



THE MOXON MAGAZINE

No. 1. April 1988. A family forum for the Moxons and their friends.
Appears April and October. By Subscription.

EDITORIAL

In so many ways 1987 was a remarkable year for the Moxon family. First of all it was the 350th anniversary of the Revd. George Moxon's participation in the founding of that great New England city of Springfield, Massachusetts when he took up his post in 1637 as the brand-new settlement's first pastor and schoolmaster as well as being a foundation magistrate, administrator and ambassador with the neighbouring Indian communities. I had the honour to represent the Moxon family at the celebrations and to help to unveil the portrait in oils of George Moxon that had been faithfully copied from the original still in possession of his descendants in England (vide pp 108/109 of The Moxons of Yorkshire). A few months later George Moxon was the central figure in a second celebration - the 300th anniversary of his foundation of the First Congregational Meeting House in Congleton, Cheshire in the month and year of his death, September 1687. There is a picture and article on page 3 of this magazine. The founder of two separate Congregational churches - 3000 miles and 50 years apart, both of which flourish today and continue to hold the memory of their founder in great reverence - George Moxon has every claim to be one of the most eminent of our forebears and one of whom we can be truly proud.

Perhaps the next most notable Moxon event in 1987 was the publication in midsummer of "The Moxons of Yorkshire" which is in essence the work of three great Moxon historians, the Revd. Charles St Denys Moxon (1820-1881), Canon R.S. Moxon D.D. (1873-1950) and Prebendary T.A. Moxon M.A. (1877-1943), my own father. I had the pleasure of being able to update, edit and publish it. It stands now as a kind of focal point of basic Moxon history around which current and future research can rally and develop. There is indeed so much basic Moxon history that is not touched upon in "The Moxons of Yorkshire", e.g. the growth of the very early Moxon sheepfarming and weaving enclaves on the Pennine slopes to the west of Huddersfield, Penistone and Sheffield - on the Howden and Bradford Moors - and the subsequent Moxon settlements in the vicinity of Kirkburton, Silkstone, Cawthorne and Thurgoland complemented later by the coalmining Moxons north and south of Barnsley - that there is almost unlimited research in store for us, if we choose to

follow it up. And the Moxons of Australia, New Zealand, U.S.A. and Canada are fast developing histories of their own. Hopefully the Moxon Family Research Trust (see page 6) will progressively be able to research and co-ordinate these still comparatively "grey" areas.

It is in order that the Moxons (and indeed our Moxon, Moxham and Megson cousins) can share such research and discussion that "The Moxon Magazine", starting with the inaugural issue, will endeavour to give us twice each year a medley of Moxon memories. And though we start with a subscription list of less than a hundred we hope that by personal recommendation, Christmas gifts etc., and good value for money, our circulation will grow fast so that our overheads may be covered and the scope for this magazine widened.

A group of Moxons also observed 1987 as the centenary of the death of William Moxon, the barrister-at-law and foxhunting younger brother of Edward Moxon, the eminent Victorian publisher. The occasion is reported on page 2.

And last, but far from least, 1987 marked 100 years of the growth of its pre-eminent position in the world of high quality worsted production of Moxon Huddersfield which is the subject of our centre page spread. In a letter to us the Managing Director, Mr Eric Wood, states "Our researches have shown that the Moxon family was one of the most respected in the district and I think you can be very proud of your heritage." We are! And we wish Moxon Huddersfield a great future not only in its enviable business performance but in continuing to equate the name Moxon with excellence. J.M.

COME TO MOXON COUNTRY

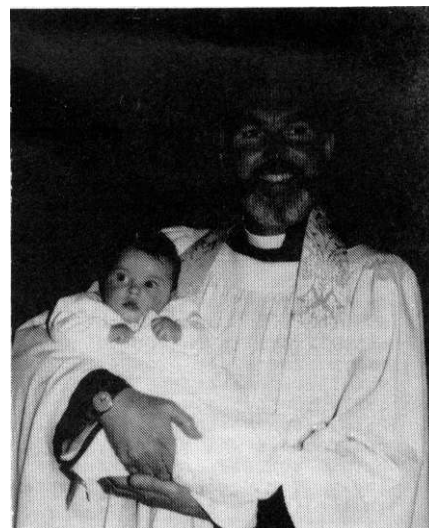
Plans are well advanced to organise Tours of Moxon Country in Yorkshire. In late June and early July 1988 the organisers will carry out one or more short exploratory tours in their own transport and would be interested to know of others who might wish to take part in this research exercise.

Please make contact with Dick Moxon, 132 Howards Grove, Shirley, Southampton, SO1 5PT, telephone 0703 784596.

IN OUR NEXT ISSUE

You will find less Moxon clergy (God bless them) and less of the Editor (bless him too). The centre page spread will explore the Moxon/Mackson connection and there is a feature on Peter

[continued on page 8]



The Reverend Michael Moxon, Royal Chaplain, conducting a 1984 baptism at Tewkesbury Abbey

Michael Moxon became a "television personality" when in 1981 as Minor Canon at St Paul's Cathedral he sang the wedding responses at the marriage of the Prince and Princess of Wales.

Soon afterwards Michael and Sarah Moxon and their three children moved to Tewkesbury Abbey in Gloucestershire, the second largest parish church in Britain, where he was appointed Vicar. The Abbey, largely of Norman design and construction, is famous for its music and choral festivals.

In 1986 Michael Moxon was appointed a Royal Chaplain and when we asked him for a few notes on this appointment he told us: "It took place at the end of 1986 and I was first approached by the Clerk of the Closet, Bishop John Bickersteth who recently retired as Bishop of Bath and Wells. It is his job to approach potential chaplains to see if they are willing to stand and it was after I had indicated my enormous pleasure and agreed I would be happy to serve as a chaplain that I was then formally contacted by the Lord Chamberlain and my appointment was registered on 31st October, 1986. I was then equipped with a scarlet cassock and a beautiful badge to wear on my preaching scarf. The duties are to be in waiting should it be necessary whenever the Sovereign comes to Gloucestershire and also to preach once a year in her chapel in London and that will occur this year on 1st May. I also get invited with my wife to attend a Royal Garden Party and last summer received the honour of being presented to the Queen."

The Reverend Michael Moxon is a Trustee of the Moxon Family Research Trust. His grandfather was Sheffield born.

New Zealand

A cutting from the Christchurch "Star" for 18 May 1987 describes a new Anglican prayer book with everything from a J.K. Baxter poem to a monastic hymn to be introduced in New Zealand. The new book to contain Maori, Fijian, Tongan, Samoan and Hindi languages, gleans from about 10 prayer books currently in use and is to be used as an alternative to the Book of Common Prayer.

It was described by the Rev. David Moxon as a book not just for Sundays but appropriate to the entire week.

Mr Moxon, director of theological education in Hamilton, said it was also for the "Youth" leader who wanted a contemporary prayer, as well as for those who wanted a traditional style of matins.

The Rev David Moxon (37) is a grandson of John Wood Moxon, the younger of two brothers who emigrated to New Zealand from Chatteris in Cambridgeshire and established in the building trade. The elder brother Richard, who left home at the age of 19 in 1907, founded a well-known Palmerston North firm of building contractors which is carried on by his son Richard E. Moxon today. The Moxons still maintain their links with Chatteris.

Book Review

Geoffrey Moxon "Spycracker" (Merlin Books, Braunton, Devon. 1984. £2.90)

The publisher's blurb reads,

"In a few days you will receive a visit from Mr Green. He will be bringing with him a locked briefcase

When Ian Carfax, a London lawyer, receives a letter from a wealthy client instructing him to take the briefcase to Switzerland, he decides to take on the job - intending to mix business with pleasure.

However, Ian has hardly arrived before he finds himself entangled in the shadowy world of espionage. Beset by dangers and difficulties, he relies on the help of a beautiful Swiss girl, Erika Holz, who hides him in her remote mountain chalet. Despite murder and intrigue Ian tries desperately to outwit not only his adversaries but also the Swiss Federal Police, and this edge-of-the-chair thriller keeps up the suspense through to the end."

Indeed for those who are unashamedly wedded to their Dornford Yates/Ian Fleming style of cops and robbers crookery, featuring the cool amateur who unwittingly falls feet first into unbelievable escapades involving mountain-pass chases (hero's Lancia being nudged into oblivion by crook's Ford with the inevitable volte-face at the moment of climax) and bodies strewn about the library for good measure - this will be an unscheduled top-voltage bonanza.



Seven kinsmen of William Moxon with Bishop John Daly (3rd from right) at the centenary ceremony

FOXHUNTING ANCESTOR REMEMBERED

Bishop John Daly of Honington, who has served as a bishop in four different dioceses, pronounced the blessing at a short service of thanksgiving on Monday 23rd November 1987 at Tidmington Parish Church, Warwickshire in memory of William Moxon, Barrister-at-Law, who had died at Tidmington House exactly 100 years previously.

The service was conducted by the Revd W. John Moxon of Weston-sub-Edge, Chipping Camden and was attended with others by Mr R. E. A. Moxon, great great nephew of William Moxon, and his family and by Mr James Moxon, O.B.E. A wreath was laid by the family on the marble gravestone.

William Moxon was a successful London Barrister at Law and lived at Tidmington House for forty years. He was a J.P. for Warwick and Worcester and an active member of the North Cotswold Hunt.

He was the younger brother of Edward Moxon, the Victorian poet, who was also the publisher of Tennyson, Wordsworth, Browning, Shelley and Rossetti. He had married Charles Lamb's adopted daughter.

Both Moxons were born at Wakefield in Yorkshire.

Isn Carfax, true to his role as the innocent let loose unexpectedly "On the Continong", has the Swiss sleuths crawling on their knees trying to untangle his matter-of-fact references to Red Herrings, Hobson's Choice and over the moon. But they forgive him, of course, when he turns up the stolen secrets concealed right under their professional noses. Well he had to, didn't he?

To the most Excellent Lady Maddam ELLEN GWYN. Maddam,

I N this Book of Anatomy the curious Invention of our Author has lively represented us to our Selves and so contrived this Epitomy of Man and Woman that from the Skin to the Bone we may see the true shape and disposition of our frame and composition & by his Alphabetical references has taught us to distinguish every part by their proper Names.

Thus Maddam, pre suming this piece of curiosity may be acceptable to a Lady so well accomplished and so excellently Ingenious as your Self, I present this to your fair hands, humbly begging that you will pardon the boldness of

*Your most humble and most
obedient Servant,
Joseph Moxon.*

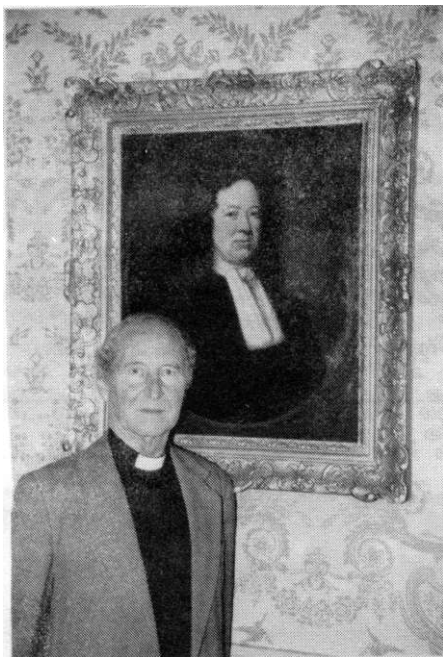
Joseph Moxon, F.R.S., (1627-1691), the prolific author, engraver, map and globe maker, astronomer, mathematician, scientist, publisher, printer, and hydrographer to King Charles II, dedicated in the year 1675 to Madam Ellen Gwyn (Nell Gwyn, the King's mistress) a book that he published entitled Exact Survey of the Microcosmus (Anatomie of the Human Body) by J. L. Remmelinus, Englished by John Ireton, Chirurgeon.

The book comprises a number of carefully engraved plates of the human body, both male and female, which are built up one above the other and hinged so that they may be lifted in order to study each organ, level by level, from the outer skin to the inner cavities. They are skilfully hand coloured and carefully described by numbers. In dedicating this book to Nell Gwyn Joseph Moxon suggests that she was someone who could well appreciate the finer points of the human body. This plate is taken from the copy in possession of The Royal College of Medicine, Wimpole Street, London.

When James Moxon, Hon. Sec. of the Moxon Family Research Trust, heard that I was planning to visit a daughter in USA living near Worcester (Mass.) he suggested that I should try to go further from Worcester to Springfield. I could then follow in the steps of ancestor George Moxon who founded a church and congregation there in 1637. The idea appealed to me but I had to protest that if I had lived in the 17th century in the time of the Civil War I would have probably been on the Royalist side!

However, my wife and I made the pilgrimage to Springfield, with help from our daughter, on Sunday 18th October. Attending the First Church we were warmly welcomed by the present Pastor, the Rev James Riddle, and by the Congregation. We were given generous hospitality by James and Marilyn Riddle and taken to see a number of local places. For this happy meeting I gratefully acknowledge our debt to the Editor of this Magazine.

John Moxon, retired Priest, Weston-sub-Edge, Glos. November 1987.



The Moxons of Yorkshire (Moxon Paperbacks, 1987)

The price of this book has now been reduced to £7.50 per copy (post free U.K.), with the wholesale price of £5.50 per copy for orders of five or more (post free U.K.) - overseas orders should add 20% to the overall purchase price to cover air postage. The publishers hope that with the price now reduced to little more than production cost their aim to have this book read by as many Moxons as possible, old and young, will be achieved. It is preferable to have the printed copies on Moxon bookshelves than in the warehouse. Orders to Moxon Paperbacks, c/o Tortoise Shell Press, 28 Corve Street, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1DA. Sterling or U.S. dollar cheques made out to Moxon Paperbacks.

Leicester Mercury

MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 1988

Ancestor read the stars for a king



LOOKING BACK Mrs Joan Rendall studies her family tree which took 19 years to research.

THERE'S a fascinating conversation piece in the Rearsby home of retired schoolteacher Mrs. Joan Rendall — a gilt framed family tree, detailing the Moxon family, her mother's paternal line back to 1445.

This veritable forest of interesting ancestors, includes a hydrographer and astrologer to Charles II. and a present day relative who's a crowned white chief in Africa

This rather remarkable family tree, she told me, has recently been written out with a goose quill pen and illustrated on rare vellum parchment by local artist, Mr. Ewin Lloyd, as a Christmas present from her husband, Robert.

Pop-up atlas

The tree represents a labour of love which has so far taken Joan Rendall 19 years to research back 15 generations to the birth of William Moxon, a Yorkist in the Wars of the Roses

"It took 18 years to get back to 1620", said Mrs Rendall, "then thanks to a chance in a million, I discovered James Moxon, a present day member of the family."

"He's an author, his torian, and rather remarkably, a white chief-tain, whose family had

researched their line back to 1445. I was quickly able to slot my tree in with his, finding a further array of interesting ancestors.

"They include, Joseph Moxon, hydrographer and astrologer to Charles II. and a Fellow of the Royal Society with Wren and Pepys. He dedicated a pop up atlas of the human body to Nell Gwynne."

The Moxons arrived in Leicestershire in around 1750

One was an agent for the Dixie family at Market Bosworth, and a governor of the grammar school there. He later became landlord of the then Black Bull Inn, she adds.

Joan Rendall, who continues exploring her roots, is surprised that though many of her ancestors hail from the north how much research can be done locally at the Leicestershire Record Office

Footnote: Jean Rendall is a little embarrassed by the fact that the Leicester Mercury reporter has confused astrology with astronomy. Far from "reading the stars for the King" Joseph Moxon, F.R.S., was one of the most distinguished scientists of his day. His dedication to Madam Ellen Gwyn of the superbly drawn Atlas of the Human Body which he published but did not illustrate (he was himself an eminent engraver) is shown opposite.



300 years later

The third centenary of the opening of Congleton's First Congregational Meeting House in 1687 by the Revd. George Moxon, M.A., in the year of his death, was marked on Sunday 13th September 1987 when the Revd. Andrew Fairchild, Minister of the United Reformed Church at Congleton (Direct successor to the First Meeting House), inaugurated the Moxon Memorial

Corner. Mr. Fairchild is seen with two of the Revd. George Moxon's direct descendants, James Moxon, M.A., O.B.E., and his sister Mrs Margaret Hobson, after examining the plaque which tells how the Moxon Memorial Corner has come into being through the generosity of the congregation of the First Church of Christ, Springfield, Massachusetts which had also been founded by the Revd. George Moxon in the year 1637, fifty years earlier.

100 YEARS IN A FINE TRADITION



Above - founder Benjamin H. Moxon who began his business at Old Providence Mills, Marsh, Huddersfield in 1887 moving in 1889 to Springfield Mills, Kirkburton. The present factory at Southfield Mills, Kirkburton - seen under construction below - was opened in 1950.

Right - Mr and Mrs Matthew Moxon cutting the first sod in Southfield in 1948 prior to the building of the new mill.

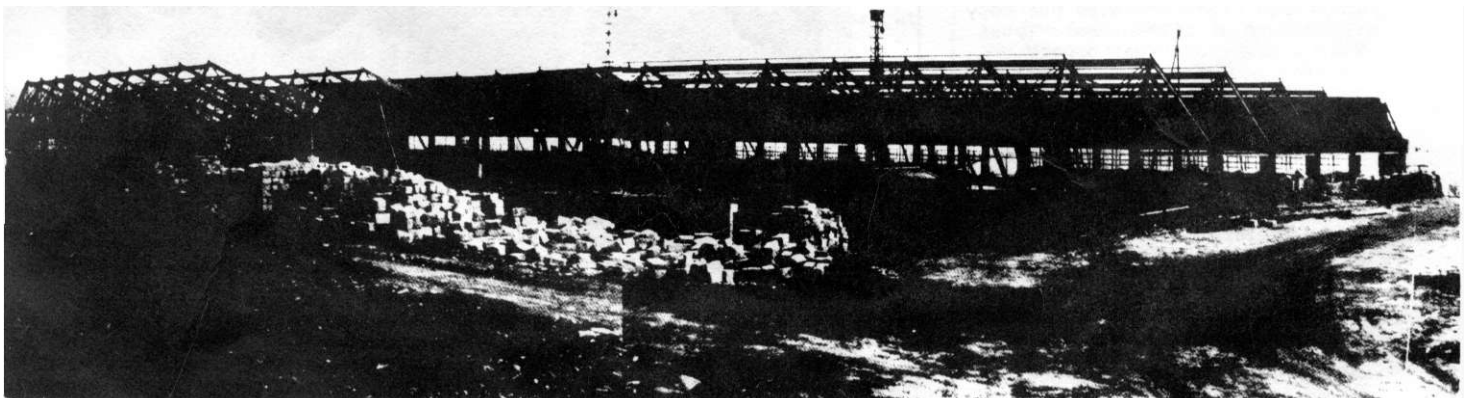
Moxon have been weaving fine clothes for 100 years. The company was born in Huddersfield in 1887 into a fine tradition, for textile manufacturing was already well established in the area in the late 17th century. The activity expanded in the 18th and 19th centuries when, even then, the practitioners were described as 'fancy weavers'. The family were able to trace their ancestry in the region back to 1556, and the grandfather of the mill's founder, Benjamin H. Moxon, was described in the Parish Register as 'a fancy weaver on a handloom', and Ben's father was himself a wool sorter as well as a farmer. Thus, the auspices for a successful business must have looked good when B.H. Moxon began to manufacture in what could already be described as a 'Huddersfield tradition'. A tradition which Ben and his successors did so much to develop and shape through their flair and unwavering pursuit of perfection.

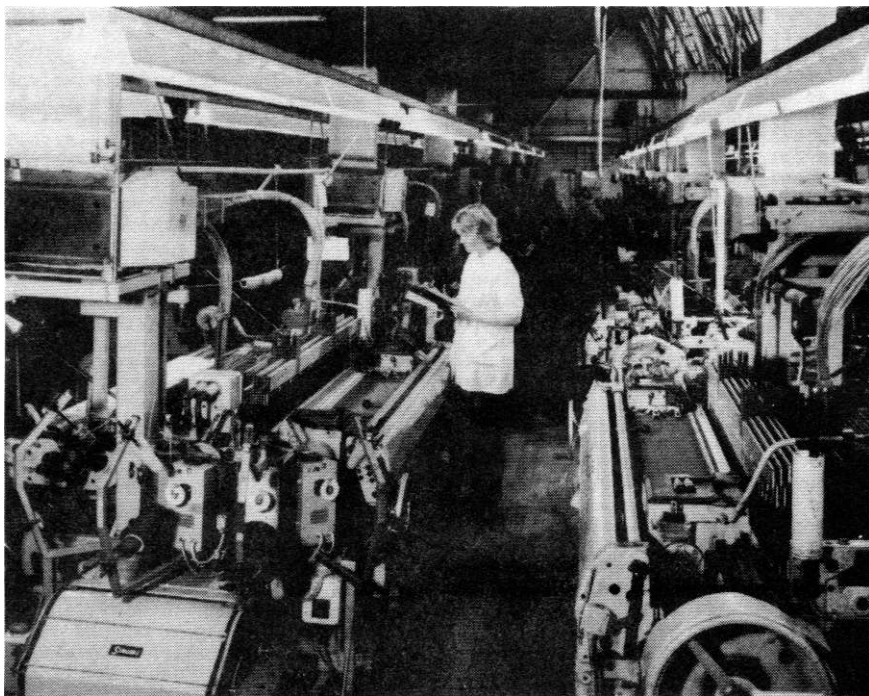
In 1900 Ben Moxon's two sons were taken into partnership and the name of the company became B.H. Moxon & Sons. The younger son, Matthew, finally came to run the company and is still remembered by a number of the mill's older employees.

In 1950 Moxon moved to its present site at Kirkburton occupying a modern, custom built mill with a unique outlook.

Following the death of Matthew Moxon, the Trustees sold the business and later, in 1971, Moxon's became part of the Allied Textiles Companies (A.T.C.), under whose ownership, it has continued to flourish, trading as 'Moxon Huddersfield'.

Moxon's has benefited immeasurably from a loyal, locally trained workforce - so essential to a craft industry - coupled with an involvement in, and commitment to, design at managing director level. This latter tradition was initiated by the mill's legendary post-war head designer and later managing director, Stanley Kinder, and consolidated by its present managing director, E. Colin Wood; and it is this vital combination which has ensured Moxon's continued primacy in fine worsted manufacture. Their story is one of continuous anticipation, adaptation and a refusal to compromise on quality of materials and manufacture.





Part of the Sulzer weaving plant at Moxon's Kirkburton mill, especially adapted to handle the world's most expensive raw materials.

Moxon celebrates 100 years in fancy trade

MOXON, Huddersfield, flagship of Allied Textile Companies' fine worsted division, celebrates 100 years this month — as ever, quietly and without elaborate ceremony yet with consummate satisfaction.

There is much that the company could beat the drum about. Southfield Mills

by Alan Driscoll

boasts one of the best-equipped manufacturing organisations in the industry, its design team and highly-skilled workforce renowned world-wide for producing cloths of extraordinarily high quality.

Among Moxon's best-known products have been cloths with gold thread, monogrammed creations especially made for presidents and prime ministers, as well as presentation lengths for royalty. Moxon arguably can claim a closer identity with Savile Row's wholesale merchanting elite than most in wool textiles; equally, with some of the world's most eminent makers-up, and mainly for the reason that both groups look to and have come to expect from it creations which are luxurious, exciting and outstandingly original.

Southfield Mills was poised for its annual summer "Wakes" break when *Wool Record* interviewed the company's managing director, Mr. Colin Wood. "If ever there was a year when our people have roundly earned their holiday, it's this one," he said. "It marks the



Mr. E. Colin Wood, managing director, Moxon Huddersfield, fancy-worsted weavers.

completion of one of the best spring/summer order-book campaigns we have had for some time. Our workers have been superb."

Today, in his 20th year as managing director, Mr. Wood continues to view the company's reputation as being built on service, fine fabrics and innovative and varied design collections — in essence, as it was in Ben Moxon's pioneering days.

The company recently commissioned village historian Mr. Robert Carter to try to uncover more facts about these beginnings, and parish records have

revealed that Ben's father was a farmer and wool grower, and his grandfather a fancy weaver. It transpires that Kirkburton, whose textile connections go back well before 1700, may well have paved the way in fine-worsted suiting manufacture with its early speciality in fancy waistcoatings.

Ben introduced his two sons into the business — trading as B.H. Moxon and Sons Ltd. On Ben's death, younger son Matthew took charge and he, jointly with the late Mr. Stanley Kinder, was responsible for building Southfield Mills in 1948 and designing a single-storey plant widely hailed as a "model" for the industry.

The Tulketh Group acquired Moxon on the death of Mr. Matthew Moxon; for many years, Mr. Kinder ran the business as managing director, as well as holding the senior post in Tulketh's Yorkshire operations.

Three years before Allied's takeover, Mr. Kinder left Moxon to be succeeded by Mr. Wood, then head designer, and Mr. Harry Parker. The partnership lasted for 13 years, during which period Allied established its headquarters next to the Moxon plant.

Moxon's workforce continues to be drawn mainly from Kirkburton and surrounding villages. The company has benefited greatly from the corporate strength and financial expertise of the parent group.

Some five years ago, Allied and Moxon directors introduced a unique event in manufacturing — three interdependent businesses operating from within the one site. Two processing units — weaving and finishing — now serve Moxon's traditional requirements while continuing to operate as individually viable production units with a capacity for competitive commission business.

Management report the scheme has worked well. It gives Moxon the advantages of a conventional manufacturing plant with close supervision from on-site processing by skilled labour experienced in the precise requirements of the business, yet without the need continually to maintain activity during the inevitable fluctuations of a seasonal and cyclical trade.

The present workforce of roughly 100 produces a turnover which is considerably higher than that achieved by 250 people only a few years ago.

Mr. Wood echoed his quiet optimism about the future. "Our international trade continues to be influenced by exchange rates, duties and many factors beyond our control," he observed. "But the interest in our products continues to be most encouraging. Throughout the traumatic changes of the past decade, Moxon has survived while competitors have failed.

"Moxon continues to thrive. Its worldwide reputation, I believe, has never been higher. We are confident of our future. To quote a well-known British lady, we aim to go on, and on and on, successfully into the next century."

"Life with the Moxon Family"
V. Moxon (privately published)

Vera Moxon's octavo book in attractive red hardback cover with blocked gold lettering extends to 104 pages with 25 photographs, 2 maps, 5 pen and ink sketches and one reproduction certificate of marriage. This is of her father and mother, Frederick William Edwin Moxon aged 25 and Margaret Arnold aged 21, who were married on June 2nd 1903 at St Jude's Church, Islington by the Vicar, the Revd D. Bell Hankin.

When four children (out of a total of 12) had been born to them at their Kilburn flat they decided that they needed more space and bought a brand new house in an unmade country road twelve miles from the centre of London in Kimberley Road (the name itself dates it to just after 1900) at Chingford. The nearest railway station was at Hoe Street, Walthamstow, three to four miles away, depending on whether you crossed the fields or took the road, and that was Frederick's daily stint in fair weather and foul to catch the train to the City where he was manager of a leading meat packing firm from Smithfield Market.

But whether packing meat or not he was a happy man and loved life and it was when he was returning from the races at Ascot one summer evening that he met hazel-eyed, curly fair-haired and chic Margaret with whom he instantly fell in love and then married.

Vera's book, she forced herself to write after successfully taking evening classes for some two years, is in fact almost a model of its kind, devoting half its length to the social side of the countryside that they had come to live and be born in - the haymaking and milking that went on all around them, the Romany gypsy encampments with their wild horses, the Dolly Hole - a disused clay quarry that had become a lake where picnics, camping and fishing would take place - and all the adventures of going to and from school some three miles away across country. No School Buses in those days! But every Boxing Day the whole family - all 14 of them (the conductor asked them if they were a Sunday School outing) - would take the tram the hour's journey to Highbury New Park to spend the day with Frederick's mother and aunts and cousins in her nineteen-roomed Victorian mansion where the curtains were of rich red velvet and the table coverings hanging with "pom poms". It was Christmas all over again, with turkey and pudding and mince pies, and party games in the afternoon before the sandwiches, trifles and Christmas cake at tea time.

Frederick's father had been a Naval Architect who had assisted in the design of Sheerness Dockyard. Top-hatted and frock-coated he was a dignified figure and seems to have been from a family of substance. But there is now no tradition in the family of the antecedents of this successful man and it is to be hoped that readers of the Moxon Magazine will in the course of time be

The first annual meeting of the Moxon Family Research Trust was held at Oxford on Monday 23rd November 1987. The President, Dr Richard Moxon, was in the chair and present also were Mr R. E. A. (Dick) Moxon, Hon. Treasurer, Mr James Moxon, Hon. Secretary, the Revd W. John Moxon (co-opted) representing the Revd Michael Moxon of Tewkesbury (unavoidably absent) and Mrs Joan Rendall (co-opted) representing Mr Simon Moxon of Brisbane (unavoidably absent).

The meeting took note of the publication, since the exploratory meeting of 16th September 1986, of "The Moxons of Yorkshire", more than 300 copies of which have been received by foundation subscribers, libraries, societies and friends. This is to be followed by the twice-yearly "Moxon Magazine" from April 1988 onwards, which will ensure a regular flow of the results of continuing Moxon research and of Moxon news, correspondence and feature material.

The Hon. Secretary said that one early development had been the interest shown in the current Moxon research by members of the family with alternative spellings, e.g. Moxham, Moxon, Magson etc, who almost certainly sprang from the same stock, so that it was proposed progressively to draw these into the circle.

A pattern for future research was discussed and it was agreed that volunteer Moxon researchers should accept responsibility for research - either solo or in groups - in their chosen areas, by counties or groups of counties, or by countries - the whole to be co-ordinated in the first instance by the Hon. Secretary/Archivist.

An immediate start would be made to follow up existing research in and beyond such areas as Leicestershire/Derbyshire/Lincolnshire (Mrs Joan Rendall), Warwickshire/Oxfordshire (the Revd W. John Moxon), Lancashire (Mr Ron Moxon),

able to link him to a known Moxon pedigree and location. It is of interest that Victorian London contained a number of successful Moxon families - in Wimbledon, Twickenham, Highbury, Islington, Leyton, Regents Park etc - with little to link them, other than their name and their common Yorkshire origin.

The other half of Vera Moxon's book (she herself married Leslie Walter and now lives at Westcliffe-on-Sea) gives detailed sketches of the lives, loves and families of her eleven brothers and sisters and of course of her beloved Father and Mother who, in spite of difficulties (the importation of frozen meat from New Zealand made Frederick Moxon redundant), brought up their Sunday School family to be exemplary citizens.

To read more about this fascinating family it is necessary to buy the book, some details of which are given below. One sample will have to suffice. Reg, the second son, matriculated at Christ's Hospital School and qualified for Cambridge University, but difficult times at home made this impossible to realise. Instead he went into shipping and made a successful life for himself in Kenya and later in Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe.

Yorkshire and vicinity (Mr Don Moxon and Mrs Hilda Clarke), Australia (Mr Simon Moxon), New Zealand (Mr Richard E. Moxon and Mr Bryan Moxon). Volunteers will be welcome to widen the scope of research both within named areas, without unnecessary overlapping, and in less consistently researched areas e.g. Cambridgeshire, Cumbria, Greater London and the Home Counties.

In the first instance the results of research as well as copies of photographs, portraits, homes etc would be held by the Hon. Secretary/Archivist, but it was considered that in due course the services of a professional archivist would be an advantage and the storage of family data on a computerised basis.

Notice was taken of the fact that 1987 had featured two memorable Moxon anniversaries, both concerning the Revd George Moxon M.A. The 350th anniversary of his foundation of the First Church of Christ at Springfield, Massachusetts, in 1637 was followed by the 300th anniversary of his foundation of the first Congregational Church at Congleton, Cheshire in the year of his death, 1687. Both ceremonies were attended on behalf of the Moxon family by Mr James Moxon.

The Hon. Treasurer made an appeal, through the Trustees and through the columns of the Moxon Magazine, for the donation of funds to enable such research and data storage to be intensified beyond the means of purely voluntary helpers.

Prospects of future tours of places of particular Moxon interest in Yorkshire were enhanced by the existence of a fleet of coaches belonging to Moxon Tours of Worksop, Notts, which the owner will gladly make available as and when required. It was thought that summer 1988 might see a start to this venture.

Before the meeting ended Trustees passed a vote of thanks to the President and Mrs Marianne Moxon for their very welcome hospitality.

Though Reg himself died in 1983 the family business in Zimbabwe is carried on by the next generation of Moxons.

The reader of "Life with the Moxon Family" has little to question, for the story is told both fully and very readably. It is a pity though that there is no Contents in order to summarise in advance the interesting chapter headings such as "Florence Nightingale of Kimberley Road" (a superb tribute to Mother), "The Dolly Hole", "Down Memory Lane" (when what was to become "The North Circular Road" sliced across their fields in the 1920s) and "Our Christmas Party". And it is sad too that Vera, who tells us so much about the rest of the family, has been reticent in telling her own story. Of her tom-boy school days we learn much, but of her adult life with Leslie Walter we are tantalisingly deprived! Sadly, Leslie died in January 1988.

But "Life with the Moxon Family" is a real pleasure to read and can be obtained from Mrs V.R. Walter, 213 Prittlewell Chase, Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex.

MARTYN for YORKSHIRE and ENGLAND

Cricket—Second Test

ENGLAND CALL UP BROAD AND MOXON

June 1984 headline

Ever since 1981 Martyn Moxon of Yorkshire has been making cricketing headlines. On 6th June of that year this 21 year old Yorkshireman scored 116 playing against Essex, which was the first century for 60 years scored by a county player making his first debut. Three months later playing for Yorkshire against Sri Lanka he took 3 wickets for 5 runs in 9 balls. The cricket correspondents were using such words as "diligent", "impeccable", "elegant" and "courtly grace" about his play. But later in September he was injured when playing against Northamptonshire and the end of season verdict was "a first summer of high excitement and deep disappointment".

The following year he was described as "too accomplished for a second team cricketer".

In 1983 Martyn Moxon could not secure a place in the Yorkshire side until Lamb was injured but in August, in his first ever Roses Match (Yorks vs Lancs), he scored a superb 153.

In 1984 he was described as having "a thin start to this summer" but generally speaking the press looked upon him as being carefully and unhurriedly groomed by Yorkshire for the future. He had yet to play a full season for his county. But after he scored 90 against Northamptonshire in June he was called up to play for England in the Second Test against the West Indies at Lords but disappointingly had to withdraw due to a cracked rib he had meanwhile suffered. And bad luck continued to dog his new success for after he had been picked to tour India in September he first fell ill in Sri Lanka and then in November had to return to England where his father was dying.

But by 1985 he was well into his stride again for in the 2nd innings of the Roses Match in August he scored 127, passing 1000 runs for the season which included four centuries.

When Yorkshire played India in July 1986 Martyn Moxon became the ninth Yorkshire cricketer to score two centuries in a single match, and the first ever against a touring side (the other nine had included Hutton, Sutcliffe and Boycott). The same month he was again selected for England and won his first cap when he scored 74 at Lords against New Zealand. But towards the end of the year he lost his Test place and missed the tour of Australia.

Martyn Moxon's excellent 1987 performance is described on this page in the Beefeater Spirit of Achievement Award citation and in August he was called for the Fifth Test match.

Of Martyn Moxon the Daily Telegraph Cricket Year Book for 1988 states "Only the infrequency

YORKS FEAR CALL-UP IS PREMATURE

By DEREK HODGSON

MARTYN MOXON'S selection was no surprise to the Yorkshire dressing room at Luton yesterday but there was a shade of regret amid the congratulations. To a man Yorkshire would have preferred Moxon to have been saved for Sri Lanka in August and India next winter. Philip Sharpe, in his dual capacity as selector and Yorkshire committeeman, was told very firmly recently that Lord's was too soon. Either Sharpe disagreed, or was outvoted at yesterday morning's selection committee.

Yorkshire captain David Bairstow is emphatic: "I happen to think that Martyn is the best young opening batsman in England. He has every chance of becoming one of the great names in the game."

"I am not afraid that he will fail. But I think that the selectors are risking giving him a demoralising experience in what is after all his first full season."

Privately, "Froggy" (the nickname arises from spectacles he wore before switching to contact lenses in

1981) would probably agree and it is perhaps a sign of his maturity, 24 last month, that his public comment was eminently sensible: "No one has he right to pick and choose when he wants to play for England. Being selected is still the greatest achievement in a player's career."

No one questions his class or application. He stands 6ft, weighs 13 stone 10lbs and was the first Yorkshire player to score centuries in his opening two Championship matches.

He added another century in his first Roses match and after a thin start to this summer he is now on 500 runs and has been a consistently heavy scorer recently.

His England cap follows almost exactly a month after his Yorkshire cap and there are those who say that had he been retained in Yorkshire's team, after that dazzling start in 1981, he would not be truly ready to open for England.

Moxon has an impeccable cricketing background both his father and grandfather being outstanding league players in South Yorkshire and he was one of the several youngsters whose career has been supported and forwarded by the devotees of the Wombwell Cricket Lovers' Society.

If his defence is modelled on Boycott, his driving is reminiscent of Gooch. He is a capable medium pace bowler who can use the seam and he has recently established himself as Yorkshire's first slip.

Modest, quiet, he is an achiever; three A levels, eight O levels, a business diploma and an NCA coaching certificate. He spent two years in a bank, has one steady girlfriend and will be, one suspects very much David Gower's kind of player.

with which he truly dominates opposing attacks prevents him from forcing himself into the England side". Perhaps he may count himself lucky that he hadn't forced himself into the ill-fated tour of Pakistan of late 1987.

1988 sees him playing as well as ever in New Zealand and in Centenary Australia and he takes the good wishes of his proud Yorkshire kinsmen with him wherever he goes.



SPIRIT OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The Beefeater Spirit of Achievement Award for June was won by Martyn Moxon of Yorkshire who was the chief inspiration for his team's remarkable burst of success which took them to the top of the Championship table and into the Benson and Hedges Cup Final.

Apart from his Gold Award winning 97 in the semi-final against Surrey, Moxon began the month with Championship scores of 82, 130, 88 not out, 36 and 104, the two centuries contributing handsomely towards impressive victories by an innings against Derbyshire and by nine wickets against the reigning Britannic Champions, Essex.

Moxon has responded splendidly this season to the disappointment of losing his Test place towards the end of last year and missing the tour of Australia. His partnership with Ashley Metcalfe has proved a positive, attractive and effective one, bearing comparison with their Lancashire rivals Fowler and Mendis and with Broad and Robinson, the current England pair, from Nottingham.

For so spiritedly resurrecting a faltering career, Martyn Moxon has won a case of 24 bottles of ready mixed gin and tonics and if he maintains his form he must also be in the running for the award of £1,000 at the end of the season.



Above left: What the "Daily Telegraph" had to say about Martyn Moxon in 1984.

Above: The "Beefeater Award" reported in "The Cricketer" in 1987.

TRUST FUND APPEAL

At the Trustees' meeting in Oxford in November (see report on page 6) I formally opened the appeal for the Moxon Family Research Trust Fund and all those present responded instantly with a donation which happily gets the Fund off to a very creditable start.

Donations to date:

Prof Richard Moxon £25.00
The Revd. John Moxon £25.00
Mrs Joan Rendall (nee Moxon) £20.00
Mr James Moxon £25.00
Mr R.E.A. Moxon £25.00
Mr Simon Moxon (Brisbane) £25.00

I have opened a bank account in the name of the Trust with Barclays Bank PLC, 425/427 Shirley Road, Southampton SO9 1LE and donations may either be made by direct transfer or through me, as Treasurer. We are of course gratefully open to all manner of donations and subscriptions, e.g. covenants, legacies, direct debits, bankers orders and outright gifts.

I emphasise this as the Trustees foresee a steady growth in the already fast proliferating extent of submission of Moxon pedigrees and family histories, particularly as the bi-annual circulation of much of this material in the columns of "The Moxon Magazine" broadens interest.

It is already becoming pressing that we start to store this material on computer and our advisers in this matter (Moxons of course) recommend that the Trustees purchase an appropriate computer into which the data may not only be fed and stored but within which it can co-ordinate and inter-relate individual pedigrees into much broader regional patterns. Progressively we shall all be able to draw upon this Central Moxon Bank for a much clearer picture of the overall Moxon pedigree structure, as well as our own particular branches.

The Trustees aim therefore to be able to draw from the Trust Fund up to £3,000.00 in the first instance in order to invest in the necessary "hardware" and "software" to enable the programme to make a sound start. Thereafter a regular report will appear in these columns in order to keep our subscribers and benefactors abreast of progress.

My appeal therefore as Treasurer of the Moxon Family Research Trust is to invite all those who feel that they can do so to make in the first instance a donation to the Fund to enable us to meet our initial capital expenditure, with perhaps a modest annual subscription thereafter so that we can budget for the best possible use on a regular basis of our little data bank and its sources.

My address is Mr R.E.A. Moxon, Hon Treasurer, Moxon Family Research Trust, 132 Howards Grove, Shirley, Southampton, SO1 5PT. R.E.A.M.

QUERIES

Mrs Sylvia Merrett (nee Moxon), Aylesbury, Bucks (No. 25)

I am descended from Barnsley folk. Great grandfather Charles Moxon born Ardsley 1817; his father John Moxon born Ardsley 1786 and married Martha Wood in Darfield Parish Church 1811; his father Thomas Moxon. I would like to be in touch with other Barnsley Moxons who may be related to me.

Mr J.C. Moxon, Wilmslow, Cheshire (No. 74) The Revd George Henry Moxon (pictured here) was born in 1832 and died at Barnet, Herts in 1903. He was survived by his wife Eva Mathilda and three sons one of whom was my father. He is believed to have been married three times, for when he married Sarah Waller Telford in Toronto in 1871 he was described as a widower. It is not known who his first wife was or whether there were any children. And it is not known when he arrived in Toronto (where he was ordained deacon and priest) though it is believed that he had part of his education in Germany. And it is not known who his parents were or where they came from. The last 25 years of his life were spent as a priest in England and on the continent. Any information most welcome.

(Right: The Revd George Henry Moxon, b. 1832, d. 1903. Photo taken in France, c. 1889.)

Subscriptions to "The Moxon Magazine"

The cost of subscribing to "The Moxon Magazine" is £5.00 per annum (post free U.K.) which covers two issues (April and October) each year. Extra copies or back numbers may be ordered at £2.50 per copy (add 10% for overseas airmail postage). Send your orders to "The Moxon Magazine", c/o Tortoise Shell Press, 28 Corve Street, Ludlow, Shropshire SY8 1DA. Sterling or U.S. dollar cheques made out to Moxon Paperbacks.

Dear Editor,

I collect commemorative pottery. Recently at the Newark Antique Fair I bought a beaker which fascinated me. It's a white earthenware beaker with handle and a gold rim top and bottom. On it is a picture in black and shades of grey of a farmhouse with a slate or stone roof, mullioned windows and a snug front porch. It has two tall chimneys and on the side wall is a lean to. Behind it is a stone barn with two supporting buttresses. The house and the barn are enclosed at the front by a stone wall and a five-bar gate and in the background are a mass of tall trees. Underneath the picture is the inscription: William Moxon 1802-1902. There is no maker's mark. The stall owner said he came from Preston and he thought he had bought it locally. Please can you shed any light on William Moxon 1802-1902 or, like me, will you have sleepless nights?

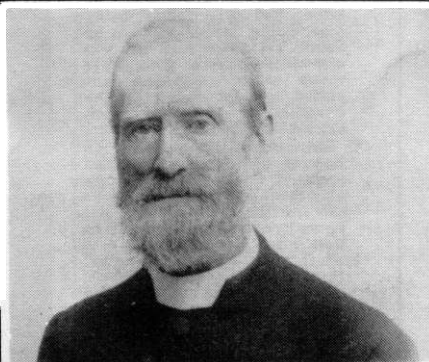
Kind regards, Jennifer Paul. (Holbeach, Spalding)

Reply: Dear Mrs Paul,

No sleepless nights for me as I am familiar with this interesting commemorative beaker from two sources - each of them the great grandson of William Moxon of Swindle Hill, Grange Moor, Mirfield and of his brother John Moxon of Clough Gate, Grange Moor. It seems that these two brothers who came from Jack Lane, Pudsey near Leeds accepted a contract in 1796 to repair the roof of Thornhill Parish Church, near Dewsbury and two years later took up residence on Grange Moor where in 1802 they established themselves as Joiners, Builders, Undertakers and Wheelwrights.

When the business was 100 years old their sons had some commemorative plates, cups, saucers and mugs made and some of these are in the possession of each branch of the family today. The farm house at the foot of Swindle Hill still stands and is now the headquarters of Moxon Plant Hire.

J. M.

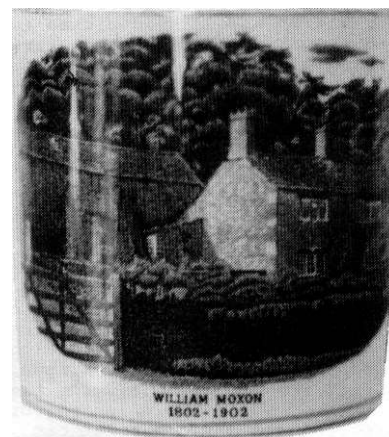


In Our Next Issue
[continued from page 1]

Magson M.A., first Headmaster of Hawkshead Grammar School, where Wordsworth was later a pupil.

And - if you're planning a wild buffalo Safari in Central Africa in the near future - read what John Moxon, the black-white big game hunter has to suggest.

Issue No. 2, October 1988



The Moxon Magazine

Editor: James Moxon, M.A., O.B.E.
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