

# THE PATRIOT

Quarterly Newsletter of the John Hampden Society  
No. 31 - Summer 2001



The John Hampden Society 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

## GRAMPOUND IS GO! Society's leading lords to officiate at unveilings

Most arrangements are now in place for a splendid official visit to Grampound in Cornwall at the end of August.

A full programme has been drawn up, and a number of distinguished persons will be present to see the Society honour John Hampden the Parliamentarian in his first constituency. The John Hampden Society is pleased to announce that our Patron, the **Earl of Buckinghamshire** (*far right*), will unveil the plaque on the house where Hampden lodged, while our Chairman, **Lord Hollenden** (*right*) will perform the similar ceremony in the parish church.

This dedication to the cause is not without some inconvenience to both gentlemen; **Lord and Lady Buckinghamshire** were due to start their annual holiday in Scotland on 31st August, but they have undertaken to postpone their departure, drive to Cornwall for the unveiling, and then start on the long drive up the whole length of England immediately afterwards.

Our Chairman was due to spend a quiet family weekend at home prior to placing his youngest son, Harry, in boarding school in the first week of September, so the Hollendens will be *en famille* in Cornwall for the ceremonies. The Society is grateful to these gentlemen and their long-suffering ladies for their unstinting support at this time.

About 15 other members of the Society have so far indicated their intention to attend the ceremonies, and it is hoped that

shall achieve many more column inches and broadcast minutes. As well as the main events of the unveiling of the two plaques,

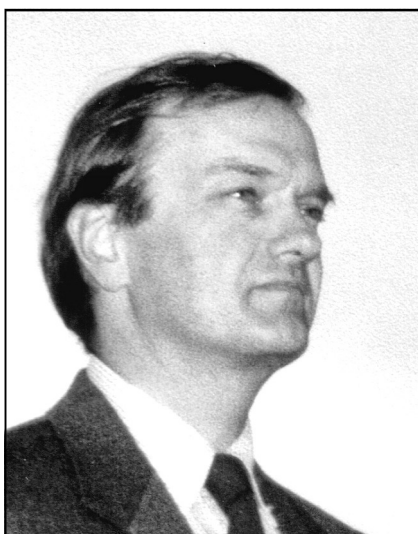
the Society will also be mounting its exhibition in the local primary school from Wednesday 29th August to Saturday 1st September. A talk on John Hampden and his times, illustrated with colour slides, will be given in the Village Hall on the Thursday and Friday evenings by Vice-Chairman **Roy Bailey** and **Graham Barfield**.

A reception for all the guests will be held in the school on Saturday, just prior to the first unveiling.

Following the Carnival fete, the parade will commence, and it is intended that members of the John Hampden Society will march in this in 17th century dress. It is hoped that **Derek Lester** and some members of Col. John Hampden's Regiment will participate, and that spare uniforms will be available for Society members. Messrs **Bailey** and **Barfield**, with or without Civil War dress, will be carrying the Society's banner, which will be mounted on two replica halberds.

Following the unveiling of the plaque in the church on Sunday, members will disperse, but we have asked the Earl of St. Germans if a limited number can visit his seat at Port Eliot, which is near Saltash, to view the Hampden portrait.

More news inside!



more will make last minute decisions. There will be a full programme of events in the days running up to the weekend of 1st /2nd September, and there is much to see and do in the area.

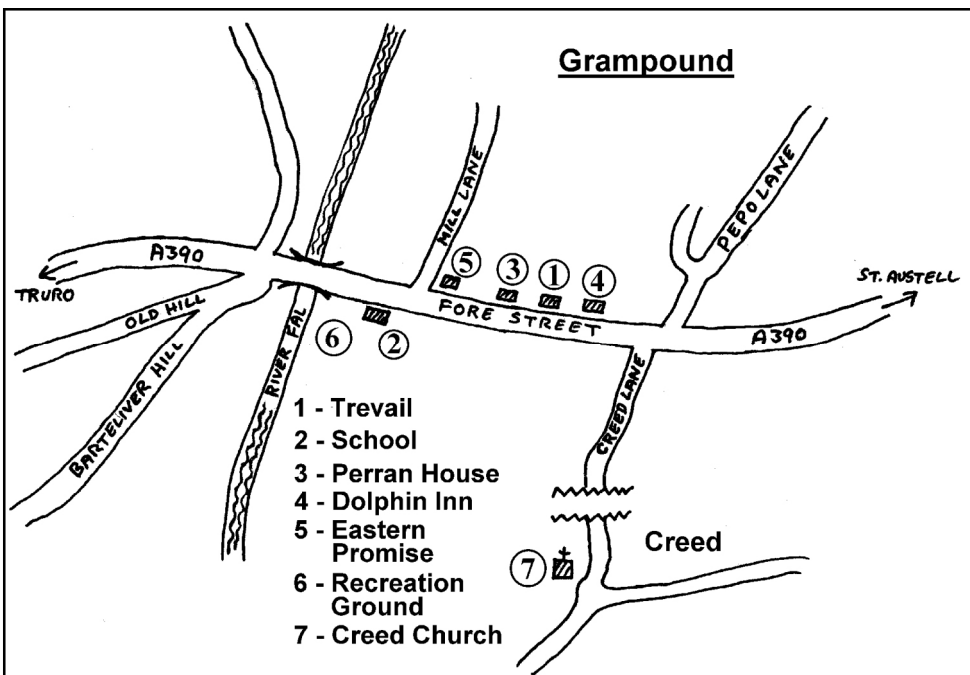
This is probably the most important public event in which the Society has been involved; bigger and more prestigious than the Commemorative Ceremony in Thame in 1993. The Lord Lieutenant of Cornwall, Lady Mary Holborow, and the Leader of Cornwall County Council are among the distinguished guests who will be attending, and we are hoping that the Earl of St. Germans will also be able to be there.

The event has already made the front page of *The Cornwall Review*, a free newspaper for visitors, and we are confident that we

# The Grampound Visit

## Programme of Events

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Wednesday 29th Aug to Saturday 1st Sept | The John Hampden Society's Exhibition in Grampound with Creed Primary School. Open 1 pm to 5.30 pm Wed; 12 noon to 7.30 pm Thur; 12 noon to 8 pm Fri; 10 am to 12 noon Saturday.  |
| Thursday 30th & Friday 31st Aug         | An illustrated lecture on John Hampden and his times in the School by senior members of the John Hampden Society. Start times - 7.30 pm Thursday; 8 pm Friday.  |
| Saturday 1st Sept                       | <p><b>12.30 pm.</b> A reception at Grampound with Creed School, hosted by Grampound with Creed Parish Council, to welcome the Patron, Chairman and members of the John Hampden Society and other distinguished guests.</p> <p><b>1.40 pm.</b> Guests leave the reception to walk to Trevail.</p> <p><b>1.45 pm.</b> Unveiling of the commemorative plaque on Trevail (formerly Hampden House) by the Earl of Buckinghamshire, Patron of the John Hampden Society.</p> <p><b>2 pm.</b> Grampound Carnival fete opens in the Recreation Ground.</p> <p><b>6 pm.</b> Members of the John Hampden Society and Col. John Hampden's Regiment of Foot march in the Carnival procession, carrying the Society's banner.</p> |
| Sunday 2nd Sept                         | <b>10.30 am.</b> Morning Service at Grampound with Creed Parish Church, followed by the unveiling of the commemorative plaque by Lord Hollenden, Chairman of the John Hampden Society. This will take place just before the final hymn, i.e. around 11.20. Wine and coffee will be served immediately after the service   |



## HAMPDEN BIOGRAPHY

The Society has acquired another copy of **Professor John Adair's** much sought-after life of John Hampden.

This is available, post free, to any member for £17.50. Cheques should be made payable to the John Hampden Society and sent to the address on page 3.

We are continuing to research all possible sources for copies of this important work, so if you are interested in acquiring one, please contact the Society.

## RENOVATION

Members of Col. John Hampden's Regiment of Foot spent some time earlier this year renovating the railings surrounding the Hampden Monument at Chalgrove.

Under the direction of their Commanding Officer, **Derek Lester**, the troops used welding equipment to repair gaps in the railings, and on Sunday 13th May a painting party made the whole thing look ship-shape and Bristol fashion.

## CALL TO ARMS

Members will find, enclosed with this newsletter, a reminder from **Graham Barfield** for commitment to the Grampound visit. Members are requested to heed his comments

On the other side of **Graham's** letter is a contact sheet of useful (nay, essential!) telephone numbers and a copy of the map of Grampound (*below*) for those who will be making the trip to Cornwall.

## FULL OF ...

**Grampound is privileged to possess what has been described as 'the finest Chinese restaurant in the South-West'.**

*The Eastern Promise* stands at the bottom end of Fore Street, only a few yards from both Trevail and the School, and would be the ideal venue for a celebratory meal of John Hampden Society members and other participants in the weekend's events.

Though *The Eastern Promise* is not normally open at Sunday lunchtimes, manager Mr John Lau has agreed to lay on a special Sunday lunch on 2nd September, if there is enough interest.

The meal will be of a buffet nature at £15 each, excluding drinks. Anyone interested in participating should send their name and address, together with a cheque made payable to the Society, to our address by **Monday 27th August at the latest.**

If the arrangements fall through due to lack of interest (and Mr Lau requires a certain minimum number to make opening viable), the cheques will be returned.

## VISIT TO PORT ELIOT?

Members will be familiar with the portrait of John Hampden which is used on the masthead of this newsletter; on our website; and on numerous other of the Society's publications.

This portrait appears by the generosity of the Earl of St. Germans of Port Eliot in Cornwall, who gave the Society permission to use it just after our foundation. It was painted by Robert Walker, and art historian David Appleby reckons that it is the only genuine portrait of Hampden; all the others apparently being copies of various sorts.

Tradition has it that the picture was given by Hampden's son Richard to the eldest son of Lord St. Germans' ancestor Sir John Eliot to mark their fathers' close friendship. Hampden met Eliot when the latter led the House of Commons in passing the Petition of Right in 1628. When the King imprisoned Eliot in the Tower, the two kept up a long and affectionate correspondence, and Hampden looked after the Cornishman's two elder sons at Great Hampden during their vacations from Oxford University.

Lord St. Germans has been invited to the unveilings at Grampound, and we have asked him if members can visit Port Eliot, which is near Saltash, on the afternoon of Sunday 2nd September in order to view the Hampden portrait. He has said that, if not away that weekend, he will be delighted to see us all. Anyone interested should contact the organisers when in Grampound.

## VIDEO MATTERS

The Society's proposed video has not progressed much further at present.

The committee is trying to set up a meeting with two experienced video producers - one of them a member of the Society - who are prepared to lend assistance with the script.

Once this has been produced, detailed discussions with the National Film School at Beaconsfield can go ahead and, with a bit of luck, we can have the programme ready in time for our 10th anniversary in October next year

- On the subject of video filming, if any member has a high-quality digital camcorder, suitable for recording the ceremonies in Grampound, and is prepared to lend it to the Society, would he or she please get in touch. We are keen to ensure that this momentous event is properly recorded for posterity.



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

\*\*\*  
**The Chiltern Brewery**  
Nash Lee Road  
Terriick, Aylesbury  
Buckinghamshire HP17 0TQ  
Tel: 01296 613647  
Fax: 01296 612419

*Why not visit our brewery shop?*

## ON HOME GROUND

As well as being available to officiate at Grampound, our Patron and Chairman have been busy about the Society's business in other ways.

On Saturday 30th June **Lord Buckinghamshire** gave a talk on John Hampden, illustrated with the Society's colour slides, to the Friends of Great Missenden Parish Church. The talk was extremely well-received, and although we have no details of the numbers attending, 40 (yes, forty!) copies of *John Hampden of Buckinghamshire - The People's Hero* were sold.

A couple of weekends later, **Lord Hollenden** mounted the Society's exhibition, last seen at Thame a year ago, in Great Hampden Village Hall as part of the Village Fete. He reports that a great deal of interest was shown in the pictorial story of John Hampden and of the Society.

Both the illustrated talk and the exhibition will be presented to the people of Grampound at the end of August.

## AGM NEWS

The Society's AGM, which took place on 23rd April at Hampden House, was reasonably well-attended. It was a pleasure to see a couple of new members; one of whom, **Mrs Gloria Smith**, had come all the way from Canterbury.

The committee remained unchanged with the exception of **Mrs Marion Wierszycki**, who stood down. The Society members recorded their appreciation of all the hard work that **Mrs Wierszycki** had done while on the committee.

There was some discussion about the content of the proposed video production, and also a suggestion that the Society's illustrated lecture should be given to members as part of a winter programme.

Following the formal business, **Robert V. Hammond** gave a fascinating talk on some aspects of John Hampden's career as a Parliamentarian, emphasising his fair-mindedness towards his political opponents.

As usual, tea was taken in the Refectory after the meeting, thanks again to the generosity of **Tim Oliver**.

## BATTLEFIELD WALKS

The Battlefields Trust continues to organise interesting battlefield visits, and the Middle Anglia branch, which includes Buckinghamshire, keeps the John Hampden Society informed of the ones in our area.

Earlier this year the Trust organised a walk around Oxford, concentrating on the Civil War aspects. Two of our members attended this. In June there was 'Worcester 1651'; an all-day walk covering the Battle of Upton Bridge, the skirmish at Powick, and the battle in the city itself. On July 1st a walk around the battlefield of Cropredy Bridge in North Oxfordshire took place.

Each October the Trust, together with the Sealed Knot, lays a wreath at the memorial to the Battle of Edgehill in Warwickshire, and they will be doing the same this year on Sunday 21st October at 11.30 am.

Because the memorial is within the Army depot near Kineton and security is tight, anyone wishing to participate must send their details to Stephen Barker, 12 Hazley Walk, BUCKINGHAM MK18 7BL in plenty of time.

Anyone wishing to join the Battlefields Trust, whose former Trustees include our President, **Professor John Adair**, and Vice-President **Professor Ian Beckett**, should contact the Co-ordinator, Michael Rayner, Meadow Cottage, 33 High Green, Brooke, NORWICH, Norfolk NR15 1HR. Current subscription is £15 per year.

- It would be helpful if any members who attend Battlefield Trust walks of which we have advised them would send a short report to the Society for inclusion in this newsletter

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## 2001

**Thur 30 Aug - Sun 2 Sept.** The Society's official visit to Grampound, Cornwall. (see 'Programme of Events')

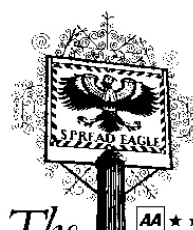
## 2002

**Tue 9 Apr.** 7.30 pm. An illustrated talk entitled 'John Hampden the Man' to the Hook Norton History Group at the Hook Norton Brewery, near Banbury.

**Apr/May.** 2 pm. A talk on John Hampden to Cherwell U3A at the United Reform Church, Alfred Street, Oxford. (date to be confirmed)

**22 Oct.** The Society's 10th Anniversary

(All meetings commence at 8pm, unless otherwise stated)



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**Spread Eagle Hotel**

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OXFORDSHIRE  
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ACCOMMODATION, RESTAURANT &  
BANQUETING

## MORE ON YOUNG JOHN HAMPDEN

Following our article about the mystery of this young man's death in 'The Patriot' no. 29, **Robert V. Hammond** procured a copy of the Chenies Manor guide book, and drew our attention to the following entry:

**'The 4th Earl [of Bedford] resided mainly at Chiswick, but visited Chenies where much local activity was centred prior to the outbreak of the Civil War. The patriot Hampden was a close friend and near neighbour and when war broke out, it was a detachment of Hampden's regiment that was quartered in the house. A skirmish took place there in the autumn of 1642, in which John Hampden's son was killed.'**

This slightly contradicts some of our previous research, which suggests that the young Hampden was a gentlemen volunteer in Denzil Holles' regiment. What is amazing is that no previous biographer of Hampden discovered this piece of information.

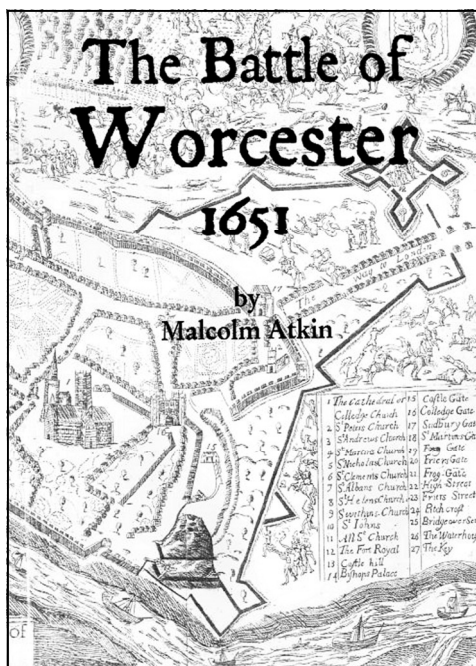
## BOOK REVIEW

### The Battle of Worcester 1651

by  
Malcolm Atkin

'Say you have been at Worcester, where Englands sorrows began, and where they are happily ended.' So wrote Parliamentary Army Chaplain Hugh Peters following the Battle of Worcester in 1651, which saw the final defeat of King Charles II's army and the Royalist cause.

Not everyone would have agreed with Peters, for Worcester was always a Royalist city, as attested by its motto, 'A city faithful in peace and war.' But he was right to assert that the Civil War began there, for almost exactly 9 years earlier the cavalry skirmish at Powick Bridge, just south of the city, sparked off the conflict that was to engulf the three kingdoms.



Worcester fight was one of Oliver Cromwell's greatest moments. By 1651 John Hampden's cousin had graduated from being a brilliant user of cavalry to a formidable general. By moving north from Edinburgh to Perth, Cromwell encouraged the young King to invade England, and together with the armies of Harrison and Lambert, brought him to battle at Worcester on Sept 3rd - anniversary of Cromwell's other great victory at Dunbar.

By using bridge of boats to throw his troops across the Rivers Severn and Teme, Cromwell prevented any escape of the Royalists towards Wales. The Scots in Charles' army were so disheartened that some of them refused to fight, and the young King was finally forced to flee to France via the famous oak at Boscobel.

Malcolm Atkin is County Archaeology Officer for Worcestershire, and has written a slim but fascinating book about this important battle. Though only running to 26 pages, it contains a wealth of detail about the battle and the aftermath, and contains some excellent maps and first-class photographs.

*The Battle of Worcester 1651* is published by Harlot Publications, 34 Townsend Road, Tiddington, Stratford upon Avon, Warwickshire CV37 7DE, at £4.50 plus 50p postage and packing. Cheques should be made payable to Paul Meekins.

Following an enquiry by Graham Barfield as to whether William Barriff was one of his ancestors, Stephen Barriff confirmed this and sent us the following article:

William Barriff (pictured) was born in London in 1601 to William and Florence [Visitation of London 1634][Musgrave's Obituary]. The location of his birth is not known but I would assume it was in the City of London since his father belonged to the Worshipful Company of Cordwainers.

On the 14th January 1622 he married Anne Rundell at St Gregory by St Pauls in the City of London. [St Gregory by St Pauls Parish Register - General 1559-1627]. They subsequently moved to Wood Street in the City and there are a number of references to him in the extant parish records of St Albans, Wood Street. Unfortunately the baptismal records for this parish have been destroyed, but from available sources he appears to have had ten children, six of which survived him.

As mentioned earlier, his father was a member of the Worshipful Company of Cordwainers and William followed his father into the same profession. He became a Warden of that Company in 1637[Cordwainers' Court Book].



Quite where he got his interest in things military is uncertain but his home in Wood Street is only a stone's throw from the Honourable Artillery Company. He joined the Company on the 13th March 1626 with the rank of Lieutenant [Ancient Vellum Book of the Honourable Artillery Company].

In the latter part of 1638 he was involved in the staging of a military tattoo at the Merchant Taylors' Hall and wrote "Mars his Triumph, Or the description of an exercise performed on the XVIII of October, 1638 in Merchant Taylors' Hall by certain gentlemen of the artillery Garden" (editions published in 1639, 1657, 1661).

It was through this link and the publication of "Military Discipline or the Young Artilleryman, wherein is discoursed and shovne the postures both of musket & pike" (editions published in 1635, 1639, 1643,

1657, and 1661) that he came to the attention of John Hampden. His activities during the war are presumably linked to the movements of Hampden's regiment, although according to Nehemiah Wharton's letter of the 7th October 1642 he was involved in the relief of Hereford. There are a number of receipts and warrants signed by William between the 26th September 1642 and 13th July 1643 and these give an indication of the size of Hampden's regiment between those dates [State Papers 28].

William's promotion to Lieutenant Colonel in Hampden's regiment took place sub-

sequent to Wagstaffe's capture on the 5th January '43\*. Following Hampden's death on the 24th June '43 he took over the regiment as acting Colonel until his own death on the 28th July '43, when the regiment was in turn taken over by Thomas Tyrrell. In a receipt dated 17th August 1643 and signed by Essex there is reference to the Officers and Company late under Lt. Colonel Barriffe [State Papers 28].

The cause of William Barriff's death is unknown but since I am not aware of any military activities on the date in question I have assumed that he fell foul of the typhoid epidemic that was rife amongst the parliamentary forces at the time.

William wrote his will on the 10th September 1642, "...calling to mind the certainty of death and the incertaintie of the time,...". The will is fairly conventional for the period with bequests to his wife and children [this will is lodged in the Guildhall Library]. He was buried on the 31st July 1643 in the vault of St Albans, Wood Street [Smith's Obituary & St Albans Churchwardens Accounts 1621-1653].

\*(Editor's note: Barriff was originally Sergeant Major - equivalent to the modern rank of Major - and commanding officer of the third company of Greencoats. He was slightly wounded at the Siege of Reading in April 1643.)

## ARTEFACT

An interesting artefact connected with John Hampden has come to the notice of the Society

Full details in the next newsletter.

## NEW SPONSOR

Paul Meekins, who as well as running Harlot Publication (see 'Book review') is a seller of historical and military books, has kindly agreed to sponsor the printing of the next issue of the Society's promotional leaflet.