



Established in 1988 by James Moxon, Founding Editor and First President of the Moxon Society

The Moxon Magazine

Exploring past errors

In March 1987 Moxon Society founding father Roland James “Jimmy” Moxon published his book *The Moxons of Yorkshire: a study*. In six parts with ten appendices plus maps it remains a fascinating and wide-ranging historical account of Moxons, Megsons, Moxhams and other variations of the name beginning with Nicholas Megson/Moxon who appears in the returns for the *wapentake* of York for 1297, still the first written appearance of the name in any form.

The book also included eight family trees, or ‘pedigrees’ as Jimmy labelled them. Table six – *The Pedigree of the Moxons of Pontefract and Yarmouth* – is given prominence on a double-page spread, pages 48-49, and is headed by *Sir Samuel Moxon, Kt (b. about 1624) Surveyor General to Charles II*.

In 1926 James Moxon, a Pontefract solicitor, stated that he did not believe in the legend of Sir Samuel Moxon. His

doubts were echoed by “Jimmy” Moxon, in publishing *The Moxons of Yorkshire*, but Jimmy concluded that if the story were conjecture it was *conjecture based on high probability*.

Some years later The Moxon Magazine (*issue 4: October 1989*) featured an article *Searching for Sir Samuel*. This prompted **The Moxon Family Research Trust** to fund research which was undertaken by Timothy HS Duke, Rouge Dragon Pursuivant, and reported by Graham Jagger in The Moxon Magazine (*issue 12: October 1993*) under the title *‘Sir’ Samuel Moxon finally laid to rest* confirming conclusively the suspicions that no Samuel Moxon was knighted in the period and nobody named Moxon had ever been Surveyor to Charles II.

Unfortunately ‘Sir’ Samuel Moxon didn’t exist!

Notwithstanding this, and other suspected errors, Jimmy’s book remains a milestone in the Society’s history and literature, is written in a very acces-

sible style and contains a wealth of genuine historical detail.

However, at last year’s Gathering and AGM John (de Wight) Moxon was asked to contact a research group to determine the costs of having a professional genealogist examine and where possible correct the relevant family trees. This proposal has now been resolved, and Ian Marson, a genealogist of more than thirty years’ experience and Managing Director of LinkLines Research, has been commissioned to examine one of the pedigrees published in *The Moxons of Yorkshire*, viz, table three on page 38: *The Moxons of Wakefield of the eighteenth century*. The outcome of Mr Marson’s preliminary research will tell us if we should repeat the exercise with the other tables.

The outcome of this research will be published in The Moxon Magazine, and possibly in an addendum or note to complement Jimmy’s book.

Editor



TREES, including family trees, have roots and branches. Both need to be carefully nurtured and that can include pruning (see above). To help with this Chris Moxon with others has devised a scheme of **TREE GUARDIANS**. Still being fine-tuned the scheme will be described in detail in the next issue of The Moxon Magazine, but broadly it means appointing one or more volunteers to coordinate research and incoming data, and to publish updates and corrections for their own tree: MX01, MX02 and so on. The aim is to make sure that **The Moxon Society** is a first class international source for all things relating to Moxons everywhere!

Moxon Muster in Oz 2014

by John Bruce Moxon

In October each year New South Wales residents are awarded a long weekend to commemorate the winning of an eight-hour day for workers. The movement for an eight-hour working day began, in Australia, in 1856 with a strike by stone masons in Sydney. But it was not until 1948 that all Australian workers won that battle.

So what better weekend to hold a Moxon Muster to celebrate the life and achievements of Joshua Middleton Moxon, a stone mason and stone carver, and his wife, Louisa?

Mind you, we had just a little competition from other events!!

In Parramatta, 30 kms inland from Sydney, where we held the Muster, there was a major cultural festival of theatre, cinema and dance celebrating Indian culture: Parramasala.

In the city of Sydney the Australian navy was celebrating its centenary with a huge fireworks and lighting show, plus a parade of naval ships from seventeen nations and more than a dozen "tall ships". Even Prince Harry popped in to have look, along with an estimated one million others.

And, if all that wasn't enough distraction, Sunday, the day of our muster, was also Rugby League Grand Final Day.

Nevertheless, twenty-seven hardy Moxons braved the hot spring day (33°C with no breeze) and gathered in Parramatta Park.

People had travelled from far and wide: anything up to seven hours driving.

The oldest of us who were present are great grandchildren of Joshua and Louisa, and the youngest who was there, a 4xgreat grandson, aged just six years.

People mingled, introduced themselves with the aid of their name tags and a coloured dot to indicate the child of Joshua and Louisa from whom they are descendant.

Large family trees were on display, showing both Joshua's (MX26) and Louisa's heritages, and Joshua's and Louisa's descendants.

Joshua and Louisa had twelve children and Louisa had a further two after they separated. Of those fourteen, eight survived to adulthood, married and had children, and, of those, four were represented at the muster. One other family would have been present but for illness.

We played a slide show with photos of some of the places Joshua and Louisa, and their ancestors, had lived, as well as some of the notable buildings either constructed by Joshua or on which he did some of the carving.

Guests enjoyed a delicious high tea, mingled, swapped family stories, and generally had a great time.

And Margaret signed up three new members for the Moxon Society.

Perhaps in the future we will organise a Moxon Muster for all Australian Moxon families. And, of course, we'd be delighted to welcome Moxons from overseas.

John Bruce Moxon

6 Oct 2013

AS WE WRITE John Bruce Moxon and his wife Margaret Tucker Moxon are in England, just one stop on their 'round the world cruise' and we hope to meet up with them later in the month.

You will see that John is restricted to a wheelchair which has meant a huge amount of careful pre-planning to make sure that the ship and their venues can accommodate his chair. We hope to bring you notes from the trip in our next issue.

Maraget is the webmaster of the Moxon Society website which is always worth a visit. Following the excellent work of her predecessor John Earnshaw Margaret has taken advantage of new developments in web design which weren't available to John and the result is a modern, informative and interactive website.

Editor

To Margaret & Simon... ...a grandson!

Margaret writes: Thomas Donovan Moxon was born 20th January 2014, long legs and arms and everything & the image of his father at that age. He has the Moxon scowl already!



The Parramatta Mmoxon Muster 2014



Each of the fifteen of us gathered at Parramatta NSW on 6th October 2013 was born a Moxon!

Back row: John, Rachel, Ray, Sarah, Lyal, Shirley (Cilia), Alana, Bruce, Frank, and Danielle.

Front row: Arthur, Roslyn (Hanney), John, May and Lachlan.



Looking up the
ancestors on the
family tree

Parramatta Park
Events Centre

*On the banks of the
Parramatta River,
New South Wales*



A Masonic Moxon Jewel

Trevor Harris is an expert on Masonic medals and jewellery. He recently sent us this photograph of a medal in his collection which he thought would be of interest to the Moxon Society. The inscription states that Thomas Moxon was exalted into the Royal Arch masonic degree on 12th March 1835.



The **Moxon Magazine Index** records seven (possibly eight: one may be a duplicate) Thomas Moxons whose dates would fit. Two were merchant bankers and one a Tory MP. We have contacted The Library and Museum of Freemasonry who are trying to identify the medal holder but they say that it might take some months due to the pressure of their work. Meanwhile may we enlist the services of our members: can you identify this Thomas Moxon, and do you know anything about his circumstances?

Editor

New members in last six months

(Continued from page 8)

We welcomed:

Warren Clarke from Western Australia

Dr Sandra Pendlington from Annan, Dumfriesshire, Scotland

Ms Mary Moxon from Queensland, Australia

Major Francis John Moxon from New South Wales, Australia

Mrs Wendy Louise Walker from New South Wales, Australia

Mrs Valerie McCourt from Durham, UK

Edward Wynn from Ashbourne, Derbyshire, UK

Mrs Janet Start from Midhurst, West Sussex, UK

Annual Gathering 2014

West Haddon, Northamptonshire

Friday September 5th to Sunday September 7th

Enclosed with this issue of the Moxon Magazine is an application form for The 2014 Annual Gathering of The Moxon Society. This year, in a break from the tradition of gathering in a major city, we are meeting in West Haddon, an ancient hill village set in rolling agricultural land. Accommodation will be in **The Pytchley Hotel**, a Silver Award winning four-star country Inn which enjoys a well-established reputation for excellence in hospitality. We have planned a visit to **Canons Ashby** (bring your National Trust card!), "a tranquil Elizabethan manor house set in beautiful 18th-century gardens. Built by the Dryden family using the remains of a medieval priory, the house and gardens have survived largely unaltered since 1710 and are presented as they were during the time of Sir Henry Dryden, a Victorian antiquary, passionate about the past." And we are delighted to confirm that the lecture this year is by local resident and historian **Wendy Raybould** whose talk will focus on *an overview of the history of the village, then focussing on one person using the tools of genealogical research.*

**And of course the Annual General Meeting
is not to be missed!**

www.westhaddon.info

www.thepytchley.co.uk

<http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/canons-ashby>



DAVID ARDRON recently moved to Moxon Road in Newport, Gwent and asked, via the website, if anyone could tell him how the road got its name.

Our webmaster passed the query on to Chairman Ken Moxon who quickly found that the road was named for Sir John Moxon OBE (*pictured left*), a descendant of the Moxons of Pontefract, and to be found on Moxon Tree MX21...

The Caerleon Tourist Information Office has advised me that Moxon Road Newport is named after Sir John Moxon OBE. In *Who's Who in Newport (1928)* we find that:

"...John Moxon OBE was born in Baghill House, Pontefract, Yorkshire, and comes of an old Yorkshire family who have lived in Pontefract for over 300 years. He was educated at St. Martin's, York and The Leys Cambridge, and having decided to enter the legal profession was articled in Liverpool in and admitted as

a solicitor in 1886, in which year he came to Newport and established a practice. He is an alderman of Newport Town Council, and represented the Maindee Ward since his election in 1901, until he was made an alderman in 1919, and is Chairman of the Parliamentary and Electricity and Tramways Committees; is also a Harbour Commissioner, having been chairman of that Board for the two years ending June, 1918, is president of the Society of Yorkshiremen in Wales. He is a Churchman and Unionist, and finds recreation in golf. Address: 4, Commercial Street; The Lodge, Malpas. Tel 3018 "

From my own research I have found that John was born on October 17th 1864 at Baghill House, Pontefract, Yorkshire; the son of John and Elizabeth Moxon, nee Stephenson, he is a member of the Moxon Tree MX21.

The 1871 Census shows John living at the family home with his Father and Mother, two brothers and a sister; and in the 1881 Census the sixteen-year old John is a scholar at the Leys, Cambridge.

On September 5th 1888 he married Annie Purdon in Newport and in the 1891 census John, who had by now qualified as a solicitor, and Annie are shown living in Newport. By the 1901 census the couple have a son Gerald Arthur, born 1888, and are living at the Lodge, Malpas, Newport.

John was a founder member of the Southerndown Golf Club. He was among the original subscribers to the Club giving £25.

The Johns' Newport Street Directory 1914 lists *Moxon John Solicitor and Acting Clerk to the Governors of Williams School Caerleon with Offices in Arlington Chambers, Commercial Street, Newport.*

In 1926 Alderman John Moxon CBE is on record as Chairman of Newport Council.

Continued on page 6



Moxon Road

Continued from page 5

Alderman John Moxon OBE as Chairman of the Parliamentary Improvements Committee of Newport Corporation was present in 1927 at the opening of Newport Town's Second Stone Bridge and presented the Mayor with a booklet, bound in silver and morocco, which contained a description of the bridge. A plaque on the bridge commemorates this event (*see previous page for a photograph of the plaque*).

The 1934 Johns' Directory of Caerleon shows John as Acting Clerk to the Endowed School, "Williams School".

In 1935 Councillor John Moxon OBE was awarded Freedom of The County Borough of Newport for "Civic Services to many Committees".

In 1938 John is living at The Lodge, Malpas (Main) Road. The offices of Moxon & Petty, Solicitors, were at 4-5 Arlington Chambers, Commercial Street, Newport.

The 12th July 1938 edition of The London Gazette carries the notice of the King's approval of the Knighthood of John Moxon Esq, his OBE having been signified on the 1st January 1938.

John died on the 28th December 1943, leaving in his will (probated on 3rd June 1944) £15,186 15s 1p to his widow.

The house name for 1A Moxon Road is Moxon Lodge, currently occupied by NPT Decorators: this is not The Lodge that was occupied by John and family in 1938 which was a far grander and older building, since demolished.

Ken Moxon
February 2014

New bridge opened

The bridge was opened on 22 June 1927, by His Majesty's Minister of Transport, Lt. Col. The Right Honourable Wilfred Ashley, P.C., M.P. The Minister arrived by train from London accompanied by his private secretary (Mr. L. Foster-Stedman) and was met at the station by the Mayor of Newport (Councillor A.T.W. James), the Town Clerk (Mr. O. Treharne Morgan), the Chairman of the Parliamentary and Improvements Committee of Newport Corporation (Alderman John Moxon O.B.E.) and other members of the Town Council. The party proceeded to the Town Hall from where a procession travelled along High Street to the new bridge, while flags were flown and crowds lined the streets.

The Minister had difficulty cutting the broad white tape with the silver-gilt scissors and a more suitable and less-ornate pair was used instead. When the task was complete, the Minister made the following statement.

"I declare this bridge open, for the use of the King's subjects forever."

Alderman Moxon presented the Mayor with a handsome souvenir booklet, bound in silver and morocco, containing a description of the bridge. The procession then re-formed and returned to the Town Hall for a large meeting in the Council Chamber, where the Mayor proposed a vote of thanks to the Minister.



Newport Bridge opened in 1927

*"It would make an interesting
series in future issues
of the Magazine!"*

...and lanes, avenues, streets?

So here's a project some of you might like to take on! Look around your area for thoroughfares - streets, avenues, lanes, roads and the like - bearing the name Moxon and let us know where they are. And if possible research, as Ken did, the Moxon they were named for. It would make an interesting series in future issues of the Magazine!

What the papers have said...

Postal subscribers to the Church Times* will, no doubt, be aware that they now have full access to the whole of the on-line archive of this august organ of ecclesiastical tittle-tattle from 1863 to the present day. This archive contains almost 2,000 references to Moxon churchmen, some of which may be of interest to readers of The Moxon Magazine. Perhaps the following extract may become the first of a series.

From the Church Times, Friday 4 November 1898, p. 515

All old Cantabs (a correspondent writes) will be grieved to learn of the very sudden death of the Rev. Herbert Charles Moxon, at Brighton, on October 26. Mr. Moxon was a keen oarsman and was treasurer of the Lady Margaret Boat Club in 1884. Mr. Moxon came out first in the Theological Tripos in that year. Mr. Moxon took his B.A. in 1884, and became M.A. in 1888. From Leeds Clergy School, where he gained the love and respect of all around him, and after two years of hard parish work in the slums of Leeds, he went to High Wycombe, 1885-1888, as curate, then as senior curate to St. Mary's Bolton, at West Brompton, 1889-1891. From 1891-1897 Mr. Moxon became chaplain to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales at Cannes, and assistant priest at St. George's Church, Cannes. In 1896 Mr. Moxon, by Royal Command of Her Majesty the Queen, went over to the Hotel Cimiez, at Nice, to preach on several occasions.

Like many Victorian Moxon clergy Herbert Charles Moxon was well acquainted with the royal family, following in the footsteps of his great uncle, the Reverend George Browne Moxon (1794-1866), the rector of Sandringham from 1827 until his death in 1866. So highly thought of was George Browne Moxon by the royal family that the Prince of Wales (later to be Edward VII) caused to be erected an altar tomb in white marble in the churchyard in the park in memory of the late rector. It is inscribed *M. S. George Browne Moxon, 39 years Rector of Sandringham and Babingley, died 28th January, 1866, in the 72nd year of his age. Albertus Edouardus P. In memoriam posuit.*

A tree of this branch of the Moxon family can be found in *The Moxons of Yorkshire*, pp 48-49.

Graham Jagger

President Emeritus

Leicester, February 2014

Knighthood for Archbishop Moxon

From The Taonga News | 05 Jan 2014 |

Archbishop David Moxon is now, formally, Archbishop Sir David Moxon – an honour he calls "a complete bolt out of the blue." In the New Year's Honours he's been appointed a Knight Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit "in recognition of his services to the Anglican Church." "I was very, very surprised," he said today. "I genuinely don't think of myself in that league at all."

Archbishop David has shown a career-long passion for building ecumenical links, especially between the Anglican and Roman Catholic churches. He'd worked unsung at that dialogue-building in New Zealand for years, and then in 2010 he was named as the Anglican co-chairman of ARCIC III, the third phase of the Anglican Roman Catholic International Commission.

When Archbishop David was named to his Rome post in December 2012, the then Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, expressed his delight: "There can be few people in the Communion," he said, "so well-qualified for this work."

Our thanks to Philip Lord for finding this news item and submitting it to the Magazine. Editor

* Those who are not subscribers to **The Church Times** may also have access to the archive for a fee, currently £5.99 for five days' access. There are other tariffs for longer periods of access, and for libraries or institutions. (Please note: you will first have to register on UKPressOnline.)

For more details go to

<http://www.ukpressonline.co.uk/ukpressonline/?sf=ct>

Editor

From this... to this!



Many of you will have old, cherished photographs which show signs of age, wear and tear. And some of you use various computer tools (many of them free) to restore those photographs.

But if you don't have those skills nor the time to do the work yourself, help is at hand on [www. Repixl.com](http://www.Repixl.com). You can see the quality of their work in the sample shown above from their website. Prices begin at £8.99, a very good price for resucing a cherished memory!

www.repixl.com



New members

We used to print in each issue of the Moxon Magazine a list of members who had joined the Society in the previous six months. That column disappeared for a time but we can now resurrect it, thanks to the persistence and diligence of our Membership Secretary, Chris Moxon!

Here are the names I currently have on file: if you are new to the Society and we haven't included you please get in touch with the editor. It would also be most interesting to have a short pen-portrait and a photograph which we can publish in a future issue.

Welcome to:

Ms Sally Lee, 57 Collins Street, Kensington, NSW 6151, Australia

Sally is descended from Harriet Moxon from Norfolk (late 18th century) who married a Cook. Sally has a painting by Harriet (*see left and below: Editor*) and her writing box. Does anyone know which Family Tree Sally might belong to?

Mrs Lilian Boyd, PO Box 498, Melton, Victoria 3337, Australia

Lilian is descended from William Moxon who was transported to Van Diemen's Land in 1842. Does anyone know which Family Tree she therefore belongs to?

New members list continued on page 4

On the back of this reproduction, left, of the painting kindly submitted by Sally Lee there are two handwritten ascriptions: "Little old picture" and

PAINTED BY HARRIET COOK neé
MOXON OF NORFOLK

Sally would be grateful for any information about Harriet who married John Cook of Hoxne Parish in Suffolk at St Martin Outwich, London on January 8th 1813