



# THE PATRIOT

Newsletter of The John Hampden Society

No. 38 – Spring 2004



The John Hampden Society is a registered charity which 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



Hampden House

Hopefully by the time this edition of *The Patriot* lands on your doormat, the winter will be behind us and the weather will be improving. Spring means that the date of the AGM looms large on the horizon and this year the date has been fixed for **Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> April**, commencing at 2.30 p.m.

Once again the Society has been fortunate enough to obtain permission to hold this event at **Hampden House**, for which sincere thanks are due to Mr Tim Oliver for his continued generosity. It is hoped that as many members as possible will attend and take part in the proceedings.



The Great Hall at Hampden House

*At various meetings of the John Hampden Society reference has been made to an earlier association or club with the name John Hampden in its title. While Gill and I were delving into the British Museum's archives for information on Hampden and the Battle of Chalgrove we found several papers mentioning the 'John Hampden Club'. We hope our article, taken from notes we made at the time, will be of interest*

## THE JOHN HAMPDEN CLUB 1812 - 1822

The Club was instituted on the 20<sup>th</sup> April 1812, born out of the discontent of notable honourable worthies who were concerned at the corruption within Parliament. Pocket or Rotten Boroughs abounded and seats were often willed to an interested party on the death of an M.P. As far back as 1793 a Petition had been presented to the Commons calling for parliamentary reform and this seems to be the spur for like-minded reformers to meet.

The Club formed in 1812 had a founding membership of 71, who met under the chairmanship of Walter Fawkes at the Thatched House Tavern in St. James's, London. The inaugural meeting started at 11am. promptly. Membership was limited to those who owned £300 a year in land, or were heirs to such an amount. They dined twice a year together on the second Saturdays in March and May, both at their own expense. Business commenced at 4pm. with dinner at 6pm. The membership fee was £2.00 a year. The first Resolution stated that 'a Society be now instituted', which shall have for its object 'the securing to the people the free election of their representatives in the Commons, House of Parliament'. That such a Society be called 'The John Hampden Club'. There was no

reference to our John Hampden in any of their papers at the time, but Hampden's precept of 'no taxation without representation' was re-iterated in the club's statement (11) "taxation and representation are inseparably united; God hath joined them."

The Club published many wordy pamphlets over the years of its existence and presented the majority of these to Parliament. In 1816 a Mr. Gedge of Bury St. Edmunds, proposed that a 'Hampden Gazette' or 'Brittania Revived' be published. But this never seems to have come to fruition. By 1819 the Club had reformed itself by dropping the money qualification for entry.

Members attended from all over the country – Mr. Fawkes, the original Chairman, came from Farnley Hall in Yorkshire; Thomas Northmore, the Secretary came from Cleve in Devonshire; Major Cartwright from Brothertoft in Lincolnshire, and others from Reading, Herefordshire and Surrey etc. The Hampden Club's membership officers suffered at the hands of M.P.'s, with legal action taken against them, some being made bankrupt.

In 1816 the Trust Account of the Hampden Association at the Banking House of Messrs Spooner, Attwood and Co of 29, Gracechurch Street amounted to £202.0.0, but this sum slowly dwindled as membership decreased and fewer of those still belonging paid their membership dues. The Club was wound up in 1822 with debts being paid by the remaining members. These men kept the ideals of John Hampden alive and helped to bring about the first great Parliamentary Reform Bill in 1832.

[Derek Lester]

## OBITUARY

Members fortunate enough to be present at the 17<sup>th</sup> Century Banquet held In October 2003, will remember the wonderful array of authentic food of the period served at this event. The Society managed, by fair means or foul, to acquire one or two recipes from the chefs and thought it might be interesting to publish these in the next few issues of *The Patriot*. The first of these is reproduced below for everyone to try. Sounds good!

### GAMMON AND BACON PIE

Take one piece of gammon boned and rolled (no rind, no fat) and soak overnight in fresh water, then place in more fresh water and boil until cooked.

When cooked leave to cool.

Make some short crust pastry (not too short) about ½ the weight of the gammon. Roll out pastry until it is large enough to cover the gammon.

Place gammon in centre of pastry, stud gammon with cloves then lay on some butter about ½" thick on top of cloves. Sprinkle on freshly ground black pepper, sage, thyme and ground cinnamon.

Close pastry around the gammon and seal well. Cook in a medium oven for 45 minutes. When cooked leave to cool.

When cold break open pastry and remove cloves from the gammon. Slice and serve.

If any reader has access to any further recipes of this period, please pass them on and we can make this a regular feature.

It is with sadness that we have to announce the death from cancer of one of our overseas members, **President Minor Myers**, who died on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2003 after a short illness. President Myers is survived by his wife, Ellen, and two sons, Minor Myers III and Joffre. Lord Buckinghamshire attended his memorial service in Bloomington, [where Minor Myers was President of the Illinois Wesleyan University] on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2003.

Lord Buckinghamshire supported Minor Myers Jnr's nomination as a Carleton College Alumnus of Distinguished Achievement, commenting that he had known Minor Myers since 1987 when he was Dean and Provost of Hobart & William Smith College. At that time he did Lord Buckinghamshire the honour of inviting him to become an Honorary Trustee at Illinois Wesleyan University. Lord Buckinghamshire stated that Minor Myers was an outstanding individual who combined scholarship with a practical mind and demonstrated this through teaching, his publications and significant achievements at Illinois Wesleyan.

Lord Buckinghamshire quoted from his obituary contained in the commemoration service celebrating his life:

*"President Myers' commitment to the liberal arts, the foundation of an Illinois Wesleyan education, was reflected in his eclectic interests – professional and vocational. He was a scholar and a teacher, a writer and an executive, and a political scientist and historian, who enjoyed playing the piano and harpsichord, discussing music history, collecting books and meteorites and, only occasionally, playing tennis.*

*His fascination with the 18<sup>th</sup> century spanned American furniture, musical instruments, books and publishing, higher education during the American colonial period, and the French revolution.*

*President Myers was the author of eight books, including most recently a co-authored history of Illinois Wesleyan, and wrote numerous articles on subjects ranging from the history of baseball in upper New York State, to crime and punishment in colonial Connecticut to political themes on Roman coins."*

Lord Buckinghamshire added "He was, as his sons wrote, a true "gentleman scholar", and hoped that the College

would recognise Minor Myers' achievements over what was to be a sadly short life.

The Society extends sympathy, if somewhat belatedly, to the family in their sad loss of a most talented husband and father and is pleased to note that Mrs Ellen Myers is continuing membership of the Society.

## DIARY DATES



### Tuesday 23rd March

An illustrated talk on John Hampden to Amersham Ladies' Dinner Club at Guido's Rest, Amersham, commencing at 1.30 pm. (*This is a private meeting*)

### Sunday 25th April

The Society's Annual General Meeting at Hampden House, Great Hampden, commencing at 2.30 pm.

### Monday 26th April

An illustrated talk on John Hampden to Launton Historical Society at Launton School, Bicester Road, Launton, Oxon, commencing at 7.45 pm.

### Thursday 3rd June

An illustrated talk on John Hampden to The Diabetic Association at the Diabetic Centre, Stoke Mandeville Hospital, near Aylesbury, commencing at 7.30 pm.

### Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> June

Annual Dinner at The Spread Eagle.

### Thursday 29th July

An illustrated talk on John Hampden to the Thame branch of The University of the Third Age at Thame Football Club, Windmill Lane, commencing at 10 am.

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## THE ENGLISH CIVIL WAR IN BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

A major loan exhibition at  
Buckinghamshire County  
Museum

27 November 2004 – 27 February 2005

A spectacular collection of 17<sup>th</sup> century portraits, miniatures and costume associated with *The English Civil War in Buckinghamshire* will be on show in the Art Gallery of the County Museum in Aylesbury next winter, supplemented by contemporary documents and objects from the period.

The aim of this exciting exhibition is to illustrate the impact of the dramatic events from the 1630s to the 1650s on the people and places of the County. This turbulent period saw major changes of fortune for everyone from the grandest to the poorest. Families were torn apart by differing loyalties, long established friendships were broken, and the sacking and plundering of property was widespread. A vivid example of these troubled times was Sir Edmund Verney of Claydon, who showed the utmost loyalty to his sovereign, Charles I, and who died in battle at Edgehill, refusing to relinquish the King's Standard, yet whose eldest son, Ralph, was a Parliamentarian.

On the military front, Buckinghamshire's strategic location meant that it was the scene of many skirmishes between Royalist and Parliamentarian troops, with garrisons established at Aylesbury and Newport Pagnall. Running alongside this conflict was the war of words, ideas and religious beliefs that raged throughout the country.

To illustrate these dramatic themes, the County Museum aims to display over thirty stunning portraits of men and women who played a significant part in the Civil War of Buckinghamshire. Key exhibits will be on loan from public galleries and private collections, many of which are rarely on public view. A full colour illustrated catalogue is planned, with introductory essays by Sir Oliver Millar, Surveyor Emeritus of the Queen's Pictures, and Professor Ian Beckett of the Buckinghamshire Military Museum Trust. The exhibition will also be supported by a range of linked events and educational activities.

*The following short essay partly shows why Charles I was out of step with his subjects; he needed money to purchase his fine art collection, to build magnificent chapels for Henrietta Maria and to assist Laud in rebuilding part of St. Pauls, hence his arbitrary taxes on the nation to raise the necessary revenue to finance these schemes. Little wonder that the Puritans were angry, having to support the King in ideals they were bitterly opposed to.*



**Inigo Jones 1573 - 1652**  
**England's Greatest Architect**

The Stuart Court: Art and Power  
January 2003

It has been said that Inigo Jones was England's greatest seventeenth century architect. Before we examine this claim, let us look at the architecture of England prior to Jones' birth in 1573.

During the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries master builders and craftsmen channelled their energies more into appearance than structure. The style was called Gothic and as the builders sought to obtain more light, the structures became more slender; however, in some cases the buildings were so weak they actually collapsed! It can be seen therefore that departing from a proven design, the Gothic style was losing its energy and impetus. Gothic architecture although beautiful and full of interest, actually marks the beginning of the decline in European architecture.

The period from the Gothic era to the modern age is called the Renaissance.<sup>1</sup> Although this term was not used at the time, it is convenient to

<sup>1</sup> The term Renaissance was first used by the French historian, Jules Michelet, in 1858 and was firmly established two years later when Jacob Burckhardt published his great book, *Civilization of the Renaissance in Italy*. The usage stuck because it was a convenient way of describing the period of transition between the medieval age and the modern age.

use this term for the most significant change in architecture and the arts in Europe. The Renaissance began in Italy where they felt they wanted to return to the great days of the Roman Empire, with magnificent buildings and fine art. The Italians wished to create the grandeur of ancient Rome and Greece, because after the fall of their Empire the skills, knowledge and culture were lost to barbarous regimes. Italy also possessed the economic and material wealth to regenerate this massive cultural change which eventually spread out and into Europe.

Inigo Jones was the son of a London clothier. He was born in the Parish of St Bartholomew's, Smithfield. Not much is known of his early years except that he liked sketching landscapes. He worked as a joiner in St Paul's churchyard. Whilst he was still a young man he made his first journey to Italy in the company of the Earl of Rutland, and he probably spent up to five years in Italy. He returned in 1604 and was known as 'Mr Jones, a great traveller'. Around this time he became the scene producer for many of Ben Jonson's and other writers' court masques. Inigo Jones devised mechanical devices to move scenery around as well as designing many of the costumes.

He was appointed Surveyor of Work to Prince Henry, and when the Prince died in 1612, he set off to Italy again with a commission to collect works of art for Lord Arundel, one of the greatest English patrons and art collectors of the time. Jones went all over Italy with drawings of Palladio's<sup>2</sup> book of architecture and other works of Italian architecture to serve as a commentary of what he saw. Jones returned to England in 1614 inspired by the theories and buildings of Andrea Palladio and Scamozzi, who both came from the Venetian territory who closely examined the work of the Romans. In 1615 he was given by James I the post of Surveyor-General of His Majesty's Works and began putting into effect his architectural ideas.

One of Inigo Jones' first commissions was for James I to build a house at Greenwich for his wife, Anne of Denmark. Jones based his design on a

<sup>2</sup> Andrea Palladio (1508-1580) Italian architect and theorist, who studied ancient art. He based his work on a free interpretation of the classical style. He created a new concept of space and the use of light and shade and ability to adapt his ideas to various types of buildings.

Palladian villa he had seen in Italy. Unfortunately Anne died in 1619 before it was completed; however, Charles I's wife, Henrietta Maria, had it completed and moved in with her family in 1637. The Queen's House, as it was called, was unusual in that it consists of two blocks, one on each side of a road. The plan of the house resembled the letter H. Other important features are the black and white marble floor laid by Italian craftsmen and the entrance hall in Jones' favourite cube shape.

Jones' most famous work is the Banqueting House originally intended as part of a much larger Whitehall complex. Building began in June 1619 but because of the difficulty in the supply of stone and lack of qualified stone masons it was not completed until 1622, almost two years later than originally planned. Jones wanted to recreate a building that resembled a basilica (a Roman meeting hall). Although small in size, only 110 feet long, 55 feet wide and 55 feet high, it showed off Jones' magnificent sense of proportion. The Banqueting House's other outstanding feature is the use of attached columns on the exterior. These are not needed to support the structure, unlike Gothic architecture whose features are needed to support its buildings such as piers, ribs and flying buttresses. The Banqueting House was built to radiate classic design as the Roman builders would have done to show off their civic pride and dignity. Typically the Banqueting House's pediment, colonnade and balustrade appear as symbols of the Renaissance.



In one step Jones had equalled the work of Palladio whose designs he had so eagerly studied. Master builders which were so important in the Gothic era required a freer mind like Jones' to express the new expectation of the Stuart age. Jones was the mastermind behind the Renaissance of English architecture.

The attitude of Englishmen to the Gothic style is well illustrated by John Evelyn, the famous diarist, when he condemns the Middle Ages for "mountains of stone, vast and gigantic

buildings indeed, but not worthy the name architecture". The Renaissance he praises because it rescued architecture from "a night of ignorance and superstition".

Jones' architectural work continued unabated upon the accession of Charles I in 1625. In 1626 Henrietta Maria commissioned Inigo Jones to design a private chamber for her at Somerset House. Unlike her predecessor, Anne of Denmark who carried out her religious rituals with the utmost care, Henrietta was allowed to celebrate mass openly. Henrietta therefore wanted a chapel to reflect the splendour of her Catholic religion. Henrietta Maria also employed some French designers, which irritated Jones. However, the chapel was formally opened in December 1636. When King Charles first gazed upon the altar, designed by François Dieussant of Rome, he exclaimed he had never seen "any thing more beautiful and more ingeniously designed". There were six steps up to the altar, and behind the altar there was in the centre an oval painting of a dove holding the Blessed Sacrament. Either side were further painted ovals of angels and with the aid of perspective and hidden lights an illusion was created of many figures in glorious rays of light.

In 1629 Jones also drew up plans for a new chamber for Henrietta Maria at St James Place as well as creating a sculpture gallery in the garden. Jones however was not a total slave to the Italian Renaissance as he was capable of individual work as shown in the design for the Church of St Paul and Piazza in Covent Garden. This church is a mixture of styles with simple yet stark Tuscan<sup>3</sup> columns with a timber cornice and pediment top similar to the old Etruscan<sup>4</sup> style. Both the church and piazza are celebrated in Gay's *Trivia*, *Where Covent Garden's famous temple stands, That boasts the work of Jones' immortal hands, Columns with plan magnificence appear,*

<sup>3</sup> The Romans also produced two additional orders of their own, the Tuscan which was a simplified and sturdier Doric and the Composite which was an Ionic with a neckling of acanthus leaves in the Corinthian manner.

<sup>4</sup> Before the Roman era, there was a skilled race of builders in Italy called the Etruscans, famous in particular for their development of the round arch as a bold architectural feature and also having a tradition of temple buildings on lines not dissimilar from that of the Greeks.

*And graceful porches lead along the square.*

Jones' own view on St Paul's was "the grandest barn".

Charles I had decided that his impressive collection of paintings only appealed to a limited elite, so he began a project in 1634 to repair the fabric of St Paul's Cathedral. He believed this commitment would show publicly his care and concern for the established church. James I had planned a major restoration but nothing materialised so it was left to his son to find the resources to finance this project. Charles was also urged by Archbishop Laud to commence work as quickly as possible as he was taunted by critics for his apparent lack of concern for ancient centres of worship. Archbishop Laud sought finance from the City and livery companies and from the wealthy across the country. The response was slow, so Charles eager to get matters moving offered to personally pay for a new imposing west front for the Cathedral.

Inigo Jones was placed in charge, as this was a prestige project. The rebuilt west front was meant to rival the splendour of St Peter's, Rome. The design was in the latest baroque fashion with massive Corinthian columns. Charles and Laud hoped this impressive building would stir national pride, unfortunately it failed to do so, as in Milton's words, "idolatrous erection of temples beautified exquisitely to out-vie the papists". The mass of the population feared a drift towards the Roman Church. Inigo Jones' character did not help matters either. He was vain, arrogant, oppressive and forced his will on others. As he was also working on several other church schemes, he managed to upset many parishioners in various parts of London.

Inigo Jones was not only a magnificent architect but also a remarkable stage and set masque designer. He formed a partnership with Ben Jonson, who was a friend of Shakespeare and one of the great poets and dramatists of his age. Their first production together was entitled, *The Masque of Blackness*, performed in 1605. The Stuarts employed the leading playwright and designer in Jonson and Jones. The masque was not a new idea but was developed by both Stuart kings to confirm their God-like status on earth. The masque confirmed the writings of James I in his *Basiliikon Doron* that the Stuarts had the divine

right to rule. The masque was a mixture of theatre, fancy dress and dancing with two main themes. The first theme was an 'anti masque' usually performed by professional actors who generally depicted a world of vice and disorder with some comic elements. The second and most important theme involved members of the court, including King Charles and Henrietta Maria (James I did not participate in any masques) and played parts where they banished disorder and rebellion and brought in peace and harmony. The masque as developed Jones' incredible illusionist scenes thus further enhanced the magnificence of the Stuart court. Jones was the first designer to use perspective in his set, and he introduced many new and daring ideas during his partnership with Jonson. Unfortunately Jonson took a violent dislike to Jones and satirised him as "In-and-In Medley" in his play, *The Tale of a Tub*, making their partnership somewhat fraught. Jones also designed the costumes for masques and he could easily and brilliantly produce moving scenery as required by the writer.

Jones' activities were curtailed by the onset of the Civil War, and as a Catholic he sought refuge at Basing House. Basing House is located in north Hampshire near Basingstoke, and as such had considerable strategic importance because it commanded a main trade route between London and the western counties. Basing House was the home of John Paulet, fifth Marquess of Winchester, and as the Civil War progressed, it became the main refuge for Catholics in the south of England, including Wenceslaus Hollar, the Engraver. Basing House suffered three main sieges in 1643, 1644 and 1645. Whilst he was there Inigo Jones assisted in the defense of the grand medieval mansion; however, it finally succumbed to Oliver Cromwell's heavy artillery bombardment. Many of the Catholics refused to yield and ask for quarter. Finally when the garrison surrendered, Inigo Jones was carried out naked in a blanket. Obviously at this time both Cromwell and Jones did not know of one final irony that would link them together, that is when Oliver Cromwell died in 1658 as Lord Protector, the catafalque used was of the same design that Jones had produced for James I some thirty three years earlier!

Inigo Jones died in the summer of 1652 and is buried alongside his father in St Benet's Church, Queen

Victoria Street, London. In conclusion it can be easily said that Inigo Jones started Renaissance architecture in England, and inspired many others to follow. Only Sir Christopher Wren was capable enough to capture the spirit of Inigo Jones' architectural revolution. Although Wren designed an enormous amount of fire buildings, he is second to Jones who is the greater artist. Jones' own quote on his style of architecture is, "The outward ornaments ought to be solid, proportionable, according to the rules, masculine and unaffected".

*Michael Portsmouth.*

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### The Executive Committee

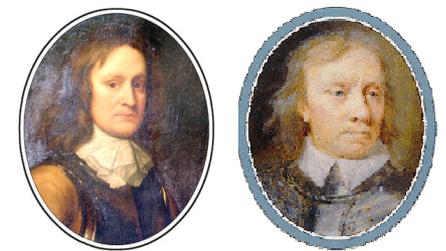
were very sad to learn of the death, on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2004, of Valerie Horne's husband, Les, after a long illness.

Tribute must be paid to Val for all the time and hard work she put in to organising "Wendover Day" at a time when her husband was spending long periods in hospital undergoing treatment. A donation was sent to the local Hospice at Val's request, in lieu of flowers for the funeral.

## NEW WAYS TO USE THE INTERNET - A NEW LOOK FOR THE WEBSITE

The Executive Committee have agreed that it is time to review the Society's website. The world of the internet has evolved at a frightening pace and it is important that we ensure that our website continues to harness the full potential of this exciting new medium. Roy Bailey and Sam Hearn would be interested in hearing from anyone wishing to contribute to the review in whatever way.

*Sam Hearn*



### KISSING COUSINS?

The Cromwell Association has approached the John Hampden Society with 'a modest proposal'. For a number of years the Association has run an annual day school event for its members usually in the Autumn. The Association's Governing Council has asked if the John Hampden Society would like to organise a joint event with them this year.

The Executive Committee of the Society considered this offer at its last two meetings. After some lively discussions the Committee agreed that this was an opportunity to further the aims of the Society but that further work needed to be done before a decision could be made. It was decided that a joint committee should be established with the Cromwell Association to investigate the matter further.

The six man joint committee has met and reported back to the two organisations governing bodies with a firm proposal that; a joint day school be run on Saturday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2004 at the Spread Eagle in Thame. The Hotel's facilities include a conferencing suite

that can accommodate a hundred delegates.

The format of the day would follow that successfully adopted, by the Cromwell Association, in previous years: Two lectures in the morning, separated by a morning coffee break, a buffet lunch followed by two more lectures in the afternoon with a break for afternoon tea.

Further details will be announced after the governing bodies of the two organisations have had an opportunity to discuss these proposals. Additional information can be obtained from Sam Hearn 020 8995 2666, Derek Lester 01992 701304 and Mike Portsmouth 0118 9343763. We will be interested to hear from members who have any suggestions about what topics should be covered in the lectures and who should be asked to deliver the lectures.

Sam Hearn

## THE HAMPDEN PLAQUE

The fundraising campaign is progressing well. However we still have some way to go to reach the target figure of £800. Many thanks to all of you who have contributed so generously. To date we have banked £440 and expect to be able to reclaim another £90 from the Inland Revenue Gift-Aid Scheme. Please make all cheques payable to the John Hampden Society and send them to **The Treasurer, The John Hampden Society, 134 Park Road, Chiswick, London W4 3HP.**

The plaque will be making a guest appearance at the AGM.



Extract from:

## CHILTERN COUNTRY

By H.J.Massingham, Published 1940  
By B.T. Batsford Ltd.

### West Wycombe:



Church Loft, West Wycombe

“...while the Church Loft [1417] on its flint and brick plinth with a seventeenth century clock faces the London Road. Once a medieval hostel with cells for monks, it has carved upon its corner-post the matrix of a crucifix, removed by Hampden’s Puritan Army and a kneeling block of the local sandstone from Walters’ Ash below it. There was no beggar, chapman, pilgrim, minstrel, university student nor packhorse traveller along the highway between Canterbury and Walsingham, London and Oxford, who did not stop to kneel and pray. But long before that, droves of Welsh sheep, goats and ponies on their way to the East Anglian fairs, paused to drink at the stream close by, while the drovers bent the knee at the wayside shrine and drank from the holy well.”



Close up of crucifix carved in the post



Corner post and kneeling block

Further in this book, Massingham goes on to debunk the Hampden legend. He strongly disagrees that John Hampden “struck a great blow for liberties that were never again to be in vital danger”

He argues that “examination of this statement is a fallacy as widely diffused and destitute of supporting facts as the equally well-known scientific fallacy as to the pugnacity of primitive communities, and it is the business of later writers to examine it.”

Massingham quotes a couple of books that support his views. I will endeavour to research these books and reach some conclusions as to their veracity.

Are there any readers who have comments on Massingham’s views?

Michael Portsmouth.

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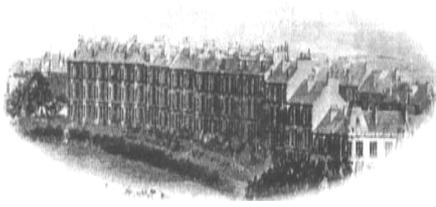
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Telephone: 01494 452921

## SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP:

The Society has a membership of 141 and an up-to-date list is attached for your information. If you know anyone who would be interested in joining, an application form can be obtained from the Membership Secretary, Liz Morris, on 01296 482448. Subscriptions are currently:

	<u>British Isles</u>	<u>Overseas</u>
Adult Membership	£10.00	£10.00
Under 18s	£ 5.00	£ 7.50
Joint Membership	£15.00	£18.00
Family Membership	£24.00	£30.00

## HAMPDEN PARK THE SCOTTISH NATIONAL FOOTBALL STADIUM



Hampden Terrace

How exactly did Scotland's premier Association Football venue acquire the name of one of England's greatest heroes? In all honesty no one appears to have the full story but the answer seems to lie in the bustling industrial world of mid Victorian Glasgow.

Demand for good quality housing in this expanding market was met by the efforts of many speculative builders including the two brothers George and Alexander Eadie who had the habit of giving their new streets historical names.

They acquired a site on the ridge of a hill that dominated the surrounding area and in 1870 proceeded to build what was described as "the spectacular block of Hampden Terrace with a plantation of trees bordering the Parish Road [Prospect Hill Road]".

One of the Eadie brothers had an interest in the formation of the Queen's Park Football Club that from 1873 adopted the name Hampden Park for each of its football grounds. The original Hampden Park was close to Hampden Terrace and now lies under a semi-circular street called Florida Crescent.

We will perhaps never know what particular appeal John Hampden had for the Eadie brothers. Suffice to say that speculative builders as a 'tribe' have never been supporters of repressive central government control or punitive taxation.



Hampden Park

However the modern Hampden Park Stadium is the largest structure in the world bearing The Patriot's name and we can only be grateful that they did not select an English historical figure with closer connections with 'the beautiful game' such as Oliver Cromwell, Henry VIII or William Shakespeare.

Sam Hearn

## HAMPDEN OVERSEES COUNCIL BUSINESS



From left to right Derek Lester, Gillian Blackshaw, David Turner, Maurice Kirkland and Bob Hammond

On the 23rd February, four representatives of the **John Hampden Society** were present at the unveiling of a portrait of **John Hampden**, at the Offices of Oxfordshire County Council. David Turner, the Chair of the OCC, had requested a portrait to hang in his office, as he is a great supporter of Hampden's ideals. He is also County Councillor, District Councillor and a Parish Councillor for Chalgrove and the surrounding area. The Society had kindly supplied the special negative required for the portrait and Cllr. Turner had found a photographer to turn this into a superb picture, with the texture of an oil painting. The version of the portrait used was that hanging in Hampden House.

The four **John Hampden Society** representatives, Bob Hammond, Maurice Kirtland, Derek Lester and Gill Blackshaw, were entertained with coffee and biscuits, and a glass of wine with which to toast 'the Patriot'. It is a real victory for the Society to have a portrait of Hampden hanging in such a place of honour at County Hall. As Cllr. Turner remarked in his unveiling speech, 'after 361 years Hampden is at last present in the seat of government'.

Derek Lester

## THE BUCKS LOCAL HISTORY NETWORK – ANNUAL FAIR

Another date for your diaries. The Annual meeting of the network will be held in Aylesbury on **Saturday October 9<sup>th</sup>**. The usual four lecture format will be followed including one on the Civil War in Bucks by long standing John Hampden Society member Professor Ian Beckett. More details will be published in future editions of the Patriot. There will be a small charge to cover expenses. For further information contact **David Thorpe** on [thorped@hotmail.com](mailto:thorped@hotmail.com) or David Thorpe, Caniper Dell, Little Hampden, Great Missenden, Bucks HP16 9PS

Members of the Society have attended these fairs in previous years in order to man the Society's exhibition stand during the breaks and to network with fellow local history enthusiasts. Some of you reading this article may even have joined the Society at one of these events. If you would like to help us on the stand this year then please contact **Bob Hammond** on **01844 260322** – no previous experience required!

## THE BUCKINGHAMSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

The Bucks FHS are seeking closer links with other local history groups and have asked The Patriot to publicise their Open Day to be held at Aylesbury Grammar School on **July 24**. Last year this event attracted over 400 people. All are welcome.

The Bucks FHS was formed in 1976 with the primary objective of promoting and encouraging the public study of family history, genealogy, local history and associated subjects, with particular reference to the County of Buckinghamshire.

For further information contact **Mike Dewey** on **01628 525207**.

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## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

**D**erek Lester thanks all those who came to his 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday party on 31<sup>st</sup> January and shared a memorable evening. The great array of presents received was too numerous to thank everyone individually, so please accept this as my expression of gratitude. Thank you for joining me in a toast to **John Hampden**, a man who has influenced all our lives.



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**D**o you have an article on any subject that you think would be of interest to other Society members? If so, please don't keep it to yourself. Send it to me, in whatever format is easiest for you, at Little Hampden, Cryers Hill, High Wycombe, HP15 6JS, or e-mail to [secretary@cryershill.freerve.co.uk](mailto:secretary@cryershill.freerve.co.uk), including photographs if appropriate. [These will be returned after scanning].

Anthea Coles



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## PUBLICATIONS

The Society hold stocks of the following publications and products:

**1. *A Life of John Hampden The Patriot*** by Dr John Adair – A reprint in paperback form of this well-known and popular book, with a foreword by the Earl of Buckinghamshire. £10.00 if purchased from the Society or £12.99 from booksellers.

**2. *John Hampden of Buckinghamshire – The People's Hero*** by Frank Hansford-Miller. £2.50

**3. *The Controversy of John Hampden's Death*** by Derek Lester and Gill Blackshaw. £3.50

**4. *The Hampden Lectures*** – a 32-page, full colour booklet produced in association with the John Hampden Society by the company that owns Hampden House. It contains a number of portraits claiming to be of John Hampden; the text of the talk given by Dr John Adair at Hampden House on 26<sup>th</sup> June 1993 [together with the question and answer session afterwards]; notes on the history and restoration of Hampden House; and some information [now somewhat out of date] about the Society itself. £3.00

**5. *The Battle of Chalgrove Field*** – A print on A4 cream vellum-style paper, of the battle where John Hampden received his death wound. First published in Dr John Adair's 1976 biography of Hampden, and reproduced by kind permission of the author. Ideal for framing. £1.50.

**6. *In the Steps of the Patriot*** – An illustrated leaflet giving a guided tour of the places in Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire associated with John Hampden – 75p

**7. *Colour Postcard*** – A full –colour postcard of the Walker portrait of John Hampden, with details of Hampden and the Society on the reverse. £1.50

**8. *Badge*** – An attractive enamel badge mounted on metal and bearing the portrait of John Hampden in colour. £1.50.

You can order any of these products from

**The John Hampden Society**  
Park Meadow Cottage  
Thame Park Road  
Thame, Oxon OX9 3PJ

Adding 50p postage and packing for up to 3 books [items 1 to 3] otherwise add £1.00.

Items 4 to 7 are post free if ordered with any of the books, otherwise add 50p per order. Cheques/Postal Orders to be made payable to **The John Hampden Society**.



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**F**inally, a reminder that the AGM is less than one month away. Please make an effort to attend and support the Executive Committee at this meeting, held at the ancestral home of **John Hampden**. This offers the ideal opportunity to voice your suggestions concerning future activities you would like to see the Society involved in and to join the Committee in light refreshments following the meeting.

**A**lso, please make a note in your diaries that the annual dinner will take place on Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> June at The Spread Eagle. If you have attended this event in the past you will be aware that it is an excellent evening with good food in comfortable surroundings and an interesting after-dinner talk. We hope to see you there this year.