



THE PATRIOT

Quarterly Journal of the John Hampden Society

No. 2 - Spring 1993



SOCIETY HELPS TO SAVE THE HAMPDEN MEMORIALS

Within three months of coming into existence, The John Hampden Society has helped to achieve one of its first objectives - to save the Hampden memorials in St. Mary Magdalene Church, Great Hampden.

These two memorials stand on the north wall of the chancel and have close connections with John Hampden. The one nearest to the altar is in pink and white marble and was erected in 1759 by Charlotte Kempthorne in memory of her father Thomas Kempthorne and her mother Anne, who was John Hampden's daughter.

The other one is a relief carving of the Battle of Chalgrove with the Hampden family tree above, and was erected in the 18th century by the Patriot's great-grandson, Robert Trevor, in honour of his famous ancestor. Trevor succeeded to the Hampden estates in 1754 on the death of his cousin John Hampden, 24th and last hereditary lord of Great Hampden in the male line. Both memorials have been badly affected by damp, causing them to come away from the wall.

At the Society's first AGM on 6 Feb, Raymond Jones, Churchwarden and Chairman of Great Hampden Parish Council, told the assembled members of the remarkable sequence of events in 1992. In March, Great Hampden Parochial Church Council decided to mark the 350th anniversary of John Hampden's death in June 1993 by a series of activities centred around the Church. These included a 'Songs of Praise', two music concerts, a 17th century fair and a lecture by Hampden's latest biographer, Dr John Adair.

Two months later the PCC discovered that they had a serious problem with the memorials in the church, and discussions with the conservator Michael Eastham revealed that £14,500 would be required to preserve them. The fund-raising aspect of the June 1993 activities therefore became of great importance.

In September Mr Jones was contacted by Roy Bailey, who was attempting, with Dr Frank Hansford-Miller, to set up a John Hampden Society. Mr Bailey had approached his former Sealed Knot colleague Dr Adair, who had put him in touch with Mr Jones. As a result of discussions between Mr Jones and Mr Bailey, the aims and objectives of the yet-unborn Society were expanded to include, "to encourage and assist, where possible, in the preservation and/or renovation of the monuments and artifacts associated with John Hampden".



The Hampden Memorial in Great Hampden Church, now undergoing renovation



The Ship Money Monument, which stands on the land in Stoke Mandeville parish for which John Hampden was assessed 20 shillings.

At the inauguration of the Society at Hampden House in October, Mr Jones took the opportunity to discuss the matter with the Earl of Buckinghamshire, head of the Hampden family and Patron of the Society. Lord Buckinghamshire and the Hon. Ian Hope-Morley, owner of the Hampden Estate, lost no time in contacting the various members of the family and exhorting them to help. They were so successful that, together with contributions from three charitable trusts, the bulk of the money was quickly raised, and work commenced on the restoration of the two memorials on 22 February. This is scheduled to be completed by the end of April.

It is very gratifying to think that The John Hampden Society, by its very existence, has been instrumental in helping this very necessary work, but we should not rest on our laurels. The inscription on the large memorial on the other side of the chancel, erected by John Hampden in memory of his first wife Elizabeth, is also affected by damp, while the lettering on the Ship Money monument at Honor End Farm (left), now owned by Buckinghamshire County Council, is badly weathered and needs re-cutting.

BOOKLIST

Shire Publications of Princes Risborough, who published Frank Hansford-Miller's biography of John Hampden, have just produced their latest catalogue, and we are distributing this with *'The Patriot'*. A glance at it will show that it covers a multitude of subjects, but of particular interest to members is 'Archaeology of the English Civil War', by Peter Harrington.

This is a comprehensive look at the evidence remaining on (and under) the ground today of that momentous conflict of 350 years ago. Peter Harrington, though born in Manchester, is Curator of the Anne S.K. Brown Military Collection at Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island. His archaeological background makes him extremely knowledgeable, and his book contains a wealth of fascinating detail about the various sites throughout Great Britain - with a brief mention of Ireland.

Sadly for residents of Buckinghamshire, the only local mention is of a defensive ditch revealed by the excavations at the Prebendal in Aylesbury, but those of us who live in the neighbouring and equally delightful county of Berkshire will be pleased to see Donnington Castle, just outside Newbury, given its due importance not only in the text but also on the cover.

The book is profusely illustrated with some good plans and first-class photographs, many from the air. A glossary of terms, a selection of suggested sites to visit, and a comprehensive list of titles for further reading, make this publication well worth £3.95.

Other sources of good books of the period have come to our attention. John Atkins, of 2 Tordoff Way, BARRY, S Glamorgan CF6 6AQ (0446 740468), is Bibliographer to the Sealed Knot and has a number of novels of the period on his list, some of which feature John Hampden. He also has a First Edition of 'Cromwell's Captains' by C. Lucas Phillips (1937) at £15 plus postage. This has a 76 page analysis of the life of Hampden.

Camp bell and Stillwell, of 7 Forrest Road, EDINBURGH EH1 2QH (031 2202178), publish a catalogue entitled 'England in the 17th Century' which contains over 1,000 titles. I was recently able to purchase from them a copy of Dr John Adair's biography of Hampden in pristine condition, and they have a two-volume edition of Lord Nugent's work at £45.

Both these booksellers will be happy to supply an up-to-date list on request.

RHB.

Acknowledgements to Computability of Hedge End, Southampton, and Gabletek of Great Shefford, Newbury, for technical assistance.



The Chalgrove Monument, which stands on the site of the battle and was erected in 1843 by Lord Nugent as a memorial to John Hampden

VOLUNTEERS.

Following the changes to the constitution approved at the AGM, the Society requires a Membership Secretary. This officer will be responsible for processing membership applications, sending out membership cards and renewal notices, and keeping an up-to-date membership list.

Anyone who has the relevant enthusiasm and experience is invited to apply to the Hon. Secretary. The Committee will make the appointment at their meeting on 15th May.

We are also looking for volunteers in other important areas outside the Committee, namely:-

(1) Following the idea put forward at the AGM, Dr John Adair has readily given his permission for his lecture on 26th June to be recorded and marketed for the benefit of the Society. Consequently we require someone with the necessary skill and equipment to record this talk and arrange for the cassette copies to be produced.

(2) Up to now, the Society's letterheads, membership cards, programmes, etc. have been produced on a desktop publishing system, but we are rapidly approaching the stage when we must consider the design of publicity posters, ties and brooches, commemorative ale labels, and even the wreath for 24th June - plus, of course, cassette labels. Persons with any sort of skills in the graphic arts are needed here.

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1993.

Tue 11 May, 7.30pm. Thame Historical Society lecture 'Oxfordshire and the Civil War', by Mr D. Eddershaw at the Masonic Hall, Lower High Street, Thame. Guests £1 admission.

Sun 23 May, 2-5pm. A viewing of 17th century portraits at St Edward's Hall, Stow-on-the-Wold, Glos. There will be a small admission charge.

(see 'PORTRAITS')

Fri 18 June. A memorial service at Chalgrove Monument by units of the Sealed Knot, in the presence of the Earl and Countess of Buckinghamshire, to mark the 350th anniversary of the Battle of Chalgrove Field. Meet at the Wallace Club, Chalgrove at 6.45 pm.

Sat 19 &

Sun 20 June. A Living History Exhibition and a battle re-enactment at Ascott Park, Stadhampton, commencing at 12 noon.

Thur 24 June. 350th anniversary of John Hampden's death.

6pm. A guided tour of the old Lord Williams's Grammar School in Church Road, Thame. Meet at Booker Tate reception.

7.50pm. A re-enactment of the arrival of John Hampden and Arthur Goodwin at the Greyhound Inn (Hampden House)

8pm. The Earl of Buckinghamshire will represent the Society in laying a wreath at the memorial at Hampden House, Buttermarket, Thame.

NOTE

At the time of publication, many of the arrangements for the above events in June have not been finalised. As the next issue of 'The Patriot' is due to be published on 24th June, full and final information will be sent to members in a special mailout around the beginning of June.

This information is therefore subject to alteration.

Fri 25 -

Sun 27 June. Great Hampden Parochial Church Council's commemoration of John Hampden's life.

(see 'COMMEMORATION')

1994.

Sat 23 Apr. T.B.A.

This year marks the 400th anniversary of Hampden's birth, which is thought to have taken place where Downing Street now stands. We are hoping to organise various events in and around the Palace of Westminster.

Please make every effort to attend these various functions. and help in any way that you can.

PORTRAITS

St. Edward's Hall at Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucestershire, has a large collection of 17th century portraits. One that is not on public display is said to be of John Hampden and has come down to the trustees via the Hammond family. The Patriot's daughter Mary was the wife of Colonel Robert Hammond, Governor of Carisbrooke Castle, before she married Sir John Hobart, so this picture could be genuine.

A visit to inspect these pictures has been arranged by Derek Lester for Sunday 23rd May, between 2 and 5 pm. Our guides will be art historians David Appleby and Peter Wemyss. Meet at the entrance to St Edward's Hall, Market Square, Stow, at 1.45 pm. The town contains a number of hotels and pubs for lunch, and there is a very good tearoom, St Edward's Cafe, right opposite the Hall for post-inspection refreshments.

If you are interested in attending this function please let the Hon. Secretary know as soon as possible, so that we can let the organisers know how many to expect.

- Another portrait said to be of John Hampden is in the possession of Lord Saye and Seale at Broughton Castle near Banbury. Lord Saye and Seale's ancestor in the 17th century was a close colleague of the Patriot, and also refused to pay Ship Money.



The founders of the Society at the inauguration at Hampden House in October 1992 (left to right in muffs) the Earl of Buckinghamshire, Dr John Adair, Dr Frank Hansford-Miller and Roy Bailey. The Guard of Honour from Colonel John Hampden's Regiment of Foote is commanded by Captaine Derek Lester (second from left)

Picture: Bucks Free Press

MEMBERSHIP FORMS

Following the decision on subscriptions at the AGM, new membership application forms are being prepared and will shortly be available. Please remember that the existing ones will be invalid after 31st May.

COUNTRY FAIR

We have been asked by Princes Risborough Scouts and Guides if we would like to participate in their Country Fair on Bank Holiday Monday, 31st May. They suggest that we might have a stall to sell products for fundraising, or just a presence to promote the Society. Again, 17th century costume would appear to be desirable.

Last years fair was attended by 9,000 people, so this would be a good opportunity to promote our commemorative activities later in June. If any member resident in the Risborough area would like to take on the responsibility for this particular function, please get in touch with the Hon. Secretary. Otherwise we shall have to tell the organisers that we are too busy.



MORE MEMORIALS

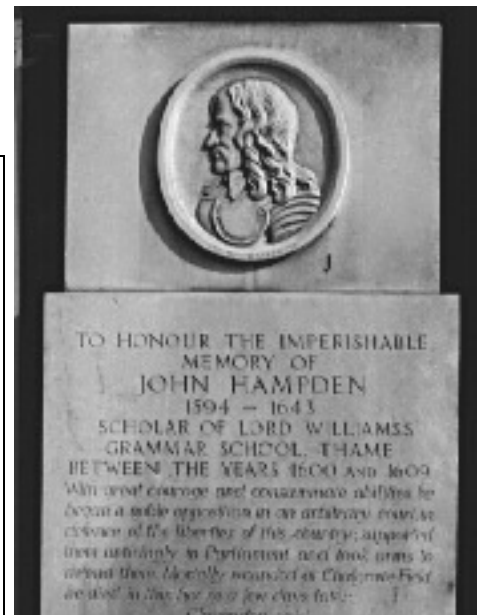
Hampden House, in Thame, (above) where John Hampden died, has a small piece of unused land adjoining it. The owner, 'Ken Austin, has suggested to the Society that this could be converted into a John Hampden Garden of Remembrance.

Milwards Shoes, who are the occupiers of this property, are also interested in our activities there in June, and have suggested that another memorial to the Patriot be placed inside the shop, which is being extended to include the first floor. They

have also offered window space for a display during June.

In both cases, further discussions are taking place. While the Garden of Remembrance is a rather longer-term project, Milwards' suggested memorial could be unveiled on 24th June.

- The position of the Hampden memorial plaque (right), erected in 1951 by the Girls' Grammar School, Thame, is indicated by the arrow.



TO HONOUR THE IMPERISHABLE
MEMORY OF
JOHN HAMPDEN
1594 - 1643
SCHOLAR OF LORD WILLIAM'S
GRAMMAR SCHOOL, THAME
BETWEEN THE YEARS 1600 AND 1609
With great courage and conspicuous abilities he
brought a noble opposition in our arbitrary tyrannical
restraint of the liberty of this country; supported
them nobly in Parliament and took arms to
resist them. He died at Chesham First
August in the Year 1643. See also his
Character and

NEWS

ACCIDENT

We regret to report that Gillian Goodall severely damaged her back in a riding accident in the middle of March, and is in Stoke Mandeville Hospital, where she is likely to remain for six months. On behalf of all members, the Committee of the Society send her their very best wishes for a speedy recovery.

THE FIRST CENTURY

The Society's 100th member, Mrs Pauline Barfield of Bolehill in Derbyshire, was enrolled on 4th March and, at the time of publication, the membership stands at 105. Considering that the Cromwell Association, which has been in existence since 1935, has 500 members, this is very good going, and it is hoped that this year's activities will ensure that we have a membership of 250 by the end of the year.

OVERSEAS MEMBER

Another new recruit is Mr Hugh Muldrew, Chairman of Waihemo Community Board in Hampden, New Zealand. Mr Muldrew is hoping to be in England for the commemorations in June.

APOLOGY

An apology is due to Miss Gileon Holroyd, for stating in the first issue that she ran summer schools at Medmenham Abbey. It should, of course, have read Missenden Abbey.

DRESS

It was suggested by Derek Lester, at the AGM, that members attending the Commemorative Ceremony in Thame on 24th June should consider wearing 17th century costume, in order to add to the atmosphere of the occasion. He has stated that he will be happy to offer advice on the correct style of dress, materials, sources of supply, sources of hire, etc., His telephone number is 0992 701304.

Great Hampden Parochial Church Council would also like to see as many people as possible wearing the dress of the period at the Great Hampden Commemorations.

BOOKLIST EXTRA

The following information arrived too late to be included in the book list, but has relevance, to the Page 1 story. 'John Hampden and Nicholas Stone, Sculptor' by Lorna M. Head, is an offprint from 'Records of Bucks, Volume 20', and is about the sculptor who carved the memorial to Elizabeth Hampden.

Copies are £1.50 each, including postage, from the Hon. Librarian, Bucks Archaeological Society, County Museum Technical Centre, Halton, Aylesbury, HP22 5PJ.

CO-OPERATION

As well as the Shire Publications catalogue, members will find that this issue contains two other enclosures which may be of interest - details of a Cromwell Association Civil War Day School in May, and a membership application form for the Friends of the English Civil War Society.

Already close links have been forged between the Society and these two organisations. The Cromwell Association has provided valuable advice and publicity, while the Directors of the ECWS have recently written to enquire about the possibilities of becoming affiliated to The John Hampden Society.

JOHN HAMPDEN PRESS

One of our new members is Graham Barfield, Quality Assurance Manager of the John Hampden Press at Heanor in Derbyshire. This firm, which now prints cartons, was founded in 1965 by Gordon Hope-Morley (now Lord Hollenden), father of the Hon. Ian Hope-Morley, as a part of Morley the hosiery manufacturers.

Apparently there is a story that it was originally intended to call the company Jack Horton's Press, after the first Managing Director, but that Mr Hope-Morley thought of someone better known with the same initials! Curiously enough, the company has prospered under two MDs - Jack Horton and the present incumbent John Hilton - who both share the same initials as the Patriot.

GIFT

Elliott Viney, High Sheriff of Buckinghamshire in 1964, has kindly presented the Society with a copy of his book on the Sheriffs of the county. Although John Hampden never occupied this post, nine members of the family held the office nineteen times.

Any member wishing to borrow this book, which is a mine of historical information, should send a cheque or postal order for £1, to cover postage and packing, to the Hon. Secretary.

AGM MINUTES

The minutes of the Society's first Annual General Meeting are being sent to all members as a supplement to this issue of 'The Patriot'.

To save printing costs, please retain these minutes for next year's AGM.

APOLOGIES

Due to technical problems concerning the production of the pictures, this issue of 'The Patriot' is published a little later than intended.

COMMEMORATION

Great Hampden Parochial Church Council's commemoration of John Hampden's life will be held on the weekend of 25th - 27th June, as follows:-

Friday 25th, 8 pm. A musical concert featuring a string quartet in the Church of St. Mary Magdalene. Admission - £8.00

Saturday 26th, 2 pm-5 pm. A display of traditional village games and pastimes, including falconry, on the lawns of Hampden House. Admission: adults, £1.50; children under 16, 50p; family ticket, £2.00.

5 pm. A lecture on John Hampden by Dr John Adair, in the Great Hall. Admission - £5.00

8 pm. A second musical concert in the Church. Admission - £8.00

Sunday 27th, 6 pm Songs of Praise in the Church.

Admission to the concerts and the lecture will be by ticket only and these can be obtained by sending a stamped, addressed envelope to:-

**Anne Springall,
Ferns Farmhouse,
Great Hampden,
GREAT MISSENDEN,
Bucks HP16 9RG.**

Tel: 0494488605

Cheques/Postal orders should be made payable to 'Great Hampden PCC'.

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COMMITTEE

Having been re-elected unopposed at the AGM, the Committee remains as follows:-

THE RT. HON. THE EARL OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE (Patron)

DR JOHN ADAIR (President)

TIM OLIVER (Chairman)

ROY BAILEY (Hon. Secretary)

The Malt House, Great Shefford, Newbury, Berkshire RG167ED. 0488648441.

DR FRANK HANSFORD-MILLER

(Hon. Treasurer)

20 St. Mary's Meadow, Wingham, Canterbury, Kent CT31DF. 0227 722391.

THE HON. IAN HOPE-MORLEY

THE HON JULIAN BYNG

RAYMOND JONES

The next Committee Meeting will be on Sat 15th May at Hampden House. If you have any points you wish to be raised, please contact the Hon. Secretary.

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