



THE PATRIOT

Quarterly Newsletter of the John Hampden Society

No. 23 - Autumn 1998



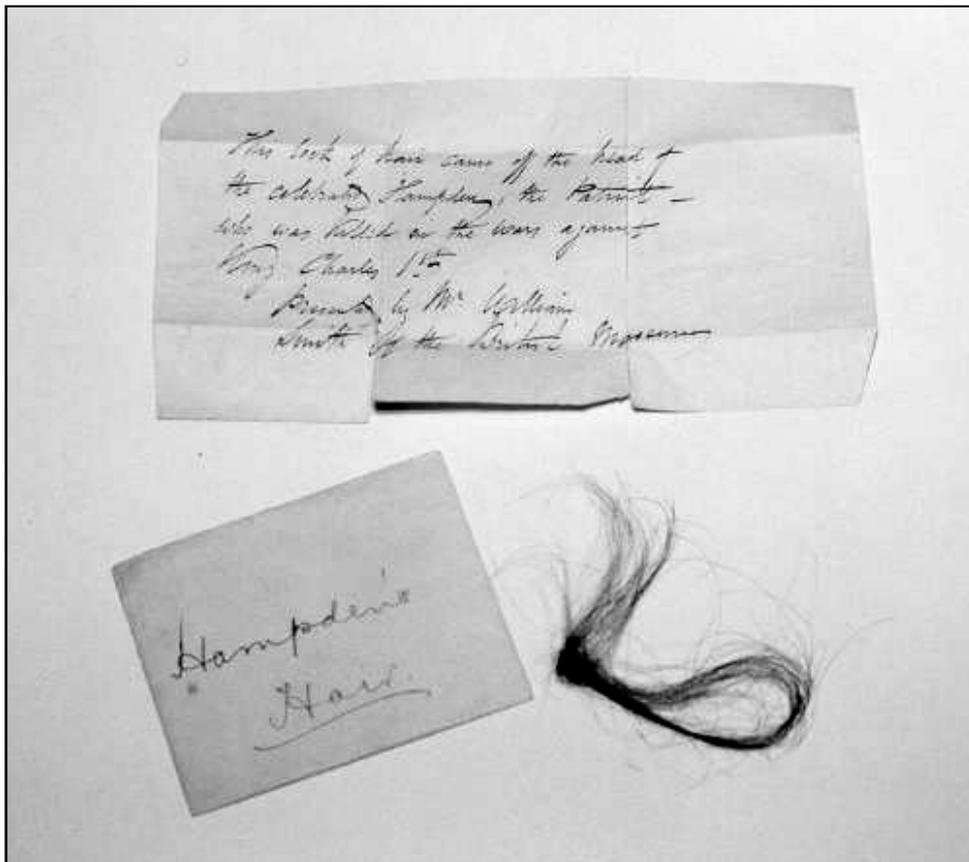
ANOTHER HAMPDEN RELIC COMES TO LIGHT

The Hon. Secretary was recently invited to give the 1998 Founder's Day Lecture at Lord Williams's School, Thame, on 16 October. Before the proceedings commenced, Assistant Headteacher David Jones said, "We have a lock of John Hampden's hair here!"

the relic by Miss Galloway, Headmistress of East Dereham School for Girls, Norfolk, whose father 'was a keen collector of objects of antiquarian interest', and who insisted on the piece of hair going to Lord Williams's School when she heard of Thame. The piece of notepaper enclosing the hair appears to be of

In part 2 of his article *The Death of John Hampden*, printed in the last issue of *'The Patriot'*, Dr John Adair writes that Lord Nugent was accompanied by William James Smith when he exhumed the body in Great Hampden church in 1828, and that Smith cut off locks of the reddish-brown hair. This would seem to give provenance to the relic at Lord Williams's School. The hair is a reddish-brown or auburn colour, very similar to the piece at Carisbrooke, and the notepaper and writing are not dissimilar, either. Although current thinking among the Society's researchers is that the body Nugent exhumed was not John Hampden (Derek Lester believes that it was John's father, William), there seems to be little reasonable doubt that both these locks of hair came from that body.

Should the Society ever realise its ambition to do DNA testing on relics, descendants and claimed descendants of John Hampden, this piece of hair, together with the one at Carisbrooke Castle, will be valuable pieces of ammunition.



This artefact (pictured here) proved to be of slightly smaller size than the one in Carisbrooke Castle (which was featured in *'The Patriot'* No. 15), and was wrapped in a piece of notepaper enclosed in a covering letter.

This is undated, but is addressed to Mr Dyer, and was written by Mr R.B. Shaw of St Hugh's College, Oxford. Apparently a schools inspector, he was given

greater antiquity than the letter, and has written on it:

'This lock of hair came from the head of the celebrated Hampden, the Patriot - who was killed in the wars against King Charles 1st.'

'Presented by Mr William Smith of the British Museum'.

AA *** RAC

The Spread Eagle Hotel

THAME
OXFORDSHIRE
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ACCOMMODATION, RESTAURANT & BANQUETING

ANTIPODEAN VISIT

The visit to Thame by Hugh and Trixie Muldrew from Hampden, New Zealand, with their friends Ross and Betty McMillan, took place in August.

The party arrived in Britain in July and spent most of the time touring the country by coach and car. As arranged, they stayed in Thame, at The Black Horse Hotel, on the last two nights of their visit.

They were entertained on the first evening by Hon. Treasurer **Rosalie Gibson** and her husband **Terry**, who took them along Thame High Street, pointing out places of interest, such as The Spread Eagle Hotel and the Hampden memorial on the former Greyhound Inn. **Hugh** and **Trixie** remembered much of this from their visit in 1993, but it was all new to the McMillans, who were visiting Britain for the first time. The **Gibsons**, being bellringers, had to prepare the bells of St Mary's church for a wedding the following day, so they took the visitors with them, past the old Lord Williams's Grammar School to the church, and eventually up into the bell tower.

The following afternoon the **Hon. Secretary**, with his wife **Annabel** and daughter **Alice**, met the visitors on their return from Blenheim Palace. The party split among the two cars so that the hosts and the visitors could exchange information as they drove. First stop was Great Kimble church, to view the replica of the Ship Money roll signed by John Hampden. From there the party went to the Chiltern Brewery, where they had a chat with Richard and Lesley Jenkinson and sampled the ale and chutney before purchasing a supply of John Hampden's Ale to take back to New Zealand with them.

The itinerary then took the party past the Prime Minister's country residence of Chequers and on to the Ship Money Memorial at Honor End, where a number of photographs were taken. **Tim Oliver** had kindly agreed that the visitors could have a quick look at Hampden House which they found of great interest, and the Church was visited to view the Hampden tombs and brasses under the carpet.

Leaving the church they met former committee member and churchwarden **Raymond Jones**, who discovered that Ross McMillan was a fellow farmer. The two promptly engaged in such a long conversation that it seemed likely that the visitors would miss their plane in the morning! The two were eventually separated, and the party proceeded to The Plough at Lower Cadsden, an ancient inn that has connections with John Hampden. Over dinner **Hugh Muldrew** showed a number of photos of Hampden, NZ, and kindly donated two books and some newspaper cuttings about the town to the Society. He repeated a hope that members of the Society would one day visit Hampden.

As the visitors were flying out to Canada from Heathrow early the following morning, the tour finished with a quick trip to the Red Lion at Stoke Talmage to meet **Stephen Wilkins** and sample some more good English ale as a nightcap.

It was a great pleasure to meet the **Muldrews** again and the **McMillans** for the first time, and we hope they enjoyed their visit to Britain - and particularly to the home of the man after whom their town is named.



The party pictured outside Hampden House, (left to right) Annabel Bailey, Alice Bailey, Roy Bailey, Hugh Muldrew, Trixie Muldrew, Betty McMillan and Ross MacMillan.

JOHN HAMPDEN ON TOUR

An exhibition about John Hampden and the Society has been touring the libraries of Buckinghamshire this autumn, thanks to the efforts of Mrs June Wailing of Amersham.

Mrs Wailing has taken charge of all the Society's photographs and other exhibition material, together with some input about Chalgrove and Hampden's Greencoats from **Derek Lester**, and a supply of *John Hampden of Buckinghamshire*, back numbers of *'The Patriot'*, colour postcards, and promotional leaflets. These have been put up on the various libraries' display boards, and the exhibition has attracted a good deal of attention.

"The photos are lovely and altogether give a very lively idea of the Society's activities over the years", writes **Mrs Wailing**. "**Derek Lester's** Chalgrove board looks very impressive too, and all my librarian friends have commented on how interesting it all is". She goes on to say that the yellow leaflets have been disappearing steadily and some of the books on Hampden and the Civil War, which are on loan from Aylesbury, have been borrowed.

The exhibition commenced on 5 October at Amersham, and visited Great Missenden, Chalfont St Peter and Wendover. From 18 January it will be in Beaconsfield for two weeks and then should be in Aylesbury and Chesham in February and March. Congratulations to **Mrs Wailing** for her sterling efforts.

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new members who have joined the Society in recent months:

Samuel Hearne of Chiswick; **Mrs Valerie Horne** of Aylesbury; **Mrs Margaret Brown** and **Steve Webb**, both of Prestwood; **Robert Heasman** of Aston Clinton; **John Hambly** of Butler's Cross; **Paul Yates** of London; **Ian Tilly** of Hazlemere; **Michael Pearson** of Cardiff; **Philip Robb** of Leamington Spa; **Jason Murray** of Princes Risborough.

In addition, **Mrs Angela Bird** of Chingford has rejoined the Society.

Members who do not pay their annual subscriptions by standing order will find a reminder from Membership Secretary **Liz Morris** enclosed with this issue.

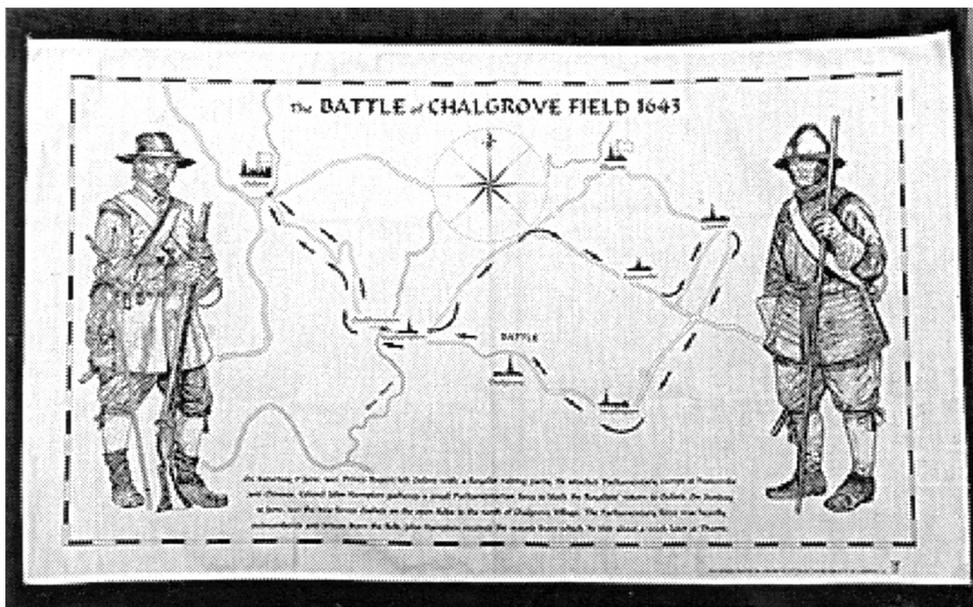
● **Michael Pearson** is the author of the treatise on Col. John Hampden's Regiment, which the Society is considering publishing.

APOLOGIES

We must apologise for the late publication of this Autumn issue.

The Winter issue will be published in mid-January.

CHALGROVE SOUVENIR



This splendid white cotton tea-towel, depicting Prince Rupert's march which culminated in the Battle of Chalgrove Field, has been produced by the Chalgrove Local History Group, and is available, price £2.00 plus 50p postage & packing, from:

Ray Reed
23 Brinkinfield Road
Chalgrove
Oxon OX44 7QX

The Society has borrowed the original artwork to make photocopies, as the map is a far better representation of Rupert's route than the one we have

in our slide programme. **Derek Lester** points out that there is a minor error; the arrows suggest that the troops reached Chalgrove via Watlington, whereas in fact they cut across country north of the town.

Once this has been amended and the artwork has been coloured we shall photograph it onto colour slide and also incorporate it in our web site. This minor mistake does not prevent the towel from drying dishes very efficiently!

Thanks to **Mrs Gill Blackshaw** and the Chalgrove Local History Group for making the artwork available to us.

WHITEHALL '99

The 30th of January 1999 marks the 350th anniversary of the execution of King Charles I, and we understand that various events, including a parade in Whitehall, are being organised to mark this.

Although John Hampden was not involved in the death of the King, having been dead himself for over 6 years, (and, had he lived, we like to think that the execution would not have happened) the Society's committee believe that, as we are involved in the study of the 17th century and the Civil Wars, we should participate in any suitable activities.

No information is at hand as this newsletter went to press in early December, but we hope to have full details of any events that might be of interest to members by the time the Winter issue is published in January.

Brewers (by appointment) of
JOHN HAMPDEN'S ALE
 and other fine beers

The Chiltern Brewery
 Nash Lee Road
 Terrick, Aylesbury
 Buckinghamshire HP17 0TQ
 Tel: 01296 613647
 Fax: 01296 612419
Why not visit our brewery shop?

DIARY

DATES

1999
Sat 30 January 350th Anniversary of the execution of King Charles I.
Fri 5 Mar Talk to Chinnor Historical and Archaeological Society at the Reading Room, Chinnor High Street, commencing at 7.30pm.
Sat 10 April Annual General Meeting at The Barns Centre Church Road, Thame, commencing at 2.30pm

HAMPDEN EXHIBITION

The Great Hampden exhibition, which was scheduled for 11 October and in which the Society was to have been involved, has been postponed until the Spring.

A new organisation, *The Hampdens Historical Association*, covering the communities of Great Hampden, Little Hampden and Hampden Row, was set up earlier this year to organise the exhibition, which is intended to raise funds for the publication of a book on the history of the three villages. However, the organisers soon found that they had acquired so much material that they needed more time to deal with it.

The co-ordinator of the HHA is:

Mrs Janet Adams
Forester's Cottage
Redland End
PRINCES RISBOROUGH
Bucks HP27 ORW
Tel: 01494 488285

The material that the HHA has so far collected is mostly official and estate records from the County Records Office, but Mrs Adams is keen to hear from anyone who has any personal reminiscences and/or anecdotes of life in the three Hampdens.

Needless to say, the Society will be involved in the forthcoming exhibition, and a date will probably be published in the next issue of *'The Patriot'*.

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ARTHUR GOODWIN - HAMPDEN'S LIFELONG FRIEND

This superb portrait of John Hampden's lifelong friend Arthur Goodwin by Anthony van Dyck hangs in Chatsworth House, and is reproduced here by kind permission of the Duke of Devonshire and the Chatsworth Settlement Trustees.

The Society has acquired an A4 colour print of this portrait, thanks to the efforts of **Graham Barfield**, and this will be added to our library of pictures for exhibitions and displays.

Arthur Goodwin was born at Upper Winchendon, Bucks, at about the same time as John Hampden, and they were undergraduates together at Magdalen College, Oxford, where they co-operated on verses to mark the death of Henry, Prince of Wales. Some accounts state that they actually met at Lord Williams's Grammar School in Thame.

The two started a friendship that was to last all their lives, attending the Inner Temple and serving in Parliament together. In

1640 Goodwin and Hampden were returned as Knights of the Shire for Buckinghamshire in the Short and Long Parliaments.

It was from his native county that Goodwin raised a regiment of cavalry on the outbreak of the Civil Wars - according to legend at Chalgrove Field at the same time that Hampden raised the foot. 'Your regiment is of very great reputation amongst us', Hampden later wrote.

Arthur Goodwin was at Chalgrove, and accompanied the wounded Hampden back to Thame, where he may have been the last person to speak to Hampden before he died. Goodwin escorted his friend's body back to Great Hampden for the funeral, and it was from here that he wrote his famous letter about the Patriot to his daughter, 'My dearest Jenny'.

Goodwin died himself just two months later, (perhaps of a broken heart?) and was buried at Wooburn. In his will he had bequeathed to John Hampden 'twentie pounds as a smale token of my love to my faithful friend'. Like Saul and Jonathan they were, 'lovely and pleasant in their lives, and in their death they were not divided'.

It has been suggested that we do more research into Arthur Goodwin's life as a way of learning more about John Hampden.

PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE

The Public Record Office held an open day at their splendid premises at Kew on Saturday 19 September, and the **Hon. Secretary** went along to have a look. Also there was **Mrs Lesley Wynne-Davies**, on duty as a Friend of the PRO.

The PRO moved into this purpose-built building, situated about 10 minutes walk from Kew Gardens underground station, from their Central London location a few years ago. Here, 96 miles of shelving hold the nation's records, from Domesday Book to the latest Government papers to be released. These are brought to the reading rooms by a state-of-the-art overhead transport system.

Records are not only kept; there is a massive programme of restoration of ancient documents, which include maps, prints and photographs.

A branch of the PRO is the Family Records Centre at 1 Myddleton Street, EC1, where indexes of births, marriages and deaths, censuses, and wills are kept.

Much of the PRO's services can be accessed over the Internet, and by 2001 it is planned to have the whole of the catalogue online, so that research can be planned ahead. Readers' tickets are available on application.

The Public Record Office

Kew, Surrey TW9 4DU

0181 876 3444

<http://www.pro.gov.uk/>

