



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

The Moxon Magazine

Four Moxons , Three Moxhams, and the Somme

This year marks the 100th Anniversary of the Battle of the Somme, which was fought at such terrible cost that it has come to symbolise the tragic futility of the First World War. Its first day of conflict remains the bloodiest day in the history of the British Army.



Many of the soldiers who had signed up were everyday young men from close-knit communities across the UK who subsequently suffered horrible losses. They were good friends, neighbours and colleagues who signed up together on the promise they would serve alongside each other. It sounded easy. These patriotic volunteers were recruited on the romance of war, “Your Country Needs You”, and became known as the ‘Pals’ battalions.

On 1 July 1916, supported by a French attack to the south, thirteen divisions of Commonwealth forces launched an offensive on a line from north of Gommecourt to Maricourt. Despite a preliminary bombardment lasting seven days, the German defences were barely touched and the attack met unexpectedly fierce resistance. Losses were catastrophic and with only minimal advances on the southern flank, the initial attack was a failure. In the following weeks, huge resources of manpower and equipment were deployed in an attempt to exploit the modest successes of the first day. However, the German Army resisted tenaciously and repeated attacks and counter attacks meant a major battle for every village, copse and farmhouse



Continued on page 2

Four Moxons, Three Moxhams Continued from page 1



Above: a view of the Centenary Ceremony at Thiepval

gained. At the end of September, the village of Thiepval was finally captured, which had been an original objective of 1 July. Attacks north and east continued throughout October and into November in increasingly difficult weather conditions. The Battle of the Somme finally ended on 18 November with the onset of winter.

In the spring of 1917, the German forces fell back to their newly prepared defences, the Hindenburg Line, and there were no further significant engagements in the Somme sector until the Germans mounted their major offensive in March 1918.

The Thiepval Memorial, the Memorial to the Missing of the Somme, bears the names of 72,246 officers and men of the United Kingdom and South African forces who died in the Somme sector before 20 March 1918 and who have no known grave.

The memorial, designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens, was unveiled by the Prince of Wales in 1932, in the presence of the President of France. The Centenary has seen a major £2 million overhaul to tackle the memorial's roofs, pointing and drainage to help keep it watertight for the next 100 years.

The 72,246 names include four Moxons and three Moxhams. They are:

- Private Arthur Moxon 266359 of the 6th Battalion Black Watch, died 30 Jul 1916. He was the son of Arthur and Clara Moxon of Monk Bretton, Yorkshire, of tree MX27 (Moxons of Silkstone).
- Private Fred Moxon 44030 of the 18th Battalion Manchester Regiment, died 12 Oct 1916. He was the son of Alfred and Annie Moxon of Cawthorne, Yorkshire, of tree MX04 (Moxons of Cawthorne).
- Private George Moxon 2180 of the 22nd Battalion Royal Fusiliers, died 17 Feb 1917. He was the son of William and Maria Moxon of Helpringham, Lincolnshire, of tree MX65 (Moxons of Welney).
- Rifleman George Frank Moxon S/11740 of the 7th Battalion of The Rifle Brigade (formerly 9th Lancers), died 14 Aug 1916. He was the son of James Walter and Sarah Harriet Moxon of Wandsworth, London, of tree MX01 (Moxons of Cawthorne).

Research for this article has resulted in new trees being formed for the following individuals whom we have not yet been able to link into any of the existing Moxon Society trees.

- Private Alfred Moxham 22148 of the 6th Battalion Duke of Edinburgh's (Wiltshire) Regiment, died 2 Jul 1916. He was the son of James and Mary Ann Moxham of Potterne, Wiltshire. Currently the family has been traced back to James and Sarah Moxon of Bradford on Avon, Wiltshire c1810.
- Private George Moxham 6245 of the 69th Company Machine Gun Corps, died 8 Oct 1916. He was the son of Thomas and Christina Moxham of Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria. He is in the same tree as Private John Ball Moxham 23739 of the 9th Battalion of the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment, who died 21 Oct 1916. John Ball Moxham, who was born in Wesham, Lancashire, in 1893, was the son of William Moxham of Treales and Margaret Ball. In 1915 he married Ada Penketh and probably never saw their son George who was born in the final quarter of 1916.

Sources: The Royal British Legion and The Commonwealth War Graves Commission

Philip Lord

The Editor's gallimaufry

Being an arbitrary selection of random thoughts on sundry matters

In this Issue

THIS ISSUE OF THE MOXON MAGAZINE has been a delight for your Editor! I have received more material than ever in the past, so much that some has had to be held over to another issue. My most sincere thanks to those who have submitted articles and other editorial material.

A special personal thank you to Chris Moxon & Philip Lord who, as well as being seemingly indefatigable contributors to the Magazine and tireless overseers behind the scenes of the Tree Guardians scheme, also found time to proofread this issue. Any author and any editor these days, using electronic word processors and the like, finds it too easy simply to cut and paste a submitted article and to miss the inevitable typographical errors and even the occasional spelling errors: online spell-checkers are not infallible! Though I must stress that the final responsibility lies with me, so if you spot errors and omissions please tell me.

Having said all that, we have a wide-ranging issue for you, ranging from commemoration of Moxons and Moxhams who died in the Battle of the Somme a hundred years ago; to self-penned obituaries and discoveries about gravestones; a blazer badge which raised queries about genealogy, and of course the group photo from our 2016 Moxon Gathering in Leicester.

We have the story of a Moxon who was confined to a lengthy stay in a sanatorium with tuberculosis and found a unique way to pass at least some of his time; and much more which I hope you find of interest. I hope you will continue to flood my in-tray with new articles and ideas for new articles, queries, news and history of all things Moxonian, not to mention Moxhamian, Megsonian and all the other variations of the name which, fascinatingly, are coming ever closer together as links are found between trees.

Trevor

The Moxon Alert Programme

*Being A-Lert! **

Every week a list appears in my email inbox of Google search results, all of which contain the name Moxon.

There have been some surprising results!

The search is easily set up in Google and you can have as many alerts as you want. Results can be sent to your email address daily or weekly. Here's just a few of the results the Moxon Alert Programme has produced:

- *Joseph Moxon (1627-1691) is the 225th most quoted source in the Oxford English Dictionary*
- *There is a Moxon Road in Bankstown, New South Wales; a Moxon Street in Marylebone W1U; and a Moxon Way in Ashton-in-Makerfield, Wigan WN4*
- *Moxon Architects have won permission to convert two historic civic buildings in Fraserburgh into a new town-centre hub for Aberdeenshire Council*
- *45-year-old Andy Moxon from St Annes in Lancashire proposed to his partner Christine Pollard, 37, from Manchester during the Lakesman Triathlon in Keswick*

We could have filled several pages with varied stories about Moxons around the world, which seems appropriate for a Society whose interest lies in the Moxon surname, so I would be interested to know if introducing such stories into the Magazine is a good idea, especially when copy is otherwise meagre (which, I am absolutely delighted to say, is not the case for this issue!)

*** *lert* (n)** *A small furry woodland creature whose senses are always very intensely attuned to its surroundings.*

You must be a lert.

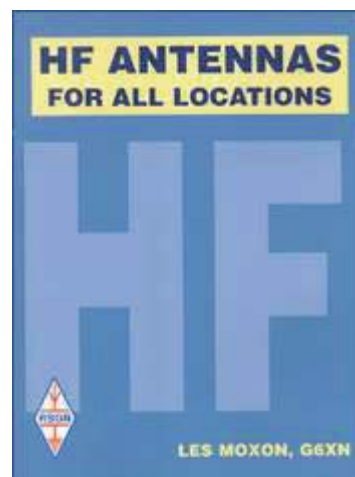
To be a lert you must be constantly aware of the things around you.

ONE OF THE FRUITS of our MOXON ALERT PROGRAM was *The Moxon Antenna!* It will be familiar to many of our amateur radio fans but it was new to us! It was invented by Les Moxon, aka g6xn, who literally wrote the book on it.



The Moxon Antenna has a number of websites dedicated to its users worldwide. This from one of them:

"The Moxon antenna can provide hams with an excellent antenna system that is easy to homebrew and usually does not require any adjustment if made according to the dimensions specified by software... A typical Moxon rectangle can be built in a few hours, using X or H type of spreaders made from bamboo, fiberglass, pvc or a variety of other materials."



Les died in 2004. We printed our own obituary to him in MM38, and we print below Les's obituary from the ARRL Letter, Vol. 23, No. 12 on March 20, 2004 by kind permission of the Editor.

Leslie A. Moxon, G6XN, SK:

Leslie A. "Les" Moxon, G6XN, of Surrey, England, died March 3. He was 95 and among the oldest Amateur Radio operators in the UK. Licensed in 1928, Moxon was well-known among the amateur community for his writings on antennas, in particular his 1982 book *HF Antennas for All Locations*, now in its second edition. ARRL antenna specialist Dean Straw, N6BV, called Moxon a "radio pioneer" and said he'd been a fan of his work for years.

"His insights into the effects of terrain were one of the factors that got me interested years ago in this aspect of HF radio work," Straw said. During World War II Moxon was involved in top-secret work to develop radar. He worked for the government as a radio specialist after the war, retiring in 1969.

ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, said Moxon's book "set the standard for practical antenna books and remains a classic."



Moxon's son, David, recalls that his father's gardens grew antennas the way others grew plants and shrubs, and a new antenna design was always taking shape. "He always liked to live on the top of a hill--good for propagation of radio waves," he said. "And when moving to their final house in Hindhead, real estate agents were bemused to be asked about 'the long path to Australia.'"

Moxon authored a July 1952 QST article, "Two-Element Driven Arrays." Several other of his articles appeared during the 1970s and 1980s in *Ham Radio* magazine. "A 6 Meter Moxon Antenna" by Allen Baker, KG4JJH, is among the antenna articles featured in April 2004 QST.

In later years, Moxon developed an interest in theology, and he was not active on the air in the months prior to his death. A service was held March 10. Survivors include his wife Nancy and his son.

A contributor to the web site wrote this comment on Leslie's obituary:

Les and Nancy came out to Tucson AZ in the mid 80's and I had a chance to meet them. What gracious intelligent people. Les was so far ahead of me technically but never reminded me of it. His work with RADAR during the war might have changed the outcome, but he never mentioned it. The radio world is richer for his contributions and poorer with his passing. RIP.

Reginald Stewart Moxon (1875-1950)

An autobiographical note

What follows is a transcription of an autobiographical note written by, and in the handwriting of, Reginald Stewart Moxon, an uncle of Jimmy Moxon the esteemed founder of the Moxon Society. The original was found in the archives of the Society after Jimmy's death.

R S Moxon begins with his birth in 1875 and ends with the death of his father in 1926. Moxon was to live another 24 years, a period not covered in his note. His obituary in *The Times* is used here in an attempt to fill this gap:

Death Announcement

From the *Church Times*, 3 February 1950:

MOXON – On January 29, at Dunraven, Ryde, Isle of Wight, the Rev. Reginald Stewart Moxon, Headmaster of Lincoln School (1911-29), Vicar of East Cowes (1929-37), All Saints', Ryde (1937-45), Hon. Canon of Portsmouth Cathedral since 1935.

Obituary

From *The Times*, 1 February 1950:

Canon Reginald Moxon, D.D., whose death at his home at Ryde, Isle of Wight has already been briefly reported [*The Times* 31 January 1950], though not a prolific writer, had a considerable reputation as a theologian.

The son of Mr. George Moxon, of Warrington, he was educated at Manchester Grammar School and Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, where he took a first in Part I of the Classical Tripos in 1897, and, having won the Steele Studentship in Theology in 1898, he took a second in Part II of the Theological Tripos of 1899. In that year he was ordained to a curacy at Stockton Heath and appointed classical master at Warrington Grammar School, where he remained until 1905, when he joined the teaching staff of King's School, Canterbury.

He was already beginning to make some reputation as a theologian by his published work on the Apocryphal Gospels, which was enhanced by his contributions to *Smith's Dictionary of the Bible* in 1908, the year in which he proceeded to the degree of B.D., but the busy life of a form master did not give him sufficient opportunity to indulge in the study required for the larger work which he contemplated. Fortunately, in 1911 the headmastership of the small school at Lincoln, an old religious foundation closely associated with the

Cathedral, fell vacant and his appointment to the post gave him the opportunity and atmosphere which he sought. He retained the post until 1929, and it was at Lincoln that his best work was done.

The first result was his treatise on Vincent of Lérins, which was published in 1915, a work of much insight and erudition, and some seven years later he issued a critical and historical investigation into the view of the concept of sin held in early Christian, medieval, and modern times. In 1924 there appeared in the "Living Church" series, edited by Professor McFadyen, a volume on modernism and orthodoxy in which Dr Moxon, who had proceeded to the degree of D.D. some two years earlier, returned to his earlier Vincentian studied in a more popular style. When he retired from Lincoln he was appointed Vicar of East Cowes, and in 1937 vicar of Ryde, from which post he retired in 1946. He has been an honorary canon of Portsmouth and Proctor in Convocation since 1935 and examining chaplain to the Bishop of Portsmouth.

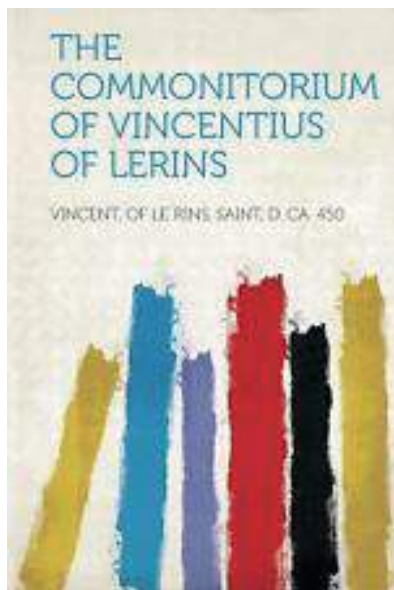
He married Ina Mary, daughter of Mr. R. W. Rowson. There were two sons and a daughter of the marriage.

The autobiography

I, Reginald Stewart Moxon, was born on June 19th 1875 at Tollington Park College, London, of which school my father was Headmaster. My parents, George and Martha Moxon, had four children, two sons and two daughters, Ethel Annie, Reginald Stewart, Thomas Allen [Jimmy Moxon's father], and Eliza Agnes Ryle. I was, therefore, their eldest son. Up to the age of fourteen I was privately educated by my father, who gave both my brother and myself an excellent grounding both in mathematics and classics. We both took readily to mathematics and before we went to school had mastered the elements of Arithmetic Algebra and Geometry to such an extent that those subjects never gave us any trouble in later years. I well remember the zeal and care with which my father taught us in his spare time; an early riser himself, he frequently prevailed upon us to get up a

Continued on page 6

Reginald Stewart Moxon



Cover of one of RS Moxon's books.

considerable time before breakfast so that he might give us an hour's tuition before the duties of the day began. But it was to Latin and Greek that my mind at a very early age was particularly attracted, and it was in that direction that the lines of my subsequent development were drawn. Our early training in these subjects also was

given to us by my father, who in sympathy, patience, and lucidity of instruction was to my mind as a teacher unsurpassed. My progress, however, before we left London, suffered one serious hindrance. From my thirteenth to my fourteenth birthday while we lived in Hornsey I was afflicted with a disarrangement of the digestive organs, so serious as nearly to prove fatal. The trouble, however, was gradually overcome, owing doubtless to the recuperative powers of youth aided by the skill and attention of our London physician, Dr. Goddard, and the unceasing care and tender nursing of my devoted mother.

In the year 1890, when I was turned 15, the family left London and removed to Manchester where my brother and myself were placed at the Manchester Grammar School under Dr [Michael George] Glazebrook and later under Mr J[ohn] E[dward] King. There I remained till 1894 under the excellent tuition of such masters as Mr Withers (late Professor of Education at Owen's College [now the University of Manchester]) Mr Carter and Mr Broadhurst whose names will not quickly fade from my memory. During this period we resided at Didsbury – a suburb of Manchester – in a large and charming house where my mother's last three years were spent. For on reaching Manchester after a life of self-sacrifice and devotion to others she began gradually to decline, her

illness being aggravated by three of the coldest winters I remember, and on October 28th 1893 she died and was buried with her parents at Prestbury, near Macclesfield. Twelve months after her death I went to Cambridge where I spent five years studying Classics and Theology.

Amongst the friends I made there were J. D. Nairn (now Headmaster of Merchant Taylors' School and my brother-in-law for in my rooms at Caius College he first met my sister), E. C. Quiggin (now Professor of Celtic at Cambridge) and W. F. Whitton.

My academic distinctions at Cambridge include an open scholarship, a First Class in the Classical Tripos (1897) and a Second Class in the Theological Tripos, Part II (1899). Here let me say that it is impossible to estimate how much I owe in my early training and my expensive education since to my father's care, his moral and spiritual instruction and his unfailing self-denial where the welfare of his children was concerned.

From the time that my mother died we spent most of our holidays at Clayton-le-Moors, Lancashire, where my uncle, Canon Johnson, was Vicar and Rural Dean. There we were always welcome and found a second home. In fact, the loss of our mother was softened and in a sense repaired by the care and affection bestowed upon all four of us by my aunt, Elizabeth Harriet Johnson who has ever been to us all a mother in all but name.

In the year 1899 I accepted the Senior Classical Mastership at Warrington Grammar School where I remained until the year 1905. But my desire for years past had been not only to follow in my father's footsteps as a schoolmaster but also above all to be a Clergyman. Accordingly in December 1899 on S. Thomas' Day, I was ordained Deacon in Chester Cathedral, being chosen by the Bishop from the candidates of that year to read the Gospel. The only member of my family who was able to be present on that memorable occasion was my brother. A year later I was admitted to the Priesthood. Thus I combined with my scholastic duties the work of a Parish Priest, preaching regularly every Sunday, first at Stockton Heath, then at Northenden, and later on, as one of the Bishop's special clergy, at different

Reginald Stewart Moxon

Churches in Cheshire as need and occasion arose. In spite, however, of the arduous duties of my two-fold work, I found opportunity while at Warrington for foreign travel. The importance of this as an educational factor has long been recognised. During that period, therefore, I visited not only many countries of Europe including the Classical Cities, Athens and Rome, but also Egypt, Palestine, Asia Minor and the Isles of Greece.

Two events of paramount importance occurred during this period. One was a serious cycling accident in the year 1900 which very nearly proved fatal. My sister Ethel, then married to Dr Nairn, Headmaster of Merchant Taylors' School, came over to nurse me, and after being confined to bed for three weeks in a precarious condition, I was, by the mercy of God, restored to health and strength again in time to take priest's orders in December of that same year, thus fulfilling at once my own ambition and my father's long-cherished wish.

The other great event was my meeting with my future wife, Ina Mary Rowson. This incident alone makes my period in Warrington stand out as one of the most momentous in my life, for from December 7th 1904 when we first became engaged, to the present day our union has been one of unmingled blessing and happiness to me.

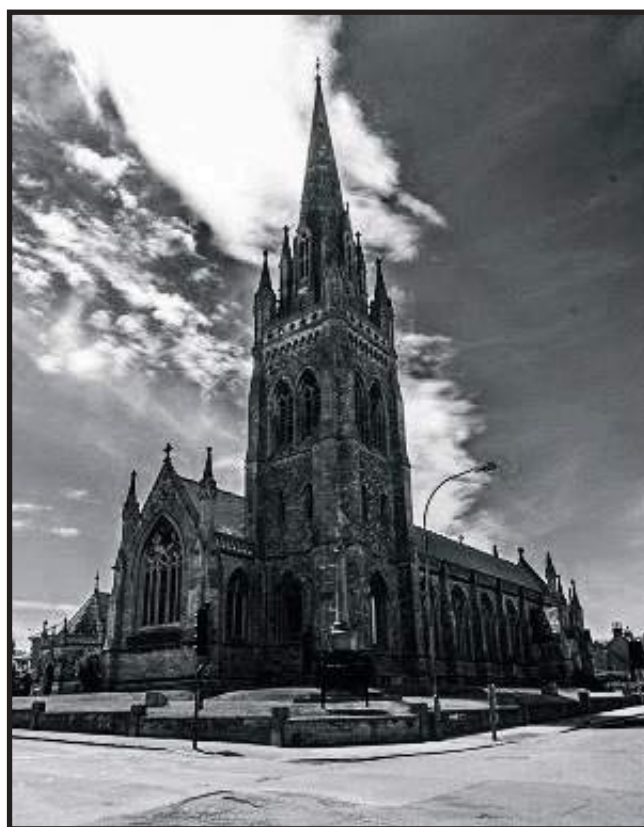
In April 1905, soon after returning from the East, I was appointed Sixth Form Master at King's School, Canterbury, where I spent seven of the most valuable and happy years of my career. For the first three years I was a resident master, living in the Green Court under the shadow of the Cathedral, and under Dr Galpin I learnt many valuable lessons as to the traditions and conduct of a good English Public School. During this time I wrote a Latin Dissertation on the Apocryphal Gospels for which I was awarded the degree of Bachelor of Divinity at Cambridge. I followed this up by a series of articles for Murray's Dictionary of the Bible including one on "Gnosticism" showing how far that fourth-century heresy is foreshadowed in the New Testament.

On April 22nd 1908 I was married to Ina Mary Rowson at St Anne's, Soho, London W.C., and in the delightful house where we lived at Canterbury – Vernon Villa on

Vernon Place – my sons, Martin Stewart and Gerald Richard, were born.

During this period I had many appreciative letters written to me by the Headmaster, Dr Galpin, with regard to the work I was doing with the scholarship boys in the Sixth Form. But the results of my labours were perhaps best seen in the numerous open Classical scholarships and exhibitions at Cambridge and Oxford gained by pupils of mine.

Nor were my ordination vows neglected by me during these three years. From the day I was married to the day I left Canterbury I preached two and very often three or even four sermons a Sunday. Not only did I regularly take duty in the morning at Patricbourne, a village three miles from Canterbury, and in the evening at Ickham, a village five miles away, but it fell to my lot to preach in School Chapel three times a term and occasionally I was invited to occupy the



All Saints' Church, Ryde where Canon Reginald Moxon was vicar from 1937–1946. A memorial plaque on the church wall reads: "TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN GRATITUDE FOR THE LIFE AND WORK OF CANON REGINALD STEWART MOXON, D. D. 1875 - 1950 "R. I. P.

Continued on page 8

Reginald Stewart Moxon

pulpit in the Cathedral itself. And on the preparation of my sermons I bestowed particular pains and care, for it was my highest ambition to excel as a preacher, as my Uncle had done before me, and this wish was not from any desire for self-glorification, far from it! but because I knew that whatever talent I had in that respect was capable of being vastly improved and that my influence and power of doing good would by that means immeasurably increase.

Two years before we left Canterbury I obtained a motor bicycle and side-car which enabled my wife and myself to get about the country a good deal and see much more of the "Garden of England" than would otherwise have been possible. In this we used constantly to visit Margate, Folkestone and other sea-side places on the Kent coast, thus adding very considerably to the pleasure of our holidays. In the year 1910 my Uncle, Canon Johnson, died. He had by this time resigned the living of Clayton-le-Moors and was staying with my brother the Vicar of Alfreton, Derbyshire. There my Aunt continued to live after Canon Johnson's death.

During this period I went abroad several times, visiting Brussels, Lisbon, Madeira and Paris, the latter place chiefly for the purpose of collating some Latin manuscripts of a Theological work by Vincentius written in the fifth century A.D.

On December 4th 1911 I was elected out of 150 applicants to succeed Mr F. H. Chambers as Headmaster of Lincoln School and entered on my new duties in January 1912.

This ancient and important Public School, in spite of its magnificent buildings, had gone steadily down under the late headmaster, so much that at the time of my appointment there were only 56 boys on the books and one boarder.

On June 14th 1914 a little girl was born to us, Gwenyth Enid, and was baptised by the Subdean in the cathedral.

In August of that year the Great War with Germany broke out. Our beautiful school buildings were commandeered as the Fourth Northern Hospital. Temporary buildings were

erected for the school and an adjacent house named Coldbath House was used as our residence. This migration and uncertainty as to the date and condition of return might be expected to have acted as a handicap to the growth and organisation of the school but in spite of all difficulties the increase in numbers was steadily maintained and we returned to our own buildings in 1920 with 200 boys, 43 being boarders. While we were at Coldbath House my edition of *Vincentius of Lerins* was produced and published in 1916 by the Cambridge University Press.

In 1920 Martin went away to a Preparatory school at Deganwy under Captain Lloyd. In 1922 I completed a book entitled "*The Doctrine of Sin*" which was published by Allen and Unwin Ltd for which I was awarded the degree of D.D. by Dublin University. On February 28th Ina and I went over to Dublin to have the degree conferred. The ceremony was very impressive and as I stood there in my scarlet robes I achieved an honour never before attained by a member of our family.

In September 1923 Martin went to Shrewsbury School where my brother was a master.

In 1924 we all went to the Riviera at Easter and stayed at Mentone and later in the same year another book of mine was published by Jas Clarke and Co entitled "*Modernism and Orthodoxy*" to which the Bishop of Lincoln wrote a Foreword.

In 1925 I reached the age of 50 by which time I had saved £12,000 invested in gilt-edged securities though as my father was still living I had no money left to me. I was glad to feel that whatever happened my children would not be left penniless.

In 1926 my father who had been failing through old age for some time died at Yarmouth where he had retired to live near the sea with his sister my Aunt Hannah. The end came suddenly on the morning of Monday June 14th. Allen and I went over to Yarmouth for the funeral and I took the committal service in Gorleston Cemetery.

***Transcribed and edited by Graham Jagger
Leicester September 2016***

Tree Guardians News

A report was given to **the AGM** stating that much of the work in the last year has been concerned with consolidating and building on the tremendous expansion of the database in 2015. By ensuring that information is recorded consistently, we have been able to create a much more usable Index to all the entries in the database, and we can now check more easily which Tree a new member might belong to.

The research programme has continued to expand. We have added more Trees to the system as we have encountered sheets of information that John Moxon Hill had not finished processing and as new members have joined.

The statistics (with last year's figures in brackets) are as follows: 44 Trees (39) are now looked after by 20 (19) Tree Guardians and at the end of June contained 17,135 entries (13,430). Only five small Trees (10) do not currently have a Tree Guardian.

At the Leicester gathering:

The AGM recommended to the Moxon Research Trust that Tree Guardians should be able to reclaim expenses incurred in the reproduction of documents to reimburse Guardians for the charges made by archives such as local Records Offices or the British Library for reproducing documents. Such documents would then become the property of the Society and should either be added to one of the Society's Family Trees or passed to Chris for adding to the Society's archives. There is a limit of £500 for these expenses in the next year and the whole system will be reviewed at the next AGM.

The Society has agreed to create a Research Archive Website to make information more accessible and more easily updateable. Three sections are proposed at present: the revised Wills Archive; the Index of individuals on Moxon Trees; and the Index to the Moxon Magazine – which is at present only for the first 50 issues and is only available in a printed format. This website will be designed and created within the next few months. However the Index of the Magazines is unlikely to be added before the issue of Magazine number 60 next autumn. Chris emphasised the importance of any copies of wills that members find being passed on to him so that these can be added to the archive.

Val questioned why the Society only uses Y chromosome DNA testing. Graham explained this was for historical reasons but he agreed that other types of testing may now be appropriate in some circumstances. It was agreed that Val and (subject to her agreement) Marlene Hamilton would take an Autosomal DNA test at the Society's expense and pass the results to Graham for evaluation. This might enable us to test the validity of the recent merger of MX63 and MX42.

Philip confirmed that the new owners of Family Tree Maker would be continuing with FTM which would continue to be linked to Ancestry and thus provide a back-up to the Ancestry records.

Since the Gathering in Leicester The Wills Archive has been augmented by a significant number of wills that have recently been released by Find My Past – particularly a number of Australian wills dating from the late 19th and early 20th century. The total number of wills is now 284.

Val has raised the question of copyright. Are wills public documents? When do they become historical documents? My personal feeling is that wills should not be entered into Trees unless all the beneficiaries are dead (or have agreed for it to be put on this website). This restriction would not apply, I feel, for wills being entered on to the Society archive which, even when it has been put on to the Research Archive website, is not accessible to the public. But other views on this would be welcome.

Chris Moxon

THE SOCIETY WAS VERY SAD

to hear of the death in early September of **Warren Eastwood**, the husband of Margaret who was the sister of our founder, Jimmy Moxon. A full obituary will be posted in the next magazine.

A diarist ...and an ejected minister!

MIKE MOXON sent a link to the complete set of diaries, 1831 to 1880, by a Samuel Hirst. Our interest is that Mr Hirst, a farmer in Kellington, North Yorkshire, mentions a Moxon virtually every week. Mike is busy trawling through the diaries but here are the first and last entries mentioning a Mr Moxon:

1831

Saturday 22 January

At Pontefract.

Bought 6 loads peas at 16/6 per lb of Mr Long of Birkin.

Mr Moxon told me that he would let me have barley for seed at 40/- per quarter if I liked next Saturday.

A very large flood.

Mr and Mrs Horncastle at Stubbs today, William and I have been at Pontefract, them both at our house all day.

1880

Saturday 16 October

At Kellington, a dull day.

Mrs Hirst at Pontefract.

7 ewes, 4 gimbers, total 81.

In the afternoon we lead a few loads of barley.

Paid at market 6d, 1/0, beef 5/6.

Paid for 12 pints champagne, R Moxon Esq ordered it for us, £1/15/0.

The full diaries can be seen on the Kellington Village website at <http://bit.ly/2dpyn1X> and of course we would be very interested to hear any more you know or can find about the Moxons of Kellington. Mike has added that the diarist seems to be have been a distant cousin of his mother, née Hirst, whose great great grandfather lived twenty miles from Kellington at the time.

MIKE also kindly submitted this note of the 'ejected' minister, The Revd George Moxon:

Congregationalists in Congleton trace their origins back to those dissenters who were forced out of the Established Church between 1660 and 1662. Before that time many shades of religious opinion had been permitted inside the Church of England, but with the Restoration of the Monarchy in 1660 came measures demanding the acceptance of the Thirty-Nine Articles, the government of the Church by a hierarchy of bishops and the use of the Prayer Book and vestments. About two thousand Puritan clergymen could not find it in their conscience to subscribe to these measures and as a result were ejected from their livings in 1662.

Amongst those ejected were the Revd Thomas Brook, minister of Congleton, and the Revd George Moxon, minister of Astbury, both of whom were forced to leave their livings in 1662. In spite of this they both continued to preach in private houses until 1672, when the laws

against non-conformists were relaxed and ministers were able to take out licenses to preach. Mr Moxon then moved to Congleton to a house by Dane Bridge where he preached for many years. By 1687 he had a large enough congregation to build a small meeting house.

In 1877 the Antrobus Street Church, where we still worship today, was opened. The building was described in glowing terms in a contemporary edition of the Congleton and Macclesfield Mercury as 'a fine edifice in the geometric Gothic style'. The paper also commented on the generous provision of lecture rooms and school rooms beneath the church for the service of the church and the community and this tradition of service and involvement with our surrounding community is one which we are delighted to be continuing with today.

From Mike Moxon

George Moxon 1602-1687 was the founding Minister of the Springfield (Massachusetts) Congregational Church; the story of his time in the USA has featured in previous magazines and this article is a reminder that his fascinating biography by Jane Micklethwaite has been published by the Moxon Family Research Trust and is available from our Bookshop on the Moxon Society website - at a very reasonable price! – Editor

Gravestone

IT ISN'T ONLY DUSTY RECORDS WE

SEARCH for information about our ancestors. Gravestones can be a mine of information if, like this one, they tell part of the story of a family, and sometimes of the age they lived in.

Gravestones can be beautiful artefacts in themselves: I particularly love the graceful flowing script lettering of this one, in Humberstone Cemetery, which identifies the final resting place of Joseph Iliffe. The calligraphy is continued in the flourishes throughout, though Joseph's wife Ann had to be content with plain lettering, albeit in capitals. The workmanship is breathtaking and very clearly painstaking: you wouldn't want to get to the last line and then spot a typographical error! I cannot spot the name of the sculptor: it may be on the reverse of the stone.

We can identify Joseph Iliffe who died in March of 1760 aged 65. He was the 6xGreat Grandfather of member **Harriet Cozens** to whom I am grateful for the photograph. His wife was his junior by some 21 years but predeceased him by seventeen months, dying in October 1758 aged just 42.

But this gravestone also marks the resting place of their daughter Mary. Mary died in 1751 aged just eleven years.

What did Mary die from? Were there brothers or sisters? I hope to glean more of this family's story from Harriet in due course.



*Gravestone of Joseph, Ann & Mary Iliffe.
Humberstone Cemetery
Photo by Harriet Cozens*

A Gravestone Project

I AM SO TAKEN with this example of a family story being recorded in part on a gravestone that I would very much like to make it a regular feature. So may I invite you to look up your family gravestones and send me a photo along with a short piece of family history? You can, of course, use the plaques you see in churches, or a war memorial with an ancestor's name (or, as happened too often, several family names...)

Editor

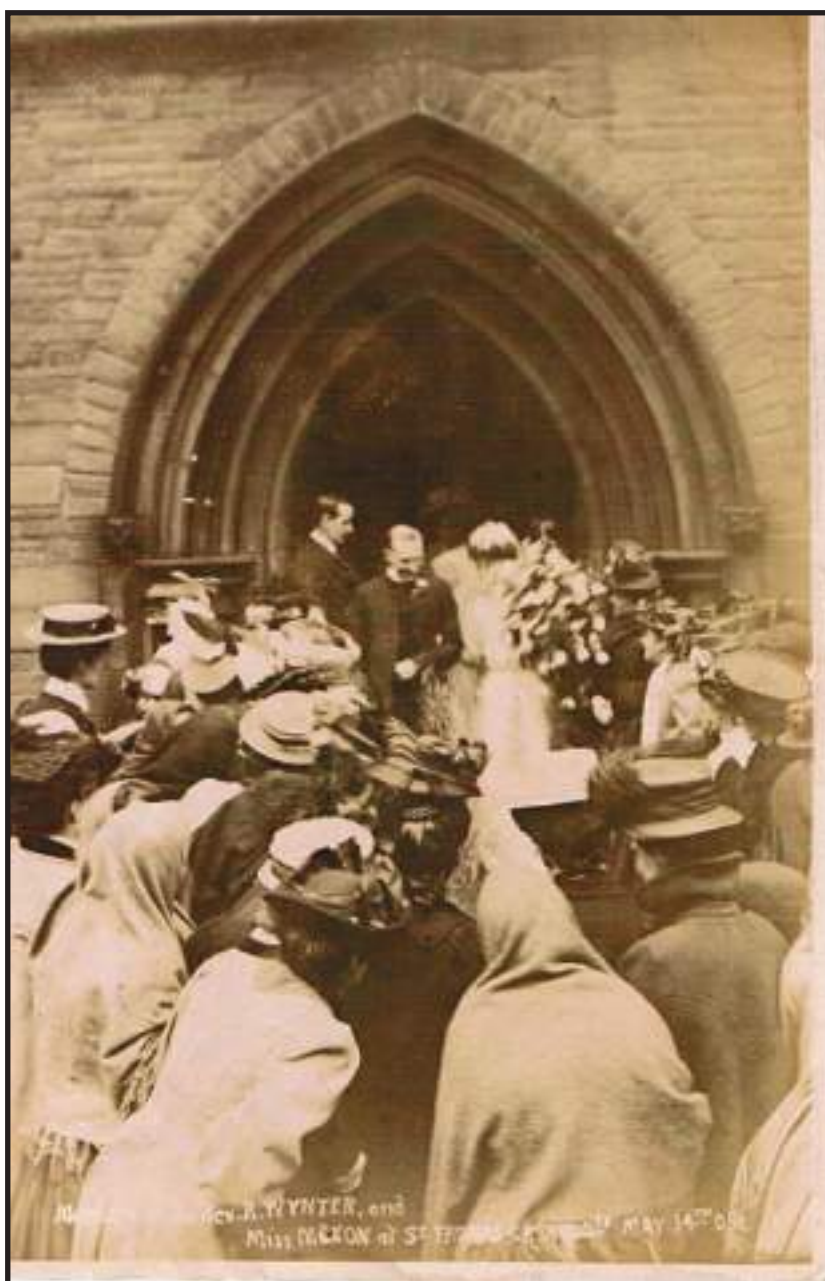
A movie quotation

From the 1999 film 'Varsity Blues'

Sam Moxon: I raised you to be a winner,
so dammit boy, win!

I OWE AN ENORMOUS APOLOGY to someone. Regrettably I don't know who. If it is you, please let me know so I can apologise properly and profusely...

IN THE DEBRIS of our recent house move and a more recent computer illness I found three emails containing this picture of a postcard and a note about the message on the back of it. But for reasons only known to the gremlins of computerdom all three emails were recorded as being addressed to me - but also as *from* me when they were clearly from him or her to whom I owe the apology. But I've published this piece anyway as an apology, and because it is a fascinating conundrum which, as always, offers an opportunity to ask members' help in unravelling it.



*The caption on the postcard reads:
Rev. R. Wynter and Miss Moxon at St
Thomas Ch Huddrd May 14th 08
And my correspondent wrote:*

Postally used from Huddersfield (stamp torn off) to Miss Winifred Price, 9 Rawlinson Road, Oxford with a somewhat cryptic message alluding to Church of England clergy.

'I thought this might interest you don't burn it as I want it back sometime for my collection. A.L. comes home to-day Mother is going Sun (Sunday?) woodhouse for a week - Emily is fetching her this afternoon so I shall be a widower. The V. (Vicar?) is well no attempt at a curate - is C???? L still at Barton Abbey - I will write a letter soon. Much love R'

There is no record of Rev R Wynter being Vicar of St. Thomas, but if you Google him and Huddersfield you will see three glass plate images relating to unemployed of Leicestershire including a note concerning 'Rev R Wynter, St Thomas Vicarage, Huddersfield' - strange!!

Enquiries about this wedding and its participants are ongoing, but if it rings any bells, wedding or otherwise, among our readers please let me know. Especially if this was your submission, please!

Dear Trevor,

I couldn't resist your heart-rending plea in the last magazine for story submissions, so I'm sharing a recent family revelation. And perhaps some more skilled sleuths may be able to tease out additional details!

I joined the society just earlier this year and was keen to get a look at MX27 and see what other family information I might find. It didn't take long to find evidence of a family embarrassment that had long been buried.



Photo: Wakefield Prison circa 1923

My grandfather Linn Moxon tells the story (yes, he still tells it, so I'm a lot younger than the average member!) of his grandfather Edwin, who at the age of eight found his father asleep on the garden path. Charles Moxon (1821-1864), a master wheelwright of Yorkshire, had in fact just suffered a massive heart attack. His widow Caroline (nee Dickenson) was just 30 years old and left to raise three children: Edwin (8), Charlotte (6) and William (1).

Linn had been led to believe that Caroline supported the family as a shopkeeper, but the truth is far more interesting. The family tree on Ancestry.com notes that at the time of the 1871 census, Caroline was a prison matron. At the next census in 1881, she was principal warder and living at HM County Prison in Love Lane, Westgate in Wakefield.

Her daughter Charlotte was aged 23 and living there too. The census lists her as the principal warder's daughter, but perhaps she was employed there too?

Edwin was 25 and living with his Uncle Richard Dickenson's family at 1 Rosenheath Villas, Highfield Rd, Stretford, Lancashire. He was working as a salesman of cotton goods.

Edwin was obviously a bright and ambitious man, and over the years climbed the company ladder to become a cotton buyer and eventually company director of Walter Laverton & Co. As a prosperous businessman, the fact of his mother having been a prison warder was probably considered only a little less embarrassing than her being an inmate.

Caroline died in 1890 in Huddersfield, aged 56. Edwin was 34 at the time and married to Charlotte Annie Hirst. When their children were born - Gladys Evelyn (1894), Gertrude Hilda (1896) and Harold Dickenson (1889) – it was probably

considered convenient and socially acceptable to let them think their late grandmother had been a shopkeeper. How disappointed they would be to know that 126 years later the secret is out and splashed all over the pages of the family magazine!

I do wonder what working conditions Caroline faced, and how tough she had to be to survive and be promoted, but there is little history available online about Wakefield Prison in Victorian times. There has been a prison on the site since the 1500s and in the mid-1800s it starting taking female inmates. A section known as the "new prison" was opened in 1849. In August 1865 there were a total of 1,372 prisoners in the jail - 1,176 men and 196 women. Today it is the largest high security prison in Western Europe.

Best wishes

Melissa Schwalger

Porirua, New Zealand

*My sincere thanks to **Dave & Melissa Schwalger** for their contribution to THE MOXON MAGAZINE! And they and I would love to hear from you "more skilled sleuths" if you can add anything to their tale.*

The Annual Moxo



***AS ALWAYS**, many of our delegates at the Annual Gathering, this year in Leicester, rushed to take a group shot and were kind enough to send me a copy for this issue of the Magazine. This left me with the annual dilemma: which photograph to choose? But it happens that this year was easy: this photo, by Philip Lord, in front of Leicester Cathedral is the only one in which everyone is actually facing the camera! See below! But it did allow me to include Philip pictured in colour in a different photograph (right), this one by Don Moxon,*



Moxon Gathering 2016



Moxon Society AGM

At the Annual General Meeting which was held during the course of the Leicester Gathering:

- 1/ The Treasurer reported that the finances remained healthy and there was no need for an increase in subscriptions.
- 2/ The Membership Secretary reported that the number of members was now 157 - a 5% increase on last year.
- 3/ Members agreed on a scheme for reimbursing Tree Guardians who were charged by Records Offices for the reproduction of documents.
- 4/ An improved Society Wills Archive will form part of a new Moxon Society Research Archive Website which is being set up and the Committee are working to revise and extend the Index of Magazine articles.

- 5/ Next year's Gathering will take place in Durham on September 8-10 2017.

Full details of the AGM have been sent to all Full Members (including Life Members and Patrons) – ***provided we have your current email address.***

If you are a Full Member and have NOT received by email within the last few weeks a bulletin which includes details about the AGM, please contact Chris Moxon (moxonchris@aol.com) with your current email address.

Moxons Down Under

James Moxham 1794-1848

Born in 1794, James Moxham was a son – probably the oldest – of Thomas and Sarah Moxham of Birmingham, baptised on 20th July, 1795.

In 1813, James joined the Foot Guard during the Napoleonic Wars.

This Moxham family established themselves as gunsmiths and later, maltsters and were upwardly mobile in Birmingham throughout the 19th century.

James' brother, Thomas (born 1804) was originally a gun stockman, then a gunsmith, and at his death was described as a gun manufacturer, leaving an estate of "less than £12,000" at his death in 1878. His son Thomas, a maltster was also wealthy, leaving just under the same amount.

However, in February 1819, James Moxham was convicted at the Northampton Assizes of uttering forged notes and transported to New South Wales for fourteen years. He arrived on the Prince Regent in early 1820 and was sent to Parramatta for 'distribution.' At one stage he was located at Port Macquarie, but returned to Sydney well before obtaining his ticket of leave in 1831. He was given a certificate of Freedom in early 1833 when his sentence expired.

By 1826, James had requested and been approved to marry another convict Diana Hughes, also known as Mary Anne Rycroft, a dressmaker from London who was sentenced to transportation for life, arriving on the Midas in 1825.

By 1829, he was working for a Mr Jennings in Castlereagh Street, making shoes for children with misshapen feet, and gaining an excellent reputation for such work. When he gained his certificate of freedom, he set up in his former calling as a gunsmith.

There is no NSW record of any children being born to James Moxham and his wife Diana/Mary Anne. It would appear that James died in 1848 in the Goulburn area, aged 55.

A Coat of Arms

... Well, a pocket, anyway!

OVER THE COURSE of the **2016 Moxon Gathering**, which by the way was most enjoyable in all its social and historical aspects: it was a great delight to meet members old and new. We heard the history of the finding of Richard III's body and its subsequent re-interment fascinatingly and well told at first hand by our guest speaker, The Revd Pete Hobson. Pete was Acting Canon Missioner at Leicester Cathedral during the time of the reburial and he is a Moxon Society member, nephew of our founder Jimmy Moxon.

But over the course of the weekend **Harriet Cozens** produced a blazer pocket bearing a coat of arms which Graham Jagger had assured her was the official coat of arms of the Moxon Family.



The blazer pocket

"But," I spluttered slightly, "It's nothing like the badges we wear and which adorn the Moxon Magazine..." And after a frantic web search the only apparent connection I could find with that badge was the Baker Family though quite why a baker would be flourishing arms was curious, and Harriet, who had done her own Google-search, agreed.

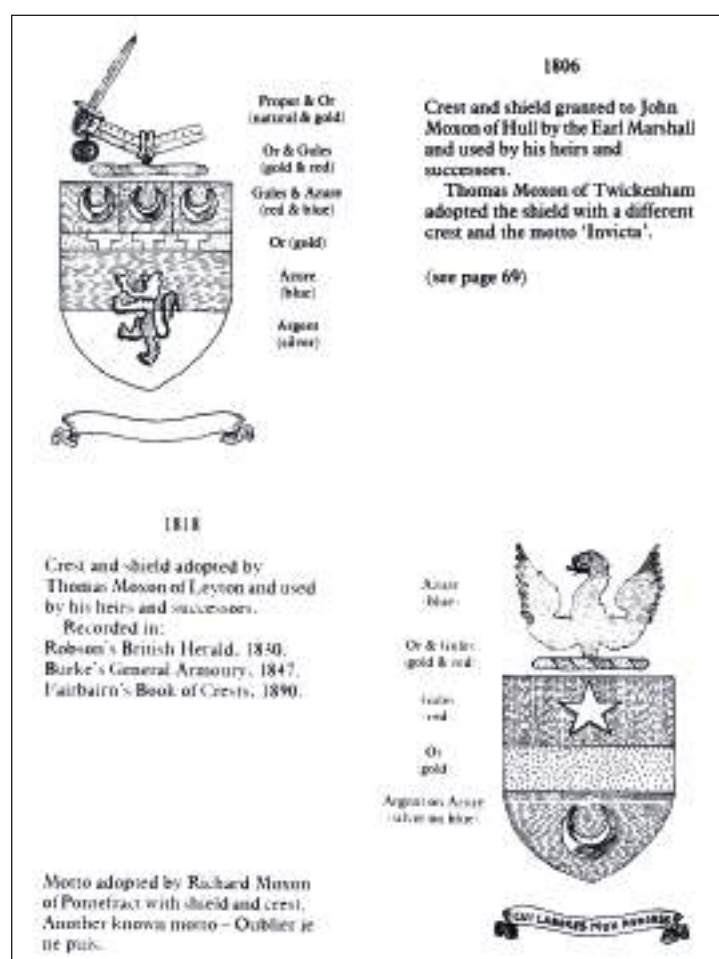
So later that week I fired off an enquiry to Graham Jagger: back came the reply, "*With reference to the picture of a bit of a coat of arms, note the similarity with the drawing in the top left hand corner of page 99 in **The Moxons of Yorkshire**. This shield is the only one lawfully used by a Moxon. I have it from the College of Heralds that the one at the bottom of the same page is bogus and has no lawful authority, but for the life of me I am currently unable to find their letter!*"

A Coat of Arms

Sadly I couldn't find my copy of *The Moxons of Yorkshire* which is still, I suspect, in an unpacked packing crate, but Graham kindly sent me a copy of page 99. And sure enough, there it was...

Except of course: it wasn't. Harriet's blazer pocket depicted an arm bearing an arrow while the illustration in *The Moxons of Yorkshire* shows a sword...

So Harriet's crest is not the Moxon crest, and seems likely to be a school crest: can anyone please identify it?



Copy of Page 99 of *The Moxons of Yorkshire*

And a call to arms...

DURING MY EXPLORATIONS of the arms and heraldic devices of the Moxon family I came upon much of interest, not least the whole world of heraldry, crests, arms, charges and the like. It's a whole new language which I will try to explore further, along with more general queries about the bearing of arms.

Graham Jagger's article in issue 12 of the *Moxon Magazine* showed clearly that Thomas Moxon of Leyton (1792 to 1869) was not entitled to use the arms adopted by him in or about 1818 "or indeed any other arms."

The arms in question, now used by the Society for our lapel badges, are described in *Burke's General Armory*: this from page 713 of the edition of 1884:

Moxon. Per fesse gu. and az. a fesse or, betw. a mullet in chief and a crescent in base ar.
Crest - A demi-eagle disp. Az

Source: *The General Armory of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales*.
Sir Bernard Burke, CR, LL.D
Ulster King of Arms (1884)



I can find no record in the *Moxon Magazine Index** of the John Moxon of Hull to whom was awarded the crest and shield in 1806. Any information would be gratefully received.

But there are multiple references to Thomas Moxon of Twickenham, 1760-1854 and father of Thomas of Leyton. He was a merchant banker and involved in certain financial scandals described in issues 31 and 44 of your Magazine.

* *The Moxon Magazine Index* covers issues 1-50, from April 1988 to October 2012. It was compiled by Chris Moxon and there are still copies of the print edition available. Chris is planning to update the layout of the Index to make it more accessible, and to extend the Index to include issue 60 when that is completed, and discussions are taking place about the possibility of making it available on a web site.

Editor

Editor's note

All genealogists occasionally struggle with making relevant connections in their family trees: see Chris Moxon's cautionary tale on this page where two potential entries into a tree shared not only a name but also a wife, an occupation and a daughter! A difficulty which might have been eased if the protagonists had only written an autobiography, like the inestimable Reginald Stewart Moxon (see page 6 et seq) or an aide memoire like (Philip) Simon Moxon (page 25 et seq)! It doesn't have to include high status events or great achievements, of course: it is the lives of ordinary people, otherwise unrecorded, which are so very difficult to discover.

So here's an idea: start writing your autobiography! Engage the help of friends and family, include as much detail as you can with photos or copies of key documents. Keep it safely and your genealogical descendants will bless and hallow your name forever!

What's in a Name?

Oh, the problems for genealogists when there was so little imagination in the choice of names.....!

In the tiny village of Treales in Lancashire in 1824/5 two boys were born to different families and were named Robert Moxham. Both these grew up and married a girl called Jane who was born in Preston. Both the Roberts described themselves in a census as a Pavier. Both Roberts and Janes had a daughter that they called Elizabeth – one Elizabeth was born in 1851 and the other in 1852 so in the 1861 census both were 8 years old.....

Now sort that one out!

Chris Moxon

Breaking News!

STOP PRESS – More Tree Mergers

After reviewing all the evidence - including the latest DNA tests - we have been able to merge MX01, MX02 and MX19.

This has created a new "Cawthorne Tree" (MX01 for short) which contains over 4,600 individuals (about 25% of our total database). Forty-four (28%) of our current members are related to the new MX01.

The head of the combined trees is John Moxon of Cawthorne who paid rates of 2½d in April 1550. The earliest known "father" of the Cawthorne Moxons is assumed to be Robert Moxon of Cawthorne who with his wife Margaret paid 4d Poll Tax in 1379. Unfortunately there are no records to take the tree that far back - yet!

The Tree Guardians for this new Tree are Mary Ann Moxon (moxop@aol.com); David Michael (davidrm80@gmail.com); Scott Moxon Hults (oldnavycapt@aol.com) and Chris Moxon (moxonchris@aol.com).

More details will appear in the next issue.

Chris Moxon

Tuberculosis

At the beginning of the 20th century, tuberculosis was one of the UK's most urgent health problems. A royal commission was set up in 1901, and by 1919 this Commission had evolved into the UK's Medical Research Council. After it was proved, towards the end of the 19th century, that the disease was contagious, TB was made a notifiable disease in Britain; there were campaigns to stop spitting in public places, and the infected poor were pressured to enter sanatoria that resembled prisons. Whatever the purported benefits of the fresh air and rest in the sanatoria, 50% of those who entered were dead within five years, according to a recent study.

Chris Moxon has been researching his father, Harold's, early life. After serving in the army during the First World War Harold had just completed his training as a dentist when he started to feel unwell...

On August 16th 1922 Harold was admitted to the Brompton Hospital Sanatorium in Frimley, Kent. There is no indication in any letters or journals as to the costs of what was to prove a lengthy stay at this isolation hospital, but some of these were probably covered by the health insurance that Harold had been careful to take out when he was in London. It is also possible that, if, as family tradition relates, he was working in Guy's Hospital when he was first diagnosed with tuberculosis, that this hospital may have covered some of the costs.

The only treatment at this time for tuberculosis was bed rest and plenty of fresh air. Six years later, Harold's best friend from London, Jack Herwood, contracted TB and died, and Harold's future wife's uncle also died from the same disease.

A few years before the War, the Daily Mail published an article from a patient about life in a consumptive sanatorium. Harold must have experienced much the same when he entered Frimley.

"It is a consumptive sanatorium that I am in, and well I remember the fears and apprehensions with which I entered its doors six months ago. I pictured it a sort of combined lunatic asylum and reformatory...Now, of course, I know how foolish ...those apprehensions were.... The sanatorium certainly looked both cold and bare, but the stove glowed a red welcome in the big, empty hall....She [the matron] took me up to my room. Here I found both windows wide open, and was told they must be kept so both day and night, though they might be closed while I dressed or undressed if I liked...."

"As consumption is a wasting disease heavy feeding is obligatory. The patients are expected to eat what is given to them and the maids are not allowed to remove the plates until the portion is finished...Everyone is weighed on Saturday before breakfast....The doctor visits every patient, ill or well, three times a day, and tells them exactly what to do, whether to rest or to walk, and if the latter exactly how far to go. Patients who are "resting" lie out on long cane chairs."



Tuberculosis

Harold noted that for the first few months he only got up from his bed for four or five hours a day and he was to spend two long years in Frimley. He was clearly bored for a great deal of the time. He made up a card identifying the weaknesses of pyjama buttons with examples of their problems carefully stitched to it. But after the excitement of the previous six years – 2 years living in London, 2 years in the Army and 2 years training as a dentist - it is not surprising that he found his enforced idleness tedious.

Two letters that he wrote to his parents at Christmas 1922 have survived. In the first, written on December 23rd, he noted that

"There is a cinema show tonight, so I'm not getting up till 5o/c, so that I can go to it." He also noted that the patient in the bed next to him "is beginning to look a little better. His temp. is gradually coming down, but it is still fairly high, & he has night sweats still. Whenever I look at him it makes me feel glad I came here while the disease was in its early stages."

In a letter written three days later he described his Christmas Day.

"I could have gone down to the dining hall for dinner if I had liked, but I thought I should feel more at home in bed (I still feel awkward sitting at a table for a meal!), so I stayed in bed till 2.30, when I got up for the rest of the day."

"At 4.30 the party started & didn't finish till after 9 o/c!! For the only time in the year, the male & female patients were mixed. In the ordinary way, for church or concert, they sit one side & we sit the other. All the bed-patients (except three) in the place were there on couches, & they had brought down the girl in her bed that went to the last concert. Poor girl, they don't hold out any prospect of getting her off her bed till March: she has a T.B. hip." "The first item was afternoon tea (out of real cups & saucers). During this Dr Redman made himself busy introducing the men patients to the lady patients. He wanted to introduce me to one, but I pleaded four months' isolation from ladies' society as an excuse, so I was spared the ordeal." It seems surprising that a 23-year-old ex-army officer should be so shy, but clearly Harold was not used to female company.

The excitement of this party had repercussions. *"Today, however, I am not getting up because I have had a little coloured sputum this morning. It is only a very faint pink & the Dr says in all probability it will clear off during the day, but he has told me to stay in bed today, as a precaution."* Fortunately the doctor was correct and Harold was soon able to start getting up again.

On August 19th 1924, after two years in the Sanatorium, Harold was finally discharged and allowed to travel back to his parents' home. He was not regarded as being fully cured, and had to report to Frimley for inspections twice a year for the next twenty years. He was also told that he must abandon his ambitions to become a dentist and instead he became a market gardener. Nevertheless he was one of the lucky ones who survived his Frimley experience by fifty years.

Chris Moxon



The button samples survived!

Another gravestone enquiry

The Society was approached recently by **Madeleine Lewis** from New York who is researching the work of her father, the late Charles Lewis, who was a sculptor in London. She had a photograph from his workshop of a headstone that he had carved and wondered if we knew who Selina Jane Moxon was and where this headstone might now be.

I was able to reply that Selina Jane Moxon lived from 1863-1939. She died in Falmouth so we knew that she would have been buried near Falmouth and we soon found that she was buried in St Mawnan's which is a very small parish near there.

We don't seem to have much information about Selina herself except that she was the only child of Walter Moxon and his wife Selina (née Eckett) and she never married. Her father, Walter, however, was one of the leading physicians of his day and the first to recognise that multiple sclerosis was a specific disease. Sadly in 1886 he committed suicide by poisoning himself. His life

and death have been covered in previous articles in the Moxon Magazine.

Madeleine wanted to know whether this particular headstone was still in existence and what sort of condition it was in. Two of the Society's Tree Guardians said that they might be able to visit St Mawnan's to look for Selina Jane Moxon's gravestone. But Ann Benney, the Editor of *The Grapevine* – the magazine for the parishes of St Mawnan and St Michael's - came to our assistance.

With remarkable speed Ann was able to send us the photograph of Selina Jane Moxon's headstone as it stands (or rather leans) in St Mawnan's churchyard now. She noted that the lichen on Selina's stone was a rather different colour from that on other stones and wondered what was the material Madeleine's father used. I have duly passed all this on to Madeleine who is very grateful but she has been unable to solve the puzzle of the lichen's colour!

Chris Moxon



(Left) Selina's gravestone as it was in Madeleine's father's workshop. The inscription is the motto of Cardinal John Henry Newman (1801-1890). My translation (TJ) is **From shadows and imaginings into the truth.**

(Right) Selina's gravestone in the churchyard of St Mawnan, nr Falmouth. The inscription is still legible though the edges and surface are naturally worn.

In a postscript: the editor of the St Mawnan Parish Magazine, who kindly took this and other photos on the Society's behalf remarked that most of the lichens in their churchyard were green while those here are a golden yellow. All the stones seem to be of granite: do we have a lichenologist among our readers who can comment?

Ann Moxon of Little Downham

and Her Descendants

Ann Moxon was born in 1807 near Little Downham, Cambridgeshire, daughter of Richard and Ann (Baley) Moxon. On 26 Apr 1824, she married William Robinson in Downham. She died in 1889 in Emmet County, Iowa, USA.

Ann and William's son Thomas was born in 1825 and died in 1827 at age 1. He was buried at St. Leonard's church in Little Downham. Their daughter Rebecca Ann was born in 1827 and died in 1888 in Emmet County, Iowa, USA. Their daughter Eliza was born about 1839 and died in 1849 near Wisbech, Cambridgeshire.

Sometime between 1839 and 1841, Ann's husband William Robinson disappeared from the Little Downham records and no reliable evidence of his origins nor his whereabouts after that has yet surfaced.

Ann and her children were living with Jarvis Barker in Little Downham where Ann was his housekeeper according to both 1841 and 1851 census records.

In 1844, John Martin 'Robinson' was born to Ann Robinson's only surviving child, 17 year-old Rebecca Ann Robinson and John Martin in Little Downham. John appears as 'adopted' by Jarvis Barker in the 1851 census. He used the name "Barker" for the rest of his life. No record of a marriage between Rebecca Ann Robinson and John Martin has yet been found.

In 1848, Rebecca Ann was married to James Brooker Pullen of East Garston, Hungerford, Berkshire. James was then working in Manea, Cambridgeshire as a railway labourer in 1841 and later, as a "Plait Layer" in 1851.

James was a veteran of the 72nd Highlanders Regiment of foot (infantry) (1841-1844). James was proud of having served at Windsor Castle in 1842 where Albert Edward, Prince of Wales, later King Edward VII, was christened.

In Manea, James and Rebecca had four sons, James (1849), George (1851), Henry (1852) and Joseph (1854). James perished in 1851 and according to family lore, he and a group of children were playing near the railroad tracks when a passing train threw a glass shard that embedded itself into his jugular and he bled to death. He is buried in Manea Parish, Cambridgeshire.

In 1855, The Jarvis Barker and the James Pullen families emigrated, embarking from Liverpool aboard the ship "Conquerer" and disembarking at the port of New York on 8 May. They proceeded to the Rome area in north central New York state where they lived for about six months.

In 1856 they traveled on to Monroe County, Wisconsin to settle near the town of Angelo where they would farm for 13 years. During this

time, James and Rebecca had four more children, Thomas (1856), Warren (1858), Angeline (1860) and Alice (1862).

In 1869 The Pullen and Barker families moved to the raw open prairie of Emmet County, Iowa, often called the "Iowa wilderness". The nearest trading center was Fort Dodge, a three day journey to the southeast. There were no railroads nearby until 1882, so resupply trips were taken with oxen, wagons and/or horses.

This was a mere 12 years after a tragic massacre by American indians of earlier settlers at Spirit Lake just twenty miles to the west, and only a year after a large invasion of blackbirds had destroyed so many of the grain crops that there had not been enough left to supply the settler's food needs, forcing them to subsist on fish and potatoes for the winter.

The families occupied tracts of land located on the western part of section 26 in Estherville Township, a couple of miles south of the settlement near Fort Defiance that would, in 1881, become the city of Estherville.

Initially, the families built crude log structures to live in, using little or no metal hardware, to get them by until milled lumber became available and proper dwellings could be built. They plowed with oxen and raised grain crops and hay.

In 1870, Ann (Moxon) Robinson Barker was an organizer of the Free Will Baptist Church in Estherville. The church was a part of a strong local temperance movement. In 1872, there were two saloons in Estherville. By 1874, they had been driven out of town. After that, no saloons existed in the city of Estherville for at least 10 years. Temperance was a hot topic in town until after the cessation of prohibition in 1933 and can still be seen reflected in the small number of saloons in Estherville.



Photo by Al's mother, Phyllis Irish

Ann Moxon of Little Downham

In 1873 and again in 1876-77, plagues of grasshoppers destroyed the crops and livelihood of many families in Emmet County. A lot of farmers sold their property for what they could get and moved on to better climes, but the Moxon descendants persevered and ultimately prospered.

Ann's grandson George Pullen accompanied the families and farmed all his life, succumbing to a heart attack while he was milking his cow in 1924. He was known as a quiet hard-working man exemplifying the sturdy and stoic uprightness characteristic of the prairie pioneers. George's son Glenn served in the US expeditionary force during World War One. Of George's six children, Glenn was the only one to suffer a non-tragic death.

Ann's grandson Henry Pullen farmed for many years near Estherville and after a long illness, passed away in 1921. In 1890 his stalwart nature expressed itself when a horse fell on him and severely injured his foot. He very soon recovered more through sheer will than medicine. He is remembered as one of Estherville's pioneer citizens and a highly respected and honored man.

Ann's Grandson Joseph Pullen, better known as "Joe", contracted a severe case of lung fever (pneumonia) in March 1890 while working with an ice gang at Spirit Lake, Iowa removing and storing ice for use during the coming summer. He succumbed to a hemorrhage caused by the disease in June. At his funeral, the church was crowded to overflowing so many were obliged to go away which showed how universally he was respected.

Ann's grandson Thomas Pullen operated a farm near Estherville. He was a veteran of the Spanish-American war where he served with Company "K". 52nd regiment. He was very active with the Boy Scouts organization. Among the school children and the boy scouts their "Tom" was always held in the highest esteem. He died of a heart attack in 1929.

Ann's granddaughter Angeline – better known as "Angie" was a well-known and respected schoolteacher in Estherville, Platteville, Wisconsin and in Indiana.

Ann's granddaughter Alice lived with her sister Angie for a time after their parents passed away. After marriage, she lived in Plover, Iowa until her death in 1930.

Ann's grandson Warren Pullen was a founding member of the Estherville fire department in 1884. He was active in political affairs in the county and had well formed opinions on public questions and had no fear in expressing them. For eleven years the voters of the county honored him with the office of county sheriff. He was well-known over the state as the sheriff who brought law violators to justice. He was also elected County Supervisor and deputy fish commissioner after his duties as sheriff. In 1904, a rifle held by Sheriff Pullen was accidentally discharged in his office, the bullet tearing a two inch hole through a ten inch wall, embedding in one of the law books in the bookcase standing near the county courtroom wall next door, barely missing the clerk of courts. After that, sheriff Pullen laid down new rules governing firearms in his

office! In 1908, his son Percy barely escaped death when he was run-over by one of those new-fangled automobiles starting to appear in town. Warren had three sons serving in World War One, which worried him greatly and contributed to his deteriorating health. He was recognized as man of exceptional habits and a gentleman in every respect. He died of Bright's (kidney) disease in 1919.

Ann's Grandson John Martin (Robinson) Barker farmed alongside his father and mother's families south of Estherville until 1886. He served for several years as a member of the school board of the town and also served several years as a member of the town council. From 1872-1878 he was elected as county clerk. From 1878-1882, he was elected as surveyor. In 1887, John was a member of the founding board of directors for the Estherville State Bank. From 1885-1893 he was elected as county treasurer. In 1889, John was a founding member for the Oak Hill Cemetery Association in Estherville, where his grandmother Ann (Moxon) Robinson Barker is buried. Then for a few years he worked as assistant and clerk in various county offices. From 1902-1910, He was deputy county auditor. He was member of the Board of Trustees of the local Baptist church for many years, first as a Trustee of the Free Will Church and then when the two Baptist churches united. John Barker's 1916 obituary in Emmet County, Iowa does not specify his parents by name and identified the surviving children of James and Rebecca Pullen as his 'brothers' and 'sisters'.

When Ann Moxon Robinson Barker died in 1889, her obituary referred to eight grandchildren (the eight children of Rebecca Pullen) and her husband without naming them. No marriage record for a marriage to Jarvis Barker has yet been located in the UK or in the US.

Ann's gravestone in the Barker family plot in Oak Hill Cemetery in Estherville says 'Ann Moxon' whilst her husband's simply says 'Jarvis', reflecting the importance the family placed on the Moxon connection.

Hundreds of descendants of Ann Moxon exist in the USA, where many are still living in Emmet County, Iowa as well as having propagated to the far corners of the nation.

Ann and her descendants figure prominently in the newspapers of Estherville and Emmet County from their arrival in 1869 until the present day. Searches for family members and their spouses turn up thousands of newspaper citations ranging from insignificant social events and gossip to political, military, business and major life events. These Moxon descendants had and continue to have a significant and long-lasting influence on the settling and development of some of the richest farmland in North America.

Al Tírevold
August 2016

Obituary: Philip Simon Moxon (1935-2016)

The following is an email from Margaret Moxon of Clayfield, Queensland, Australia, informing us of the death of her husband Philip Sion but always known as Simon. Amongst his papers Margaret found detailed advice about his memorial service, and also what he titled his 'Aide Memoire' to help any eulogist at his funeral. We reproduce Margaret's email and Simon's aide memoire with Margaret's kind permission.

Moxons all,

Apologies for taking so long to advise you of Simon's death but the past couple of weeks have been time consuming & difficult. His passing was a blessing as he had been so very frail all this year but he was at home until he went to hospital with a damaged hip & for that we are grateful feeling blessed that he is no longer suffering.

Simon's contributions to & membership of The Moxon Society & Moxons Downunder from their beginnings had great meaning for him. He was enormously proud of his heritage & we have made some surprising finds of ancient Moxon possessions in that 'locked green box' found deep in a remote cupboard.

We were also gobsmacked to find an entire file of hand written notes in the filing cabinet detailing his Memorial Service which we followed completely. Thus Monday's Thanksgiving Service at St Mark's Church, Clayfield (where he had been baptised over 80 years ago) was a real celebration of a good man laid to rest with wonderful music, several amusing tributes & with many family & friends in attendance.

Ever the Chartered Accountant to the end, I, now a mere spouse, will endure a steep learning curve as I discover the contents of that filing cabinet & come to grips with a finding a way through the labyrinth of information needed to keep myself & finances in good order.

With good wishes to you all,

Margaret

Margaret Moxon
PO Box 236
Albion Q 4010

Aide Memoire

Simon was the only child of Philip Handyside Moxon (Public Accountant) and Laura Isobel (nee Armstrong) and was born at 'Ingarfield' Hospital, Bonney Avenue, Clayfield on Guy Fawkes night, 5th November 1935. He was baptised on 26th April 1936 at St Mark's Church of England, Bonney Avenue, Clayfield. One of his godfathers was Sir Frederick Maze, the Inspector General of the Chinese Maritime Customs Services. Home was at Number 1 Bayview Terrace at the corner of Bonney Avenue.

Simon attended a kindergarten in Bonney Avenue and later Eagle Junction State School where his primary education was completed in 1949. During the preceding war years, rationing was imposed on most school needs and Simon was fortunate to receive 'hand me down' clothes from the Sydney cousins. Simon joined the '1st Clayfield' cubs and Boy Scouts – Green Six & Rhino patrol, as well as mowing the lawn, piano lessons and bike riding.

Summer holidays were often at Southport and Surfers Paradise which was starting to grow at an enormous rate. Simon also spent some holidays at the Bowman's property 'Ravensworth' at Barkers Creek, Nanango, where he increased his knowledge in grain growing, pig farming and many other pastoral pursuits. Travel to Nanango was by Glanvilles service car – quite an experience.

Simon's secondary education was at 'Churchie' (CEGS) where he boarded for his first two years. Simon together with many other students swam the traditional 'pocket king' event. He also joined the 'Churchie' army cadet corps in the

Aide Memoire

signals platoon. On completion of his senior year, Simon decided to follow the path to qualify as a Chartered Accountant and found himself at the door of Cooper Brothers Savage & Co at 8am on 4th January 1954 ready to start work as a junior clerk.

In July 1955, Simon was called up for National Service training which he completed at the RAAF based at Amberley in December 1955. He then resumed his office duties. During the early sixties Simon arranged to travel and seek further experience in the profession. He arranged a two year stint with Cooper Brothers & Co in London 1963-1965. This also facilitated an enjoyable 5 week voyage on the T/V 'Fair Sky'.

Disappointingly, the signature bowler hat and rolled umbrella for Chartered Accountants, he had been looking forward to, was a thing of the past. After his return Simon was admitted to the Brisbane partnership on 1st January 1968. This was a busy time to reassess future plans for business and other responsibilities.

Time passed and through a mutual friend Simon met Margaret. Marriage to Margaret Newson was celebrated on 7th March 1970 in Churchie Chapel. During the next few years, their three children were born – Gretel (1971) now insurance underwriter, Lucy (1972) now art teacher and amateur theatre enthusiast and Angus (1976) now orthopaedic surgeon.

Simon departed Coopers & Lybrand as it was then known on 31st December 1980 and joined a mid-sized local firm 'Penningtons' which had offices in the Brisbane north region. He resigned from that firm on 30 June 1999 and later resigned from the profession on 30 June 2002.

Simon was always interested in aviation and photography and often spent time at Eagle Farm airport taking photos of aircraft. These he collated and published in two books (one a revision) covering 1946 to 1988. Whenever the opportunity arose he flew in many different types of aircraft from Tiger Moths to Concorde. In 1979 Simon commenced flying training with RQ Aero Club and obtained his unrestricted private pilot's licence (UPPL). He was a member of aviation museums and historical societies as well as certain city clubs and masonic lodges. Golf was his favourite sport

and during lessons, he often tested the patience of Ossie Walker at Indooroopilly and Charlie Earp at RQ.

While in London Simon found himself in an amateur theatre production of 'Iolanthe' – no further comment required. He took every opportunity to see and enjoy Gilbert and Sullivan musicals and all his favourite English comedians. No doubt he will be remembered for his love of BBC radio comedy from 'Much Binding in the Marsh' through to 'The Goon Show' and beyond. As Major Denis Bloodnok said 'And there's more where that came from'.

One of Dad's favourite quotes from the Mikado was: 'Merely corroborative detail, intended to give artistic verisimilitude to an otherwise bald and unconvincing narrative.'



The photograph is from issue 25 of The Moxon Magazine (April 2000) which included similar head and shoulders photos of Society members. It would be interesting to run a similar item again, so if you are willing please send me your 'selfies' (or studio portraits if you have them!) for a future rogues' gallery.

Not that Simon was a rogue! He was a very active and valued member of the Society from its beginnings, and he and Margaret hosted the first Australian Moxon Gathering in Brisbane on 17th December 1989. Simon went on to be 'volunteered' to create the MoxonsDownunder Branch in 2003.

Editor

Joseph Moxon, 1627-1690: alumnus of QEGS

Joseph Moxon, 1627-1690 has appeared several times in The Moxon Magazine (issues 1, 14, 23, 27, 36 and 41, to list just a few!) He was hydrographer to King Charles II. Born August 8th, 1627 in Wakefield he was educated at *The Free Grammar School of Queen Elizabeth* in Wakefield, now the **Queen Elizabeth Grammar School** where recently he was inducted into their Hall of Fame. The event was marked by a presentation given by Derek A Long who wrote *At the Sign of Atlas: The Life Work of Joseph Moxon, a Restoration Polymath* (Paul Watkins Publishing 2013). Professor Long is pictured below with Robert McClements (right) CEO of Creative Digital Industries Yorkshire) who brought Moxon's achievements to the schools' attention.

Joseph Moxon was one of many famous alumni of the school which was established in 1591, among them Richard Henry Lee, a signatory to the US Declaration of Independence; David Hope, former Archbishop of York by whom I was privileged to be ordained; and perhaps less cheerfully John George Haigh who was notorious as The Acid Bath Killer in the 1940s.

I am grateful to our Treasurer John Earnshaw who sent along this news snippet and to Andrew Beales of the Wakefield Grammar School Foundation who sent it to John and who has kindly given permission for us to use it.



***JOSEPH MOXON, FRS**, is rightly famous and deserving of a full 224 page biography by Professor Long. But looking through the entries in the **Moxon Magazine Index** concerning Joseph, I realised that there are many Moxons and their family members whose lives are similarly spread over numerous entries in **The Index**. Perhaps not as many as Joseph's twenty entries - for example, Julius William Harold Moxon, 1905-1971, is mentioned in only six issues of the **Moxon Magazine** - but it would be interesting to collate such entries and other information about those whom I might call 'ordinary' or less famous than Joseph. All have interesting stories to tell and all give a flavour of their times and situations. If you have such a booklet we would be interested to hear. If you would like us to typeset such a booklet, again please let us know. Editor*

THE MOXON ON THE RIVER KWAI *continued*

In the October 2011 Moxon Magazine I wrote the basis of an article in regard to Harry Raymond Moxon. At the time my Son, Simon, who lives in Nakon Si Thammarat, Thailand, working as a teacher at a local school there, had, with a party of teachers and students, gone on a school trip to Kanchanaburi on the river Kwai, at one end of where the bridge of film fame once stood before it was destroyed by the RAF in June 1945 and later replaced by the current bridge.

Whilst there he visited the War Cemetery and came across the grave of Harry Raymond Moxon Gunner 869224, who had served in Malaya with the Royal Artillery, was captured there in February 1942 by the Japanese and, as a prisoner of war, was set to work on the Thailand - Burma Railway, he died on 16 July 1943 age 24 and was buried along with over 800 other allied and Dutch service men in the Kanchanaburi War Cemetery.

On a recent visit to Thailand to see my son I was pleased to be able to visit the cemetery myself and pay my respects at Harry's grave.

Harry Raymond was born on 20th December 1918 in Driffield, Yorkshire, the son of Harry and Blanche (*née* Scott) Moxon.

On researching Harry's tree I tracked down Harry's father, Harry Snr who was born in 1887 in Huttons Ambo, North Yorkshire and found he was a member of MX34.

Harry Snr was himself a regular soldier, the 1911 Census shows him serving as a private in the Yorks and Lancashire Regiment at Karachi, India, he married Blanche Scott at Sledmere, Yorkshire in 1916.

Harry Jnr was their only child and never married and so, although he predeceased his parents, effectively this branch of the tree sadly ended with him.

Having discovered which Moxon Tree the family belonged to and noting that Harry Snr's marriage, Harry Jnr's birth and death were not recorded in the tree I asked Chris Moxon if MX34 had a Tree Guardian, with the intention of passing on the unrecorded information and sources.

Chris advised that this tree did not have a Guardian and was kind enough to let me take this onboard.

At the time the tree was headed by Susannah Magson, a widow, who is recorded in the 1841 Census living in Huttons

Ambo with three daughters, Elizabeth aged 12, Mary 9 and Rachel 5.

I then started looking for a marriage between a Magson and a Susannah before 1829 the husband having passed away before 1841. As I had no luck in this respect I started using alternative spellings of the name and eventually found a marriage between William Maxon and Susanna Nottingham in 1828.

The couple had 4 children, all girls, one of whom died as a child, the remaining children match those in the 1841 Census. William, a schoolmaster, was buried in 1838.

William was born in Sherriff Hutton, North Yorkshire about 1802, further research has, to date, traced his family back to a Thomas Maxom, who married Dorothy Midgeley in 1728.

There are however quite a number of Maxon and Maxoms living in the Sherriff Hutton area from the mid 1600's onward, I am currently looking how these may be related and possibly connect to MX34, if anybody has any information in this respect I would be grateful to receive same.

Ken Moxon

*The current
Bridge on The River Kwai*



THE MOXON SOCIETY OFFICERS

President Emeritus: Graham Jagger.

15, Heythrop Close,
Oadby, Leicester, LE2 4SL
Tel: 0116 271 9185
grahamjagger42@gmail.com

Chairman: Ken Moxon

109 Blacon Avenue
Blacon, Chester CH1 5BX
kenmoxon5@aol.com

Hon. Vice President: John C Moxon

1, Pinetree Close, Cowes,
Isle of Wight, PO31 8DX.
Tel: 01983 296921
e:mail john.moxon@onwight.ne

Membership Secretary:

Christopher JM Moxon

524 Plodder Lane, Bolton BL4 0LA
Tel: 01204 577830).
email: moxonchris@aol.com

Secretary: Val McCourt

108 York Crescent, Durham DH1 5QS
0191 386 1981
val.mccourt@btinternet.com

Treasurer: John S Earnshaw

176 Blacker Lane, Netherton,
Wakefield WF4 4HA
Tel: 07885 080617
h15jse@gmail.com

Magazine Editor: Trevor Jordan

5 Pretoria Road
Ibstock, Leicestershire
01530 459 619
trevor@trevorsweb.net

Magazine Distribution:

Tricia Bascombe

23, Peterscroft Ave., Ashurst,
Southampton, SO40 7AB.
Tel: 02380 292486

THE MOXON FAMILY RESEARCH TRUST

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THE TRUST is funded by donations from individuals and The Moxon Society. Its aims are to fund specific items of Moxon research of interest to Moxons world-wide; and to aid the publication of books and research reports concerning the Moxon Family

Chairman: Graham Jagger

15, Heythrop Close, Oadby, Leicester,
LE2 4SL
Tel: 0116 271 9185
grahamjagger42@gmail.com



THE MOXON MAGAZINE

The Magazine is supplied free of charge to Members. Copies, and back copies, may be purchased from the Magazine Distributor, and are also available in PDF on the Society's website.

THE MOXON MAGAZINE welcomes articles and submissions on any subject related to the wider Moxon family, past or present. It is published twice a year, April and October; and the deadlines for submissions are therefore mid-March and mid-September. If space permits articles will be published in the next issue after receipt but may be held over for a future issue at the Editor's discretion. The Editor may also, at his discretion, shorten articles when necessary though he will normally try to print submissions in full. Submissions may be sent by post or by email (postal and email addresses appear on the left of this page). Photographs are particularly welcome additions to articles and will be returned as soon as the issue in which they appear is published. Submission of articles or other material will be taken to indicate permission to publish the article or material on one or more occasions in the Moxon Magazine. Copyright will remain with the original contributor.

Editor

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*Anyone interested in becoming a Patron please contact
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New Members:

Since the last issue of the Magazine eighteen new members have joined the Society.

We welcome:

JOHN PETER MOXON New South Wales, Australia	(MX27)
PAUL S MOXON New South Wales, Australia	(MX27)
RAYLEE WILDIE New South Wales, Australia	(MX27)
KAYE BANES Victoria, Australia	(MX27)
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