



TUBBS

Christmas 2024



Three Brides for three Brothers

Aunt Ursula (Lirlie) always claimed that her grandmother Annie Hill Sutton, nee Moxhay, was one of three Moxhay sisters to marry Sutton brothers.

When I did some research it was easy to see that two had done so, but the third one was elusive. The Reverend Edwin Sutton had approximately ten siblings, one of whom helpfully was called Octavius (the eighth child) but dates for them all were not readily forthcoming. He married Annie Hill Moxhay.

Our cover picture is of Dr Moxhay MRCS Eng and LSA. In 1843 married an Emma Moxhay at St Botolphs, London in 1856. Presumably they were related but not so closely a church wedding would have been

impossible. Dr Moxhay was born in Exeter, well away from London, but took up medicine in London at St Thomas's and Guy's and gained a Diploma from The Royal College Of Surgeons England & Licence From Apothecaries. Emma was born c1829/1830 at St Benet Fink London. That gets confusing. The present church of St Benet Fink is in Tottenham but dates only from 1912. It is as likely that she was born in the parish of the same name in or near Cornhill in the City. Benet is a version of Benedict and Fink is almost certainly the donor who funded the original church. Dr Moxhay was the surgeon at the Royal Berkshire Hospital in Reading. He qualified around 1850 and was therefore working in the era when Lister pioneered antiseptic surgery, making the whole business a great deal less hazardous, and gave the impetus to a raft of technical and scientific improvements and elevated the surgeon's social standing. Moxhay's family background was in Devonshire. The Suttons were at the forefront of society in Reading, the Bulbs of Reading's reputation for Beer, Bulbs and Biscuits. Dr Moxhay must have been considered a social equal. This would not have been the case with surgeons of an earlier age as they emerged from the class of barber surgeons, with few or no qualifications. As a naval physician/surgeon O'Brien's fictional Stephen Maturin was able to practise as a formidable scientist and spy without being conspicuous. He was recognised as an equal only by Jack Aubrey.

A picture of Wilfrid Moxhay Sutton and his young siblings set off a search for his lineage. It soon became obvious that Wilfrid's parents were Herbert Sutton and Emma, nee Moxhay, who had the same first name as her mother. This was the second couple that had previously been identified. Herbert worked for Suttons but retired at a fairly early age, and later lived in Swanage.

In verifying that I was finally able to find that John Sutton (grandson of John the founder of Suttons and brother of Edwin) had married Mary Ellen Moxhay, sister of Annie Hill. John became a tea dealer.

So it was true all along. Three brides for three brothers.

Sadly Wilfrid Moxhay Sutton succumbed to injuries received while serving in France with the Yorkshire and Lancashire Regiment. By April 1916 when he went out (to the Front) the territorial associations of the regiments was being lost as both officers and men replaced the fallen. Wilfrid died in Bournemouth in September 1916.

I have not been able to identify which battalion he was in. In total there were 11 battalions of the regiment involved in the Somme campaign, of which three were Pals' battalions, six territorials and two regular battalions. Of course by that time the battalions would have replaced their men several times over, and there was little territorial affinity left, pals excepted, though few of those survived the first day of the campaign.

Some of the photographs were possibly made in Ealing. The photographer also had a branch in central London, but there are other photographs that were made in Ealing of children called Holmes. So far I have not established a family link to Holmes, but they are in the album. Mother Holmes was Isabella, but I haven't found her maiden name yet. So was have Edwin marrying Annie Hill, my great grandparents

John marrying Mary Ellen Herbert marrying Emma.

Benetfink of Cheapside sold everything, including cameras. SBT reads Wisden with Benetfink ad for cricket gear on the back cover.



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The cover photograph of Dr Moxhay appears to be an enlarged and retouched version of a Carte de Visite made by Sydney Victor White of Reading on 24th July

1877 when Dr M was 55. That was negative 20131 and the CdV is annotated by Annie Hill Moxhay with the date 24/7/77. She was 15 at the time. A Carte de Visite was not used as a visiting card. It is a convenient description of its size and is often abbreviated to CdV. The small CdV were later supplanted by the larger Cabinet size photographs. Albums and Cabinet frames were mass produced.

The CdV sits alongside a slightly later picture of Mrs Moxhay, numbered 23941. During the interval the design of the card reflected that he was no longer in partnership with Ernest E White. Walton Adams ran his studio in Reading between 1886 and 1922. He had previously worked in Southampton and is credited as being one of the first professionals to work with dry gelatin plates. This was an advance over wet collodion plates which had to be

developed within a few minutes of exposure. The four children of Herbert and Emma were Wilfrid Moxhay, Coralie Emma Moxhay, Alfred Douglas Moxhay and Kenneth Moxhay. Collodion and Gelatin are adhesives which hold the light sensitive silver nitrate in place, much as albumen had done for the mediaeval painters' colours.



Stanley and Evelyn Tubbs - A society wedding in 1921



we learn a lot about the people in this wedding photograph. Stanley Tubbs and his second bride Evelyn are central of course. I assume that Evelyn's mama is setting next to her with her father standing beside Stanley. My copy was sent to Cecil and Irene Tubbs, but I do not know if they attended either the wedding or the festivities. Given the presence of the young daughter of HSB Tubbs who also worked for TL it seems fair to assume that Cecil would also have been invited.

While the signature is illegible, on further investigation the photographer is Debenhams, Longman and Company of 33 promenade, Cheltenham, also of Clarence Street, Gloucester.

The Gloucester Journal of 10th September 1921 describes an "Interesting Marriage". The marriage took place at Christ Church Cheltenham on Thursday 8th September 1921. The officiating clergy included the Dean of Hereford as well as the vicar.

The bride, who was given away by her father, looked charming in a dress of ivory chiffon velvet, with court train of gold tissue, veiled with Carrickmacross lace and chiffon. She wore a veil of Brussels net and a wreath of orange blossom; and carried a bouquet of white roses, heather and carnations, and wore a string of pearls, the gift of the bridegroom.

The bride was attended by Miss B. Crane and Miss F. Crane (her sisters); Miss Pamela Tubbs niece of the bridegroom) and Miss Joan Burberry (cousin of the bride) who acted as train bearers: Miss Marie Elliott, Miss Rene Burden, Miss Winifred Downes and Miss Sheelah Collingwood-Thompson, who were attired in dresses of golden brown georgette, with amber ornaments, silk fringe and touches of tango-red. This seems to be consistent with the apparent age of the youngest children in the photograph They wore brown tulle veils shaded wreaths en suite; and carried bouquets of orchids and tango coloured chrysanthemums. The only Miss Pamela Tubbs I am aware of was just four at the time of the wedding, and was the daughter of Henry Stafford Burnell Tubbs, (son of Stanley's brother Walter Burnell Tubbs and therefore Stanley's great

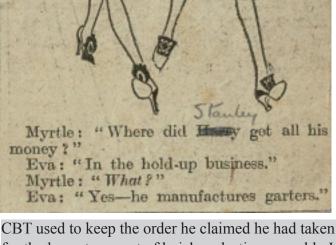
niece) The gifts of the bridegroom to the bridesmaids were gold wrist watches. Colonel G. F. Collett, D.S.O., carried out the duties of best man.

I think this means we can name all the people in this photograph without being able to put individual names to faces.

Gilbert Faraday Collett played Rugby for Britain (three test caps) and Gloucester; there is a very full biography of him on the club's website, from which I quote.

As a pre-war Territorial officer, Gilbert began the Great War as a Captain in the 1/5th Battalion, Gloucestershire Regiment, with his brother, Lieutenant-Colonel John Henry Collett as the Commanding Officer. Gilbert landed in France on 29 March 1915, in 1916 he was promoted to Temporary Major, and later was appointed to command the battalion with the temporary rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, a rank he relinquished together with his command on 1 November after having been hospitalised following a wounding. Upon his recovery he took command of the 2/5th Gloucesters between April 1917 and March 1918. He was awarded the Distinguished Service Order (DSO) for distinguished service under fire, and was Mentioned in Dispatches three times.

This means that Collett was Seymour's commanding officer at the time of Seymour's death. Collett remained in the army until 1934 and then returned to the family chemical business. There is no obvious link to CB Collett, the Great Western Railway engineer, whose origins were in London.



CBT used to keep the order he claimed he had taken for the largest amount of knicker elastic ever sold. I do't remember being told how much it was, but it would have been ordered by the gross yards. A gross was 12x12=144. Everything was so logical then, The Denier yarn count was the weight in grammes of 9000 metres of yarn, which updated an earlier version in ounces and yards, replaced by decitex.



Nemo me impune elastic! I believe all the brothers followed their father as pupils at Highgate School. Stanley was the youngest sibling born in 1877, 20 years after the marriage of his parents. The Carte de Visite was annotated by Cecil who worked for Stanley from 1912 until Stanley's death in 1941, the Great War years excepted. His house on Hanover Terrace, Regent's Park would now be worth approximately £20 million.

All The President's Men

In this case we write of HMS President and Henry Stafford Burnell Tubbs.

We have mentioned him before. He was renowned as an amateur golfer and spent most of his career working at Tubbs Lewis we assume, though he trained as an estate agent.

I am very grateful to Andrew Grantham for uncovering a previously unknown aspect of his early life and his service during The Great War. Andrew collects silver war badges and researches the lives of the people whose badges he buys. These seem to fetch between £10 and £40. HSB's was just about in the middle.

Another Society Wedding

HSB as we will call him married in 1913 when his father Walter Burnell was still able to mix with grand society before his financial ruin, and HSB's wedding was reported in The Queen, the society ladies' magazine, for example. The marriage took place at Holy Trinity Church Kensington Gore on 8th October 1913. The groom at the previous marriage on the register gave the same address at 21a Albert Hall Mansions of this parish, which I assume was an address of convenience for the purpose of publishing banns and obtaining a wedding licence. They were designed in 1887 by Richard Norman Shaw, no less and are within sight of the eponymous Hall.

His bride was Edie Alice Gwynne-Atwood, the step daughter of a writer of dramatic fiction. The wedding and reception were attended by various titled folk including Sir Robert Perks, the MP, railway magnate and associate of HTT at Littlestone, aforementioned, and many members of the family including Henry Thomas Tubbs the groom's grandfather. HSB had been lodging with his future father-in-law when he was a student as early as 1911, following his father's profession of surveyor and estate agent. As far as Google is concerned I fear that Atwood pere's reputation has sunk beneath that of Margaret Atwood, but digging a little deeper into the archives reveals that he was an actor turned author and actor-manager who specialised in farces. One that caught my attention was The Lady Dentist which was presented in Folkestone in 1905.

HSB volunteered on the outbreak of war and joined HMS President. He enlisted AB (Able Seaman) in the RNVR Anti Aircraft Company with Service Number AA/1493. He was rapidly promoted to CPO (Chief Petty Officer) and appears to have developed valued expertise in anti aircraft gunnery. HMS President was nominally a naval vessel moored on The Thames, but in practice it was a shore based establishment. Various former naval vessels were renamed HMS President when they were re-assigned to that static duty. There is a suggestion that the uniform of the RNVR Anti Aircraft Company was not a full naval uniform and occasioned some mirth. RNVR AAC, was disbanded in 1916. According to The Times, in London where the AAC wore white caps, the uniform was "treated rather as a joke" - part taxi cab driver and part railway porter with members being tipped two-pence to carry luggage He was recommended for a commission and by the 20 April 1916 he was discharged to a commission with the RGA Royal Garrison Artillery of the RNVR (Royal Navy Volunteer Reserve) He was appointed 2nd Lieut RGA(SR) 28 April 1916. The London Gazette 1 May 1916 confirms his appointment as 2nd Lieut at the AA Depot Shoeburyness.

He was promoted to Lieut 28 Oct 1917and served in anti-aircraft artillery roles first at Shoeburyness defending London, and later Kingston upon Hull, chiefly defending the docks there.



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Hos E. A. Gwenne-Arwoon (Mas. H. S. B. Tennes).

THE QUEEN, THE LADY'S NEWSPAPER.

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RANDALL-WILLIAMSON.

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WHITE-DA

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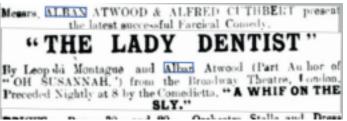
Muss Event G. Day (Mas A. F. Wates),



HMS President 1918

Thanks to Gary Houston for this 2004 photograph of HMS President (formerly HMS Saxifrage) on The Thames, with The London Eye in the background.

This is a later ship than the version in service during The Great War.



The Lady Dentist and A Whif on the sly. How they laughed, without the least amount of chemical stimulation, we trust.

The usual spelling is whiff, whether it refers to an aroma or a small cigar.

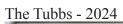
Mrs HSB's step father was an actor, author and dramatic promoter. This is another family link to the theatre.

As noted elsewhere, Stanley's first wife Nellie was an actress in the Kendals' company.

Atwood had also been on the Pink Dominoes Tour and produced Is Marriage a Failure, for example.

--A Domino was an earlier version of an overdressed narcissist, aka Macaroni, aka Clothes Horse.

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Vincent Brooks Dav& Sco Lith



William Hunter Kendal

Kendal was one of 1325 subjects of Spy, cartoonist Sir Leslie Matthew Ward for Vanity Fair magazine. This one dates from April 1893.

Apart from nurturing the acting talent of Ellen Emma Prescott, the first bride of Stanley William Tubbs, he was also a shareholder in City Sites Development Ltd, the property company initiated by Stanley.

Kendal's wife became Dame Madge Kendal, though Kendal was a stage name. So far several enquiries have failed to identify the Rolls-Royce Phantom I (of about 1925) which Stanley is said to have given to Dame Madge Kendal.

Many of the caricatures were republished as single chromolithographs and I recently obtained one such print of Kendal for a trivial sum. The prints of the most renowned sell for greater sums. A complete collection has been offered for over £6,000 which sounds like a bargain to me.

The Creche

Details of the creche run at Argyle Square by Aunts Hannah and Louisa were published in the 2015 edition. Here is a slightly odd, dramatic and exceedingly rare view of children of the creche with one of the aunts. Is it Hannah or is it Lettie? Hannah was HTT's sister born c1829 whereas Louisa, his daughter, was born in 1859. The creche opened in 1892 and lasted until about 1913, the year of Hannah's death.

Though there are pre-school nurseries on every street these days, the creche was one of very few.

The children may be kneeling. Are they at prayer? The setting is rural. Perhaps there was an outing, an occasion for a photograph? Perhaps the children visited Nether Court?

I am no master of the cultural class niceties of Edwardian England but I suspect the lady in the background is more likely to be a servant than the other half of the dynamic duo. It is therefore likely that we have Aunt Hannah and the nursemaid who were the permanent staff of the creche. More questions than answers.

p.s. Yes I know. Photographs are unique, not rare, but there is a convention about rarity, not always honoured by eBay sellers.

The Tubbs - 2024 The Tubbs Review of Books

Charles Cundall -

Sacha Llewellyn and Paul Liss

Cundall lived or worked at 25a Glebe Place from 1928-1943. Unlike Lowry who was born near the Cundall birthplace, Cundall travelled extensively and spent much of his childhood in India. This factlet may look irrelevant but it does touch

our story. 25 Glebe Place was designed by Percy B Tubbs for his friend and fellow Chelsea Arts Clubber Derwent Wood.

Wood was a sculptor of renown. As previously mentioned here his statue of Sir Henry Royce stands outside the Moor Lane headquarters of Rolls-Royce. It was moved there from a site in central Derby.

The building is one of two halves, different. It is not a pair of semis. Wood himself lived at 2 Carlyle Square, but Cundall gave 25a as his London

address in the years 1928-43 though he may not have lived there. Cundall was a fellow member of the Chelsea Arts Club and an Associate of the Royal Academy.

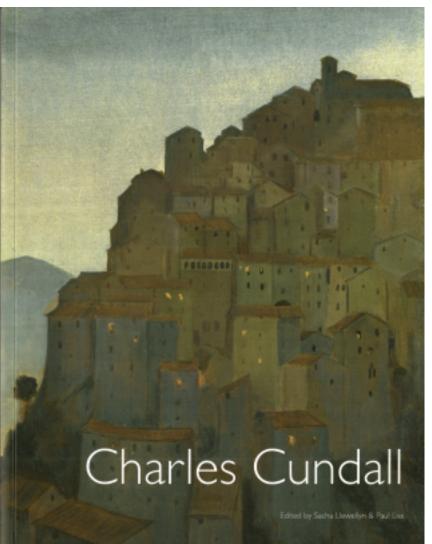
In the early years the Club and more adventurous Chelsea artists thought of themselves as being in opposition to the more staid Royal Academy, but by the 1930s warfare had largely ceased. The burning question of the hour relating to Cundall is - where is his double portrait of young Ursula and Martin Tubbs with hobby horse. The only relic of it known to me is this snapshot from the 1996 VHS recording made by Liz Royle when she visited MCT at Little Horkeseley. Was it painted at 25a Glebe Place? We all think it was sold by Antoinette, but there are no sale details online, and so I retitle it

And when did you last see your father? We have a very low quality glimpse of it in a screenshot taken from Liz Royle's VHS film of her father Gerald Burnell Tubbs and Martin Tubbs in 1996, during a visit to Little Horkesley.



The finest picture with a family connection is Cundall's London River of 1949. That now hangs at Haileybury. Almost in view in the picture would be Courage's Anchor brewery, near the Bankside power station/Tate Modern. Reader I have the fridge magnet!

Cundall therefore links my interest in the family history with my lifelong interest in beer and brewing, and my small collection of Watneys breweriana.







The Red Barrel

The Red Barrel was the house magazine of Watneys Brewery. It was first published as Hand in Hand,

We do not have the hobby horse picture , but we do have a mechanical one. pictured The Scammell mechanical horse was designed by Napiers in response to requests from railway companies, who still used numerous horses in goods yards and for local deliveries. Scammell took the business over and launched the Scarab in 1948. SCammell ARAB. Geddit? With a patent hitching method rather than a fifth wheel the articulated vehicle could turn in less than its own length. The second industry to adopt the Scarab was brewing which also still relied on horses. With tight enclosed brewery yards and local deliveries to make, the Scarab was an ideal choice.

Charles Cundall who became a full RA in 1944 began to specialise in contracts for industry after WW2. He is known to have contracted work from Watneys brewery around 1953. At the time Watneys in Pimlico was one of the oldest breweries in London. Victoria Railway Station was built just opposite the brewery site. That brewery closed in 1959 and this issue is from that year. They had bought and expanded a brewery at Mortlake to which they transferred the Stag Brewery name. It became what CAMRA decried as a megakeggery. After Watneys ceased to brew, The Stag brewery made the equally egregious Budweiser. Not to be confused with Budweiser under any circumstances. Budweiser Budvar is owned by the Czech Government, and is delicious.

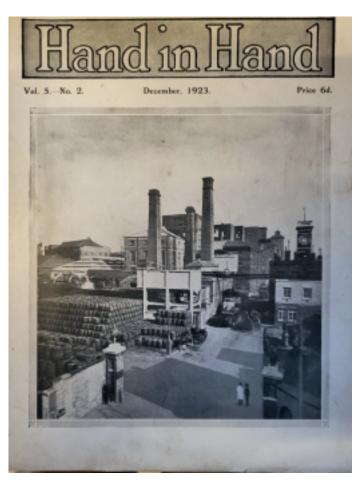
The other main activity, depicted in the bottom right appears to be two men handling spent grains. The traditional beneficiary of those was pigs. At least one brewery farmed their own pigs.

I failed to buy this little sketch when it appeared for sale a few years ago and had been kicking myself ever since. My small, perverse, collection of Watneys breweriana demanded it, despite its price having increased. A small footnote to the noble history of L'art et La Biere. Where is Cundall's finished work for Watneys? The vendor also offered me some nice sketches of brewery activity by Frank Brangwyn. Way beyond my means alas!

Watneys were the pioneers of brewery-conditioned

beer, small especially pressurised kegs at the request of clubs with only periodic demand, such as weekends, as well as larger tanks for busy pubs. They had delivered beer in tankers since 1929 which still required to be sold quickly. Sadly the temptation to make beer easier to keep for sale, and more profitable for brewers became the obsession which turned the world into a Watneys lake, the real beer desert for the camel in Scammell. Instead of being a local London Brewer their Red Barrel became one of the six nationally promoted beer brands which were all unspeakably horrible.

Watneys later adapted Scarabs for this heinous abuse of beer. There were two styles, one large fake barrel that was mounted lengthways, or three smaller ones mounted across the trailer. For comparison purposes my picture is of a variant Mechanical Horse liveried for both the LNER (London and North Eastern Railway) and Tate and Lyle, the sugar manufacturer who resisted nationalisation, successfully using Mr Cube as their campaigning mascot. The LNER succumbed. The present company with the same name, now renationalised, is not related to the former one which operated over most of Eastern, Northern and large parts of Central England from 1923 to 1947.



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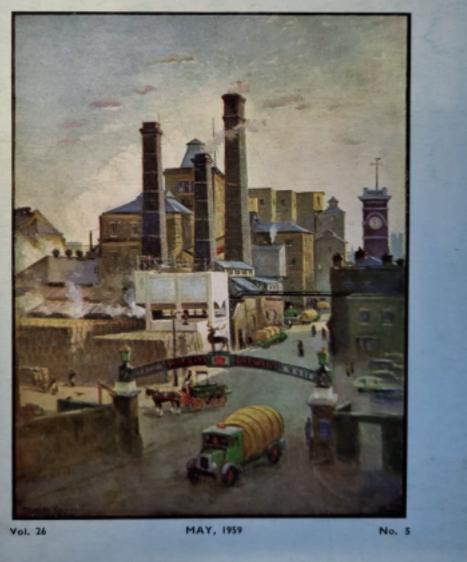
Watneys Wall

This was a long-running Watneys advertising theme which may have been the origin of the later Sid woz 'ere and similar graffiti that has largely degraded into nothing more than tags. Competitions were run for slogans.

There were several rules such as a maximum of 16 words, no puns (shame! ed.) and no reference to Watney's other brands. Watneys took over a large number of brewers even before the madness of the big six. Watney, Combe and Reid merged in 1898 and Reid's Stout was retained as a popular brand.

Surviving wall ephemera is rarer than I expected. Sadly the matches were made in Belgium. A bad day for England's Glory.

The Red Barrel



The Textile Institute's Dictionary of Textile Terms and Definitions, 9th Edition is a useful resource in any library. So far it has only failed me once.

That word is "Flashets" and it appears on a modern piece of sculpture celebrating the textile industry in Leicester on the site of a former dyeworks. It lists a number of textile terms, not all of them directly connected with dyeing and the only puzzler is flashets. Naturally the spelling checker would prefer flashers, but that will not do. Presumably it is a now obsolete dialect word, recorded for posterity in writing at least once. I have tried to make enquiries but without success so far.

MCT took on the job of editing the 9th edition in the whirl of activity following his retirement from

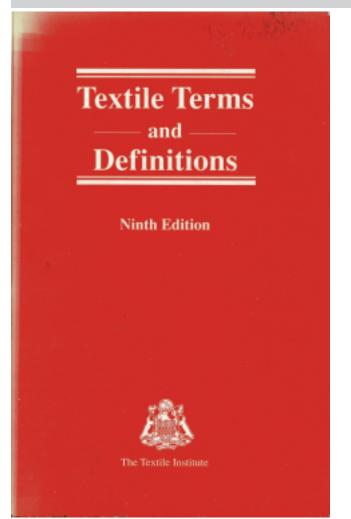
Nottingham Braid. His Amstrad word processor worked overtime producing draft after draft of the proposed text. He was awarded a Fellowship of the Textile Institute, a real honour.

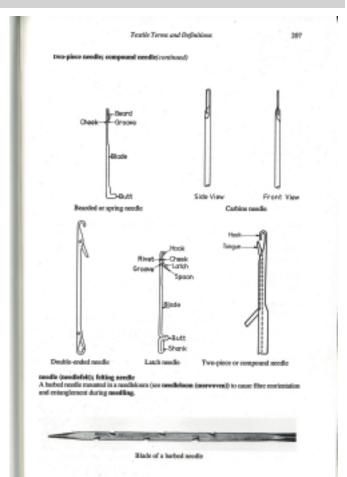
It was first published in 1954. The ninth has been superseded both by a tenth edition and is now online with access only for members of the Institute. The tenth commands prices in the order of £50 to £60. Older editions tail off in value to a few pounds.

In the context of another story here about needlemaking I reproduce the page from the book which illustrates several types of hosiery needle. Needles are discussed elsewhere in this publication.

Elton and me!

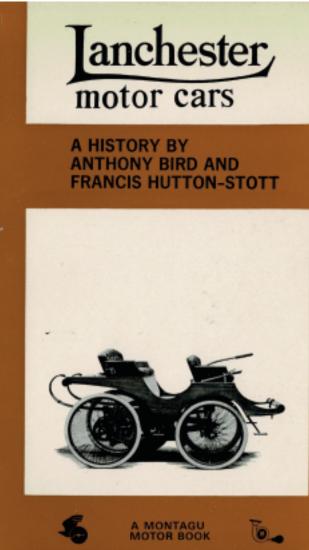
An unlikely piece in The Times linked my comments on the distinction between weaving and braiding with Elton John's assertion that he had woven hair pieces added to his pate. My original comments arose from a crossword clue that confused the two branches of textile manufacture and I quoted from the dictionary. Of course modern, general dictionaries describe only modern English usage, but when the language is in the hand of brats you get brattage.





Lanchester Motor Cars -Anthony Bird and Francis Hutton-Scott The Charnwood Connection.

Anthony Bird was the leading expert on Lanchester Motor Cars. The forward to this volume was written by George Lanchester one of the 'Unholy Trinity' of Lanchester brothers. They got the nickname for testing cars on a Sunday. Frederick Lanchester was the engineering genius who designed his cars from first principles unlike his rivals who were developing cars on an ad hoc basis and borrowing unworthy solutions from the pioneers. It was a losing battle with the accountants, and Frederick left George to continue the engineering innovation. They retained tiller steering designed on engineering principles in preference to steering wheels which were an option, air cooling over water cooling, their design of wick carburettor over the vapourising system used by others, epicyclic



gears, disk brakes and numerous other inventions which other makers only 'invented' decades later. My former employers recognised the achievements of Lanchester by naming one of the meeting rooms in Derby after them.

Anthony Bird acknowledges gratitude to Lord Charnwood for bequeathing his 1904 Lanchester to him. Charnwood was a Liberal politician. All I ever got from a Liberal politician was a German Dictionary. Stephen Dorrell OU sometime Conservative MP for the selfsame Charnwood stood unsuccessfully for the Lib Dems at the 2019 election, and somehow I inherited his dictionary though he is a year younger than me. Precocious boy that Dorrell.

Anthony Bird enters our pages as father and grandfather to some of our readers. And very welcome he is too. Bird wrote the chapters on the early cars. There is a separate biography of Frederick Lanchester.

Frederick did work for Daimler after he had been forced out of his own company. Lanchester had the misfortune to become a Daimler subsidiary, where he tangled with Pomeroy senior, previously of Vauxhall. With their reputation for making fine luxurious cars they we owned by the Birmingham Small Arms Company. Queen Mary owned both limousines and the samller 15HP car which was luxurious in miniature, similar to the picture below. In the hands of the notoriously spendthrift Dockers the marque fell out of royal favour and when Jaguar bought them out they found little of value except floor space and the surprisingly innovative V8 engine which powered the very last real Daimlers before badge engineering and oblivion.





Summer at Clumber Park in Photo-Haiku

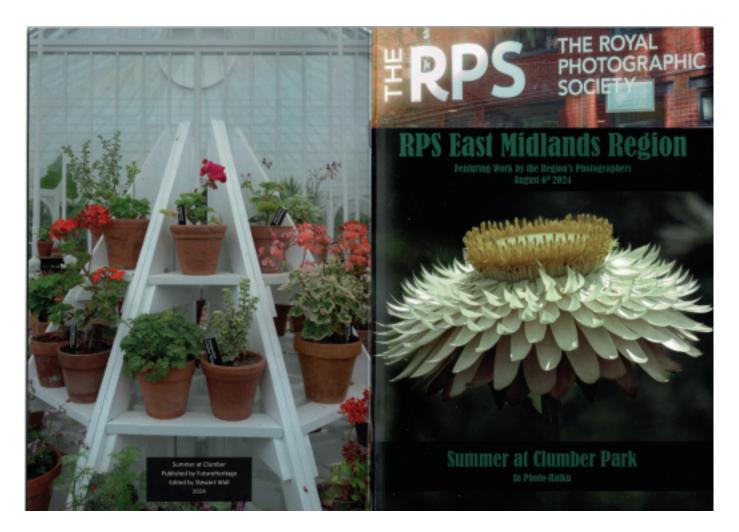
Modesty almost prevents me from including this splendid little booklet. Almost. The photo-haiku is based on the principle that the two different genres are complementary. Stewart Wall ARPS is a devotee both of photo books and haikus. Those are 17 syllable poems originating in Japan.

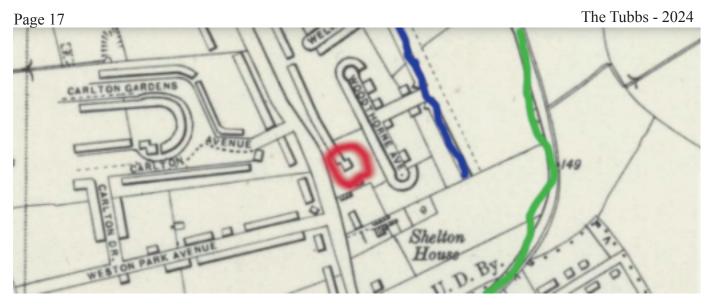
Both can now be generated artificially, but that is not the way we do it.

I joined a Royal Photographic Society (RPS) East

Midlands visit to Clumber Park. We had a guided tour of the walled gardens and took photographs. Stewart has composed haikus to accompany each selection of contributors' pages. I have a page, and one of mine is also tail-end Charlie on the outside cover. Stewart detects a theme he has called Between glass and water, without any prompting from me.

There was a later event at The National Arboretum to which I have contributed pictures but this time I have passed on my thoughts to Stewart.





Jitty Jitty Bang Bang

A jitty is the local word for a small passageway. There are numnerous dialect variations, such as ginnel.

The lower side of the red loop marks approximately where there is one now and it connects the 1935 development off Jubilee Road (blue) with the a514 road. My des res is just north of this clip, but Carolyn's former home is on Carlton Avenue. There are several mysteries here. A 90 year old lifelong local says the jitty existed in his boyhood but I am not so sure.and it is not on the map. Everything I see says that Shelton Lock was incorporated in the Derby Borough in 1968 but this 1951 map shows the boundary following the (green) canal, now a cycle path, and desigmated for reinstatement as canal+cyling amenity. Shelton House was later demolished and there is later housing and a new road link to the a514. The Golden Pheasant public house (seen in 2013 Greene King Hungry Horse livery) is now being converted into a Cooperative store. It was built as a tea room by local artist Cuthbert Gresley and became a licensed restaurant in 1966. Part of the land beside the jitty (far right in picture) is the likely site of the kitchen garden on which two houses now stand.

Classic ribbon development is restrained from eastward expansion by the canal path and the waterlogged moorland, but the varmints are building everywhere they can, avoiding the puddles and the many pylons as they go.



Needle-nardle-noo!

While Aerosmith is a long-lived rock band recently in the news for finally being too old to perform in public, and Needles and Pins was a popular song in 1964 which commented on the pain of unrequited love ...somewhere in the background the firm of T&J Holyoake was absorbed into the needle making group in Redditch whose brand name was Aero. That firm may have gone into business as early as 1734 and went bankrupt in 1896, but apparently reemerged.

If you don't recognise Seagoon's nonsense catchphrase then your education is incomplete, but here let it stand for a little aggressive self promotion.

It was needles at dawn in the pages of Kellys trade directory. T&J claimed to be the only actual manufacturer of needles connected with the name of Holyoake. So much for George and James. Their London address was 9 Hamsell Street, London E(ast). Tubbs Lewis, of 29 & 30 Noble Street on the other hand claimed origins only from 1784 for the business of James Holyoake but there is little doubt they made their own needles. A detailed history of T&J online does not mention a James Holyoake at all, but there were other Holyoakes and they were all in Redditch, near Birmingham, the centre of needle-making.

Hamsell Street no longer exists. It is under the Barbican development and ran almost parallel to Castle Street and Aldersgate Street where we know Lewis and Tubbs owned properties. It is less than a minute's walk from Tubbs Lewis' office in Noble Street. There was clearly some real animosity here. My tentative explanation is that TL regarded Holyoake as a brand name for one line of products all made in TL's own mills. It does not appear on a map in The Needle Museum. The making of steel and brass pins and needles are very closely related. The chief difference is that a needle has an eye whereas a pin has a head.

The development of an integral pin with an upset head rather than a separately riveted head was critical for mechanised production. Likewise the development of machines to stamp the eye of a needle was a huge improvement over the treadle powered monsters they replaced.

As with the distinction between games and sports the niceties of the difference between pins and

needles could be likened to the mediaeval question of how many angels could dance on the head of a ... pin. Hare lip pins, for example, have an eye, though it is formed by curving the end rather than piercing it.

For years the manufacture of pins was the paradigm of the savings to be made by the division of labour into single tasks, with the help of automation. Adam Smith described pin making in the 18th century. Gradually the processes were increasingly automated, but film made for the Needle Museum near Redditch, shows that much manual work was still involved into the 20th.

We know that Tubbs Lewis also made pins under the name of Charles Lambert, and that they made knitting pins from wood and from bone. The Aero brand also sold wooden knitting pins. I illustrate a small collection of bone pins and crochet hooks. Their makers are not known.

The chief joy of visiting the needle museum is the discovery of cards of needles given in change. My search for the Farthing Pin cards mentioned by CBT has produced just one in 30 years, in a museum in Eastbourne. Inflation and ingenuity resulted in the smaller cards with the profile of well-known bottled products containing just a few needles. I speculate they date from the 1950s. The farthing coin a mere 1/960th of a pound was withdrawn only in 1961, by which time the cost of making them must have exceeded their value. The last ones were made in 1956. Whereas 99 pence is the attention grabbing price these days it used to be so many shillings, pence and three farthings. For example $\pounds 1/19/11^{3/4}d$, two pounds in effect. Cards of pins or needles were given as change by retailers.

The needle trade supplied many others including sailmakers, upholsterers and harpooners, yes folks a harpoon is a needle; surgeons for living patients and post mortem; fishing hooks. As it happens Redditch was also the centre of split-cane fishing rod manufacture, though I assume the supply of reels, line, hooks and flies was separate. Tubbs Lewis also sold fishing line under the brand of E Kemp and Sons. At that time this was made from braided silk or horsehair. TL made much use of silk which they both spun and dyed. Various brands of vintage fishing line have been seen for sale but none from E

Page 19 Kemp to date.

As we do not have examples of either Holyoake or Lambert products I illustrate this with examples found elsewhere. The Aero display contains examples of wooden,, bone and plastic knitting pins. This and the James Smith display are at the Needle Museum. Toone was a Nottingham business that dealt in hosiery needles. They claim to be manufacturers but I believe they were also selling German needles. The Toone display case is in the Ruddington Framework Knitters Museum.





The Tubbs - 2024

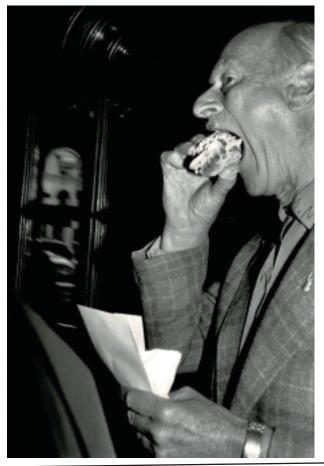
Toone of Nottingham specialised in latch needles for hosiery. Earlier hosiery needles for framework knitting were bearded. They had a simple hook like an extended crochet needle, which could be closed by the sinker . A latch needle



knitting machine which was faster and more compact than a stocking frame and made a tube and could also form the ankle. Tatham of Ilkeston are known to have had large display cases of hosiery needles, which they took to many trade exhibitions, but these have probably not survived. Circular knitting machinery was pioneered by Bentley Cotton of Loughborough, a

is required for upright use and enabled the circular

firm for which Beckie's grandfather once worked,



Puzzle Picture

This year's puzzle picture is another press photograph of which I bought a print a few years ago.

There are two questions. Who is depicted What is he possibly eating

He was in his day very famous for something else, his day job.

I bought it as an unconsidered trifle. It is still not valuable of course, and it is in copyright, may I be forgiven for printing it here!

I could see immediately who it was, but that was just good luck, though there is information on the verso. It was taken by The London Daily News, Maxwell's short-lived 1987 vanity rag. Most folk would have no idea. I hope that doesn't include you. If it does, all will be revealed on Twelfth Night, officially on my website.

A walk in the park at Calke Abbey



The Flossie Files. Tubbs Lewis -The End.

I am sorry to say that I do not know the full, sad story of what happened in the last years of family ownership of Tubbs Lewis, nor am I well versed in tax or inheritance law, but there is enough documentary evidence to get somewhere close.

Tubbs Lewis had been founded in 1854 by Henry Thomas Tubbs and Joseph Lewis. There is little evidence of Lewis involvement in the company after Joseph's death in 1890. I have to assume that Stanley Tubbs bought out the Lewis family interest. DB Tubbs was convinced that Stanley had forced HTT to hand over the business because his superior business skills with an independent venture had outclassed Tubbs Lewis. There is evidence that the venture with body-builder Eugene Sandow involved Stanley and members of the Lewis family, but did not involve HTT. Bunny believed this was the vehicle that drove Stanley to success, though to me it looks as if it did not end well.

Stanley took over the management and ownership of the business during his father's lifetime. Stanley received no further benefit in HTT's will after the latter's death in 1917, as he was "already well provided for".

Stanley himself died in 1941. He had married twice. His first wife Ellen, aka Nellie died in 1918. Stanley remarried in 1921 to Evelyn Sherbrook Crane, the daughter of Charles Arnold Crane of Reddings, Stroud. He was an Ironfounder at the beginning of his career, later a gentleman living on his own means. Evelyn was born when the family was living in Wolverhampton.

Tubbs Lewis was to remain under the control of his executors for the remainder of Evelyn's life when much of the the estate would descend to his kinsmen. Evelyn remarried and became Lady Durand, but continued to benefit from the proceeds of the estate, ie TL. The Durands lived at Ellerncroft. The presiding business expert was Tom Wallace MBE, with Cecil and the younger generation of Martin Cecil, and Vincent Tubbs all being kept out of real power, though Cecil became a director of Pettit's and Martin was the works manager at Pettits..

Principal beneficiaries under Stanley's will were to be Cecil Burnell Tubbs (8/24ths) and Henry Burnell Tubbs (9/24ths) see his wedding on page 7, both grandchildren of HTT. Both of Stanley's marriages were childless. Both Cecil and Burnell (as he was known) worked for Tubbs Lewis. Cecil retired in 1956 aged 60. I believe Lady Durand's heirs were to inherit the remaining 7/24ths. That is not made specific in the documents I have.

The trustees were Brigadier Willway and Leonard Tubbs. Leonard and Willway were both solicitors. Willway, as previously reported was Clerk of the Peace (i.e. clerk to The Magistrates) in Surrey. Until the Blitz Leonard had offices at 68 Aldersgate Street almost directly opposite Lewis and Tubbs' Manchester Hotel, near what is now Barbican Station. Both those properties were destroyed in The Blitz of 29/30 December 1940 along with much more of the family's property portfolio. Thereafter Leonard moved to several City offices.

In the years between his death and the beginning of the 1960s the value of Stanley's estate continued to increase. At the time of probate his estate was assessed at £193,000 a very considerable estate in 1941. By 1962 the value of the business, which represented 11/12ths of his estate was estimated at £500,000. Again I assume that Ellerncroft represented a considerable part of the other 1/12th and that it remained unsold in Lady Durand's lifetime.

In 1962 the trustees proposed a scheme which was designed to save a great deal of estate duty at 60% or more, and that was in the era before the most punitive levels of taxation under the Labour Governments. Nineteen for you and one for me, was the plaintive cry of Beatle George Harrison in "Taxman" with a little help from his friend John Lennon. Written as the world's most famous musicians were facing bankruptcy it referred to the 95% or nineteen shillings in the pound taxation in the days of 20 shillings to the pound.. It was foreseen that in order to pay the tax demands the business would have to be sold, and the scheme was an effort to avoid tax and avoid the sale of the business. It relied on the cooperation of Lady Durand whose tax liability was minimal.

By dividing the assets of the trust, subject to a five year retention, the total saving of estate duty would be £259,00 yielding a total assets gain to the reversioners of £143,750. There were a number of requirements to satisfy the Inland Revenue, including entering into subsidiary discretionary settlements in favour of their own children (or chosen beneficiaries). The advisers (signature illegible) to the trustees considered these changes to be urgent.

In the meantime, there was a further change in circumstances. The presumed beneficiaries of Cecil's will, and therefore of his share in the business were his three children, Ursula, Martin and Jennifer. But what if Flossie came on the scene. If Cecil were to remarry then his dispositions would change. Flossie remained notional for a while, but of course it was Elise very thinly disguised. Cecil and Elise did marry in 1965.

For me the most mysterious episode in all of this was the abortive return of Martin Cecil Tubbs to the business in 1962. Dad had left in 1956, dissatisfied with his prospects within the business, and profoundly dissatisfied with the performance of Willway and Leonard. The 1962 arrangements included his resignation from Berisford's, the sale of the family house, and some vigorous house-hunting in Gloucestershire. Exactly how and why it failed is a mystery but it was at the last minute and Dad was crushed. There is surviving correspondence with sister Lirlie which makes that clear, but what survives begins a little after the actual event.

For many years I believed I had been told that Tubbs Lewis had been sold in 1962, which was the reason why he was not welcome back. However no sale took place until 1965. Perhaps it was a proposed sale. Thereafter the name of Willway was used as an expletive chez nous. Dad's contempt for him was profound.

The focus of attention to these proposals moved to the possibility of Cecil's children renouncing any interest in his estate in favour of Flossie. The children seem to have been content for that to happen. Cecil had helped Dad when he was unemployed and still paying school fees. Lirlie and Leslie were becoming independently wealthy by prudent property and stock exchange investments.

When the sale came the only written evidence I have found is a short newspaper article saying that Wolsey had bought the business for £500,000 which appears to have been its value. TL continued to trade in Wotton until the 1980s, by which time Wolsey had passed to Courtaulds, "The best mill closers in the business". From then on the name of Lord Kearton, head of Courtaulds, entered the family demonology. as a term of invective. This animus was much compounded by the harsh trading terms imposed on small businesses by Courtaulds, by then the only supplier of spun dyed viscose, much in demand at Nottingham Braid.



This is a screenshot of the McMurtry P1, an all electric vehicle which set an all time record for the ascent of the hill at Goodwood, several seconds faster than the record for a Formula 1 car, albeit not a recent one. McMurtry is a founder, and now former Chairman of Renishaw PLC, the business which now occupies New Mill(s) and owns other former Tubbs Lewis estate as well.



Nottingham Braid - The End

Not the end of the company but this picture shows the premises on the corner of Aberdeen Street and Handel Street in Nottingham. The Braid and the adjacent Salvation Army Hostel were demolished in 1980. The photograph was taken by George Roberts of the Local Studies Library.

Nottingham Braid occupied the building from around 1914. The Salvation Army moved there in around 1912. Though the Army started its work in Whitechapel Booth was born a few hundred yards away from Aberdeen Street in Notintone Place. The buildings probably dated from around 1885. Kellys lists several businesses on Aberdeen Strreet before them, mostly hosiery manufacturers but it is not so far possible to identify which was where. William Bancroft was one of several local manufacturers of Frillies, the caps most closely associated with nurses. Around 1914 Bancroft moved from the works opposite the Salvation Army to to the large mill on Robin Hood Street/Roden Street which still stands. The premises next to Bancroft on Aberdeen Street was used for manufacturing blouses over a long period. The building on the corner opposite NBC was the coffin works of AW Lymn, Funeral Merchants who now dominate the area,

Some of the the braiding machinery was moved to Sandown Road and subsequently to Gresham Road but braiding ceased some time before Martin Tubbs retired.

The plot next door to Sally Ann and NBC had been private housing but they were demolished before 1965. The Bath Inn (behind the camera) was known as The Bible Class.

The pole had supported the wires for the 'Trackless", another name for trolley buses. Operation of that route ceased in 1965, just before MCT bought the company and the premises from Mrs Topham.

Tophams,. presumably the same family were engaged in hosiery manufacture. There was said to be a family link to Attenboroughs the braiders of Beeston or Long Eaton, but that is not proven.



London's Burning.

This topic has been mentioned several times previously.

The two aspects of The Blitz which involve the family are the almost total destruction of its London property portfolio, much of it in the Barbican area on 29/30th December 1940. The other is the involvement of Ralph Tubbs in training a team of fellow architects and aesthetes to give fire protection to St Paul's Cathedral. These included worthies such as John Betjeman not noted for physical agility, who failed to be trained to find his way round the Cathedral blindfold as were the more able bodied. There were similar teams at all the other cathedrals and important buildings such as The Guildhall, but in 1940 there were few firewatchers in the City offices and warehouses.

There is a development in that I have acquired a copy of the famous picture by Herbert Mason., alongside a cutting of a review of its first appearance in The Daily Mail on 31st December 1940. The review was by the The Daily Telegraph on the 60th anniversary of the raid. The authorities did not initially wish the photograph to be published but in the spirit of optimism that the great cathedral might survive it was released.

It is proverbial that truth is the first casualty of war, and every single military incident to this day, whether in Ukraine, Sudan or Gaza is invariably subjected to different interpretations by the competing nations and their camp followers.

The camera does not lie is a paradox. It is true because a picture is what it is, but it is false in that it can not be the truth. At best it provides evidence which may help us grasp at the truth, but in the post-modern, quantum world there is no one single, universal, absolute truth about anything whatsoever. The interpretation of a photograph or an event includes what the viewer brings to the party. It is not, except in a commercial sense, the intellectual property of its creator. Even the identity of the creator can be indeterminate and there has been the entertaining saga of the photograph made by a monkey, or was it?.

This photograph is a prime example of truth at bay. It is considered to be one of the most retouched press photographs in our history, before Good Queen Kate got to work that is. After being heavily reworked by the Mail's art department it was rephotographed and any prints have been made from that secondary source. The original negative is lost. Furthermore though it was used as a symbol of national pride and hope in Britain the German press also published the picture, as an illustration of the way London had been set alight. At around that time Goebbels publicised the new word Koventriert, representing how Coventry and other cities in Britain were being destroyed by bombing.

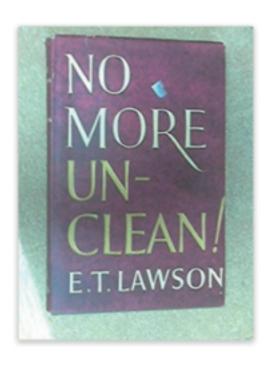
Later in the war when high ranking German prisoners were being received at the London Detention Centre in Kensington Palace Gardens routes were carefully selected to drive the Germans through London without seeing any serious destruction. This deception is believed to have helped the interrogators to break their morale and elicit information.

The possession of an original print is hardly more authentic than a version taken from the internet and what you now see is just another copy of a copy (of a copy?) and there is absolutely no guarantee that any two prints are identical, or correspond precisely to its origin whether by accident or design. My print is darker than the version printed in the Telegraph.

A second photograph in the same lot has the air of immediacy and a haze which may be lack of focus, excessive enlargement or distortion of the air from heat or dust. Who knows? There is no guarantee it was taken on the same night or that it is by Mason, but it sits very well alongside it and the watercolour by ASG Butler FRIBA which also shows the lantern illuminated. He is best known as the historian of his fellow architect Sir Edwin Lutyens, but served as a firewatcher at St Pauls. He did some restoration at Kedleston inthe 1920s.



The Tubbs - 2024



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No more unclean

Work that one out if you can. I assume it is medical students enjoying Clean Rag week.

The book is a high minded novel about treating leprosy in South Africa.

I suspect the students of today would struggle with the idea of making humour out of that, but according to reports this year it would take them three weeks to read it, or any other text.

The pictures are from the camera of Dr L Goulding, who was still at UCH in 1957.





Bosson Nova

These days the flag for Bossons is carried by Emma Bossons who designs for Moorcroft and continues the family legacy of bright, ornamental chinaware which started with Bossons' plaster figures and plates.

Ray Bossons' original designs can easily border on kitsch (border? ed.) however striking they are. His children were fellow pupils at Brereton Hall School and the firm was one of several which had superseded fustian cutting as the primary trade of Congleton which in the Victorian age had stretched to a town hall designed by Pugin, no less. Fustian manufacture began in Manchester early in the 17th Century and the cutting thereof was sent out to Congleton where it was the chief source of employment.

Berisfords the ribbon people for whom MCT worked in the years 1956-62, Bossons and the Marsuma Cigar Company, all now long gone came a little later.

Completists collecting Bossons have a long road to travel and I am happy to settle for a couple of examples which lighten my life. My favourite is Little Moreton Hall which inspired a lifelong love of vernacular building, whether in timber, stone, mud or brick. This year's addition has been the exceptionally colourful Saracen's Head. His successors in the real world do not necessarily appeal to us, but somehow the Crusaders found respect for the refined weaponry and splendid textiles of their Saracen opponents, and the Saracen's Head has been a frequently used name for public houses, notably in Southwell but there was one in Derby until recently. What do you mean, you think he looks like Richard Branson? Except that it is not in fact a Saracen, though offered as such, it is a

Pathan's head designed by Fred Wright at Bossons and was available for over 25 years. If he had the painted shield he would be rare and valuable. Pathans of course are often referred to as Pashtuns and abound in Afghanistan, India and elsewhere, but the name connects them with the Meditterranean shore.

For further information try

http://www.bossons.info/index.htm

Brook Mills is one of the oldest and largest in Congleton. It was built in the water power age by silk throwsters, an industry which looked more to Macclesfield, Leek and Derby than to Manchester. Fred Wright was the chief modeller at Bossons from 1957 to 1972, hand picked by Ray Bossons to design leg-ends, it seems.

Other heads are available including Saracens. but not The Donald, alas. --





Brockholes

Sadly we learnt that Brockholes Methodist Church had succumbed a year or two ago. The locality is littered even more thickly with former churches and chapels than most areas. We were very fortunate that Paul Smelt was contacted and Carolyn now has the portable font used by Frank Maude. It is not necessarily the case, but only too often the portable font was used when a child was in mortal danger and could not get to church.

The attached photograph was taken at the school rather than the church but was published by the Huddersfield Daily Examiner in 1936. The story was about 100 senior citizens being given a treat. Everybody was given sweets or tobacco and the oldest folk received larger gifts.

At the event tributes were paid to the work on the committee of the late Mr A Berry though he does not appear to be related to Maureen (nee Berry). The family member who does appear is Uncle Harold Marshall, married to Gill sister Ellen (Nellie).

Uncle Harold Marshall is third from right in the photograph, partly obscured. He is standing behind the local doctor who was master of ceremonies on the day. At one time I made regular visits, taking the two minute walk to 5 Council Terrace from Gynn Lane. Uncle Harold tried to teach me some card games and tricks. Grandma Gill resided there in turn, mostly bed bound. I retain two items of furniture from their household, both small tables.

