INSTITUTE OF HERALDIC AND GENEALOGICAL STUDIES



THE JULIAN BICKERSTETH MEMORIAL MEDAL



Convocation Luncheon Friday 19th October 2001 The Chaucer Hotel, Canterbury

THE INSTITUTE OF HERALDIC AND GENEALOGICAL STUDIES

School of Family History 1957
The Institute established in Canterbury 1961
Registered Educational Charity 1964,
No. 313304
Incorporated in England 1982, 1629916.

An educational Charitable Trust for the study of the history and structure of the family

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THE JULIAN BICKERSTETH MEMORIAL MEDAL

Kenneth Julian Faithful Bickersteth was born at Ripon on the 5th July 1885, the third son of the late Dr Samuel Bickersteth. Educated at Rugby, Christchurch, Oxford and Wells Theological College, Julian was ordained in 1909. He came to Canterbury as Archdeacon of Maidstone in 1943, having had a long career in education, both in England and Australia. He died on 16th October 1962, having spent his life "doing good just by being what he was....", as was said by one well qualified to judge.

Julian Bickersteth's interest in education and the young never waned and it was from these very real promptings that his idea for The Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies arose as a means of investigating the history and structure of family life, which he rightly looked upon as forming the foundation of Christian civilisation. He left the realisation of his aims to Cecil Humphery-Smith, his godson, whom he had invited to form a school for family history studies in 1957. An exhibition of artifacts of family life was brought to Canterbury in 1960 and Julian lived to see the foundation of the Institute in Northgate in February 1961, enjoying its rapid progress in teaching and research over the following eighteen months. He waved from his car congratulations upon the first issue of the journal FAMILY HISTORY during the month before he died.

In 1964, the Institute was registered as an independent charitable Trust and Cecil Humphery-Smith provided funds so that the Trustees could make an appropriate annual award in memory of the man who was the inspiration and sponsor of the Institute, Julian Bickersteth, The award is made to persons who have made notable and exemplary contributions to family history studies in the judgement of and at the discretion of the Trustees.

The Medal, designed by the donor in the form of a medieval armorial seal, has the arms of Bickersteth flanked by the Institute's heraldic badge on the face and an heroic garland of oak leaves surrounding the recipient's name on the reverse. It is made of hallmarked gilded silver from the original dye.

The Trustees have awarded the Julian Bickersteth Memorial Medal to the following individuals at dinner or luncheon parties held in Canterbury, in London and elsewhere.

Sir Anthony Richard Wagner, KCB, KCVO (died 1995) former Garter Principal King of Arms was universally acknowledged as one of the foremost heraldic scholars of his time, responsible for the editing of *Rolls of Arms* for the Harleian *Aspilogia* Series and for the *New Dictionary of British Armorials* (New Papworth), as well as for remarkable works on genealogy and heraldry in the context of history and sociology.

John Philip Brooke-Little, Esq., CVO, sometime Clarenceux King of Arms, was the founder of The Heraldry Society in 1947 and did much to popularise interest in heraldry through his many writings and innovation. He has edited the *Coat of Arms* for 50 years. He was successor to Professor Gale as a Trustee of the Institute.

Dr Peter Laslett and Dr E.A. Wrigley (knighted 1998) were pioneers with the Cambridge group for *The History of Population and Social Structure* which has done so much to give us better understanding of the demography of the country in the historical context of the family.

Professor Robert Cecil Gale (died 1975) was formerly Professor of Explosives Chemistry at the Woolwich Arsenal. He lived to a great age and during some thirty years of retirement had spent much of his time indexing heraldic and genealogical sources, continuing with a lifetime hobby. He was one of the first eight Trustees of the Institute.

Frederick Humphery-Smith, Esq., MBE, (died 1979) father of the founder, had a distinguished career in public services and spent his retirement voluntarily assisting more than thirty charities. He willingly took on the task as honorary clerk and treasurer to the Institute in 1961 and had a great deal to do with the foundation of its supporting company, Achievements Limited, as well as assisting his son in works of transcription and indexing of heraldic and genealogical works. He had an enquiring mind in historical subjects and was an assiduous researcher.

Donald John Steel was one of the pioneers who, as a young man, helped to transform the Society of Genealogists in the 1960s and initiated the National Index of Parish Register Studies. He was closely involved in the foundation of the Federation of Family History Societies and took on an exhausting programme of lecturing throughout the country and abroad, which did much to promote the family history movement.

Dr William Urry had a keen and inspiring interest in archive research from an early age and became archivist at Canterbury Cathedral, giving enormous encouragement to the foundation of the Institute, sharing his immense knowledge of Kentish records and the resources of the Cathedral with the founder at the Institute. When he was appointed Reader in palaeography at the University of Oxford in 1966, he received little acknowledgement from the City or the Cathedral, but was deemed worthy of the Julian Bickersteth Memorial Medal, Julian having been his patron when he was at Canterbury. His work on Thomas Becket was published posthumously in 1999.

Charles Wilfred Scott-Giles Esq., OBE, (died 1982) ultimately became Fitzalan Pursuivant of Arms Extraordinary but, while a mechanical engineer, had done much to popularise heraldry through his books, lectures and skilfully written essays. Wilfred and Cecil had enjoyed heraldic soirees at their homes in Sunbury-upon-Thames and Kew before the foundation of the Institute. Wilfred's skills as heraldic artist and a motivator of interest in family history studies was widely admired.

Admiral of the Fleet, the Earl Mountbatten of Burma (murdered 1979), whose honours were legion, had long had great interest in genealogy and heraldry. He exhibited this in his own researches and privately published works. An ardent supporter of education and of the pioneer work of the Institute, he kept in touch by correspondence and supported the foundation in every possible way, particularly by taking on the presidency of The Society of Genealogists and establishing a friendship which had been partially lost following the death of the late George Sherwood, the founder of the Society. Earl Mountbatten visited us in 1972 and willingly took on the co-patronage of the International Congress, held in London in 1976 and organised by the Institute.

Francis W. Steer (died 1978), sometime Maltravers Herald Extraordinary, was archivist to the Duke of Norfolk at Arundel Castle, but formerly Sussex County Archivist and Archivist and Historian at New College Oxford and of The Society of Scriveners of the City of London. A prolific researcher and writer of local history, he undertook research to publish a catalogue of the records of the heralds at The College of Arms and the Earl Marshal's papers at Arundel, while assisting many family historians in the early years of the movement.

Dr F.G. (Derick) Emmison, MBE, (died 1995) was a pioneer County Archivist and Record Officer who probably excelled all others in the transcription and translation of documents of immense value to genealogical research. Concentrating on his counties of Bedfordshire and Essex, he catalogued and calendared wills, transcribing numerous volumes, particularly in connection with the latter county, out of which he described in vivid details Elizabethan life. He was one of the first really to put the flesh on the bones of genealogy with the substance of family history taken from original records. He gave enormous encouragement to genealogists and amateur local historians with an avuncular attitude towards the young.

Sir Andrew Noble, Baronet, KCMG, (died 1987). Paddy Noble, on retirement from the Diplomatic Service, came to live in Kensington and immediately took up the role of Chairman of the Council of the Irish Genealogical Research Society from who our founder had held the seat for some dozen years (with no Irish connections and never having been there!). Sir Andrew's own interest was genealogical and he put immense effort into the writing of the history of his own family. He was quickly persuaded to become involved in leading the Society of Genealogists and with the work of the Institute in promoting the holding of the 13th International Congress in England, which eventually was held in 1976. Sir Andrew steered the organisation committee through a troublesome period of non-co-operation from those who should have been supporting and his diplomatic skills were rightly recognised as a contribution to family history studies as much as his personal interest in the subject.

Lieutenant Colonel lain Spencer Swinnerton, T.D., was a long-serving soldier with a very keen interest in genealogy and heraldry, particularly of his own family. He had long been associated with the Birmingham and Midland Society for Genealogy and Heraldry. After the Federation of Family History Societies had been founded at the 1974 Congress hosted by the Institute in Canterbury, he was invited to take the chair. His skill and enthusiasm took the federation to great heights over a very short period of time and gave enormous support to the International Congress movement, as well as to many family history societies which grew up around it. Colonel Swinnerton succeeded the Reverend Godfrey Beaumont as a Trustee of the Institute and continued until his retirement.

Monsieur Leon Mquier (died 1997) served assiduously and pleasantly as president of the Academie Internationale d'H&raldique in

succession to the late Paul Adam Even. Leon Jequier had previously been president of the Swiss Heraldic Society where he had encountered the late Donald Lindsey Galbreath. A prolific transcriber of armorials and writer on armorial matters, as well as a frequent attender at international congresses, Leon Jdquier produced a new edition of Galbreath's *Manuel du Blason* on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the foundation of the Academy. A work of immense scholarship but incomparably readable, Leon Jequier's contribution was in many ways beyond compare.

Major Francis Jones, CVO, First Wales Herald Extraordinary, (died 1993) made unique contributions to the study of Welsh heraldry and genealogy publications and the investiture of the Prince of Wales.

Peter C. Bartrum, though of no Welsh ancestry, taught himself the language and produced many scholarly works and the definitive pedigrees of Welsh families. Wales has seen no greater genealogist, one who could even put the works of Sir Samuel Rushmeyrick and Lewys Dwnn into scholarly perspective.

Sir Colin Cole, KCB, KCVO, sometime Garter Principal King of Arms, was one of the founding lights in The Heraldry Society, Portcullis Pursuivant Extraordinary at the Coronation and an advocate in the Court of Chivalry proceedings of 1954. A scholar in heraldic and genealogical matters, though with much too little published, Colin's encouragement of the study of family history by his committee work in many societies and endeavours merited his award. He was a founding Fellow and Trustee of the Institute until his retirement in 1995.

Sir lain Moncrieffe of that Ilk, CVO, QC, (died 1985) was a genealogist and heraldist of immense reputation who had done much with *Simple Heraldry* and other publications to popularise the subjects, both north of the border and universally. A great friend of armorials and genealogists universally, he was greatly acclaimed for his knowledge and scholarship.

Dr Mark Fitch, CBE, (died 1994), a business-man of considerable acumen, had genealogical research as his hobby, but contributed much to it, not only in funding, but also in personally transcribing many original sources and supporting the work of the British Record Society.

G.D. Squibb, MVO, QC, (died 1994) was a prominent lawyer and sometime Norfolk Herald Extraordinary, having also been an advocate in the Court of Chivalry case of 1954. He transcribed and edited Heralds' Visitation records to the end of his life, as well as contributing much to the New Papworth, and to the study of the Heralds and The College of Arms.

Jiri Louda is an heraldic researcher and artist of great merit. To the English speaking world his production of the illustrations for *Lines of Succession* with Michael Maclagan is unparalleled but his work has extended to civil heraldry in Czechoslovakia and to the stall plates of the Knights of the Garter. As an heraldic artist, he has few equals.

The Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal, KG, GCVO, CB, CBE, MC, FSA, has not only encouraged and supported the heralds and preservation of ceremonials throughout his long term of office, but has patronised the world of genealogy and heraldry generally. As patron of the Institute in succession to the late Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Michael Ramsay, and as president of The Heraldry Society and a vice-president of The Society of Genealogists, he has been active in our fields of study. He gave tremendous support as co-patron of the 1976 International Congress, held in London, and his support for family history studies and the Institute are most gratefully acknowledged.

Cecil R.J. Humphery-Smith pioneered the family history movement, founded the Institute, began the British Vital Records Index in 1959, has edited the Institute's journal, FAMILY HISTORY, since 1962, and lectures and writes prolifically on the related subjects. He has been voluntary principal since the outset, making many contributions to the progress of the Institute. The President and his fellow Trustees insisted on the award.

Dr Bruno B. Heim, Archbishop of Xanthus, a long-standing member of the Council of the Academie Internationale d'Heraldique and of the Swiss Heraldic Society, has written and illustrated works of scholarship in heraldry, both its lore and law. His *Heraldry in the Catholic Church*, his *A morial Liber A micorum* and *Or and A rgent* are works of considerable scholarship. He is a vice-president of the Institute and patron of the Cambridge University Heraldic and Genealogical Society in succession to the late Lord Mountbatten.

Monsieur Roger Harmignies has served as secretary general of the International Congress Permanent Bureau and of the Confederation Internationale d'Heraldique and of the Academie Internationale d'Heraldique, as well as of Belgian societies. He is a scholarly writer on heraldic and genealogical studies, organising the International Congresses in Brussels and Liege, as well as encouraging international communications with Britain and North America.

Dr Arlene Eakle is a pioneering teacher of family history studies in the United States of America who has done much to raise professional standards in genealogy world wide.

The Hon. Sir George Bellew, KCB, KCVO, former Garter King of Arms (died 1993) was an enthusiastic designer of armorial bearings and a writer on our subjects who installed amusement and good humour with exceptional scholarship.

Michael Maclagan Esq., CVO, former Richmond Herald, is one of the foremost scholars in genealogy and heraldry who has done much, with modesty, to promote academic and popular interest in them.

Terrick Fitzhugh (died 1996) was a leading lecturer and author on genealogy who promoted popular amateur interest.

Szabolcs de Vajay, sometime President of La Confederation de Genealogie et d'Heraldique has produced more works of scholarship on these subjects in several languages through more than 50 years. He has enhanced the recognition of the Confederation as the leading body in the academic field with UNESCO links.

Peter Wilson Coldham has built up a prominent reputation as a skilled researcher and author of several important books on the subject of migration from England to the New World.

Dr Michael P. Siddons, Wales Herald Extraordinary, gave up a, longstanding career in medicine to devote his efforts to studies in Welsh heraldry and genealogy producing several publications which are already classics.

Jeremy S.W. Gibson has led the course of transcribing sources for family historians and is a prolific producer of a formidable range of thoroughly researched and comprehensive compilations to aid family and local historians.

Dr Jean-Claude Loutsch, President of l'Academie Internationale d'Heraldique in succession to the late Leon Jequier, is an heraldic scholar of eminence who has enhanced medieval studies in the subject and to encourage younger enthusiasts.

The Genealogical Society of Utah is a department of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. It has made remarkable contributions to our studies, converting our own British Vital Records Index into something nearer a reality and co-operating actively and generously with the family history movement world wide.

Brian Frith Esq., MBE, is one of the longest serving professional genealogists who has transcribed and published many works of great value to local historians, especially in Gloucestershire. His work has been an example to all.

Major General The Viscount Monckton of Brenchley, CB, OBE, MC, FSA, has been a keen genealogist, heraldist, archaeologist and local historian since childhood. He supported the foundation of the Institute from the start, becoming president in succession to the late Marchese Bernardo Patrizi and one of the first Trustees. His loyalty, attachment and record of commitment and attendance have been exemplary. The Trustees unanimously awarded an extra medal on the occasion of the 40th anniversary.

Gerald Joseph Brault is a university professor and philologist who has devoted many years to the study of the Arthurian romances among medieval French literature. This interest brought him into contact with heraldry. His remarkable and authoritative publications on the language of armory and on the Rolls of Arms of the reign of Edward I will remain classic texts.

Clifford Reginald Webb has spent a life-time transcribing and indexing registers and records for genealogical and local history research. He has been General Editor of the National Index of Parish Registers since 1985 and serves as an editor with the British Record Society. His particular contribution to our studies has been in the interests of those researching among London records with his lists, indexes and research guides.

John Archibald Goodall was, for many years, personal research assistant to Sir Anthony Wagner, the late Garter King of Arms. He specialised in medieval heraldry and was elected a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries in 1969. In 1995 he received the Society of Antiquaries Gold Medal for his academic contributions to the work of the Society.

GENUKI is the major internet resource for genealogical information relating to the United Kingdom and Ireland. From its beginnings in 1994, it now comprises over 30,000 pages of freely available information, together with a growing number of indexes and transcriptions of historical records. As a charitable association with a network of county representatives, the organisation encourages the spirit of the family history movement. With genealogy being a significant interest topic of the internet, the resources made available by GENUKI are sure to become more and more in demand as time progresses.