



THE PATRIOT

Newsletter of the John Hampden Society
No. 85 - Summer 2016

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NEW STYLE NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the first issue of *The Patriot* designed with the aid of simple to use free software. This change allows the Society to publish its own newsletter without recourse to an external printing company. This document is primarily designed to be read on a PC, tablet or mobile phone. As we become more experienced with the software we are confident that we can maintain the high standards achieved in the past by editors Roy Bailey and Anthea Coles. As always, the Editor is keen to hear your views and suggestion. A hard copy version of *The Patriot* will still be produced.

Sam Hearn

THE SOCIETY'S AGM at BROUGHTON CASTLE - 9th April 2016:

Twenty members gathered at Broughton for the annual meeting. It was particularly gratifying to see so many members who had travelled a long way to attend including, the Paynters from Cornwall and the Broomfields from Bournemouth.

Since our last visit Lord and Lady Saye and Sele, have moved out of the Castle and their son Martin and his family have moved in. It was therefore Martin who guided members around what is clearly very much a family home as well as being a unique part of our national story. The tour included a visit to the roof, via the attic, and a glimpse of a room that could be an alternative candidate for the famous "room without ears" in which Hampden reputedly met in secret with others leading the opposition to Charles I.



Miles Buckinghamshire presenting retiring trustee, Roy Bailey, with a reproduction of the famous Robert Walker portrait of John Hampden.



Members being welcomed to Broughton Castle in the fourteenth century Great Hall by Martin Fiennes, the son of Lord Saye and Sele.

AGM report contd.

Society stalwart and founder member, Roy Bailey, decided not to seek re-election as a trustee at this year's AGM. He has promised however to stay very much in touch with the activities of the Society. Two new trustees were elected. **Jim Rodda** succeeds Sam Hearn as Honorary Treasurer and **Philip Broomfield** has taken on the role of Membership Secretary. The Chairman, Steve Barriff and the Honorary Secretary Anthea Coles and fellow trustees Sam Hearn and Gerald McGregor were all re-elected.

Roy Bailey explained that in planning for his retirement the trustees had considered various options for preparing and publishing *The Patriot* newsletters. Ultimately it had been decided to move with the times and produce the newsletter using software called 'Mailchimp'. Whilst hard copies of the newsletter could still be printed *The Patriot* would in future be essentially an electronic document.

Roy Bailey, Steve Barriff and Sam Hearn demonstrated to members the test version of the Society's new website. Everyone agreed that the website looked good and was a significant improvement on the now quite ancient existing website. **The Society is extremely grateful to Sarah Large and her company WebSquared who led development of the new site.**

The afternoon teas were exceptionally good and members much appreciated the warmth of the wood burning stove on what was not a warm day.

THE SOCIETY'S 25th ANNIVERSARY – October 2017.

We are making plans to celebrate the Society's first quarter century next year and would welcome any ideas that members might have regarding the nature and location of such events. Whilst it would be good to return to places that we have previously visited the Trustees would also welcome suggestions for new venues - preferably ones with Hampden connections. Whilst we would like to organise at least one high profile event to attract publicity for the Society's ongoing work we are open to proposals for simpler less expensive ways of marking the occasion. Please direct ideas and offers of help to Anthea Coles, the Honorary Secretary.

THE SOCIETY'S NEW WEBSITE - www.johnhampden.org

The "look" of the new website has been well received by members. The entirely new genealogy section is still being populated but it already contains a great deal of useful information. Copies of the last thirteen years-worth of newsletters have also been uploaded - a big increase on what was previously available. We believe that the powerful new search facility will be useful to many users of the website.

It would extremely helpful if members would log on and request access to the Members' Section of the website. There will be a slight delay whilst the Webmaster checks your identity but on subsequent visits you will only need to remember your unique password. Whilst not every member will wish to consult the minutes of our executive meetings or peruse the annual accounts these are useful documents of record if you wish to stay in touch with the work of the Society or ask questions at the AGM. All members have the right to attend executive meetings if they so wish.

The new website uses the same address as the old one www.johnhampden.org and this means that some regular visitors to the old website will still see the old website when they first log on. To overcome this 'little technical difficulty' we suggest that having logged on to the website that you depress the Ctrl and F5 buttons (at the same time) on your keyboard. This should refresh the screen and bring up the new website. If you still have difficulties in logging on send an email to thewebmaster@johnhampden.org

CHALGROVE BATTLEFIELD WALK - Sunday 14th AUGUST 2016

This is an event organised jointly by the Battlefields Trust and the John Hampden Society. The walk, led by Simon Marsh, will start from the Battlefield Monument on Warpsgrove Lane (nearest postcode OX44 7RW) at around 11.00 am. For further information you can contact Simon on 07742 958888 or mercia@battlefieldstrust.com. If you intend to join the walk please let Simon know so that he can make appropriate arrangements. There will be small voluntary charge to raise funds for the BT and the JHS.



Members at the Battlefield Monument in 2013

BATTLE OF CHALGROVE ARTICLE BY GILL & DEREK LESTER

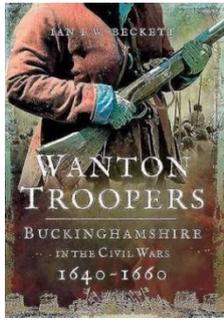
You can find a copy of the Lester's article in the Battle of Chalgrove section of the Hampden Regiment's website www.johnhampdensregiment.org.uk. The article, first published in the Oxoniensia Journal, runs to 20 pages.

OTHER EVENTS FOR YOUR DIARY

A series of four talks on the Military Career of John Hampden

These have been organised jointly by the John Hampden Society and the Battlefields Trust. Click on www.buckscountymuseum.org/museum/whats-on/events/ for details. Please Note- scroll to bottom of the page. For more information contact Simon Marsh on 07742 958888.

- **Bucks in the Civil War – Saturday 12th November 2016.** A talk by Society Vice President, Professor Ian Beckett, at The Bucks County Museum starting at 2.30 pm.
- The dates of the subsequent talks are; 3rd December 2016, 21 Jan 2017, 25 Feb 2017. Details on the Museum website – you can book online. There is a £7.50 for each talk or £25.00 for all four All are welcome, members and non-members. Please advertise the talks and encourage others to attend.



BOOK REVIEW: “Wanton Troopers : Buckinghamshire in the Civil Wars 1640 -1660” By Ian F. W. Beckett, published by Pen and Sword Books, Hardback £25, 207 pages. ISBN 9781473856035

Bucks was on the front line between royalist and parliamentary forces in the Civil War yet it was the scene of few major military actions. As a result, Professor Ian Beckett’s book is as much a social and economic history as a military one. Beckett describes a closely knit gentry class, frequently related to each other.

John Hampden was related to over 80 members of the Long Parliament, including, of course, Oliver Cromwell. They shared a common education, they dominated the local electorates and those they sent to parliament were generally hostile to the crown.

The opposition to Ship Money and other taxes was as much about the legality and methods of the assessment of the taxes as the principle. The dispute over Ship Money is well known but there were many other disputes. Generally, the gentry were prepared to pay for support of the protestant Rhineland Palatinate during the 30 Years War. There was no such support for wars against Spain, France or Scotland and controversy over the “coat and conduct money” raised to pay for the trained bands. Religion also played its part in alienating the gentry from the king’s government. Bucks was one of the 11 counties that petitioned for the abolition of episcopacy.

When the war came, the economic damage was considerable. Both royalist and parliamentary garrisons requisitioned supplies, billeted troops and tried to exact taxes from the local population. Agricultural production and incomes fell partly due to the disruption caused by the war and partly due to failed harvests and cattle plague.

Military indiscipline also affected the long suffering population. Arrears of pay led to widespread desertions and there was tension and sometimes fighting between the soldiers of the different parliamentary armies. One of the legacies of the war was a widespread hostility to all armies and soldiers.

There was an accompanying social change. The power of the minor gentry and the County Committees, often containing men of quite humble origins, rose at the expense of the Lieutenancy and the major gentry families. With the Restoration in 1660, there was a quiet counter revolution and the major gentry families largely restored their position.

Who would this book be of interest to? It is certainly not for military history buffs. Warfare in the county was largely a matter of garrisons, outposts and raids rather than pitched battles. There is relatively little coverage of the fighting except as it affected the civil population. Those who are interested in the non-military aspects of the war and want a thoroughly researched and detailed social history will find this of value.

Charles Harvey

Note: Ian Beckett is a respected academic with many books to his name. He has been a member of the Society since its inception and in this book returns to a subject that has been close to his heart for many years. See the box above for details of Ian Beckett's talk on The Civil War in Bucks in November 2016.

OBITUARY - BEATRICE DOBIE

It was with great sadness that the Society learned of the untimely death of Beatrice Dobie. She died on the 25th April aged 73 following a fall at her home on 18th April. Beatrice had been a member of the Society for many years and recently served on the Executive Committee. She had led an interesting life, having been an infant school teacher, a councillor and a former Deputy Mayor of Thame. She received the Lifetime Achievement Town Award for her outstanding contribution to the civic life of Thame.



Beatrice campaigned for the new Thame Library and was instrumental in the formation of The Friends of Thame Library. She organised Christmas tea parties for the senior citizens of Thame, and helped with the running of the annual Charities Fayre and Community Group lunches. Beatrice was a keen supporter of the local community hospital and member of its League of Friend. Beatrice had led a Brownie Group and was member of the Guides associated Trefoil Guild.

Beatrice will be greatly missed by all those who knew and valued her input and organisational skills, and the Society send their condolences to her family and friends

Anthea Coles

OBITUARY - HUGH ALEXANDER MULDREW Q.S.M. 1924 – 2016

Hugh Muldrew, who died in Oamaru, New Zealand, on 7th May 2016 at the age of 91, was connected with the John Hampden Society from its earliest days and, with his wife Trixie, was our farthest-flung member.



Hugh Muldrew and his wife Trixie, who survives him.



Hugh Muldrew and Roy Bailey in the conservatory of his home 'Chalgrove' near the town of Hampden NZ

Following the launch of the Society in October 1992 we wrote to all the towns around the world called Hampden and in February 1993 received a membership application form on behalf of Hugh, who was Chairman of Waihemo Community Board, which covers Hampden in North Otago. The letter also announced the Muldrews' intention to be in the UK in 1993 during our 350th anniversary commemoration of John Hampden's death and to attend one of the events.

This they did, witnessing the Commemorative Ceremony in Thame on 24th June. In the following year, during the campaign to have the Chalgrove battlefield included in the Battlefields Register, Hugh provided an official letter of support in his capacity as Mayor of Hampden.

The Muldrews visited Britain again in July 1998 with their friends the McMillans, and my wife Annabel, our daughter Alice, and I took them on a guided tour around as many sites associated with John Hampden as we could in 3 days. (see *The Patriot* no. 23) Hugh expressed a hope that members of the Society would visit Hampden NZ, and in late 2002 Annabel and I finally made it.

We stayed for a couple of days as their guests at their lovely home (called, appropriately enough, *Chalgrove*) just outside Hampden, which they ran as a bed-and-breakfast. Later on I enjoyed their hospitality again when Hugh and I set up the Society's New Zealand office in his conservatory where he helped me to prepare a talk which I was to give to the inhabitants of Hampden. Thanks to his efforts there was a big turnout and the talk was well received.

Hugh Muldrew served in the Royal New Zealand Air Force in WWII, and married Trixie Auld in Oamaru in 1949. They had a small farm and Hugh worked for a butcher near Oamaru before they moved to Hampden, where they bought the butcher's shop. They later converted this into a venison factory. After a long planning battle they opened the Moeraki Boulders restaurant, close to the famous tourist attraction, in 1986. A desire for a new water scheme prompted Hugh to stand for mayor, and he was awarded the Queen's Service Medal for community service. He was known affectionately as 'the late Mr Muldrew' because he was always running late!

Following retirement in 2003 the Muldrews moved to Oamaru, but in May 2012 they were briefly back in Hampden as guests of honour at an event entitled *John Hampden - His Tymes and His Music*. (see *The Patriot* no. 71). Hugh Muldrew was a friendly, likeable and very hospitable man who was a pleasure to know. He is survived by Trixie and a large family which extends to include great-great-grandchildren.

Roy Bailey

I would like to thank Trevor Norton of Hampden for his help in checking/correcting some facts.

2016 MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Single Members - £15 Joint Membership - £20 Junior/Student - £10

Thank you to all of those who have paid their membership subscriptions for 2016 (due 1st January) If you have not yet paid your subscription please make a bank transfer (details on the website) or send a cheque in favour of The John Hampden Society to;

Philip Broomfield - Membership Secretary

Email: membership@johnhampden.org

45 Colehill Crescent

Muscliff

Bournemouth

DORSET BH9 3QH

The John Hampden Society is a registered charity that exists to bring together people with an interest in John Hampden, and to encourage wider knowledge of this great 17th century Parliamentarian, his life and times.

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