



THE PATRIOT

Quarterly Journal of The John Hampden Society
No. 9 - Winter 1994/95



CHALGROVE - WE ARE STILL WAITING

by
ROY BAILEY
Hon. Secretary

I am sorry that this issue of *'The Patriot'* is such a meagre one. Since you were all spoiled by having No. 8 double the usual size, time and economics dictated that this one should be just two pages.

I had hoped to be able to fill those two pages with a report of the triumphant success of the campaign to persuade English Heritage to include the battlefield of Chalgrove on their Battlefields Register. At the launch in September, we were informed that they intended to publish an amended draft register just before Christmas, based on representations made to them up to the closing date of 1 December.

However, no information can be forthcoming until 9 January at the earliest, when Dr Andrew Brown returns. This is a pity, because a great deal of research has been done by a number of people, and we have been informed by the Daily Telegraph, unofficially, that English Heritage have changed their minds in the light of the new evidence and have placed Chalgrove on the Register. The reporter who gave me this information and is preparing a feature about our campaign and the battlefield is also away until 9 January!

Although the official announcement will not be made until the anniversary of the Battle of Naseby on 14 June, we should certainly know something of English Heritage's decision before our Annual General Meeting, and the next issue of *'The Patriot'*, due out on Lady Day, will carry the full story.

In anticipation of our victory, Derek Lester intends to organise a celebratory banquet with appropriate entertainment in Hampden House on 17 June, together with an excursion to Chalgrove (*see overleaf*). The cost is likely to be in the region of £35 per head, but this will be subject to confirmation. If you are interested in principle, please complete the form below and send it, with an SAE by 1 Mar, to Derek. There is no obligation, but first come, first served.

To:- Derek Lester, 8 Margaret Close, Waltham Abbey, Essex EN9 1PZ.

Please reserve me places, without obligation, at the proposed Chalgrove Celebratory Banquet.

Name/s

Address

Tel No

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Advice and suggestions

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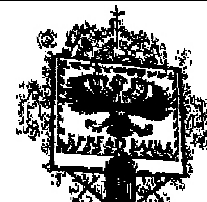
It has been suggested that the Society should seek to inaugurate a Hampden Heritage Trail, incorporating the places in Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire most associated with John Hampden.

This would mean a circular tour visiting Great Hampden, Wendover, Aylesbury, Kimble, Thame, Pyrton, Oxford, Watlington and Chalgrove, but not necessarily in that order.

In the form of a coach tour for members in the summer, perhaps finishing with a dinner at somewhere like the Spread Eagle Hotel, Thame, it was suggested by Graham Barfield, who organised a similar venture in June 1993.

As an official tour, supported by the Southern Tourist Board, Thame Town Council, and any other interested body, it was proposed by Derek Lester, who sees it as a way of keeping Chalgrove battlefield in the public eye and also of promoting John Hampden and the Society.

☆☆☆



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ACCOMMODATION, RESTAURANT
& BANQUETING

8, Margaret Close,
Waltham Abbey,
Essex,
EN9 1PZ.
3-1-95.

Dear Members,

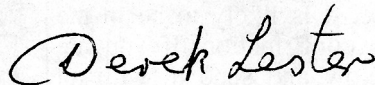
In anticipation of English Heritage granting Battlefield status to Chalgrove Field I am organizing a **GRAND BANQUET** on the **17th June 1995, at GREAT HAMPDEN**, to celebrate the event. This will follow the form of Lord Nugent's sumptuous banquet of 1843, which marked the unveiling of the John Hampden Monument. I hope to mirror the original menu and musical entertainment; nineteenth century dress being optional.

For logistical reasons a common meeting place such as a hotel will be organized, with transport for the whole group to and from the Banquet. Obviously for those who wish to take advantage of the hotel, group discounts will be negotiated.

The portfolio presented to English Heritage outlined a Trail following Prince Rupert's march from Oxford via Chinnor to Chalgrove, so the first coach tour following this route has been booked for the Sunday, ending with a detailed guided exploration of Chalgrove Field.

If you would like to participate in this historical event please complete the preliminary booking form. As numbers are limited for this exclusive feast, places will be reserved strictly in order of forms being returned.

Yours Sincerely



DEREK LESTER

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