



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

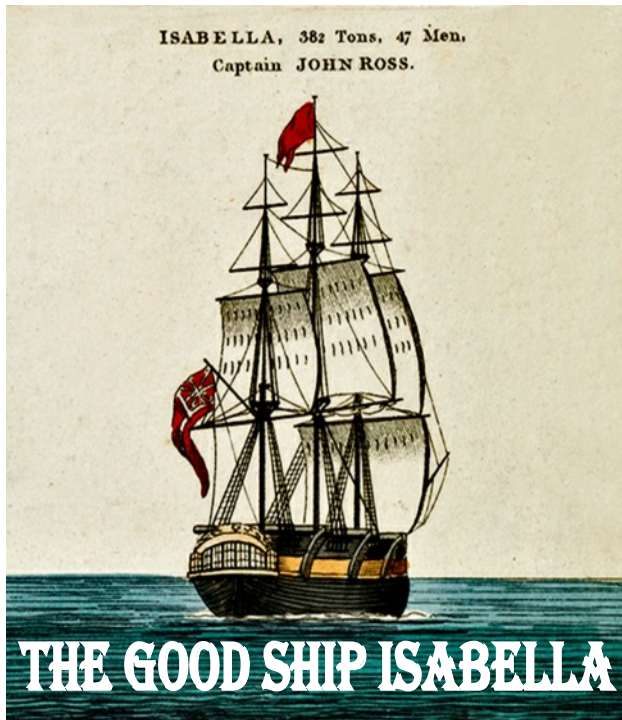
The Moxon Magazine

Twickenham snapper snapped!



Look carefully at the reflection in the window of the Alexander Pope Hotel and you will see some of the Moxon Family who gathered in Twickenham for the 2018 Annual Gathering of the Moxon Society! Among them is your editor who could not resist snapping the snapper, Scott Moxon Hults who, with his wife Vivienne, had travelled across the Atlantic from the USA to be with us. We also had the most pleasurable company of Australian cousins, Geoff Moxon, Margaret Moxon, and Margaret's daughter Gretel, who had suggested this year's venue because they had a particular interest in Thomas Moxon of Twickenham - more inside! Next year we'll be in the heart of Staffordshire at The Best Western Tillington Hall Hotel, just off Junction 14 of the M6, thanks to a suggestion by Christopher Richardson. More details on our website, and in the April 2019 issue of your Magazine.

See you there?



Admiral Sir John

Ross (1777-1856) was a British naval officer and Arctic explorer, who has given his name to an island, a sea, a bay, a seal, a gull and even a crater on the moon.

In 1818 he received his first command of an Arctic expedition and set sail on HMS Isabella to try to find a Northwest Passage to the Pacific. This expedition was halted when Ross was misled by a mirage which appeared to show a range of mountains ahead of him. Despite his officers' pleas, Ross turned back.

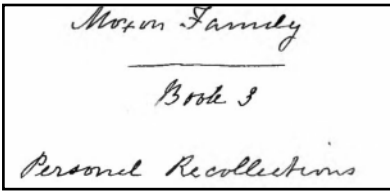
In 1829 he set sail again and succeeded in reaching the magnetic North Pole, but he was forced to abandon his ship, the Victory. After four winters, and with his funders fearing he was dead, his party was finally rescued by the Isabella, the ship he had commanded fifteen years earlier, which was undertaking a whaling expedition in the area.

What has all this to do with the Moxon Society? HMS Isabella was originally built as a whaling vessel by William Moxon of Hull (1761-1825) (MX21). He named this ship after his own daughter, Isabella, who was born in 1802. Isabella Moxon married David Martin in 1823.

The ship was commandeered by the government and engaged in troop transport during the Napoleonic wars. The government then selected the Isabella for the Polar expedition and fitted it up with *"double decks and other requisites to encounter the violence of northern seas."* After that first expedition the ship was paid off. It was then sold to new owners who used the capabilities secured by the government to engage it in whaling.

Chris Moxon

PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS: BOOK 3

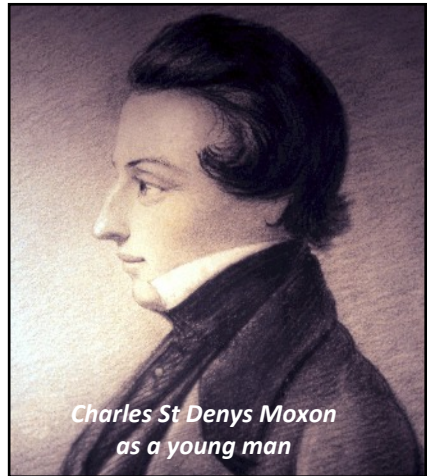


A SIMPLE RECORD OF THE MOXON FAMILY was a trilogy of books written by the first Moxon Family Historian, Charles St Denys Moxon, for the benefit of his son and grandson in 1877. The third book was an account of the author's own life.

Two articles about the third book were published in *The Moxon Magazine* ten years ago, and this is the third article: many apologies are severally due for the delay in completing the task! But in this third and final part of his summary of Book 3 of Charles Moxon's "Personal Recollections", Bob Moxon Browne, member from London, deals with Charles' later life as a Norfolk vicar, and the building of his church at Hempton.

AS WE HAVE SEEN, CHARLES MOXON was a precocious scholar, who while still in his teens was making his mark as a natural scientist and especially as a geologist. He was in the forefront of debates about the value of geological evidence in determining the course of evolution of the natural world, managing to square his scientific knowledge with his Anglo-Catholic religious convictions about the role of a divine creator. Charles had divided his time between his studies and intermittent attendance at his father's stock-broking office. This he did not like, finding "*it suited neither my health nor my inclination.*" It seems likely that in this respect Charles must have disappointed his father who was a city man through and through, eventually dying at his place of work.

Thomas Moxon's disappointment was probably exacerbated by the fact that despite having no fewer than 16 living children, including a fair share of boys, none of them showed much enthusiasm for city life. Thomas Moxon's son James originally tried to settle in business in South Africa, but without much success. On his return home in 1855 Charles records that he was received by his father "*more than coolly.*" James did



*Charles St Denys Moxon
as a young man*

however eventually join his father's office, three years before his father's death in 1869. Other sons, Philip and Julius, having died in India, the business was taken over by James' brother Thomas on James' retirement.

However, this did not last long. Thomas became a Plymouth Brother and spent his last years railing against the established church. His departure ended over a hundred years of Moxons' activity in the

PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS: BOOK 3 continued

➤ City. The fortune they had amassed passed from James to his children, Alfred and Rita, who led comfortable lives before each died, unmarried and childless, in the 1920's, leaving the remnants of their fortune (which was still very substantial) to the Bentham Moxon Trust at Kew.

It is perhaps significant that nowhere in his writings does Charles have anything affectionate to say about his father, nor the grand house at Leyton in which his family lived. This is in marked contrast to the way Charles writes of his mother, Elizabeth Browne, and especially of his maternal grandfather, John Henry Browne, headmaster of Charles' school at Hingham and the head of what was, in Charles' view, the epitome of a loving Christian home. It may be that Charles felt a little guilty about all of this. The references to City life taking its toll of him mentally as well as physically, and the apparent suddenness with which Charles changed the direction of his life after his marriage, hint at something which may have been akin to a sort of breakdown. It does seem that having entered the Church Charles was keen to avoid any form of stress. Being at first curate of churches in the adjoining parishes of Fakenham and Hempton, Charles found the work at both too much. He speaks feelingly of the troubles caused him by "*a drunken organist*" and by the ever-present threat of "*dissent*." He resigned from the living at Fakenham and was evidently happier as vicar of Hempton alone and held that post for 20 years.

In the first part of the "*Personal Recollections*" Charles writes affectionately of his wife Anne, herself a granddaughter of Charles' grandfather John Henry Browne,

and a childhood sweetheart. However, in the latter part of his account, he has little to say about married life, and the character of his wife remains something of a mystery. The couple had one child, Charles James, who became an architect, perhaps inspired by his father's life-long practical interest in church building and renovation.

Charles records that he was the designer and builder of "*the small parsonage*" at Hempton, into which he and his wife moved in 1860, and he was undoubtedly very active in church "*restoration*" in neighbouring parishes – he mentions "*vigorous*" restorations at Fakenham, Colkirk, Ryburgh, Sculthorpe, South Raynham and several others. Given Charles' enthusiasm for the mediaeval church and the doctrines of ecclesiology, it is possible to guess that some of the restorations involved the imposition of neo-gothic decoration (described by Charles as "*beautification*") which might not be to everybody's taste today.

There can be no doubt about the lasting value of Charles' most significant architectural achievement, the designing (with architect John Hakewell) and largely the funding of an entirely new church at Hempton in a meticulously researched gothic style, which of course closely echoed Charles' beliefs about the origins of Anglicanism in the mediaeval catholic church. In September 2006 the church received Grade II listing and is today regarded as an important example of a small rural church directly expressing the theological tenets of the Oxford Movement, and its Cambridge equivalent, the Ecclesiological Society (see *Pevsner and Wilson The Buildings of England: Norfolk*).



PERSONAL RECOLLECTIONS: Book 3 continued

➤ Of Charles' church and pastoral work, the "*Recollections*" say almost nothing. In a curious passage, (made more difficult by the fact that it is difficult to decipher with confidence) he says "*It does not become me to speak of my own work; yet I cannot pass it over without some notice; my sphere of work was (illegible) for me, and I endeavoured to fulfil it: it remains, for good or evil, but I hope for good.*" Charles says no more about what he is referring to. It could be his "*high church*" convictions, his interest in ecclesiology, the physical legacy of his church building and restoration projects, or perhaps simply a talented man's dedication of his life and abilities to his humble role as a village vicar.

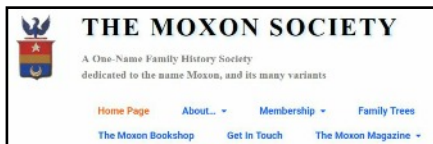
To a modern observer, there is much about the course of Charles' life which remains unexplained, and it must be said that the "*Personal Recollections*" do not resolve all the unanswered questions. What can be said is that here was a man of unusual academic distinction, as well as outstanding practical abilities; attributes which he shared with many of his extended family. Like his army brothers, he chose a life of service, and as we can tell from his writings, felt that he was entirely fulfilled in the path he chose. As for the Moxon clan today, they can be grateful that a prominent member of the family found the time to write so extensively about his Moxon relations, and (happily for me) his close cousins, the Brownes.

Bob Moxon Browne

Editor's note: — Articles one and two of Bob's Moxon Browne's commentary on "Personal Reflections: Book 3" can be found in issues 44 and 45 of The Moxon Magazine.

**Charles St Denys Moxon****Bob Moxon Browne QC**

A Tale of Two Websites



<https://moxonsociety.org>



<https://moxonresearch.org>

CYBERSPACE is now a pretty much universal fact of everyday life, be it websites, online ordering, Google searches, webmail, email, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat and many, many more applications.

THERE are those who will never use the Internet etc, and I assure those readers that we are not about to transition to an online Magazine. The printed word is still invaluable, and, in my view, will never be completely replaced.

But despite being primarily a group concerned with family history and a drive to push that history back as far as the family tree will stretch, officers of The Moxon Society have always been remarkably ready to use modern technology. So it is not a surprise that we have had a website since almost the beginning of the Internet.

Our first website was created by Harry Moxon in October 1999 and within six months there were 25 subscribers, a third of the whole membership, but John Moxon Hill, who inherited the editorship of this Magazine in that same month, was moved to write in Issue 25 of April 2000:

If you are not already on the "net," you really should consider getting up-to-date with 20th Century technology – before we get too far into the 21st. Century!! The advantages are limitless. Letters can

be sent by e:mail anywhere in the world for the cost of a local telephone call (In fact, for the cost of a BT minimum charge of 5p, probably a dozen different letters could be sent!) Many of the photographs appearing in this Magazine were sent to me as attachments to e:mail letters. GET WITH IT !

We now have two websites, and following the retirement of Margaret Tucker Moxon from being the manager of the general Moxon Society website, a role she had held from October 2012 until earlier this year, the opportunity was taken to rationalise the content of the two sites.

The open, publicly visible and searchable website is still under the same address, though it is now a secure site and properly is addressed as <https://moxonsociety.org> but don't worry: your usual requests will be automatically redirected. We have removed from it the 'members only' data and transferred that entirely to the Moxon Family Research Trust website at <https://moxonresearch.org> which is protected by a password which is changed annually and notified to



A Tale of Two Websites

► members in the October issue of the Magazine. This new password takes effect from 1st November each year.

We can and do gain new members through Google searches which turn up at the public website, but do please promote the general website to friends and family! It gives the background to the Moxon Society and a flavour of what we do, and there are contact details and membership application forms there.

For members, there is, on the Research website, a Forum where you can both ask and answer questions, or even just chat away if you like! Stuck with a stubborn hurdle to adding to your family tree? A fellow member might well be able to help. Found a new family link? Share it with other members for whom that might be just the bit of information they need!

But do please let me know of any problems with either website, or of any improvements you think they need, or extra facilities which you believe might be useful.

Trevor Jordan

"I think there is a world market for maybe five computers."

***Thomas Watson,
chairman of IBM, 1943.***



From Queensland to Twickenham - and back!

Margaret Moxon, one of our speakers at Twickenham, writes:

"ANY MOXONS who find themselves in Queensland are welcome to join us to enjoy a meet and greet and a welcome to sunny Queensland!"

Margaret lives in Clayfield, an inner northern suburb in the City of Brisbane on the east coast of Australia. Please apply to The Editor for her contact details.

Chaconne for Sydney Moxon



THE BARBICAN CENTRE WAS HUSHED as a lone trumpet was ceremoniously brought forward and placed on an empty seat.

The Conductor, Howard Moody, raised his baton, and the **London Symphony Orchestra On Track Next Generation*** began the world premiere of Moody's *Chaconne for Sydney Moxon*. We read in the programme Howard Moody's poem:

Sydney was the one and only,
Now his bugle plays alone.
All his colleagues marched so sadly
As they came back home.

One empty seat by the trumpets,
One ghostly silence in the chord.
We remember Sydney's bravery
As the trumpet sound soars.

Sydney Harvey Moxon was born on Greek St, Soho in 1879. He was the son of goldsmith George J Moxon and Christina Elizabeth Moxon, and his father ran the family jewellery business. He had an elder sister Louise Marie, born 1875, and two elder brothers, Edward and Ernest, both of whom went on to be jewellers like their father – it seems that Sydney was the only musician in this family, ignoring the family trade. In 1901 22-year-old Sydney lived with his brothers in their shop which they ran together in Peckham.

He had become a member of the King's Trumpeters, an elite group of musicians who were obliged to perform at His Majesty's special request. He joined the London Symphony Orchestra in 1907, first appearing at a concert on 11 February 1907 in the Queen's Hall conducted by Hans Richter. Along with the rest of the LSO, Sydney travelled to America in 1912 on the very first tour by a European orchestra.

After the outbreak of war in August 1914 Sydney joined up very early, before compulsory service was introduced. He was part of the London Regiment, 15th (County of London) Battalion (Prince of Wales' Own Civil Service Rifles), a territorial unit, which had its headquarters at Somerset House. Sydney was given the rank of Sergeant Bugler and the service number 2488, a number which dates from around September 1914. It's not known whether Sydney was required to perform as a bugler during his service, although it's nice to think that he woke the men every morning with the Reveille. He certainly had the lungs for it – he had a chest expansion of 6 inches, and his favourite party trick was to take a deep breath and send his tunic buttons flying!



Sydney Moxon

➤ On 25 October 1916 Sydney lost his life while helping a wounded colleague to safety during the battle of Ypres. He was 38. One of 569 Allied soldiers to die that day Sydney was buried in Woods Cemetery, Zillebeke in West Flanders, three miles south of Ypres. He was mourned by his family back home, and by the LSO who noted his bravery at their AGM in 1917: he was the only member of the LSO to be killed on the Western Front. His death left 'one empty seat by the trumpets.'



*Sergeant Bugler Sydney Moxon
with two young French girls
in Bruay, June 1916*

*LSO On Track Next Generation

Led by composer Howard Moody, the Next Generation scheme gives 50 young instrumentalists from East London the opportunity to work together over 7 monthly Creative Days to develop a collective musical composition for performance with the Orchestra in the Barbican Concert Hall.

The scheme is designed to give structured guidance, inspiration, creative tools and technical skills to the participants, building on their musical flair to help them develop as rounded musicians and leaders. LSO players sit among the creative groups and lead sessions on particular instrumental techniques and improvisation.

Please help us to discover more about Sydney's family ...

The photograph of the lone trumpet which heads this piece was very kindly taken for us during the concert by Libby Rice, the Archivist of the LSO with whom we had an email conversation after Val McCourt had originally sent us a reference to an article on their blog. A more detailed history of Sydney's life can be found on that blog (<http://bit.ly/2Mksy3n>).

Naturally we looked for Sydney in our family trees, and on our Persons list on the Research website he is recorded as "MOXON SYDNEY HARVEY born in the second quarter of 1878 (the LSO blog has his year of birth as 1879) at Peckham, and died 25 Oct 1916 at Ypres, Belgium, and he is a member of the MX01 tree. Beyond that, information is sparse and we would really like someone with the appropriate subscriptions to do a little digging for us in the records. We will be very happy to pass on as much information as we can to Libby Rice for the LSO blog and for their tribute to a brave man.

Trevor & Jenny Jordan

Twickenham Tales

Cleaning a gravestone

Geoffrey Moxon; Margaret Moxon's late husband, Simon; and her daughter Gretel are all direct descendants of Thomas Moxon of Twickenham whose biography was published in the last issue of this Magazine. Geoff, Margaret and Gretel had all expressed an interest in travelling from Australia to the Gathering at Twickenham, so it was important that any traces of Thomas Moxon's life should be uncovered. So Gill Jones, as Gathering Organiser, carried out a recce to Twickenham in March this year. There was no longer any trace of Thomas Moxon's house, "The Lodge", and indeed its precise location was in some dispute. But we knew that Thomas (and other members of his family) were buried in Oak Lane Cemetery – a small cemetery that had not been not been used for burials since the end of the 19th century. Nowadays this space is primarily used by dog-walkers. Fortunately, the "Friends of Oak Lane Cemetery" had carried

out a survey in 2017 (oh, the joys of the Internet!) so the approximate position of the Moxon grave was known, but the area in which it was located was described as being "simply inaccessible".

By chance Gill visited the cemetery on her recce at the same time as some Council workmen were mowing and strimming the areas that were more accessible. One of them helped her to trim back the area around the Moxon grave which was covered with brambles and ivy and with saplings growing up around it. Sadly, although the grave was now just about accessible, another gravestone had fallen on top of the Moxon grave and the Moxon inscription was thereby partially obscured. However, Gill did her best to ensure that what could be seen was clear, and Geoff, Margaret and Gretel were duly shown the grave on the Friday afternoon – before the full Gathering started.



*Gill Jones
cleaning Thomas' gravestone*

Twickenham Tales

Chris, Geoff, and Margaret Moxon gave interesting illustrated talks at Twickenham about Thomas Moxon... of Twickenham, which is why the venue was chosen for this year's gathering ably organised by Gill Jones.

Thomas Moxon has appeared several times in this Magazine, and extracts of his biography were printed in our April 2018 issue.



Pictured above under Thomas's memorial tablet in Holy Trinity Church, Twickenham are Aussie members Geoff Moxon, Margaret Moxon (right) and Margaret's daughter Gretel Spizick

A plaque

The memorial plaque which was erected in Holy Trinity Church was much more accessible. This church was only erected in the final years of Thomas Moxon's life, but it was close to where he lived and he contributed towards its construction.

The memorial itself is substantial and hangs on the north aisle of the church. It is also notable for displaying a coat of arms to which Thomas Moxon was not entitled (see the article in MM58).

On the Saturday of the Gathering the Parish Manager kindly agreed to open the church specifically so that anyone attending the Gathering could view this memorial. Geoff, Margaret and Gretel were among those who did so. *[photo left]*

Lost keys

On the Sunday morning, Philip Lord panicked when he could not find his jacket, which contained both his house keys and car keys. It was not in the hotel, but on an impulse Philip raced back to Holy Trinity Church where, as the morning service ended, he spotted his jacket still draped over the pew where he had put it when taking the above photograph, the day before. The vicar had noticed it that morning but she had let it remain, assuming that it belonged to one of the workmen who were repairing the roof!

Calling all members

The Society has now begun to use “AncestryDNA” as its principal way of progressing the Society’s DNA testing programme that began around sixteen years ago.

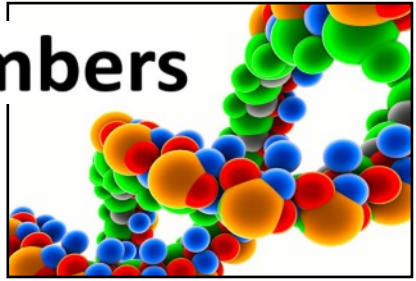
We are aware that some Society members will have undertaken their own tests through AncestryDNA and it would help the research enormously if the results of those tests could be shared with the Society. It is a simple matter for anyone who has undertaken an AncestryDNA test to invite others to view the results, so we are asking for those that have been tested to grant us the rights to be a “Viewer”.

All results shared with the Society will be treated as confidential and will not be disclosed to outside bodies or individuals without the prior permission of the test owner.

If you are willing, please contact Graham Jagger (grahamjagger42@gmail.com) or Philip Lord (philiplord@aol.com) for some simple instructions.

Biology is the most powerful technology ever created.
DNA is software, protein are hardware, cells are factories.

Arvind Gupta



EDITOR'S NOTE:

Or, to be honest, the Editor's confession! Because despite my medical degree, and despite my close involvement with The Moxon Society, my understanding of DNA and DNA testing for family research could be written in quite large letters on the back of a postcard. And to give an idea of how little that is, a quick Google search for “beginners’ guide to DNA” turned up in first place a 55 minute video called ‘DNA Demystified.’ It’s still mysterious to me!

Fortunately we have our own experts - see the request in the left column - and Issue 30 of The Moxon Magazine carries a guide which explains the Moxon Society’s DNA investigations . I do know that certainly the results so far have enabled our researchers to link previously separate Moxon family trees, with hopefully more links to be discovered.

So please consider contributing your DNA to the project. Testing is painless, honestly: possibly less painful than trying to get my head round the technicalities!

What's in a name: no. 1

The reuse of family names for the new generations sets genealogists all sorts of problems. We have a specific problem relating to the Moxons of Downham in East Anglia (MX25)...

Three Richards were baptised in the area in the 1740s:

- **Richard baptised in 1744**, son of Richard & Anne, who married Frances South & had family listed in MX25
- **Richard baptised in 1748**, son of John & Alice (brother of William baptised in 1742) – no issue listed in MX25
- **Richard baptised in 1740**, son of William & Mabel (brother of William baptised in 1738) – no issue listed in MX25

Similarly, there are **three Williams** who were baptised at a similar time:

- **William baptised in 1738**, son of William & Mabel (brother of Richard baptised in 1740) no issue listed in MX25
- **William baptised in 1742**, son of John & Alice (brother of Richard baptised in 1748) – no issue listed in MX25
- **William baptised in 1744**, son of Francis & Elizabeth, who married Mary Wilson & had family listed in MX25

And we have three Trees which appear in this area in the mid-18th century and are therefore likely to be linked to MX25:

- **MX40** headed by Richard who married Chamberlain Burgis in 1771 in Downham
- **MX41** headed by Richard who married Mary Hood in 1766 (and Elizabeth Olphen in 1777) – both marriages took place in Welney, just seven miles from Downham
- **MX65** headed by William who married Ann (Ann's surname and date of marriage are unknown) and had children from 1760 onwards in Welney – so his marriage was probably around 1759.

Presumably we can disregard Richard baptised in 1744; and William baptised in 1744 as being involved in these “new” Trees since their issue is listed in MX25.

- If (**MX65**) **William** who married Ann in around 1759, was William baptised in 1738 he would have been 21 at that date, whereas the William baptised in 1742 would have been 17.
- If (**MX40**) **Richard** who married Chamberlain Burgis in 1771 was Richard baptised in 1748 he would have been 23 then, whereas Richard baptised in 1740 would have been 31.
- If (**MX41**) **Richard** who married Mary Hood in 1766 was Richard baptised in 1748 he would have been 18 then, but if he was Richard baptised in 1740 he would have been 26.

Men did not usually marry at age 17 or 18 in the 18th century and therefore it is most likely that MX65 is headed by



The Moxon Society Annual G



1. Gretel Spizick
2. John Moxon
3. Sue Moxon
Barbara O'Neill

5. Margaret Moxon
Geoff Moxon
7. Gill Jones
8. Bruce Jones

9. Val McCourt
10. John McCourt
11. Chris Moxon
12. Doris Moxon



Gathering 2018: Twickenham



13. Trevor Jordan

14. Jenny Jordan

15. Marlene Hamilton

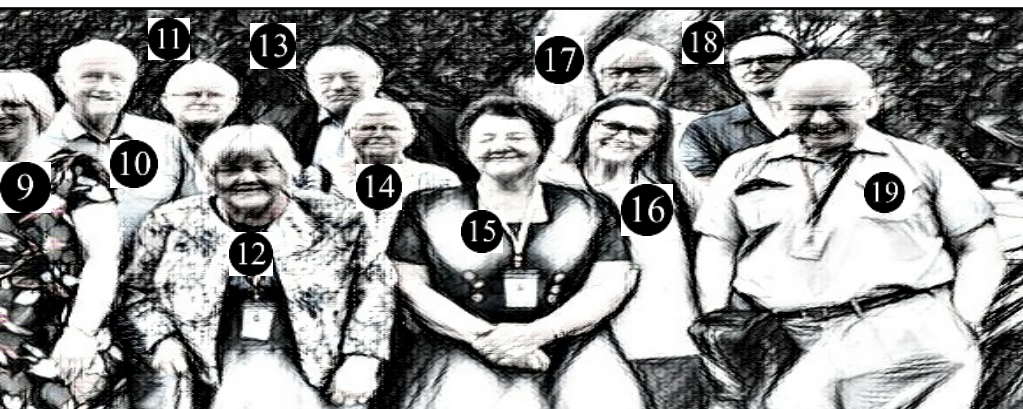
16. Vivienne Moxon Hults

17. John Moxon

18. Philip Lord

19. Christopher Richardson

*Photo by Scott Moxon Hults
(see the front cover!)*



What's in a name: no. 2

Helen Rowe tells us how she found Moxon Street where her family lived in the seventeenth century.



Helen apologises that the photograph is not of a glamorous place! But it is Moxon Street in October 2017! The street sign reads

Moxon Street
leading to Moxon Way 

I read with interest the article in the latest edition of The Moxon Magazine April 2018 on Moxon Names and places.

I visited my son in Wakefield last autumn and was searching the area for links with my Moxon ancestors and came across this road at Outwood on The A61 Leeds Road out of Wakefield. This is where my 9- times great Grandfather Peter Moxon lived in the 17th century in Outwoodside and Stanley. Our family tree is MX12.

My son has become Headmaster of Silcoates Independent school in Wakefield. He follows a family tradition of Headmasters in the family. My Father, MS Moxon, was Headmaster of Denstone College Prep school in Staffordshire. My Grandfather, Canon RS Moxon, was Headmaster of Lincoln Grammar

School and his brother, The Rev'd TA Moxon, was head of Shrewsbury School and Denstone College. Their father George Moxon left Wakefield in the second half of the 19th century to be a Headmaster of Tollington Park College, North London, hence that part of the family leaving Wakefield. I am so pleased that my son Philip is in Wakefield and I hope to visit more places and look up family details in Wakefield History Centre when I visit them. As I live in Salisbury it will not be as often as I would like. As my Grandfather and Great Uncle wrote ***The Moxons of Yorkshire*** I use that as my reference. I was born in Yorkshire as my Father was teaching at Heath Grammar School in Halifax.

***Helen Rowe
(nee Moxon)***

What's in a name: no. 3

In "What's in a name no.3?"

Beth Wilkinson tells the story of Moxon's Square.

The back of the cardboard frame enclosing this photograph is inscribed with the phrase, "Moxon's Square, Ardsley."

The man who is proudly posing is, I suspect, my great-grandfather, Robert Moxon (MX 10).

BW



Ardsley is a small village about 3 miles east of Barnsley in South Yorkshire. In the name of slum clearance and road improvement Moxon's Square was demolished, along with most of the rest of the old village, in the late 1950s. The square had occupied a roughly triangular patch of land at the western end of the village, in the angle between Scar Lane and Church Street. Today not only have the old buildings gone but the roads have been renamed, so that the newer houses which replaced the square lie in the angle between Cumberland Drive and the Doncaster Road, the latter now being a dual carriageway, the A635.

The square came into my family's possession in 1854. An indenture of that year recorded my great-great-great grandfather George Watson, a carpenter of Ardsley, buying "all

those eight dwelling houses with the weavers' shops, outbuildings, vacant ground & premises adjoining, in the occupations of William Fox, Benjamin Myers, Joseph Poulter, George Glover, John Binns, Jonathan Robinson, William Pollard & George Shore, late estate of Mrs Ann Manley & directed to be sold on the death of her husband Timothy John Manley & her sister, Mary Garlick." In the mid-nineteenth century the square had been known as Garlick Square

George was a bachelor and died intestate in June 1866; Letters of Administration were granted in August of that year to a Rachel Laughton, who was George's sister and the only next-of-kin. In the settlement which followed, Rachel acquired the property which came to be known as

➤19

Who is Dr Wetherell?

This question was posed by Val McCourt in her article about the Barnsley Moxon triplets on page 12 of the April 2018 edition of The Moxon Magazine where she quotes a letter from a Dr J A Wetherell (JAW) to Albert Thomas, the author of an article entitled Triplets which appeared in the Strand Magazine in 1898. Hopefully this note will answer Val's query.

James Albert Wetherell (sometimes spelt Weatherell, Wetherall, etc), the son of William Wetherell, an iron manufacturer's clerk, and his wife Jane Wetherell, née Jowsey, was born in Middlesbrough, Yorkshire, in 1862. By the time of the 1881 census JAW is still living with his parents in Middlesbrough being described as a Medical Assistant. He received his medical education at the University of Edinburgh, where he graduated MB CM in 1886 and MD in 1890. He took the Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland diploma in 1885.

After graduating JAW moved back to the north east of England where for a time he became surgeon to the East Howle Colliery in County Durham. During this period he made a number of contributions to the medical literature

including:
"Conception after Ovariectomy" (Lancet and Hospital Gazette, 1888), "Treatment of Eczema" (Lancet, 1888); "Dermatolysis" (British Medical Journal, 1889).

By the time of the 1891 census JAW was holding the post of assistant medical officer to the Barnsley Union Workhouse. The birth of triplets in late 19th century Barnsley would undoubtedly have been a *cause célèbre* particularly as it would have attracted the Queen's Bounty. There can be no doubt that this event would have caught JAW's attention, and probably in his professional capacity. There was at that time – and is not now – any legal requirement to record 'persons in attendance' on the birth certificate nor is there any record in the local press – the *Barnsley Chronicle* for example – of JAW's involvement in the birth. His note to Albert Thomas stating that "*the interesting fact in connection with this family is that the triplets were preceded by twins and that Mrs Moxon's sister had twice become the happy mother of twins*" is probably little more than hearsay and it is not surprising that Val's further research has shown this recollection to be unreliable.

Between 1891 and 1895 JAW went abroad and spent some time as medical officer and Government Resident at



DR. JAMES ALBERT WETHERELL died recently at his residence in Hull after a short illness. He received his medical education at the University of Edinburgh, where he graduated M.B., C.M. in 1886 and M.D. in 1890. He took the diploma of L.R.C.P.I. in 1885. He had served as assistant medical officer to the Barnsley Union Infirmary, and later as medical officer and Government Resident at East Kimberley, West Australia. Later he settled in practice at Hull, and was a member of the East York Division of the British Medical Association. His wife died about four months ago, and her death appeared to have impaired his health.

British Medical Journal 18 June 1917

Who is Dr Wetherell?

➤ East Kimberly, Western Australia. By early 1895 he had returned to England for on 17 April 1895 he married Annie Swift of Barnsley at St Andrew's Church, Sharrow, Sheffield. Perhaps immediately after his marriage JAW and his wife moved to Hull and from at least the middle of 1896 his name appears regularly in the pages of the Hull Daily Mail in connection with various medical emergencies and the meetings of the local Conservative and Unionist Party. The 1901 census for Hull shows the family living at 210 Holderness Road, Sculcoates, but by the 1911 census they had moved to a larger and more salubrious residence at number 346. By this time JAW had obviously developed a thriving practice and was doing quite well for himself. He and Annie had no children, but the 1911 census shows 13-year-old Eric Wetherell, an 'adopted child', living with them.

Annie Wetherell died on 4 March 1917 at the relatively early age of 45; and four days later she was cremated, a relatively uncommon practice in those days. Less than three months later, on 31 March 1917, James himself died, perhaps of a broken heart, leaving an estate worth £2628 15s 11d. The executor was his brother, Frederick William Wetherell, an iron and machinery merchant. The house on Holderness Road with all its contents was sold by auction.

Graham Jagger

What's in a name no. 3

17 ➤ Laughton's Yard; the property that was to be identified as Moxon's Square passed to Rachel's nephew, John Watson Moxon, the son of George and Rachel's late sister Elizabeth Watson and her husband Thomas Moxon (1788-1858). John Watson Moxon died in July 1882. Although his will was quite complex, his instructions regarding the Square were straightforward; it was to be left to his son, Robert Moxon, for use in his lifetime, after which it (and the mineral rights beneath it) was to pass to John Watson Moxon's youngest son, William. Robert Moxon died in February 1915 and the square passed out of the family's hands in November 1919 when it was sold by William who had, by then, emigrated to New Zealand.

Beth Wilkinson

What's in a name no. 4

Not always what it seems! During some non-Moxon web searching I came across a medicine called **Moxonidine** prescribed for mild hypertension. So donning my Moxon hat I wrote to the company to ask how the name came about: did it have a connection with someone called Moxon?

Back came the reply: *Further to your enquiry, my colleagues in the US confirmed that it is highly unlikely that a molecule would be named after a specific person.*

Oh, well! It was worth a try, though!

What's in a name: no. 1

13 ➤ William baptised in 1738 and that MX41 is headed by Richard baptised in 1740. If these assumptions are correct then MX40 is likely to be headed by Richard baptised in 1748. The three marriages therefore took place when the grooms were aged 21, 23 and 26. This would tie in with MX65 William christening his first daughter "Maphel" – probably a mis-spelling of his mother's first name. It would mean that the two Trees which started up in Welney were headed by two brothers. It would also follow the line taken by other Trees on Ancestry, two of which have assumed that MX65 William was the son of William & Mabel who was baptised in 1738.

But these are just assumptions! Neither baptism, marriage, burial registers nor wills have so far confirmed these assumptions.

Does anyone have any ideas about how we might confirm (or change) these assumptions?

Is anyone visiting Cambridge in the near future (and could visit the Record Office there) or has any knowledge of wills (or anything else!) which might shed light on this conundrum? If you can help, please contact the Tree Guardians:

Ken Moxon
(kenmoxon5@aol.com)
Philip Lord

Gerald Hornby Moxon MBE

The News Snippet shown to the right was published in Issue 38 of The Moxon Magazine of October 2006. Sadly we never did hear anything of Gerald Moxon until Margaret Tucker Moxon in Australia sent a link to his obituary so that his family tree, MX17, could be updated. The link was to an obituary in the May 3rd 2018 edition of the website HullLive.

The website headlined Gerald's obituary **Heartbreaking tribute to Hull beekeeper Gerald Moxon MBE** and recorded his death aged 78 from heart failure. Gerald had been married for 51 years to Margaret who was inundated with more than 100 sympathy cards for this popular man.

To see the original obituary on the website including a short film of Gerald explaining how to remove a swarm of bees from the engine compartment of a car, browse to <http://bit.ly/2oKQN1i> on the Internet.

NEWS SNIPPETS

From the DAILY TELEGRAPH
17 June 2006

Gerald Hornby Moxon M.B.E.

Mr. Moxon, a member of the Yorkshire Bee Keepers Association, was awarded the MBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours for services to bee keeping.

Does any member know Mr. Moxon?

WILLS OF WILTSHIRE – the Way We Were

In December 2017 “FindMyPast” released a large collection of wills and related documents from Wiltshire. These Wiltshire wills give an interesting account of how people were living in England in the seventeenth century. Thirty-eight of these wills concerned Moxhams. The spelling of the surnames differed between documents (and sometimes within the same document).

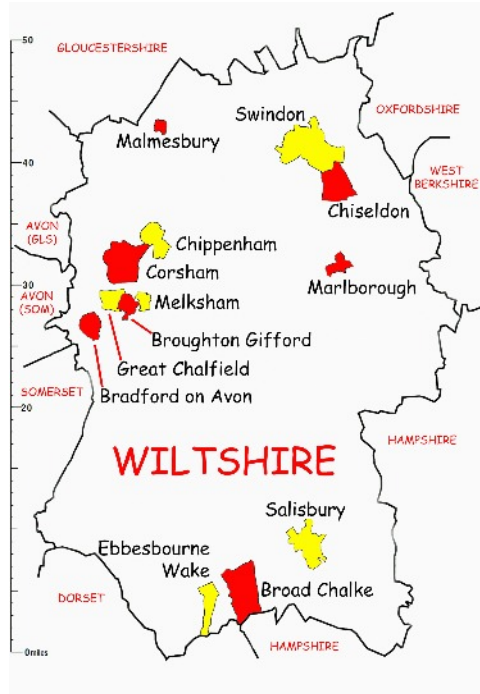
Although we know, from DNA testing, that the Wiltshire Moxhams were not directly linked with the Moxons of Yorkshire, the picture drawn from these wills reflects the Moxon wills which Joan Rendall and Graham Jagger analysed in the **Moxon Magazine** a few years ago.

Of the Wiltshire wills, three contained no significant information other than the appointment of an Administrator to handle the dead person’s affairs. Seventeen were solely the last will and testament; fourteen contained both the will and an inventory of the dead person’s estate, while four other documents consisted solely of an Inventory (the accompanying documents apparently lost).

These documents were dated between 1555 and 1774, but most of them were from the seventeenth century.

Geographical split

Twelve of these documents related to inhabitants of Corsham in the western part of the county (*see map*). Twelve more came from villages within ten miles of Corsham and a further fourteen from a little further away. It is possible, therefore, that most of these documents relate to perhaps just two



or three families over two centuries. If so, when the family trees have been researched more thoroughly, we will be able to follow the changes in these families’ fortunes.

Conventions, beliefs and literacy

All the wills in this period followed the convention of starting by commending the testator’s soul to God and asking that their body should be buried in a Christian fashion – usually in the parish churchyard. Only William of Broughton Gifford (WIL1555- using the reference for the Society’s Wills Archive on the Research website) mentioned the Virgin Mary. This will



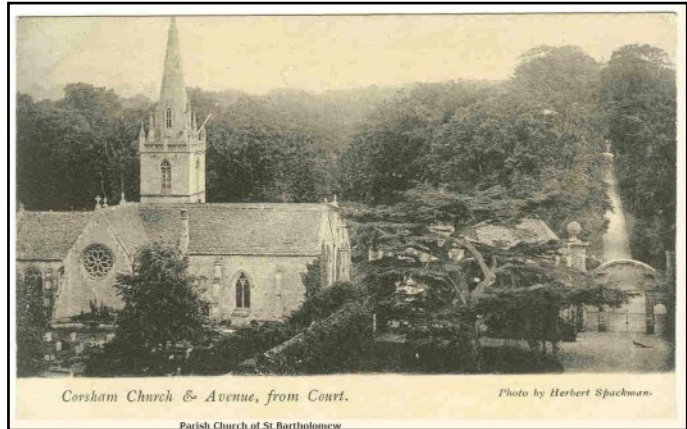
WILLS OF WILTSHIRE – *the Way We Were*

➤ was the only one of this collection to be written during the reign of the Catholic Queen Mary.

The formulaic openings still allowed for each person to express their own beliefs. William of Corsham (WIL1621) took more than 130 words to express his firm belief that his body and soul would be reunited at the day of Christ's resurrection and would be carried into Heaven and there remain with God's holy fellowship of Saints for ever. He went on to donate twenty shillings to the parish church (equivalent to more than £200 in today's currency) and ten pounds (£2,000) to the Churchwardens and Overseers of the poor of Corsham.

The fact that these wills followed a standard formula is not surprising since they were usually drawn up by one of the few literate men in the community – often the local vicar or curate. Occasionally one of the witnesses to the will chose to add that he was a “clerk [in holy orders]” – a cleric or ordained minister.

Some of these wills were court copies where it is not clear who was literate enough to sign their names to the original document. But of the nineteen wills where this is clear,



“... many wills were actually written by local clerics [which] may explain why many wills included donations to church funds.”

A postcard of St Bartholomew's Church, Corsham, Wiltshire photographed by local photographer Herbert Spackman (fl 1877-1891).

in sixteen the testator was illiterate and signed his or her name with a mark or an initial. In only three cases was the testator able to sign his name.

The fact that so many wills were actually written by local clerics may explain why many wills included donations to church funds. Few were able to be as generous as William of Corsham quoted above. But seven of these wills bequeathed sums ranging from four pence to twelve pence to Salisbury Cathedral and more generous sums to the local parish church. Two donors gave three shillings and fourpence each to the church at Wraxall; three donors gave a total of twenty seven shillings to the church at Corsham. Six pence was given to the church at Marden and 12 pence specifically towards the repair of a church bell at Broughton Gifford.



WILLS OF WILTSHIRE – *the Way We Were*

Poor relief

More generous sums were donated to help the poor in the local community. During this period each township elected Overseers of the Poor and each household would be expected to pay a specific levy to enable the Overseers to look after the poorest inhabitants.

But many testators bequeathed an additional gift for the poor. Joan of Great Chalfield (JOA1605) bequeathed in her will *“one peck of wheat”* to each of the two poorest people in the parish of South Wraxall – and she named them as Lawrence and Alice Attwood. She also gave a further three shillings and fourpence to the poor generally of South Wraxall and the nearby parish of Box. Later in her will she bequeathed two sheep to the son of Lawrence Attwood.

Nicholas of Broughton Gifford (NIC1603) left five shillings to be shared between the ten poorest people in the parish.

Mortality

A sympathy for the poor was matched by a realism about the likelihood of the death of infants and children. Frequently a testator added a clause stating who should receive their legacies if the first choice died before their legacy was paid.

For example, Richard of Corsham (RIC1626) had three children under the age of 21 when he died. He laid down in his will that if any died before reaching the age of 21, their portion *“shall be equally divided between the Survivor or Survivors of them.”*

William of Chippenham (WIL1640ii) went a stage further, leaving his property to his wife Gillian, and after her death to his son John, and after John’s death to William’s other son Thomas – with no suggestion that Gillian or John might choose to pass their inheritance on to anyone else.

Death could, of course, strike adults at any moment. Nicholas of Corsham (NIC1605) left a complicated will with over twenty separate legacies. He was probably quite young since his parents were still living and he bequeathed to them £10. He appointed his sister, Elizabeth, as his executor. Sadly, within five weeks of agreeing to act as his executor, Elizabeth was herself making her last will (ELI1605) in which it is clear that she had not had the time to carry out all her brother’s wishes.

Wealth

Even though these wills may have come from a few families there is a substantial difference between the property of some individuals. Two of the eighteen inventories attached to these wills showed assets of well over £300 (about £64,000 in 2018 values). The remainder ranged from £4 to £68. (£848 - £14,416). Only one person, William of Corsham (WIL1621) mentions a servant. He left his maid, Edith Alan, the sum of twenty shillings. Although William’s inventory has not survived, he was clearly wealthy as he left over seventy pounds in cash bequests. His will is also interesting as an earlier version has survived in which the amounts bequeathed to some individuals were different – and his maid servant was omitted.



WILLS OF WILTSHIRE – *the Way We Were*

➤ Occupations

It may be noted here that, until the Industrial Revolution of the eighteenth century, most people did not have a sole occupation. Obadiah of Hilperton (OBA1686) described himself as a tailor but almost half of his wealth consisted of two leases of pasture plus his livestock (three cows and a pig).

Most people scraped a living through their agricultural pursuits and, in their spare time, did other work, for example labouring for others; brewing and selling beer, or using their skills as a carpenter or weaver. Their aim was to be self-sufficient for most of their needs with any spare cash obtained from surplus crops or from selling their skills being used to purchase what they were unable to grow or make for themselves.

In these wills the exceptions to these multi-occupations were one seaman (WIL1742) and five blacksmiths (three of them from Corsham). None of these blacksmiths possessed any livestock or agricultural equipment apart from one (JOH1652) who had a single pig and one (JOS1669) who had a “stock of bees.”

The blacksmiths spent a great deal of time and money in setting up their trade. They had to buy in the metal for their needs in advance. Joseph of Corsham’s inventory (JOS1669) identified 513 pounds of new iron as well as 76 pounds of old iron and six and a half pounds of steel. He chose to make items in advance of orders so, at his death, he had a stock of six pounds (in weight) of new horse shoes and ox shoes stored in his shop. Joseph owned property worth just over £70 – of



“...the exceptions to these multi-occupations were one seaman... and five blacksmiths...”

which almost £37 consisted of his tools and the stocks of metal in his shop.

Most people had very little cash listed in their inventories and much of their trading may have been done by barter. But the blacksmiths were, as far as we can tell, each owed cash from their customers. John of Corsham’s inventory (JOH1623) recorded that he was owed £1; and Joseph (JOS1699) was owed £15. John of Bradford-on-Avon (JOH1692ii) was owed a staggering £50 “*due on Bond*” and £110 “*due on book*.”

Because most people’s wealth consisted in the quantity and quality of their livestock and crops, many of these wills – like the will of Joan of Great Chalfield mentioned above (JOA1605) – bequeathed animals or crops as legacies rather than cash.



WILLS OF WILTSHIRE – the Way We Were

➤ Richard of Marden (RIC1603) gave his son Nicholas one and a half acres of corn to be sown for him the following year and his daughter Agnes an acre of barley to be paid to her at harvest time one year after her father's decease. His daughter Ellyn had to make do with a sack of barley and *"a brass pot with a hole in the side"* – although what use she was to make of the latter is not clear.

Two inventories – WIL1701 and ROG1688 – noted that the value of the dead person's clothes together with the ready money in the house came to just one pound.

Household comforts

The household comforts were limited in all inventories. John of Great Chalfield (JOH1630) was the wealthiest person, leaving property valued at £394 9s 8d. But this included £192 in livestock (over 250 sheep; 10 oxen; 22 cows and bulls); plus £80 in crops (mainly oats, barley and wheat) and assorted agricultural equipment. His household goods (furniture, bedding, kitchen goods) were valued at less than £50 and his clothing at £2.

Henry of Marden (HEN1563) died possessing goods valued at £28 8s 10d of which £25 9s 0d was made up of wheat, barley, livestock and agricultural equipment. His two shirts and two coats were valued at 11 shillings and 8 pence.

In these wills we can see how dependent our ancestors were upon the vagaries of the weather. A wet summer could result in a poor harvest which, in turn, might make it impossible to feed one's family and to keep all of the livestock alive through the winter.

It is a reflection of the troubles of the seventeenth century that four inventories listed weapons that the deceased had owned. John of Bradford-on-Avon (JOH1692ii) had one musket and one *"birding piece"*. Nicholas of Corsham (NIC1605) one rapier and two daggers and Nicholas of Broughton Gifford (NIC1603) one sword and dagger. John of Great Chalfield (JOH1630) possessed a musket, a fowling piece, a sword and a *"head piece"* – presumably a helmet.

John of Bradford-on-Avon (JOH1692ii) was the only person to have owned, according to his inventory, *"a clock and case"* – presumably a pendulum clock, which had been invented less than forty years earlier. It was valued at £2-10-0.

Personal wishes - and grudges

All these wills reflected the wishes and, to an extent, the personality of the testator.

John of Marden (JOH1626) was careful to ensure that his legacies were spread over several years so that his executrix was not overburdened. Thus his son Roger would receive his promised £8 legacy four years after his father died; his son Roger would have to wait five years; his daughter Agnes six, his daughter Jane seven, his son Edward, eight and daughter Elizabeth nine. This seems to have been a deliberate staging of his bequests rather than the release of legacies when the children reached the age of adulthood. It suggests that John realised that his widow would not be able to pay all his legacies at once.

William of Corsham (WIL1621) was generous enough to bequeath his cousin Richard twenty shillings and also to forgive him the debts that he owed William. But he



WILLS OF WILTSHIRE – *the Way We Were*

➤ then hurriedly added a footnote to this will to make clear that the debts that he was forgiving were those owed at the time of drawing up this document and that other debts that had been incurred since this will was made were NOT forgiven.

William of Chippenham (WIL1640ii) left his house jointly to his wife and son, John, as long as John *"honestly and dutifully bear and behave himself towards his mother."* If he did not, he was to be cast out of the house and would only inherit after his mother's death.

John of Melksham (JOH1773) could not resist noting that he had been badly treated by his wife's brother *"in Money Matters - exclusive of his hard treatment of my son....There's no mending of that now....but [I] wish he may do what is right in the future."*

Nicholas of Broughton Gifford (NIC1603) bequeathed *"my best bed and my best bedstead"* to his daughter-in-law Gillian, leaving his widow *"my second best bed."* Perhaps Gillian was of child-bearing age, whereas Nicholas's widow was not.

John of Melksham (JOH1773) was very careful about money and specified in his will that *"my Funeral Expences Especially Coffin & Shroud may be as Light as possible."* Perhaps he would not have approved of the accounts presented by the Executor of Thomas of Broad Chalke (THO1637) which recorded that the shroud and the coffin had each cost three shillings and four pence but a further two pounds had been spent on *"the Bells and church duties & for other necessary expences to make the neighbours drink."*

Housing

What sort of houses did these people live in? We cannot tell from these inventories what building materials were used in the construction of Wiltshire houses, but they do tell us of the size of their houses.

Thirteen of the 18 inventories listed the property in each room separately which also makes clear the use to which each was put. Some houses had a barn or outhouse but these have been ignored in this analysis.

All but one house listed a Hall, which was the main living space; eleven mentioned a Buttery. The two which did not mention a Buttery referred to a Kitchen and it is likely that these terms were largely interchangeable at this time. The blacksmiths all had a shop which was attached to their living quarters. Eleven of the thirteen houses had one or more chambers above the ground floor. These were where the beds and bedding could be found, but they were also used for other purposes – for example, storing cheese, a flitch of bacon and six bushels of beans (JOH1630 and NIC1603).

Five of these houses (excluding the blacksmiths' shops) consisted of just three rooms and a further six consisted of four or five rooms.

Only two houses were more spacious. The inventory of John of Corsham (JOH1652) listed a Hall, a Parlour, both an inner and an outer Buttery, a Grist house and three Chambers as well as his shop. All these rooms contained very few items and the total value of this inventory came to just £33 14s 4d.



WILLS OF WILTSHIRE – the Way We Were

➤ The richest man in this collection of wills – John of Great Chalfield (JOH1630) – had an inventory which listed six rooms downstairs and seven upstairs.

It is also notable that only one person, the wealthy blacksmith Joseph of Corsham (JOS1669), seems to have had a lease on his house. Others, we must assume, lived in houses owned by the manorial lord, to whom their successors would have to pay a fee before taking possession.

This reminds us that in the seventeenth century most people were still living in a feudal society where the lord of the manor could demand feudal service and fees, as well as presiding over the manorial court which made by-laws for the community and punished any anti-social behaviour.

In all these ways, life in Wiltshire in the seventeenth century was very different from life today.

Chris Moxon



Where's there's a Will... there's a pub!

This summer Ken Moxham and his wife Gwen came from their home in South Australia for an extended visit to the UK. While here they met up with Chris Moxon who gave Ken a copy of one of the wills from Wiltshire that he had been studying, and which related to Ken's great (x5) grandmother Ann Moxham. The will dated from 1774, a year before her death.

Apart from confirming some family relationships, which had been known from parish registers, this will also showed that Ann was described as a "Victualler". The hunt was on!

Ken takes up the story, "I went to the history people at the Wiltshire History Unit in Chippenham, to see what else I could find out about Ann Moxham.

I managed to find that in 1745 she held the Licence of the **Harp** in Pickwick which is now a part of Corsham. I also found she held a Licence in 1756, which one might presume was in the same place.

I can find no Harp there today. But there is a very old pub now called the Hare and Hound of Dickens fame. It would be exciting if it was the same, and I visited this pub the same day.

The History Unit offer a research service and so when I get home I will ask them to determine the location of the 1745 Harp.

All this started with Ann Moxham's will. It is one thing to have a long list of people's names in one's family tree, but it is so much more meaningful to me to have some human dimensions to some of those people. I know a good deal about those in the 1800's but to reach back that bit further is so much more exciting."



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MEMBERSHIP NEWS

We welcome new members who have joined since the last issue of The Magazine:

Francis Stanton *UK MX40*

Kenneth Penrose *UK TBC*

Beth Wilson

Australia (rejoined) MX05

John Theriault *Canada MX37*

Membership Report to 2018 AGM

The current membership stands at 145 members, of which 91 reside in the UK, 22 in North America, 30 in New Zealand and Australia, and two in France.

In the year from the AGM of 2017 to the AGM 2018 sixteen members joined The Moxon Society, but ten memberships had lapsed due to unpaid subscriptions, and four members had resigned.

THE MOXON MAGAZINE

The Magazine is supplied free of charge to Members. Copies, and back copies, may be bought from the Magazine Distributor, and are also available in PDF on the Society's Research 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 1st March and 1st 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 them 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 as illustrations 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 and on the Society's websites.

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