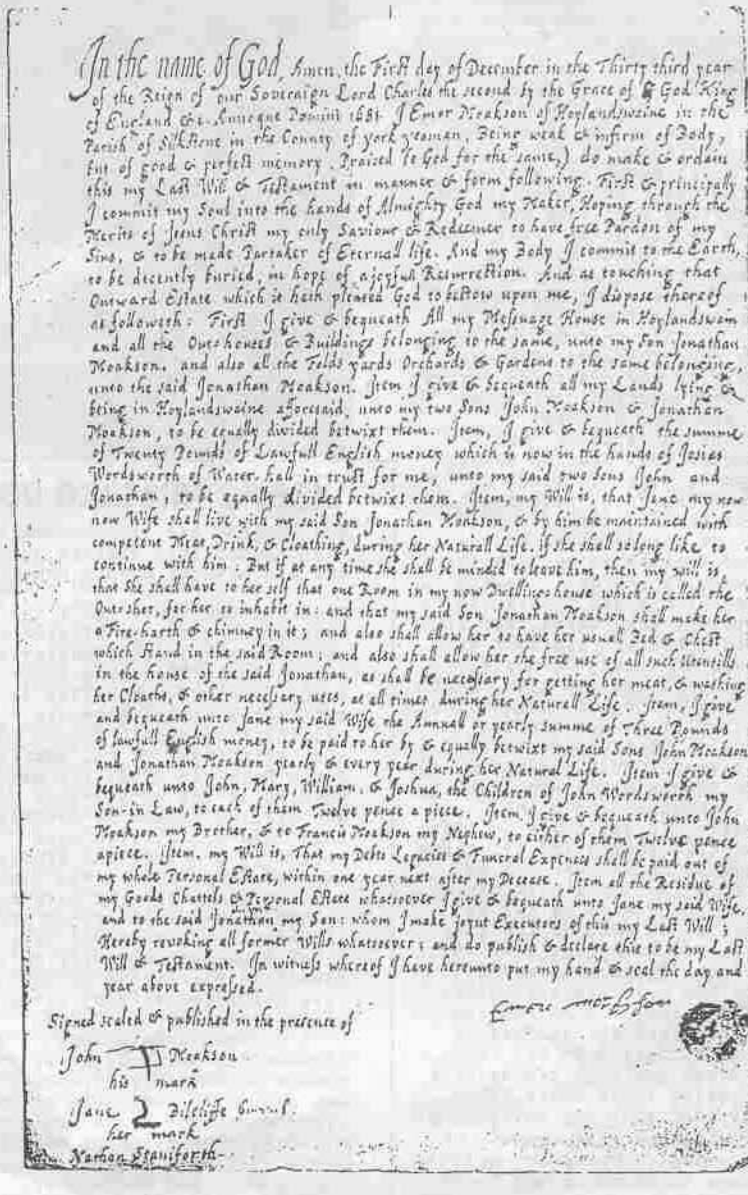
This Will, dated 1681, is a great contrast to that published in the last magazine. It is the Will of Emor Moakson, Emor being the masculine form of the name Emma. Written in impeccable English script, it shows the testator is a caring family man, with a deep affection for his wife, Jane, and a determination to ensure her health, happiness and security during her widowhood. Indeed, his concern for her food, clothing, warmth and shelter in the family environment touches our senses until we feel that we know him as a wise and endearing character, although he died more than three hundred years ago.

There are also interesting relationships with the Wordsworth family, who came from the Penistone area and from whom the great poet, William sprang. It would seem that Emor's daughter predeceased him, after marrying John Wordsworth and producing four Wordsworth children, all of whom received a legacy in their grandfather, Emor's Will.

It makes one wonder if Edward Moxon, the great Victorian poet, who knew William Wordsworth so well, had any idea of the link between their two families. What an intriguing thought!

Next Edition The hurried Will of a suicide. Walter Moxon, M.D. 1836-1886.

Joan Rendall


In the name of God, Amen, the First day of December in the Thirty third year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord Charles the second by the Grace of God King of England &c. Annoque Domini 1681. I Emor Moakson of Hoylandswaine in the Parish of Silkstone in the County of york yeoman, Being weak & infirm of Body, but of good & perfect memory (Praised be God for the same,) do make & ordain this my Last Will & Testament in manner & form following. First & principally I commit my Soul into the hands of Almighty God my Maker, Hoping through the Merits of Jesus Christ my only Saviour & Redeemer to have free Pardon of my Sins, & to be made Partaker of Eternall life. And my Body I commit to the Earth, to be decently buried, in hope of a joyful Resurrection. And as touching that Outward Estate which it hath pleased God to bestow upon me, I dispose thereof as followeth: First I give & bequeath All my Messuage House in Hoylandswain and all the Out-houses & Buildings belonging to the same, unto my Son Jonathan Moakson. and also all the Folds yards Orchards & Gardens to the same belonging, unto the said Jonathan Moakson. Item I give & bequeath all my Lands lying & being in Hoylandswaine aforesaid, unto my two Sons John Moakson & Jonathan Moakson, to be equally divided betwixt them. Item, I give & bequeath the summe of Twenty Pounds of Lawfull English money which is now in the hands of Josias Wordsworth of Water-hall in trust for me, unto my said two Sons John and Jonathan, to be equally divided betwixt them. Item, my Will is, that Jane my now Wife shall live with my said Son Jonathan Moakson, & by him be maintained with competent Meat, Drink, & Cloathing, during her Naturall Life. if she shall so long like to continue with him. But if at any time she shall be minded to leave him, then my will is, that she shall have to her self that one Room in my now Dwelling-house which is called the Outr shot, for her to inhabit in: and that my said Son Jonathan Moakson shall make her a Fire-harth & chimney in it; and also shall allow her to have her usuall Bed & Chest which stand in the said Room; and also shall allow her the free use of all such Utensills in the house of the said Jonathan, as shall be necessary for getting her meat, & washing her Cloaths, & other necessary uses, at all times during her Naturall Life. Item, I give and bequeath unto Jane my said Wife the Annuall or yearly summe of Three Pounds of lawfull English money, to be paid to her by & equally betwixt my said Sons John Moakson and Jonathan Moakson yearly & every year during her Natural Life. Item I give & bequeath unto John, Mary, William, & Joshua, the Children of John Wordsworth my Son-in Law, to each of them Twelve pence a piece. Item I give & bequeath unto John Moakson my Brother, & to Francis Moakson my Nephew, to either of them Twelve pence apiece. Item, my Will is, That my Debts Legacies & Funeral Expences shall be paid out of my whole Personal Estate, within one year next after my Decease. Item all the Residue of my Goods Chattels & Personal Estate whatsoever I give & bequeath unto Jane my said Wife, and to the said Jonathan my Son: whom I make joynt Executors of this my Last Will; Hereby revoking all former Wills whatsoever; and do publish & declare this to be my Last Will & Testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto put my hand & seal the day and year above expressed.

Emore Moakson

Signed sealed & published in the presence of

John Moakson his mark

Jane Bilcliffe her mark

Nathan Staniforth

[continued from page 7]

had joined the Scotch firm J & R Grant (shipowners of London) who were interested in both steam and sail and were closely related to the Grant Whiskey family. He took his articles more seriously and stayed with them for seven years before he too sailed for Australia in 1887.

Captain Thomas on his return from India had joined the family banking business, succeeding his elder brother Herbert when he died in 1864 and their father four years later. At the same time he had become a devout participant of the Plymouth Brethren. His three eldest children had been baptized soon after birth in India but his two younger sons who had been born in England had never been baptized, so he put this right himself by baptizing both of them in the Swimming Baths at Ilfracombe where he had gone to live in 1879 having withdrawn from the family business.

His move to Devonshire seems to have presaged the start of the exodus of his children but it was not until 1888 when the exodus was virtually complete that there is recorded evidence of the deep-seated division within the family.

In that year Captain Thomas Moxon made a Will in favour of his second wife, Lizzie Goss and their children, to the virtual exclusion of the children of his first marriage. In a Testamentary Letter dated December 3rd 1888 he sets our his reasons. He points out that his two eldest daughters on his decease will each inherit a pension of £60 per annum from the Madras Military Fund. He adds that the capital that he would have left to his sons he had spent liberally on their generous education and on setting them up in their chosen careers, believing that this was preferable to leaving them money. It seems probable that at some stage one or more of the brothers must have had access to the Testamentary Letter since whole paragraphs concerning them are bracketted off and marked "Lies" and "Hypocricy". Most significant is the inclusion within these categories of his protestation that Lizzie Goss, if anything, lavished more love, more self denial and more goodness on the children of his first marriage than on her own.

In view of the tragedy of this family breach it is comforting to know that Lizzie Goss did, to some extent, keep in touch with her step-children. There is record of a friendly letter that she sent to Robert Julius on the birth of one of his children. Furthermore Thomas Frank used to visit the family at Ilfracombe in between voyages (in 1885 he helped his father to repair the damaged ship model) and William Ernest was also an occasional visitor from London prior to 1887. The breach had not been absolute at least prior to the Will.

Captain Thomas Moxon died at Ilfracombe in 1905.

In 1953, many years after his death, a warm act of sisterly devotion took place when Mabel Kate, the second child of Captain Thomas and Lizzie Moxon, bequeathed in her Will her life savings of upwards of £2000 to the fifteen remaining grand-children of her father by his first marriage (her own nephews and nieces) and to five great grandchildren.

The Moxon Magazine

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