



Established in 1988 by James 'Jimmy' Moxon, Founding Editor and First President of The Moxon Society

The Moxon Magazine



Back row: Graham Jagger, Philip Lord, Chris Moxon, Teresa Gazey, Dymrna Moxon Hill,
Wendy Moxon, Judith Huggett, Don Moxon
Front row: Bruce Jones, Jenny Jordan, Gill Jones, Doris Moxon, Rosemary Mans,
Val McCourt, Marlene Hamilton

The 2019 Moxon Family Gathering

This year we gathered in Stafford, close by Shugborough Hall, our destination for the Saturday afternoon outing, where **Thomas Moxon**, an ancestor of Gathering Organiser Christopher Richardson, had been a Cook in the early 19th century.

Sadly, Christopher was unable at the last minute to come to the Gathering, and in a double disappointment the speakers he had booked were also unavailable. But in place of the speakers, President Emeritus Graham Jagger was called on and he wove a fascinating tale of a treasure hunt which began with three military medals and ended with two living descendants of the man who was awarded them: a veritable impromptu *tour de force* from Graham which rightly drew enthusiastic applause.

When the venue was chosen at last year's AGM, it wasn't clear where Thomas Moxon, the Cook of Shugborough, actually fitted into any of the existing Moxon Society trees, so a concerted effort was made to find him! The results of that research can be found in the article in this issue of the Moxon Magazine.

Also in this issue: tales of Medical Moxons, how poetry books were illustrated by the great JMW Turner for the publisher Edward Moxon, how the Moxon Society came about, where the Moxon surname came from, and much more. Also enclosed is a brief survey for you to share your thoughts about the venue and format of future Gatherings, and a note of the upcoming password change for the Research website.

Irresistible!



Member Marlene Hamilton (below) is pleased to announce the birth of her granddaughter Matilda Marie!

Matilda was born in Dubai while her father was serving with the South African Airforce.



SITUATION VACANT

After many years of faithful and diligent service, our Honorary Treasurer, John Earnshaw, has retired. He was given a very formal and very heartfelt vote of thanks at the recent Annual General Meeting, notice being taken of his constant willingness to oversee the finances of the Society.

Which, of course, means that the position of Honorary Treasurer to the Moxon Society is currently vacant, and **if you could take on the post, or you would like to recommend someone else for the post**, please get in touch with our chairman, Ken Moxon, whose address is on the back page of this magazine.

An editorial note

This issue of The Moxon Magazine is published a week or so later than planned because your Editor was somewhat distracted during the last few months. Please accept my apologies.

I also owe apologies if you have generously sent contributions which have not found their way into this issue: but they are safely locked away in my file storage and I will look to print them in a future issue.

But there is still a lot of fascinating material to enjoy - so please: ENJOY!

Trevor Jordan
Editor

The Hunt for Thomas Moxon



Thomas Moxon
1778-1839

The Hunt Begins

Christopher's great grandfather, Edmund Douglas Richadson (1851-1892), was a Cheesemonger in the West End of London (and his father was a Cheesemonger before him) when he married Ellen Amy Moxon in 1878 in St George's Church, Hanover Square. Ellen was daughter of Thomas Edward Moxon (1814-1878) and Jane Ellen Barker (1828-1904), Thomas Edward's second wife. They had married in 1851 in St Mary's Church in Paddington, following the early death in 1847 of Thomas Edward's first wife Martha Amelia Clapham. This first marriage had been a childless union, but Ellen Amy was one of seven children born to Thomas Edward and Jane.

Thomas Edward was born on the Shugborough Estate in Staffordshire where his father Thomas Moxon was Cook for many years.

Who was Thomas Moxon?

Thomas Moxon, Thomas Edward's father, married Lucy Kent on July 13th, 1813 in Birmingham, he being "of the parish" of Birmingham while Lucy was "of the parish" of Colwich (Shugborough is in Colwich parish).

That is where the ancestral Moxon line of Christopher's tree had ended, but there was more to be found!

Online sources suggested that Thomas Moxon was baptised in Birmingham in 1794. But the 1813 marriage bond made it clear that Thomas was already Cook to Viscount Anson of Shugborough, and such a senior position did not tally with the tender age of 19, and there was no indication in the 1794 parish register that it was a late baptism. To establish the correct birth date for Thomas, it was necessary to establish a correct date of death.

The same online sources suggested that Thomas could have died in London in 1769, but we knew that to be the death of Thomas Moxon of Leyton, from MX05.

Lucy is not a common Moxon name, so a search for her in the 1841 Census quickly found Lucy Moxon,

of independent means, living with her daughter Mary Anne in Little Woolton near Liverpool, but there was no sign of Thomas. This was unexpected. Why Liverpool? Ten years later the 1851 Census confirmed her to be a widow, still living in Little Woolton with Mary Anne. She was then a Schoolmistress, and her place of birth was identified as Hatfield, Hertfordshire. So who was Lucy Kent?

Lucy Kent: the Gamekeeper's daughter?

It was claimed online that Thomas met Lucy at Shugborough as she was daughter to William Kent the Gamekeeper, and the Kent family went back at least three to four generations to the early 1700s in the villages around Breaston and Risley in Derbyshire. Was this romantic story true?

The 1851 census had confirmed Lucy's place of birth as Hatfield, Hertfordshire. The only baptism for a Lucy Kent in Hatfield around that time is in 1792, which would make her the correct age to be married in 1813. Her father was Edward Kent, and Edward's marriage register entry says that he was a "Coachman of Pope's in this Parish". Pope's, also known as Holbeaches, was a manor in Hatfield

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THE HUNT FOR THOMAS MOXON CONTINUED

occupied in the latter part of the 18th Century by the Asherton family who sold it to James Marquess of Salisbury in 1817, uniting it to the Hatfield estate. The name Edward of course



Lucy Kent
1792-1858

occurs in the name of Thomas and Lucy's first child, Thomas Edward Moxon, thereby naming him after her father as well as after Thomas himself.

While a William Kent was Gamekeeper at Shugborough throughout this period there is no apparent relationship to Lucy Kent. He died at Shugborough July 24th, 1866, aged 82, "the deceased had been engaged on the Shugborough estates as gamekeeper for the last 60 years and was much respected by both the late and present Earl of Lichfield" [Staffordshire Advertiser Aug 4th, 1866]

Cook, Hotel Keeper and Druggist

Thomas Moxon died on August 19th, 1839. His second son, William Kent Moxon, was present at and registered the death but the details were again unexpected.

Thomas's occupation was "Druggist", and he had died, of apoplexy, at 103 Mill Street in Toxteth Park, the same address given by son Thomas Edward in the 1841 census. Thomas Edward had obviously remained there, perhaps looking after the Chemist's shop after his father's death. Crucially, Thomas Moxon was aged 62, meaning a

birth date around 1777 and therefore would have been about 36 years old when he married in 1813, a much more likely age for the Cook to Viscount Anson.

Thomas and Lucy had four children; Thomas Edward Moxon in 1814, William Kent Moxon in 1820, Mary Anne Moxon in 1822 and Charles Moxon in 1829. The baptismal registers record that the family were living on the Shugborough Estate, the middle two baptisms recording that they lived in "Shugborough Lodge". Which of the five entrance Lodges that sit on routes into and out of the parkland is not certain and possibly they moved between different properties on the Estate during their time there. The 1829 entry for Charles gave the family abode as Great Haywood, where "Stafford Wood Lodge" is situated. The Lodges were not spacious, and lack of suitable accommodation for a growing family may have contributed to the decision to leave Shugborough.

Thomas left his position as Cook at Shugborough in 1832, moving three miles down the road to run the nearby Wolseley Arms as a tenant of Sir Charles Wolseley. At his son Thomas Edward's marriage in 1843, father Thomas Moxon's occupation is listed as "Hotel Keeper" on the marriage certificate so the Wolseley Arms is the "Hotel" referred to. The Staffordshire Advertiser dated Saturday July 28th, 1832 carried a glowing report of his housewarming party:

"Mr. Moxon's Housewarming. — Mr. Moxon, the new tenant of the Wolseley Arms Inn, Wolseley Bridge, had his "housewarming" dinner, on Tuesday last, honoured by a large and respectable attendance. About 120 gentlemen sat down to a sumptuous dinner, which included turtle, venison, and other most excellent dishes. The dinner was served in a marquee, on the lawn by the house beautifully situated on the side of the river. The marquee was most tastefully ornamented with evergreens and flowers. Sir Charles Wolseley, baronet, presided at the principal table; and as soon as the cloth was drawn, said that on the present social occasion, met as they were for no public purpose, but merely to serve a neighbour, by giving him a start, as it were, in his new undertaking he should not only abstain himself from every allusion to politics, but desire every member of the company also to

THE HUNT FOR THOMAS MOXON CONTINUED

avoid every topic of a political nature, not merely because such subjects would be irrelevant, but if introduced would, most likely, interrupt the peace of the company. Sir Charles's wish was complied with; and the evening was spent in hilarity and harmony. The wines were excellent. Several professional singers were present, and promoted the enjoyment of the guests by the excellence with which they executed a number of glees, songs, etc. The Rugeley band also administered to the gratification of the party."

The present-day Wolseley Arms, Wolseley Bridge, is the original Wolseley Arms dating from the 17th century. It was added to and restored by members of the Wolseley family, notably by Sir Charles Wolseley in 1820. Situated at the junction of the London and Liverpool and Holyhead roads, it was a prominent coaching and posting house.

What prompted Thomas to move from there to Toxteth Park to become a Druggist is a mystery, but he may have found the job of Hotel Keeper too onerous by the time he was in his sixties.

His death notice in The Liverpool Mercury, Aug 23rd, 1869 reported that he was "many years landlord of the Wolseley Arms Hotel, Staffordshire" and the Staffordshire Advertiser the following day said that he was "late of the Wolseley Bridge Inn, much and deservedly regretted by a numerous circle of friends."

Where does Thomas Edward fit into the Moxon family trees?

The question remained, where in all of the Moxon Society Trees, was this Thomas Moxon born around 1777? There was only one contender who was not already married, a Thomas Moxon born in Stepney, London and baptised 27 Dec 1778 in St George in the East, in tree MX01.

This Thomas was the son of Jonas Moxon (1749-), a Pawnbroker with property in the Wapping area. Jonas was obviously a pillar of the community, being granted the Freedom of the City of London in 1790, in the Worshipful Company of Girdlers. A note in the margin of this document indicated that he was the son of Richard Moxon (1717-1800) of Cawthorne, Weaver.

Jonas had a sister, Anne Moxon (1757-1842), who before her marriage gave birth to a son, Jonas

Moxon (1793-1849) named after her brother. One of the direct descendants of Jonas Jun. is Moxon Society member Christopher Albert Moxon. Christopher Albert shares DNA with three descendants of Thomas Moxon of Shugborough, in the correct quantities to back up a 5th cousin once removed relationship should they be descended from Anne Moxon's brother Jonas (1749 -). Additionally, Christopher Richardson, descendant of Thomas Moxon of Shugborough, shares DNA at a distant cousin level with three individuals in MX11 tree (The Moxons of Stewkley), including Moxon Society Member Christopher John Moxon of New Zealand. As demonstrated elsewhere in this Magazine, further research into the MX11 tree has combined that tree that into MX01 too.

Result!

As a result of this research, the two trees, Shugborough (MX85) and Cawthorne (MX01) have been united on the basis that Thomas, Cook at Shugborough, is the son of Jonas Moxon (1749-), baptised 27 Dec 1778 in St George in the East, London.

**Philip Lord
2019**

Shugborough Hall
Shugborough Hall was the seat of the Anson family. Thomas Anson had been MP for Lichfield and was created Viscount Anson on leaving the Commons in 1806. He died in 1818 and was succeeded by his son Thomas Anson who was 2nd Viscount from 1818 until 1831 when he was created 1st Earl of Lichfield. His descendants include Lord Lichfield, the famous royal and society photographer. However, the 1st Earl's gambling and lavish entertaining (Thomas Moxon was probably kept very busy in his kitchens!) left him heavily in debt and he was forced to sell off the entire contents of the Shugborough Estate in 1842 in a sale which lasted for two weeks.

Release of the 1921 Census for England and Wales

In the most anticipated family history development since the online publication of the 1939 Register, Findmypast has been selected as The National Archives' commercial partner to make the 1921 Census of England & Wales available online.

The 1921 census is the most comprehensive census to be opened to the public since records began in 1801 and will be published online by Findmypast in full in January 2022. The price of accessing record images and transcripts will be announced nearer to the date of release.

After the 1921 census, the next census to be released will be the 1951 census, due for release in January 2052. The 1931 census was taken in April 1931 but was completely destroyed in a fire in 1942 at the Office of Works. There was no England and Wales census in 1941 due to the Second World War.

The 1921 census occupies 1.6 linear kilometres of shelving, holding details of just under 38 million people living in England & Wales in June 1921. The increase in population since 1911 was

approximately 1.8 million, showing the impact of the First World War as this was only half the increase from 1901 to 1911, and proportionally the lowest increase recorded since the first census in 1801.

The 1921 census is a household census taken in June 1921 and paints a picture of the UK population one hundred years ago. It holds information on every household, vessel, institution and overseas residencies that were part of England and Wales in 1921, plus the Isle of Man and Channel Islands.

For the first time "divorced" was included as a marital status. Other additional information includes the address of each person's place of work. This means that for the first time you will often be able to determine the colleagues of your relatives for the first time. This was the first census since the creation of the Royal Air Force and their overseas stations were included in this census along with army bases and ships of the Royal Navy.

About censuses

A census has been taken in England and Wales, and separately for Scotland, every ten years since 1801. Unfortunately, the 1931 census for England and Wales was destroyed by fire in 1942, and no census was taken in 1941 because of the Second World War. The most recent UK census took place in 2011.

During the Roman Republic, the *census* was a list to track all adult males fit for military service. The Domesday Book of 1086 in England contained listings of households but its coverage was not complete and its intent was not the same as modern censuses. That survey's main purpose was essentially a tax assessment: to find out, "How many hundreds of hides [*areas of land thought large enough to support a family; about 30 acres*] were in the shire, what land the king [*William The Conqueror*] himself had, and what stock upon the

land; or, what dues he ought to have by the year from the shire."

The aim of modern censuses is to provide information about the population as a whole; although the principle is not to obtain detailed information about individuals, listing everyone by name, wherever they happened to be on a single night, was the most efficient way to count everybody once, and nobody twice.

The census of England & Wales is undertaken for the government by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). The General Register Office for Scotland (GROS) conducts its own census, while the census in Northern Ireland is carried out by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA).

Whence the Moxons of Stewkley? - Revisited!

Six years ago, in the April 2013 edition of the Moxon Magazine (issue 51), Graham Jagger wrote an article explaining why the Moxons of Stewkley tree (MX11) should be united with the Moxons of Cawthorne tree (MX01). This article uses much from the original but has been expanded to explain new findings about the origins of the Moxons of Stewkley.

Since the early history of the Moxon Society much effort has been expended in trying to trace the origin of the Moxons of Stewkley. Stewkley is a village in Buckinghamshire, some 12 miles south of Milton Keynes and about 150 miles south of the heartlands of the Moxons of Yorkshire.

The MUCKSON name first appeared in Buckinghamshire in 1735 when, on 7 March of that year, Nathaniel Muckson, the 'father' of the Buckinghamshire Moxons, married Catherine Tragle at Stoke Hammond, some four miles to the north-east of Stewkley. Nathaniel's son, John Muckson, was baptised on 31 May 1741 at Stoke Hammond and it is this John who is at the top of Moxon tree MX11. Early members of this tree continued to be called Muckson, or even Muxeon, but by the end of the first quarter of the 19th century Moxon had become the accepted spelling.

In order to link the Stewkley Moxons with the wider Moxon family we must first locate the place of birth of the above-mentioned Nathaniel Muckson. There have been two schools of thought concerning the origin of this family. One asserts that the Muckson family of Stewkley, like the Moxhams of Ebbesbourne Wake, have nothing to do with the Moxons of Yorkshire and have a quite different genetic origin. The other, based upon a somewhat dubious reading of the available evidence, prefers a descent from the Moxons of Leeds. DNA evidence now enables us to assert that neither of these alternatives is correct and that the origins of the Moxons of Stewkley must be sought elsewhere.

Documentary research shows that two members of the Stewkley tree (MX11), Paul Andrew Moxon (Judy Huggett's first cousin once removed) and

Christopher John Moxon (Paul's fourth cousin once removed) have John Muxeon (1776-1842) as their most recent common ancestor. Both Chris and Paul have provided a sample for testing and a Y-DNA25 marker analysis shows that the probability of them having a common ancestor within eight generations is 57.78%, a result which is entirely consistent with the documentary evidence.

Previous research, both documentary and DNA, had established that Neil F Moxon can trace his ancestry back to John Moxon (1650-1727). John had a son Nathaniel Moxon (1687- 1765) who in turn had a son Thomas Moxon (1711-1788) who was born at Littleover, Derbyshire. Further, a Y-DNA25 marker analysis shows that the probability of Neil and Paul having a common ancestor within eight generations is 57.78%, a result which strongly suggests that Paul, too, may be descended from the Moxons of Littleover whose tree forms part of MX01.

The original 2013 article suggested that a likely candidate for Nathaniel Muckson, the 'father' of the Buckinghamshire Moxons, and one who satisfied both the documentary and DNA evidence, was Nathaniel Moxon, a grandson of John Moxon (1650-1727) and the brother of the Thomas Moxon (1711-1788) mentioned above. As a result of the conclusions of this research MX11 and MX01 were combined into one tree. But an update in the April 2018 Moxon Magazine,

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WHENCE THE MOXONS OF STEWKLEY? - REVISITED! continued

issue no. 61, pointed out that research in the intervening years had established that far from moving to Buckinghamshire and dying there in 1760, Nathaniel was alive and well in Staffordshire in 1766 where he was present at the probate of his father's will and in 1772 he married Ann Boddice in Burton on Trent. Reluctantly the MX01 tree was split into separate MX01 and MX11 trees again and the hunt resumed to discover the origin of the mysterious Nathaniel Muckson who married in Buckinghamshire!

A further look at the 1735 marriage of Nathaniel Muckson and Catherine Tragle in Stoke Hammond confirmed that Nathaniel's origins probably were in Derbyshire, as the marriage register records the fact that he was of the parish of Bradwell, and Bradwell is a village in the Derbyshire Peak District, while his bride Catherine was of Buckinghamshire. We can only speculate on the reasons why Nathaniel chose to remain in Buckinghamshire once married, but it seems likely that he had moved there either to take up employment or to look for employment and that whilst there had met Catherine.

The question was how could he be from Derbyshire when the only likely known candidate had been ruled out of the equation? A new search of records for any Nathaniel with a surname beginning with M who was born around 1709 produced another result – a Nathaniel MUGSON baptised in 1710 in Derby, son of a William MUGSON and Mugson of course sounds very similar to Muckson. Nathaniel Mugson and most of his siblings were new to us, they did not appear in any Moxon Society tree. All those siblings had the same father, William Moxon or Mugson.

Given the strong DNA association between those Moxon Society members of MX11 who have been tested with those tested in the MX01 tree as outlined above, the MX01 tree was examined again and a suitable William Moxon was discovered there, baptised 1681 in Morley, Derbyshire. He was another son of the same John Moxon (1650-1727) mentioned above, meaning that the DNA associations remained the same as they were when in 2013 it was thought that the line of descent was through John's other son Nathaniel.

John Moxon Hill and Joan Rendall, in the Moxon Society publication "Charles Mokeson of Cawthorne and his Dynasty", say "John [Moxon] left a Will [dated 23rd December 1726], which shows him to have been a prosperous yeoman farmer with considerable property. At the time of writing, it is unknown how he accumulated his wealth. His five children [one of whom was William] were baptised at Morley, Derbyshire. Later, he moved to Littleover, approximately 2 miles from Derby city, where he died in 1727." Littleover is now a suburb of Derby.

William Moxon inherited only twenty shillings from his father John in 1727, "he having had so large a proportion already". He married Hannah Houghton on March 21st 1701/02 in St Mary's church, Nottingham. The Nottingham Marriage Licence refers to him as William MUGSON. Hannah Houghton was buried 9 Mar 1717, All Saints, Derby, "wife of William Moxon". William appears to have been buried in 1728 in All Saints church, Derby as William "Mogson". His son Nathaniel Mugson was baptised 28 Sep 1710 in All Saints church, Derby.

Once again, DNA analysis together with documentary research has united Moxon trees, here MX01 and MX11, on the assumption that the Nathaniel Mugson above, baptised 1710 in Derby, is the same Nathaniel Muckson who married Catherine Tragle in Stoke Hammond, Buckinghamshire in 1735. Hopefully this time the two trees will remain united!

Graham Jagger and Philip Lord

TREES UPDATE

Since the April Magazine, two more Moxon Society Trees have been merged, both into MX01, the Moxons of Cawthorne. Unfortunately, in the process, all permissions for those with access to view MX01 were wiped. If you would like to view MX01 (you don't need a subscription to Ancestry), please ask Chris Moxon (moxonchris@aol.com) and Chris will send you the necessary invitation.

The two mergers are interesting stories in themselves and are covered in separate articles in this Magazine – "Whence the Moxons of Stewkley? - Revisited" and "Thomas Moxon of Shugborough".

Medical ancestors – keeping it in the family

The medical profession is well represented on my maternal grandmother's side.

Starting with my great great great grandfather, Benjamin Moxon c1780 – 1839, listed in Pigot's directory of 1834 as *Chemyst/druggyst* of 22 Market Place Hull.

Benjamin married Hannah Portas and they had 11 children: 8 sons and 3 daughters.

Benjamin went into business with some of his sons and they patented *Moxon's Effervescent Magnesium Aperient* – their newspaper advertisement begins, "this agreeable and efficient Aperient is peculiarly adapted for the use of persons subject to habitual or casual Costiveness."

Three of Benjamin's sons (the 2 eldest and his youngest): James Burdett Moxon 1812 - 1907, Benjamin Portas Moxon 1813 – 1857, and Thomas Henry Moxon 1831 – 1898 (my great great grandfather) became medical men. Three grandsons became Doctors and five granddaughters became nurses. One great granddaughter became a Doctor and her son (a great great grandson) became a Doctor and her daughter (a great great granddaughter) trained as a nurse.

James and Benjamin Jnr started off as druggist/chemists, but Thomas trained as a Doctor straight away. James received his apothecary certificate on 7 March 1844.

James then trained to be a Doctor and in July 1847 in Barnetby-le-Wold Lincolnshire was responsible for diagnosing arsenic poisoning in pancakes given by the infamous Mary Milner to her neighbour Hannah Jickels simply because she didn't like her. James' witness statement and testimony was responsible for the defendant being found guilty and sentenced to death. The defendant had tried to wash away all the liquid evidence, but James found some on an ash-hill and was able to take and analyse samples from that. He found that there were 30 grains of arsenic – 12 are enough to

MEDICINE RENDERED PALATABLE!!

MOXON'S EFFERVESCENT MAGNESIAN APERIENT.—This agreeable and efficient Aperient is peculiarly adapted for the use of persons subject to habitual or casual Costiveness, Bilious Affections, Indigestion, Pains in the Head, Sick-Headache, Nausea, Irritation of the Stomach, Vomiting, and other derangements frequently attendant upon a studious and sedentary life. Its operation is unattended by pain; scarcely interferes with the ordinary occupations; does not induce any liability to take cold from exposure; and, unlike calomel, and those drastic Aperients taken under the form of Pills, does not establish a necessity for the constant use of purgative medicines. It is an excellent remedy for the disagreeable effects of excess, either in eating or drinking; it also instantly cures Heartburn, prevents and relieves Gout, Piles, and Fistula, and is the best Aperient saline draught in all Febrile affections. Prepared only by Benjamin Moxon & Sons, Chemists, Hull. Sold in bottles at 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s. Observe the genuine medicine has "Moxon and Smith (then co-partners), Chemists, Hull," engraved on the government stamp. Wholesale Agents, Barclay & Sons, Suttons, Edwards, and all other Medicine Houses, London; J. & R. Raimes & Co., Edinburgh and Dublin; Butler, Dublin; Simpson, York, &c., &c.

kill a person. Mary Milner had previously been found not guilty of murdering her mother in law. (Information courtesy of *Crime and Criminals in Victorian Lincolnshire* by Adrian Gray).

He was also published in the Lancet on 17 May 1851 with a paper on *Plastic Operation for the Removal of Deformity after Extensive Burns to the Face, Neck and Chest*.

James had 9 children; 7 daughters and 2 sons. His youngest son Henry Maxsted Moxon 1850 – 1873 was, in the 1871 census, a medical student but unfortunately died 2 years later. This was a common occurrence in those days; being a Doctor was a hazardous occupation. None of his other children or their descendants went into the medical profession although intriguingly one of his great granddaughters – Grace Tritton – the 1891 census listed her occupation as Masseuse at her father's hotel – the Deganwy Castle Hotel in Deganwy Caernarfonshire.

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MEDICAL ANCESTORS – KEEPING IT IN THE FAMILY continued

Benjamin *Jnr* did not marry and died in 1857.

Another son of Thomas: Richard Ryder Moxon's eldest son Benjamin Howard Moxon 1841-1924 was a Doctor and the photograph is reproduced by kind permission of David Armitage of Sydney Australia (his great great grandson). Benjamin had a son, Francis Henry Moxon, who was a renowned Ophthalmic Surgeon and who himself married a doctor, Dr Alice Gilford, in 1907.



Dr Benjamin Howard Moxon

Thomas, the youngest son, married Margaret Humphrey Palmer in 1861: given that Thomas was a medical gentleman you'd think he would have known better - his wife was also the daughter of a surgeon and three of her brothers were doctors as well! The couple had 18 children but to quote my great grandmother Olive Grace Moxon, "never more than 12 alive at any one time, my dear." Six of the siblings have the dates of birth very close together: Katherine Alice (aka Kitty) 3 Nov 1870; Lilian Mary 23 Dec 1871; Charles Noel Palmer 21 Dec 1872; Olive Grace 22 Dec 1873; John born and died December 1874; and Edmund Peter born and died Sept 1875.

Thomas' eldest son Alban Henry Moxon was a doctor and in partnership with his father in Great Yarmouth at 147 King Street Great Yarmouth. After his father's death in 1898 he moved to his Uncle Charles Palmer's premises at 44 King Street. We were always led to believe that from these 18 children our family were the only descendants left. However I am now aware of another branch in Australia from an elder daughter, but the family do not wish to be included on the tree for personal reasons.

Three of Thomas' daughters were nurses: Dora Burdett, Helen Maria (aka Ellen) and Katherine (known as Kitty). Another daughter Lilian (aka Lily) married a doctor. Dora was listed as a nurse on the 1900 Rhodes Island census and in the 1920 US census she is listed as a domestic living with George Prentice. She is the one about whom an effective smokescreen was thrown. In her father's will dated 1896 he left £500 to "my eldest daughter Emily Frances Sophia" (she wasn't the eldest - Dora was...) and later on "leave the residue of my estate to be divided up amongst my 5 daughters" and his only son - except that there were 6 daughters and 2 sons alive at the time.

Helen and Kitty were both nurses during WW1 along with their cousin Phyllis. It appears from Helen's records that she was not cut out for military hospital nursing which is surprising given she trained at the Newcastle Royal Victoria Infirmary, and also worked at St Thomas' in London; and in 1911 she was working as a sick nurse in a hotel in Liverpool. Her annual military review one year was very brutal about her...

Would you employ this person again? **No**
Is this person suitable for hospital nursing? **No**
If not ,why not? **Slow, unable to respond in a crisis, doesn't follow orders well.**

However it was not all bad as she was given a glowing personal/character reference about how well liked she was both by patients and staff and what an excellent bedside manner she had. Helen was required to sign the bottom of this form and added that she fully concurred with the aforementioned assessment.

MEDICAL ANCESTORS – KEEPING IT IN THE FAMILY continued

Kitty also trained at the Newcastle Royal Victoria Infirmary and used to tell my mother stories of where old fashioned and modern medicine clashed. One old-fashioned surgeon's operating coat "could stand on its own" and his dog lay under the operating table, while the modern surgeon used carbolic soap and powder in his theatre – no prizes for guessing whose patients had a better recovery rate. After her father died in 1898 Kitty went to India and worked on the Indian railways as a nurse and while in India she met and married her husband, Frederic Storey, a Master Mariner.

My great grandmother Grace was sadly already widowed by the start of WW1. She joined the Red Cross in WW1 as a masseuse.

Thomas' granddaughter Phyllis Pleasance Case (my grandmother) trained as a doctor in the early 1920s. When she married Owen Pigott in December 1927 they honeymooned in Cannes. They awoke to the headlines in an English local newspaper of "Intrepid Airforce Officer weds Doctor."



Owen and Phyllis on their engagement

Both Phyllis' children, Francis Pigott and my mother, joined the medical profession. My late Uncle Francis was a consultant anaesthetist and my mother started as a Naval VAD but undertook her nursing training at St Bart's which was also where my Uncle trained. She often likes to tell the story of the night shift when the junior nurses were sent into the kitchen wearing rubber shoes and carrying a bucket; in the dark they were required to stomp on as many cockroaches as possible and present the bucket to the Head Matron for inspection – if she didn't think it was full enough you were sent in for another go!



And finally a picture of four generations of Moxons taken in 1957: Olive Grace Case nee Moxon, with her daughter Dr Phyllis Pleasance Pigott nee Case, with her granddaughter and great granddaughter.

**Harriet Cozens
2019**

JOHN ERNEST UNSWORTH MOXON MBE 1928-2019

John and his wife Ann were at the very first Moxon Gathering in Leeds in 1989 and John's family ancestry were the Staffordshire Moxons, who were lawyers and solicitors.

When Doctor John, as he was known in the Society, died earlier this year, we lost the last of the trio of stalwarts who set the Moxon Society into being on the 1st January 1991.

Jimmy and Dick Moxon did the very early leg work and then, when the Society was inaugurated, Doctor John was elected Executive Committee chairman and he became a guiding light for the first five years of the Executive. Jimmy Moxon, the founder of the Society, had a rather useful skill of being able to pick the right man for the job and in Doctor John he chose just the person he needed. Doctor John brought with him a lot of experience in handling committees.

John was not only a local GP for the township of Frome, Somerset but he was an extremely active member of the Rotary Club and a tireless worker for improvement to the local cottage hospital in Frome. His devotion to the local community and the NHS in Somerset and Wiltshire earned him the award of the MBE in 1992. There is a very good report of his activities in Moxon Magazine 20 on page 10. John also wrote an obituary for his wife, Ann who pre-deceased him in 2011.



As a person John had a great, if slightly mischievous, sense of humour, a ready laugh and a quite authoritative manner. When he retired from the post of chairman he would sit in the body of the AGM and quite often would make a helpful suggestion to a problem troubling the committee.

He was one of those engaging characters whom one easily remembers with pleasure and his loss will be felt by his family, the Moxon Society and by many citizens and organisations in Frome.

**John C Moxon
Isle of Wight
July 2019**

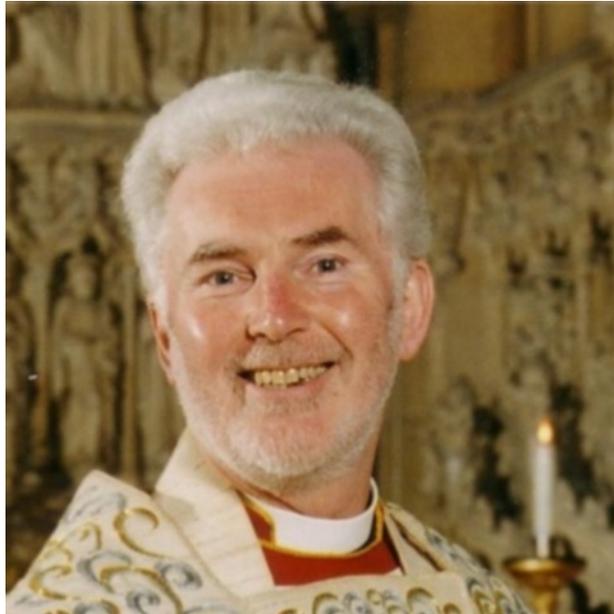
THE VERY REVEREND MICHAEL ANTHONY MOXON (1942-2019)

Michael Moxon was born in Northamptonshire on Friday, 23 January 1942, the son of the Reverend Charles Moxon and Phyllis Moxon née Carter.

After being educated at the University of Durham and Salisbury Theological College Michael began what was to be a glittering career in the Church of England. He was ordained deacon in 1970 and priest in 1971. From 1970 until 1974 he served as a curate in the Lowestoft group of parishes in the diocese of Norwich. He went on from there to St Paul's Cathedral first as Minor Canon and then as Sacrist. In this latter role he played a leading part in the organisation of services, from the daily evensong to state occasions such as the Queen's Silver Jubilee service in 1977 and the 1981 royal wedding.

In 1981 Michael moved to Gloucestershire where for nine years he was Vicar of Tewkesbury. Moving to Windsor in 1990 he held several posts at St Georges Chapel: Canon, 1990-98; Canon Steward, 1994-97; Canon Treasurer, 1997-98. He was Chaplain to the Queen from 1986 to 1998. Michael was appointed Dean of Truro in 1998 and held this post until his retirement due to ill health in 2004 when he became Dean Emeritus.

Michael had many interests outside the church. He was a passionate follower of cricket and, perhaps because of his



Northamptonshire roots, was an avid supporter of Northampton Town Football Club.

He was a founder trustee of the Moxon Family Research Trust and was for some years its treasurer. Further details of his association with the wider Moxon family can be found in early editions of The Moxon Magazine, particularly the front pages of issue no. 1 (April 1988) and issue no. 5 (April 1990). It has not yet been possible to link Michael with any of the Moxon trees, but Jimmy Moxon wrote in issue no. 1 that Michael's 'grandfather was Sheffield born'.

Michael died on Sunday, 28 July 2019, in Treliske Hospital, Truro. He is survived by his second wife Nicola, three children, and grandchildren.

**Graham Jagger
23 September 2019**

Dade Registers

Those researching their ancestry may have had the good fortune to come across the so-called Dade Registers. These registers are named after the Reverend William Dade, a clergyman who spent all his ministry in Yorkshire from his ordination in 1763 until his death in 1790.



DADE'S IDEA was that baptismal registers should include the child's name, date of birth and baptism, together with his or her position in the family (2nd daughter, for example); the father's name, profession and place of abode; the professions and places of abode of the father's parents; and similar information about the mother and the mother's parents. It was Dade's view that "[t]his scheme if properly put in execution will afford much clearer intelligence to the researches of posterity than the imperfect method hitherto generally pursued."

The then Archbishop of York, the Right Reverend William Markham, was so impressed by Dade's idea that in 1777 he directed that Dade's scheme should be introduced throughout his diocese and even went to the expense of having appropriate register books printed.

Dade's influence spread and the term Dade register has come to describe any parish register which includes more detail than expected, or legally required, for the time.

Of course, Dade's system meant more work for the clergy and there is no evidence to suggest that there are but few of these extended registers in the Bishop's Transcripts. Clergy who failed to comply with the

Archbishop's edict went unpunished and within a couple of decades the system fell into desuetude.

Figure 1 (above) shows an entry in the Dade register for the chapelry of Wentworth in the parish of Wath upon Dearne in the West Riding of Yorkshire. It shows the baptism of my 5th great uncle, Thomas Moxon, who was born on 14 October 1778 and baptised on 15 November the same year. Thomas was the fourth son of William Moxon, a gardiner [sic] of Thorp[e Hesley] who was the son of William Moxon a Tayler [sic] of Hoylandswain[e] and his wife Hannah. Thomas's mother was Elizabeth Cawthorn who was the daughter of Tho[mas] Cawthorn a nailer of Thorp[e] and his wife Sarah. There is quite a lot of information here for the genealogist, not the least of which is a link between the Moxons of Silkstone and those of Thorpe Hesley, which is reflected in Moxon tree MX27.

Most, but by no means all, Dade registers relate to Yorkshire parishes. A useful, though not complete, list of these can be found at

<http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/read/YORKSGEN/2002-12/1040239837>

Graham Jagger
Leicester October 2018

The Beginnings of The Moxon Society

How did the Moxon Society come about? It's a bit of a convoluted story that starts out in the mists of the early twentieth century. Two branches of Moxons bumped into each other in 1921...

PERHAPS NOT SO MUCH BUMPED because, as some of us know, the brothers Reverends RS Moxon and TA Moxon were both avid genealogists and their researches were to bring them into contact with my grandfather Augustus Isola Moxon who lived with his family in Brighton, West Sussex. The reason for this meeting was to prove a link between the two branches of the family. My grandfather's direct lineage includes the Victorian publisher Edward Moxon. Despite an exchange of letters and family information between the two Moxon branches, no link could be reliably proven. After an exchange of photographs of portraits from each side, my grandfather hung a picture of Revd George Moxon (Puritan Divine) on his wall and the Revd. R.S. Moxon hung a picture of Edward Moxon on his wall, the two families drifted apart to live out their separate lives socially unconnected.

We now "fast forward" 65 years to August 1986 and a scene at the Ordnance Survey offices in Southampton, U.K. My wife Jacqui and I had worked at the Ordnance Survey for most of our working lives and as well as making a living from drawing maps there is also an interest in historical mapping.

One morning Jacqui sat during a tea break reading the magazine Map Collector. In an article on 17th Century Cartography were a few paragraphs about and a picture of Joseph Moxon (1627-1691). Jacqui showed the picture to a colleague and joked about how cartography had been in the family for centuries. Jacqui's colleague scanned the picture of Joseph and said, "*There's a distinct family resemblance too; he looks like John.*" Jacqui laughed but thought... "*maybe a bit around the nose!*" Later in the day Jacqui showed me the article and we sat weighing up the evidence...

- Well, I've certainly got his *nose*.
- And Joseph Moxon *was* born in Wakefield in 1627... and Edward Moxon was *also* a Wakefield boy.
- *Maybe I was* genetically disposed to spend most of my working life in cartography... we laughed... but who knows for sure?



I decided to get Dad involved. For those of you not familiar with the early days of The Moxon Society, "Dad" was Dick Moxon... to be precise Richard Edward Arthur Moxon (1916-1990).

Dad had been retired for five years at this time and had spent a lot of his spare time involved in local history. He was a founding member of the Southampton Tourist Guides Association and held the office of Vice President. His love of history, local and otherwise, meant he was well known to the staff at Reference Library and City Archives in the centre of Southampton. Just the man, I thought, to do a little digging.

THE MOXON MAGAZINE

THE BEGINNINGS OF THE MOXON SOCIETY continued

Having a notable forebear has been a real blessing... Edward Moxon's life as a Victorian publisher of note is well documented. After my grandparents died, I was brought up in a house containing inherited family portraits, books and documents relating to our formerly wealthy family. Amongst the books was the biography of my great great grandfather; "*Edward Moxon – Publisher of Poets*" by HG Merriam. The book had been researched in the early 1930s and published in 1939 by the Columbia University Press, New York.

In the footnotes there was information about an unpublished history of the Moxon family in possession of the Reverend RS Moxon of Lincoln School. This tantalising snippet of information had always intrigued Dad and me... if only we could find the Revd RS and have a good read of the history.



Jimmy & Dick

By now quite a few of you will have guessed that this, "*unpublished history*" later became the basis of ***The Moxons of Yorkshire*** and the main reason that the 900 Moxons listed in the UK telephone directories received a leaflet asking them to support the publication. I primed Dad with the possible link to Joseph Moxon and the entreaty "Isn't it about time we (meaning Dad, of course!) tried to trace the Revd RS and his unpublished history?"

Thankfully Dad was always an enthusiastic detective and the next day set about tracing the elusive Moxon line. Within an hour in Southampton Reference Library Dad had his "hot link." Dad had surmised that because The Revd RS Moxon had been the headmaster of Lincoln public school he probably had an entry

in "Who's Who." Spot on! In that entry was the information that he now lived in Virginia Water, Surrey and a quick viewing of the appropriate telephone directory gave a complete address and telephone number.

Armed with this information Dad phoned me at work to give me the good news. Although armed with a contact telephone number Dad thought it would be better to lay out our position in a letter so one was sent the next day. Dad quickly received a reply, with good and bad news. Sadly the Revd RS had died three years earlier but his widow had passed the letter on to her son Professor Richard Moxon in Oxford and he had in turn alerted his cousin Jimmy. Dad was immediately on the phone to Jimmy and they spent an hour plotting how the world would materially change now they were both on "The Moxon Case". If you knew both men, you'll realise this wasn't such a far-fetched notion!

Diaries were hastily consulted and a suitable date for a get-together selected. The venue was to be Professor Richard's home in Oxford. Dad wanted Jacqui and me to come so I did the driving, Mum saying she'd sit this one out so three of us set out from Southampton.

Whether it's just a romantic idea I always view meeting other Moxons as meeting cousins. True to that feeling our meeting in Oxford was like meeting old friends, renewing friendships with people we had never met.

The picture of my great great grandfather on Richard's living-room wall and the realisation that a picture of Rev. George Moxon hung on the same wall - the original of the one in our possession - warmly underlined this feeling of kinship.

Jimmy of course was his usual, expansive self. For those who never met Jimmy I assure you it was very difficult not to be caught up with his energy and enthusiasm.

Dad and Jimmy had obviously been talking on the phone and the plans for getting the unpublished account of the Moxon family into print seemed to be born fully formed. It was quickly decided to canvass the support of Moxons nationwide through an advertising flyer.

THE BEGINNINGS OF THE MOXON SOCIETY continued

The names of Moxons were extracted from the UK telephone directories and that, in the days before The Internet and the home computer, was a lot of hard manual work. When you grow up wearing the unusual name of Moxon, (certainly in the South of England) it comes as something of a shock to learn there were over 900 Moxons listed in the UK directories.

It was now October 1986. Jimmy, Dad and my Mother May set about addressing 900 labels by hand, filling the envelopes with the hastily produced advertising flyer, appending a stamp and walking them to the local Post Office in batches of 250. By this time both Dad and Jimmy were both possessed of the enthusiasm of born-again religious zealots.

Neither was satisfied with the 900 British Moxons so it was off to "Australia House" and "Canada House" in London to photocopy pages of "colonial" Moxons from the respective telephone directories. So, this is the stage where many of you come into the story... on the receiving end of an advertising "flyer" for the proposed book *"The Moxons of Yorkshire."*

In the cynical age of the Internet such an open and innocent flyer would perhaps be sent straight to the rubbish bin as an obvious scam. And looking back at that "Moxon Flyer" it took a great leap of faith amongst those who responded. Sending money in advance on the

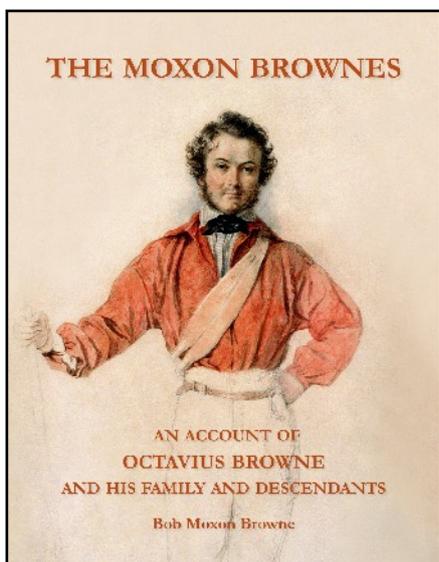


John & Jacqui

promise of a book not yet printed or even fully written seemed a hair-brained scheme. Would many respond today... maybe not.

To all those who responded to that Moxon Flyer we all owe you a great debt of thanks for your optimism and for your trust. I know it gave Dick and Jimmy a great deal of pleasure when the postman arrived each morning with another link in bringing together branches of The Moxon Family. It also meant that dad had another pin to add to his mounted Map of the World of Moxons. And the rest, as they say is... Moxon Family History.

John Moxon



Bob Moxon Browne is at it again!

The favourable reception given to his earlier book *The Moxons and the Brownes* (see MM63 April 2019) has prompted Bob Moxon Browne to write another one – *The Moxon Brownes* – concentrating on the branch of the Browne family who adopted the name Moxon and nowadays treat Moxon Browne as a double-barrelled surname. The new book is focused on Octavius Browne and his (and his family's) experiences in Australia, New Zealand and India in the first half of the 19th century. Members Chris Moxon and Philip Lord are helping Bob with the editing and the publication. The *Moxon Brownes* will be published in paperback in October or November this year. Discounts will be available to any members of the Moxon Society who would like a copy!

THE MOXONS ON YNYS MON (ANGLESEY)

My Great Great Grandfather, George Moxon, MX27, of Kexborough, Yorkshire married Catherine Evans of Amlwch, Anglesey, in Liverpool on the 15th April 1838. Their son George was born on the 13th October 1840.

The 1841 Census shows the family living in St David's Place, off Warren Street, Liverpool.

When George junior was 20 months old his mother died and was buried in the Parish Church Amlwch: strangely her Death Certificate records her as the wife of James Moxon.

George junior was raised by his Mother's parents, William & Mary Evans, with Welsh as his first language. The next record we have of him is the 1851 Census when, living with them at The Rhos, (*The Valley*) Amlwch, he is listed as their nephew.

By the 1861 Census his grandfather William had died and George is with his grandmother Mary, his occupation given as Stone Mason.

Sometime between then and his marriage to Mary Roberts in 1865 George joined the Railway where he was employed as a "**Braker**." The braking system on the trains of that era was very primitive, the locomotive being fitted with

a hand brake operated by the driver/firemen. At the rear of the train was a brake van with another hand brake, operated by the **braker**: when the train needed to stop the driver would blow the whistle on the locomotive to warn the braker and both would then wind down their respective brake handles.

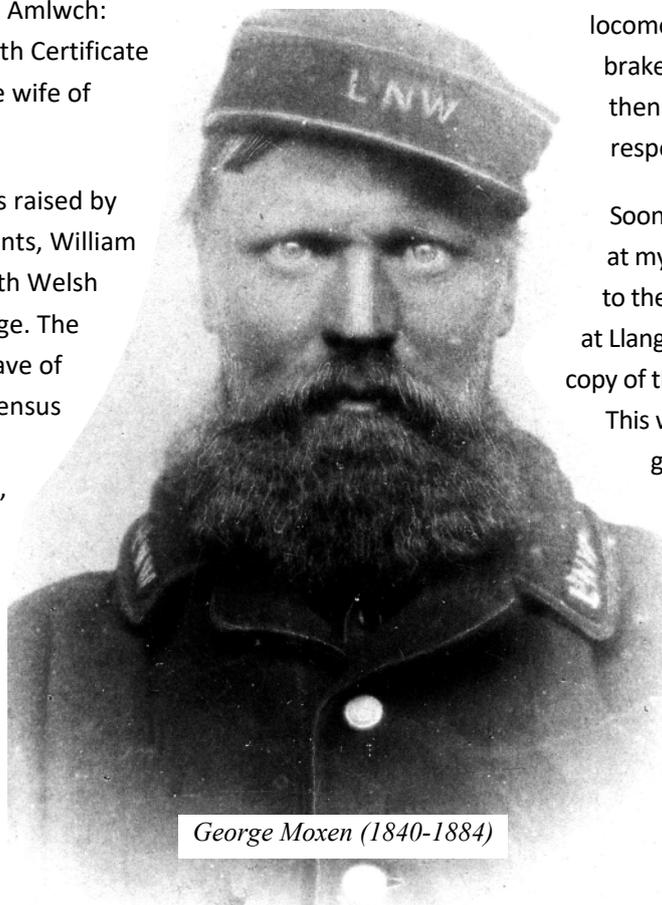
Soon after I started looking at my family tree I applied to the local Registrar's office at Llangefni, Anglesey for a copy of the marriage certificate.

This was duly delivered but gave his occupation as a Baker, the Registrar not believing that there was an occupation known as a Braker!

George and Mary had a total of twelve children, only six of whom survived to adulthood. Initially I

thought it unusual that they would reuse the names of the children who had died, so there were two Williams and three Margarets in the family tree, but I have since found that this was not an uncommon practice.

It seems Mary, who was illiterate, registered the marriage and the children's births. She



George Moxen (1840-1884)

THE MOXONS ON YNYS MON (ANGLESEY) continued

would have had to give the names verbally to the Registrar to write down. In the spoken Welsh this would have come out as something like *Mocksen*. The Registrar would then have written it down how he/she thought it should be spelt, so the family surname changed from *Moxon* to *Moxen*.

Both George and Mary died of tuberculosis in 1884 within a few months of each other, both only 43 years old,. Their grave is situated in "The New Cemetery" at Amlwch.

The eldest daughter, Catherine, then aged 18, took over the care of her five siblings aged between 20 months and 16 years, including my Grandfather William. She supported them by working from home as a dressmaker.

My Grandfather, William, married Ann Ellen Hughes on January 1st 1901. Ann's parents would not consent to the couple marrying so they had to wait until both of Ann's parents had died.

The couple took over the running of her parents' 40-acre farm, Rhew Moel Bach (Barren Hill Little), breeding horses.

During the First World War the Marquis of Anglesey claimed a right of way across their land which they disputed through the courts. The subsequent legal bills bankrupted the farm and the couple had to move out. William became a caretaker to the local Chapel and lived with the family, then two boys and five girls, in the small Chapel House, Ty Capel Bethania (House Chapel Bethania) where William lived until just before his death in 1957.



William Moxon (1896-1952)

The five daughters lived their lives out on Anglesey but the two sons - my father William and his younger brother, Owen - left Anglesey during the late 1920's depression to find work elsewhere. Owen found work in an aluminium works in Conwy, North Wales.

With the assistance from the British Legion my father, William, who had served and been wounded in the First World War, was able to find work as a postman in Chester.

TO BE CONTINUED

Ken Moxon

Still looking for news of Sarah Ann ...



Sarah Ann Drake (1805-1898)

While researching my mother's father's side of the family (mother's mother is the Moxon) I found that a cousin of mine, Sarah Ann Drake (1805-1898) married a John Moxon in 1839 in Marylebone.

John was born in 1789 in Syleham, Norfolk and died in 1866: his father was Thomas Moxon, born 1762 in Norfolk, died 1854 in Twickenham.

I haven't researched John further because he is a "married in," but the added twist to this tale is this newspaper cutting (below) from 8th July 1962.

It reads:

DRAKE - Will any person having any information about the brothers or sisters or their issue of Sarah Ann Drake, who married John Moxon on 24th September, 1839, please communicate with Messrs. Trotter, Leaf & Pitcairn, solicitors, 79/80, Petty France, Westminster, S.W.1.

I wonder whether they had any replies – the descendants of Sarah's siblings were all in Australia. Sarah and John's line had died out with the death of their grandchild Florence Penrose Moxon on Christmas day 1960 in Haywards Heath.

Harriet Cozens

DRAKE.—Will any person having any information about the brothers or sisters or their issue of Sarah Ann Drake, who married John Moxon on 24th September, 1839, please communicate with Messrs. Trotter, Leaf & Pitcairn, solicitors, 79/80, Petty France, Westminster, S.W.1.

N. W. 8. 7. 1962

It is with great sadness we report the death earlier this year of Moxon Society Member **Pauline Drake**, aged 49, one of the Australian descendants of the Drake family. Pauline was a great family historian, and for many years as Tree Guardian proudly looked after and added to MX05, the tree where Sarah Ann Drake and John Moxon's descendants feature, often in consultation with Bob Moxon Browne, the veritable fount of all knowledge regarding this Moxon family. The Drakes are included in the inscription in the stained-glass window featured on page 19 in the last issue of the Moxon Magazine.

The Tale of Teresa's Bangle

A mystery is announced!

Teresa Gazey accompanied her mother, Rosemary Mans (MX01), to this year's Moxon Gathering in Stafford. Teresa brought with her a gold bangle that she had inherited. She knew the bangle once belonged to her great grandmother, Ann Moxon, but was not sure of the significance of a mysterious inscription engraved on the inside of the bangle indicating that it was a gift to "HMM" on 13 Dec 1899. An iPad was produced and the MX01 Moxon Society Tree was opened. Within a few minutes Teresa was able to confirm that the date matched the date of her great grandmother Ann's marriage to Francis Burman Allen (whose initials also featured). It was immediately clear that Ann's sister was Harriet Matilda Moxon. So the meaning of the inscription was clear: the bangle was one of the gifts customarily given by a Bridegroom to the Bridesmaids, in this case on the occasion of Teresa's great-grandparents' wedding.



A mystery is solved!



"An iPad was produced..."

L to R: Jenny Jordan (seated), Chris Moxon, Teresa Gazey, Philip Lord (seated), Bruce Jones (an expert on silver hallmarks, closely inspecting the bangle), and Rosemary Mans

The tale of Teresa's bangle attracted a lot of interest as can be seen in the group of people gathered around the iPad in our picture. And the methods used to solve the origin of the bangle were in themselves fascinating tools of enquiry which would help many other researchers of family history. This prompted the idea that at a future Gathering we might run interactive workshops where members could bring their family history questions and queries to be explored by other members who might very well have examined similar problems in their own research.

The idea of workshops at Gatherings needs quite a bit more thought, and the Committee would very much appreciate your thoughts directly or via the brief questionnaire enclosed with this Magazine.

JMW Turner was an illustrator for Edward Moxon

Having a Moxon family branch which contains a notable literary forebear, in my case Edward Moxon, the Victorian publisher of poets, has opened up in a quiet life over the years some fascinating and exciting episodes.

In the late 1940s my grandfather Augustus Moxon joined The Charles Lamb Society starting an association continued by my father Richard (Dick) Moxon and now by me. Why the Charles Lamb Society? My orphaned great great grandmother Emma Isola Moxon was raised by Charles and Mary Lamb. Charles wrote "*Essays of Elia*" (1823) and "*Last Essays of Elia*" (1833); and together he and Mary Lamb with whom he had earlier (1807) wrote the children's book "*Tales From Shakespeare*."

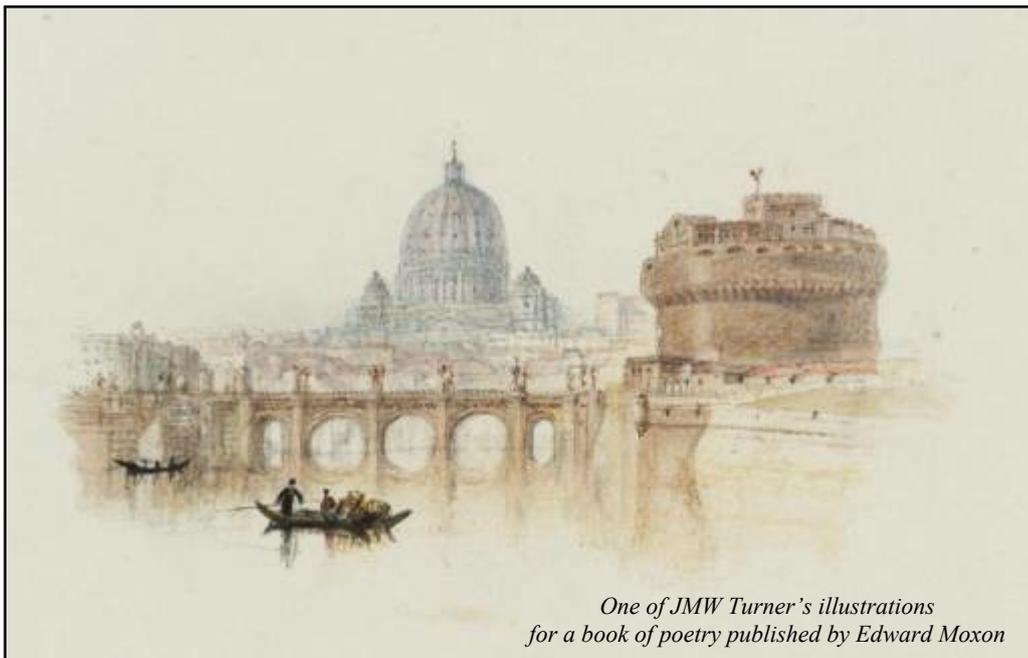
Early in 1993 I was contacted by Lamb Society member Cecilia Powell. Cecilia was studying the works of JMW Turner for a fine arts degree and her friend Jan Piggot, a Turner expert, was putting together an exhibition on "*Turner's Illustrations For Poetry*." The exhibition was to

be displayed at "The Clore Gallery" an annexe of The Tate Gallery which houses "The Turner Bequest" in London.

As it happened Edward Moxon had used Turner to illustrate several poetry volumes which he published in the 1830s. I spoke to Jan on the phone and supplied him with a few pieces of information about great great grandfather Edward and a photograph of him for the exhibition catalogue. I said it was particularly pleasing to be able to help in a small way as I had grown up with the Turner Illustrations. I had and still have in my possession about 30 proof copies of the engravings handed down through the generations.

Jan was very interested and invited us to come to The Clore Gallery for a private viewing of the original Turner Illustrations. I jumped at the chance, needless to say!

John E Moxon



*One of JMW Turner's illustrations
for a book of poetry published by Edward Moxon*

What's in a name ...?

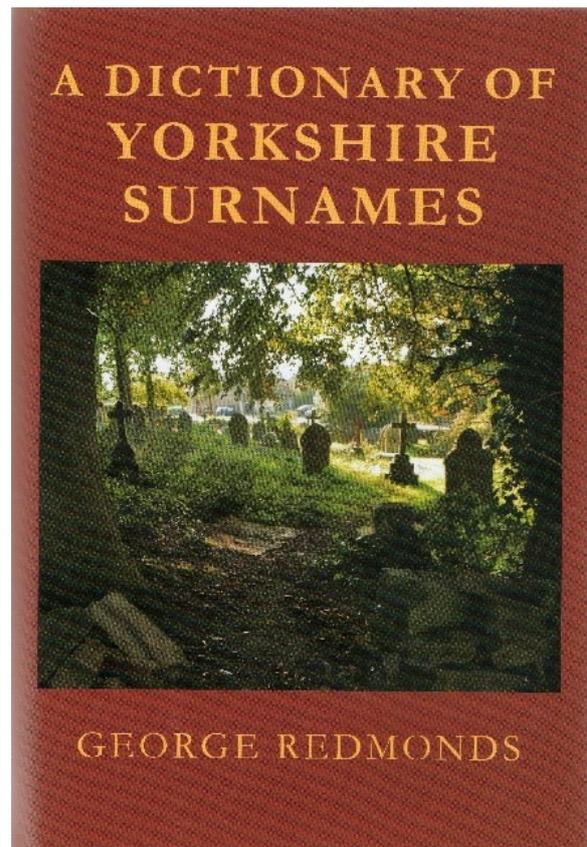
Moxon? Moxen? Moakson? Mokeson? Moxan? Moxham? Megson? Maggson? Moxom?

That list of names appears on the front page of our website, and it isn't exhaustive! But where did name originate? Graham Jagger explores the question through the entry in George Redmonds' 2015 Dictionary.

The death of one of the great scholars of Yorkshire surnames, George Redmonds, was reported in the October 2018 edition of The Moxon Magazine. His magnum opus, A Dictionary of Yorkshire Surnames, contains, of course, an entry for Moxon. This entry, with only minor editorial intervention, is reproduced here in the belief that it will be of interest to many members of The Moxon Society.

MOXON *Various explanations of this surname have been suggested but in 1997 I put forward the idea that 'Moke' was an abbreviated form of Mokoc which came into use in the 13th century as a diminutive of Matthew. Subsequently Steve Moxon confirmed that origin via a series of deeds in the Ronksley MSS held in the Sheffield Archives: 1333-6 Robert filius Mathei de Over Midehop, 1336 Hugh filius Robert Mokeson de Midehop. A full account of his research was published in The Moxon Magazine in October 2002. Midhope is in the township of Bradfield which was home for many generations to this branch of the family: 1379 John Mokeson; 1441 Richard Mokeson; 1557 Nicholas Mokesonne. They seem likely to have been related to families near by in Cawthorne and Thurgoland and the distribution of the name in 1672-73 shows that it had expanded into various parts of the Staincross wapentake and even further north into Kirkburton parish. However, the name had also ramified in the Wakefield area where it may have had a different family origin: 1379 John Mokesson, Middletom; 1479 Robert Moxson, Pontefract; 1545 John Mookson, Middleton; 1636 George Moxon, Rothwell. Although the West Riding was still at the heart of Moxon's distribution in 1881 it remains uncertain how many origins it may have had, and genealogists should know of the DNA tests carried out by the Moxon Society.*

*In the south of England, the name **Moxham** probably derives its origin from the parish of Moxham in Wiltshire but similar spellings are found in the north where they can be variants of Moxon, e.g. 1545 John Moxom, Leeds.*



References to the location of the various references to the names cited above can be found in Redmond's original article: Redmonds, George, A dictionary of Yorkshire surnames, Shaun Tyas, Donington, 2015, p.526.

THE MOXON MAGAZINE

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SEE PAGE 6

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THE MOXON FAMILY RESEARCH TRUST

Charity No. 328333

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 worldwide; and to aid the publication of books and research reports concerning the Moxon Family

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WEBSITES

The Moxon Society maintains an open website at <https://www.moxonsociety.org>. It is an introduction to the Society and allows visitors to join the Society or to renew their membership. No password is required.

The Moxon Family Research Trust maintains a members-only website: <https://moxonresearch.org> which is home to all the family trees, past issues of the Magazine, copies and transcripts of wills and testaments, parish registers, marriage records and more. Access requires a password which is notified in the October issue of this Magazine, or on request from the webmaster webmaster@moxonresearch.org

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. Copyright will remain with the original contributor.