AUTUMN 2020

THE HERON-ALLEN SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER NO. 37

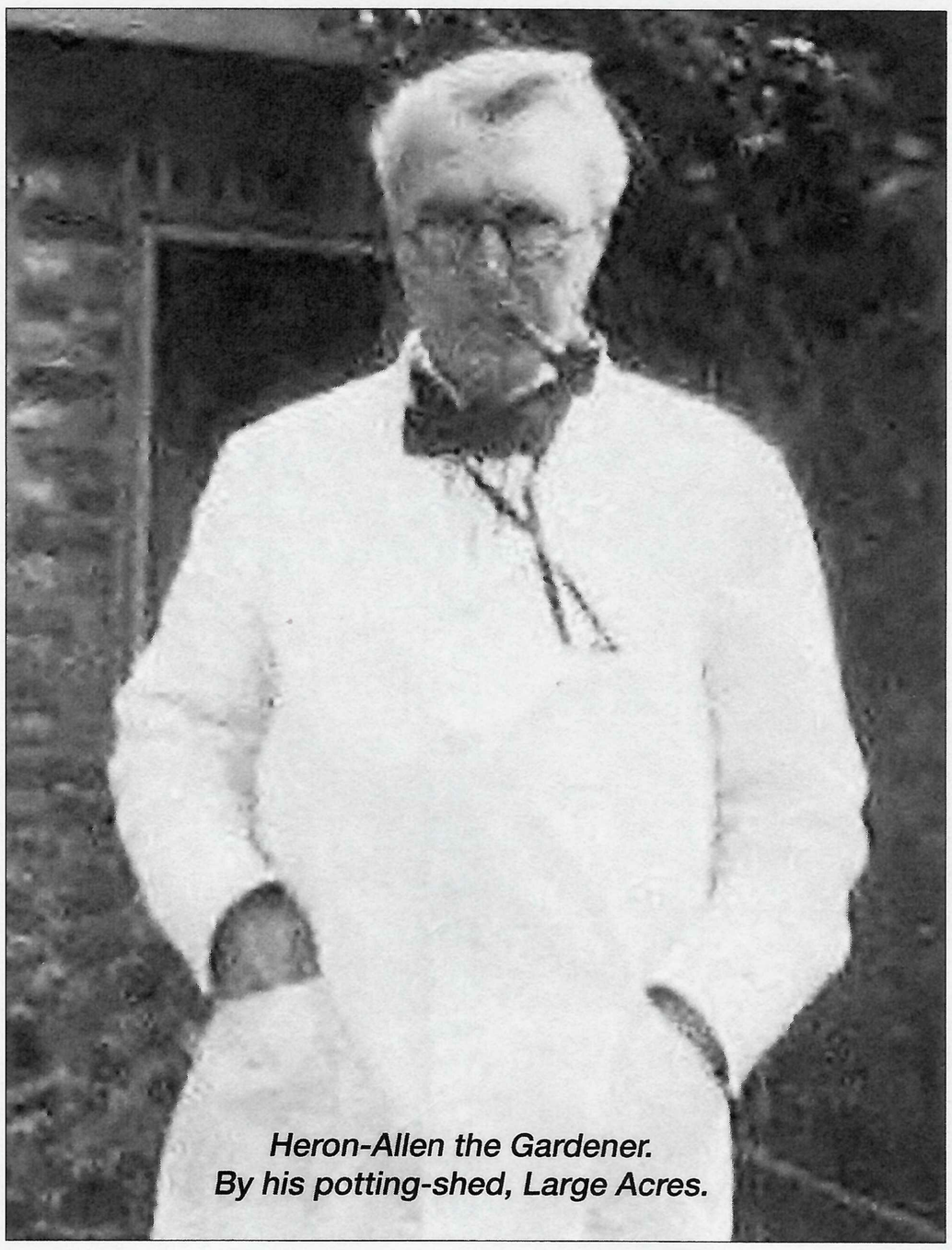
EDITORIAL

Our autumn Newsletter traditionally carries a report on our annual symposium. This year the symposium was organised to take place at the Museum of London on Saturday 4th July. The programme was arranged and the speakers chosen, Unfortunately due to the impact of Covid-19 it had to be cancelled. This cancellation not only affected our symposium but also our publication programme. It was therefore decided to make this issue of the Newsletter a celebration of the first twenty years of the Heron-Allen Society, and to record what we have achieved during this time.

THE HERON-ALLEN SOCIETY - THE FIRST TWENTY YEARS

The Heron-Allen Society was formed at a meeting at the West Sussex Record Office in Chichester on 5th June 2000. Those present at the meeting were Ivor Jones, Heron-Allen's grandson, Ray Russell of Tartarus Press, Professor Brian Harvey and his wife Carol, Peter Wilkinson and Tim McCann. At lunch in *Ask* Itialian Restaurant in East Street, Ray Russell suggested that we form a Society. Ivor Jones was elected Honorary Treasurer, Peter Wilkinson Honorary Secretary and Tim McCann, Archivist and Chairman.

It was quickly agreed that the objectives of the Society should be to study and record all aspects of the life and interests of Edward Heron-Allen, 1861-1943 and to promote his work. It was further agreed that the Society would encourage the publication of biographical material, perhaps first in separate studies relating to his different interests, with the final target of a complete biography. It was further agreed that there would be regular meetings, perhaps once a year, which should include at least one talk on an aspect of his activities to be followed by a meal or social gathering. Normally the talk or talks would be published and distributed to members, and should form part of the biographical project. It was further agreed that a newsletter would be published annually and that archive material relating to Edward Heron-Allen and his family should be collected and preserved in the West Sussex Record Office at Chichester.



Heron-Allen the Gardener.
By his potting-shed, Large Acres.

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Archive material would, if possible be deposited in the West Sussex Record Office at Chichester, where it will be added to and catalogued with the existing Heron-Allen collections. Owners of material may choose to deposit material on indefinite loan, thus retaining their ownership and their right to withdraw material. There will be no restriction on access unless specified by the owner.
It was felt desirable for the Society to have a website. Initially Ray Russell put information about Edward Heron-Allen, including a biography, a bibliography and information about the Society on his own Tartarus Press website (http://freepages.pavilion.net/users/tartarus/blayre4.htm). Then Andy Henderson took over the site on behalf of the Society and looked after it successfully for a number of years. It is now in the capable hands of Maira Canzonieri from the Royal College of Music, who has completely reorganised the site and keeps it very much up to date. Her work can be seen at www.heronallensociety.co.uk

THE NEWSLETTER

Very quickly the membership of the Society grew to over fifty. On our first Christmas the Chairman sent a card to all members of the Society, and this pleasant custom continued for a few years before it was discontinued on the grounds of expense. In the Spring of 2001 our first Newsletter was circulated. This first attempt was a four page A4 production and was sent to all members. It doubled in size the next year and was an annual publication until 2004 when it was published in the Spring and the Autumn. This has continued until the present time with the Newsletter, soon expanded to 12 or even 16 pages, combining academic articles with reports of Society news and events. The Society has now produced thirty-six issues, with the Spring issue usually containing the details of the annual symposium and reports of the annual Heron-Allen Lecture at Lady Margaret Hall in Oxford and the Society's annual foreign meeting, while the Autumn issue carries a report of the annual symposium. Over the first twenty years we have published three hundred and forty eight pages of text and included one hundred and fifty nine articles and thirteen obituaries by forty eight different authors. The Newsletters have been edited by Tim McCann, with, in recent years, increasing help from John Whittaker. The early issues were produced by the Print Unit at County Hall in Chichester. Caroline Adams was responsible for the design work from no. 5 to no. 23, when Selsey Press took on the production and printing. Gregory Whittaker took on the design of the Newsletters from no. 27 and, in recent issues, he has been helped by his brother Robin. Jon Bull has been our man at Selsey Press.

SYMPOSIA

Our first symposium was held in the Conference Room at the West Sussex Record Office in Chichester. More than fifty people attended a morning of talks, having explored a large exhibition devoted to the life and times of Edward Heron-Allen. Ivor Jones reminisced about his grandfather, Liza Wood told us about her grandfather's collection of scarabs and Tim McCann spoke of the origins of the Society. One of the features of that first convivial meeting was the treasures that people brought with them. John Whittaker arrived with the Purple Sapphire loaned to the meeting by the Natural History Museum, Lisa Wood brought Heron-Allen's collection of scarabs, Pat Burley and her husband brought portraits of Itha and Armorel, Heron-Allen's daughters. Brian and Carol Harvey showed

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The Heron-Allen Newsletter was edited by Timothy J. McCann and John Whittaker and designed by Gregory Whittaker.

us a number of Heron-Allen's publications from their collection and Ray Russell intended to bring freshly printed copies of Heron-Allen's *Princess Daphne* but sent a message to say there had been problems at the printers. We lunched in an Italian restaurant in South Street and returned to the Record Office for our first AGM.
We returned to Chichester and to the Record Office for our second symposium, this time celebrating the publication of Heron-Allen's First World War Diaries, when the editors – Brian and Carol Harvey - presented papers on various aspects of their researches. Once again, we dined well and had our second AGM, before Joan Navarre rounded off proceedings with a talk on Heron-Allen in America.

For our third symposium we ventured up to London, where, thanks to Brian Burrough, we were able to meet in the Allen Rooms on Dean Street in Soho. Three generations of the Allen family had been Parish Clerks at St. Anne's Soho, a fact commemorated in three stained-glass windows that decorated the room. Bryan Burrough introduced proceedings by talking about the Allen family and the Allen Rooms and then Ivor Jones presented him with a portrait of George Allen to hang in the room. Ivor then delivered Peter Allpress's paper on Heron-Allen's bookplates as Peter was unable to travel from Andorra. Next, Claire Powell described to us the Heron-Allen collection of Omar Khayyam at the London Library. Members then crossed the road for lunch upstairs at the *Golden Lion*, while we had time to explore the new St Anne's and the graveyard. This was followed by the AGM and a talk on Heron-Allen's first appearance in print by Tim McCann.

Thanks to John Whittaker, our fourth symposium took place at the Natural History Museum in London. As befitting the venue the theme of the day was Heron-Allen: scientist and after a short introductory talk by John Whittaker on the Westminster Fire Chairs that furnished Heron-Allen's room at the Museum, Richard Hodgkinson began proceedings with a paper on foraminifera illustrated by original lantern slides by Edward Heron-Allen. He was followed by Michael Kaminski on Heron-Allen's topical theory of purpose and intelligence in the foraminifera. Clive Jones then introduced us to some treasures of the Heron-Allen Library at the Museum before leading us on a tour of the library. We lunched at *Pierino's* where we hold our quarterly committee meetings and returned to the Minerology Seminar Room for our AGM and a paper on the Clare Island Survey of 1911 by John Whittaker and Andy Henderson.

Our fifth symposium found us back at the Allen Room, Soho, for a programme with the theme of Heron-Allen and Friends. We began with Tim McCann's account of Raymond Tinne Berthon and the discovery of treasure trove in Selsey, followed by Richard Hodgkinson on Fortescue William Millett, the last of the great foraminiferologists. Finally. Dr. Joann Fletcher, in a real tour de force, spoke to us of Heron-Allen and Bram Stoker's mummies before we broke up for another enjoyable lunch at the *Golden Lion*. We then went back to the Allen Rooms for the AGM and Ivor Jones's display of Heron-Allen juvenilia.

After hard work by Pam Thompson and Peter Horton we were invited to hold our sixth symposium in the Donaldson Room at the Royal College of Music in South Kensington. After a brief introductory talk by Pam Thompson on the history of the Royal College, and in front of an audience of some forty people, a memorable day was launched by a talk from Brian Harvey on Heron-Allen as a violin historian and maker. He mentioned the two violins that Heron-Allen made and we were lucky enough to have one of them with us by courtesy of Pat Naismith. Then two students from the Royal College, Katie Littlemore, playing Heron-Allen's violin and Ashley Fripp on piano played us part of the César Franck violin sonata. Katie then kindly answered our enthusiastic questions about the sound and feel of the violin before Pam Thompson gave a splendid introduction to the Heron-Allen Collection at the College. She was followed by Peter Horton who told us about Heron-Allen's relationship with Henry Holmes, one of the more colourful members of the college staff. Joan Navarre, in a surprise extra talk, spoke of Heron-Allen's connection with George Chanot and his violin emporium before we broke for a sandwich and wine lunch and an opportunity to look at some of the treasures on display in the room, on what proved to be the hottest day of the year. We reassembled for the AGM and Garry Garrard's paper on Heron-Allen and the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam with further musical interludes including a hearing of Liza Lehmann's "In a Persian Garden", with finally Peter Horton bravely singing Heron-Allen's "The Ballade of my Lady's Glance".

For our seventh symposium in 2007 we journeyed to Oxford and to Lady Margaret Hall, where Heron-Allen's younger daughter Armorel enjoyed her stellar academic career. Ivor Jones began proceedings with a very personal account of Armorel's early life. This was followed by Joan Navarre's account of Armorel's close friendship with Lady Longford. Unfortunately Alathea Pitt, wife of Heron-Allen's solicitor Hewitt Pitt, who was due to talk about the scholarships that Heron-Allen set up on the college in Armorel's name after her tragic death in 1930, had mistaken the time and did not appear. We then enjoyed a magnificent lunch in the college and were able to walk around the college grounds, and admire the portrait of Armorel, before reassembling to hear Tim McCann read Brian Hulan's account of Armorel's copy of Omar Khayyam. Tim then rounded off the afternoon with a paper on the friendship between Heron-Allen and John Johnson and their collection of printed ephemera that Heron-Allen brought up to Oxford on his visits to Armorel.

We were back at the Natural History Museum in London, this time in the Dorothea Bate Room, for our eighth symposium, and a very varied programme. First up was Lucy Wood from the Victoria and Albert Museum who unravelled the history of the Westminster Fire Chairs. She was followed by Pam Thompson who described her work on the Heron-Allen Miscellanea collection at the Royal College of Music and revealed some of the treasures it includes. Then Joann Fletcher richly entertained us again with her description of the Heron-Allen collection of Egyptian scarabs; Lisa Wood had kindly brought the collection for us all to see. Then we repaired to the Heron-Allen Library for the unveiling of the door from Large Acres that had been donated and fitted as the entrance to the room. Lunch was taken at *Pierino's*, before we returned to the Museum for the AGM and a revealing talk by Peter Scott on Heron-Allen's work for M.I.7 during the First World War.

Our ninth symposium was booked at the Allen Room in Soho, but we had to move after an unfortunate clash of dates and were fortunate to be offered the Dorothea Bate Room again at the Natural History Museum. John Whittaker introduced the day with a literary theme. Tim McCann opened with a talk on the Ballad of Lord Bateman and Heron-Allen's attempt to discover the history and authorship of the ballad. Joan Navarre followed with a paper on Chicago and Palmistry, and Garry Garrard gave us the fruits of his research into Heron-Allen and the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam and touched on the recent controversy involving Robert Graves and EH-A's translation of the poem. In the unavoidable absence of the Mahoneys, Peter Wilkinson assisted by Ivor Jones read their paper on the bitter dispute between Heron-Allen and Richard Le Gallienne which led the former to leave the Sette of Odd Volumes for thirty years. After a visit to the Heron-Allen Library, the party walked over to *Pierino's* for another superb lunch before returning to the Museum for the AGM.

We were back at the County Record Office in Chichester for our tenth symposium, this time on the theme of archaeology and local history. Our familiar programme of four talks and the AGM was now firmly established. John Whittaker, our chairman for the day, introduced David Bone who spoke to us of Heron-Allen and the geology of Sussex. Martin Bates then broadened the theme in discussing the past climate and sea-level changes of the Selsey area and Heron-Allen's archaeological researches. Tim McCann then spoke about The Mound at Church Norton and Heron-Allen's research and digs there in association with L.F. Salzman and Claude Bishop of Norton Priory. Members then adjourned to *No.12* where they enjoyed an excellent repast and returned to the Record Office for the AGM and the second instalment of the Mahoney's researches into the troubles at the Sette of Odd Volumes.

Some thirty of us gathered to return to the Royal College of Music for our eleventh symposium. Pam Thompson introduced proceedings and Tim McCann gave the first talk on Heron-Allen's visit to Downside in 1886 when he lived the community life for a few days and worked in the monastic library. He even played the violin in the evenings. Making good use of the college collection, Peter Horton discussed Heron-Allen as a music critic and how. though the regular critics disappointed him, his own writings appeared rather strong for some tastes. Bill Coleby, Heron-Allen's grandson, on a visit from Australia, then gave a poignant autobiographical talk on his similarities with his grandfather. John and Barbara Mahoney had brought with them Heron-Allen's second violin – "the Guarnerius" - which they had had professionally restored by Andrew Dipper. We were then privileged to listed to Benjamin Norris on Heron-Allen's violin and Craig Greene on piano play music by Shostakovich and Mozart. Pat Naismith had kindly brought the first violin, and so Heron-Allen's two violins were reunited for the first time for sixty years. The two Royal College students then played part of the same programme on "the Stradivarius". Following this treat John Mahoney took us through a detailed discussion of the repair of the second violin. After our usual AGM we retired to *Pierino's* for a leisurely lunch.

Our third visit to the Allen Room was slightly marred by a mix-up about keys and a problem with our computer projection system which necessitated the rearrangement of the room. The theme this time was some of the women in Heron-Allen's life, and Tim McCann started us off with an account of Heron-Allen's relationship with Blanche Roosevelt the American singer and writer and later the mistress of Guy de Maupassant. He told the story of the friendship in the 1880s in London interweaved with her friendship with Edmund Downey, the Irish novelist and publisher and Tim's great grandfather - the whole project being sparked off by Tim's chance discovery of a signed portrait of Blanche in the attic of Edmund Downey's house in Waterford. John and Barbara Mahoney's contribution was a look at Heron-Allen's relationship with Selina Dolaro, when he was in America, during which they subjected their book *Mes Amours* to a detailed analysis to discover which of them wrote which section of the book. Their talk started with a real tour de force - a montage of pictures of Selina to the backing tune of 'Hullo Dolly'. Ivor Jones was advertised as our next speaker on the subject of Heron-Allen's wife – his grandmother – but he confessed that he had found it too emotional to present. So, his sister, Lisa Wood, entertained us with impromptu reminiscences about their 'Granny Mint'. Lastly, John Whittaker told us the story of Heron-Allen's relationship with Helène Bargmann, which resulted in the break up of his thirty-year-long scientific relationship with Arthur Earland. John carefully pieced together all we know about Helène (some of it kindly provided by a living relative) to whom Heron-

Allen had left £1000 in his will. This was followed by the AGM, after which we crossed the road for an excellent meal in an upstairs room at *Il Siciliano's*.

Thanks to the work of David Thompson we were able to hold our thirteenth symposium at the Seckler Rooms in the British Museum. The day was launched by John and Barbara Mahoney's paper on Dr. Christopher Blayre and his scientific and literary accomplishments. Simon Parfitt (of the Natural History Museum) then told us of the discovery of the Selsey Mammoth in 1909 and he illustrated his talk not only with photos of Heron-Allen and the bones but even produced some of them for us to see and handle. We then had an innovation, first suggested by Brian Hulan many years ago, of a series of five minute talks. First up was Thomas Huckenhall from the British Museum on Heron-Allen's collection of French bank notes from the First World War. This was followed by Pam Thompson on Heron-Allen's archaeological gifts to the Museum and finally David Thompson gave an account of Heron-Allen's pocket watch and we were able to admire the watch itself. Then followed our AGM before we walked to *Il Cantelleto* in Bury Place, where we were joined by other Society members for a memorable lunch which lasted well into the afternoon, the last diners leaving the lunch table at 7pm.

Sadly the Record Office has lost its Conference Room which has now been altered into rooms for the Registration Service, but we were warmly welcomed to the Novium, the new Chichester Museum for our fourteenth symposium. This time we began proceedings with lunch at *Vintage*, where we dined in 2011 when it was called *No.12*. The Woolstaplers Room, our meeting place, proved to have spectacular views of the Cathedral and the Campanile. The Mahoneys continued their exploration of Selina Dolaro by examining *Princess Daphne* in an attempt to unravel what her contribution had been to Heron-Allen's novel. Tim McCann explored the friendship between Heron-Allen and Walter Sickert and their joint holidays in Venice and Dieppe. David Bone then demolished the myth of the 'Selsey Feet' that Heron-Allen had declared to be Anglo-Saxon statuary, before John Whittaker brought proceedings to a close with an entertaining account of Heron-Allen and the Selsey Tram.

After a great deal of hard work from John Whittaker and Simon Parfitt we were able to hold the fifteenth symposium In the Minerology Seminar Room back at the Natural History Museum. Because of the difficulty of access we decided to begin the day with the AGM. Graham Saxby-Soffe delivered the first paper on two Roman heads dug up in Bosham both of which were associated with Edward Heron-Allen. He proceeded to identify them and to tease out their association with Heron-Allen. David Bone then introduced us to the Mixon Rock quarried off the coast of Selsey and solved the mystery that foxed Heron-Allen about when the quarrying was stopped. He then showed us examples of its use. The Mahoneys entertained us once again with an astonishing archival discovery: nothing less than the diary of one of Heron-Allen's fellow passengers on his trip to Egypt. It described his growing relationship with his second wife and his courtship of the young lady diarist. Tim McCann then described the friendship between Heron-Allen and Sir Arthur Smith Woodward, the keeper of Geology at the Museum. Finally, John Whittaker took us through Heron-Allen's trip to Paris and La Rochelle while researching his biography of Alcide d'Orbigny. We then went up to the Heron-Allen Library to see John Whittaker's display of Heron-Allen's d'Orbigny collection, including original MSS, while Simon Parfitt showed us the Selsey mammoth bones and answered our eager questions. The day ended with the usual splendid meal at *Pierino's*.

Several new aspects of Heron-Allen's career were discussed at our sixteenth symposium at the Novium in Chichester. The Mahoneys filled in our knowledge of Heron-Allen's sojourn in America with the story of the system of immigration and Heron-Allen forlorn attempt to get a job as an interpreter for Slavonic language immigrants. David Thompson then spoke about the heraldry of Heron-Allen's bookplates and pondered whether he was entitled to the arms he used and the change of the family name from Herring to Heron. We had not hitherto touched on Heron-Allen's interest in the paranormal, and so Timothy McCann related the story of his interest in the case of Eleanora Zugun, the Romanian poltergeist. He resurrected her life story and Heron-Allen's attempts to discover her genuineness. Our final talk was by John Whittaker entitled Letters from Lundy, about his chance discovery on eBay of two letters posted in 1930 to Heron-Allen from the Island of Lundy, in the Brtistol Channel. Assiduous detective work proved that the letters had been written by Heron-Allen's 'last lady, Helène Bargmann. After the AGM, we walked round to the *Crab and Apple* for lunch, our third meal in the pub under its third name!

After a long search for a suitable venue in London, we were very grateful to Roger Cline, who invited us to hold our seventeenth symposium in his flat in Tavistock Gardens. David Thompson set the ball rolling in his inimitable style with a second paper on Heron-Allen's genealogy. This time, concentrating on his mother's Herring family and their three generations-long connection with the St John del Ray goldmine in Brazil. The Mahoneys together with Antonella Maraini then explored Heron-Allen's role in the sensational divorce proceedings between Mrs. E.C. Buckley and Sir Coleridge Kennard. Heron-Allen acted for Mrs Buckley – later Yoï Maraini, and their subsequent friendship was life-long. Tim McCann described the friendship between Heron-Allen and the legendary collector and antiquarian Captain A.W.F. Fuller,

and after discussing his career showed how he saved many of Heron-Allen treasures after the latter's death. Finally, our host described his own Heron-Allen collection, how he had acquired the material from Heron-Allen's library and read us some extracts from his collection of guides to Selsey. After a brief AGM we lunched at the *North Sea* Fish Restaurant nearby.

In 2018, for our eighteenth symposium, we came back to the Novium in Chichester. David Bone gave us a splendid start with his paper on Heron-Allen and the ice-age boulders that had made their way to Selsey, and he attempted to date them and speculate on their origins. John and Barbara Mahoney examined Heron-Allen's school days at Harrow and how they were reflected in his novel *Ashes of the Future* and ended with a rousing rendition of the school song. Joan Navarre gave us a life of Gabrielle Enthoven and her long friendship with Heron-Allen and their many shared enthusiasms. Tim McCann introduced us to Heron-Allen's collection of silver spoons that he loaned to the Victoria and Albert Museum for display before finally selling them all to the maverick collector J.H. Fitzhenry. For a change, we had a fifth talk in which David Thompson described in detail the Large Acres chest and explained the meaning and significance of all the Persian inscriptions on it. There was time for a brief AGM before we walked round to the *Crate and Apple* for a welcome lunch.

Because of the Mahoney's planned film, we chose a new venue for our nineteenth symposium – St. Peter's Church Hall in Selsey. To start with, though, David Bone unravelled for us the complicated history of the Heron-Allen fossil collection deposited in the Museum at Chichester. Then we viewed an astonishing film of Large Acres compiled by John and Barbara Mahoney with Peter Kluzak. From surviving architectural drawings and photographs they had reconstructed Heron-Allen's house and garden at *Large Acres* in Selsey. John described the history of the house and the development of the estate and then we had a virtual reality tour. Lisa Wood, who had lived at *Large Acres*, said it was just like walking along the corridors of the house. This amazing achievement was followed by a round of applause followed by Tim McCann's account of Heron-Allens trip to Italy, as commissioner, to collect artifacts and instruments for the international music exhibition to be held in the Albert Hall in 1886. He described how Heron-Allen came face to face with Pope Leo XIII in the Vatican gardens! David Thompson rounded off the programme with a detailed description of the sundial from the garden at *Large Acres.* After the AGM there was time for short performance on the organ that Heron-Allen had presented to St. Peter's Church by Kate Adcock before we walked to the *Seal Hotel* for lunch. Finally, after lunch, we reassembled at Church Norton for a visit to the Heron-Allen family graves.

THE OPUSCULA

This publication programme began soon after the foundation of the Society, Following the launch of the Society's Newsletter, Ivor Jones edited Christopher Blayre's *Notes upon the Literary, Scientific and Artistic activities of Edward Heron-Allen FRS extracted from his Diaries and other Documents*, which was published as Opusculum I by Ray Russell at the Tartarus Press in 2000. This was quickly followed by Ivor's talk on his grandfather delivered at our first symposium and published by Tartarus Press in 2001. Selsey Press took over the series from our third opusculum – Timothy McCann's *Quest for the Heron-Allen Society* - and from that date the opuscula have largely published the proceedings of that year's symposium. However, there have been some notable exceptions. In 2008, to celebrate the exhibition in The Vault at the Natural History Museum, the Society republished *The Purple Sapphire* as Opusculum X. Two years later we published the proceedings of the special seminar at the Royal Irish Academy on Edward *Heron-Allen and the Clare Island Survey* as Opusculum XIV. The same year, the Society was approached by Richard Bossons, who owned Heron-Allen's boating diaries, and we published his edition of the diaries as *The Man in White. Edward Heron-Allen and the Thames as* Opusculum XV. Finally, to celebrate our twenty-fifth opusculum we published John Mahoney and Tim McCann's *Edward Heron-Allen. A Bibliography*.

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF HERON-ALLEN

One of the features of the Society has been our foreign trips which can be referred to as "In the footsteps of Edward Heron-Allen". Our first venture was to Dublin in October 2009 when, in conjunction with the Royal Irish Academy, we organised a symposium on Heron-Allen and the Clare Island Survey of 1909-1912. A large group of members travelled to the Irish capital and stayed a few days together, many of us in the *Riverside Hotel* in Temple Bar. After a buffet lunch provided by our hosts, the Committee of the new Clare Island Survey, we heard papers by Tim Collins on the background to the first Clare Island survey, John Whittaker on a scientific survey with pretty girls (who had tagged along) and Tim McCann on Heron-Allen himself. In 2011, a hundred years later almost to the day, eight intrepid members actually travelled to Clare Island. We stayed at *O'Grady's Guest House* a few hundred yards from Grace O'Malley's castle and just across the road from *McCabe's*, where Heron-Allen and Earland stayed. We explored the island, the archaeological sites, the lighthouse, the abbey and the beaches, met a flapper and invited her to join our party, sampled some foraminifera and enjoyed the abundant hospitality of the islanders. On the first evening Tim Collins gave us a talk on Praeger and the Natural History societies, and on the

second evening Tim McCann spoke on EH-A and the Murray cousins, the flapper family he'd met on the island. A number of the islanders joined us for these talks and we were able to show them Heron-Allen's holiday journal and his annotated article on his contribution to the survey. As Alison McCann described it: 'great hospitality, wonderful food and a real thoughtfulness for what we might like – and a lot of O'Gradys'.

In May 2013 eight enthusiastic members flew to Ajaccio in Corsica which Heron-Allen had visited in 1921, We stayed in a nice hotel by the sea on the south coast of the town, which we soon got to know on foot. On our second day we made the thrilling train journey right across the island to Bastia, where we stayed in a superb hotel built beside a pool, and where we met up with Professor Francis Beretti and his wife Madeleine. Francis Beretti had just published a translation of Heron-Allen's diary of his visit to Corica and he and his wife, with wonderful generosity, treated us to a magnificent dinner down by the harbour. The previous day some of us had explored the north coast of the island in the Thompson's car. On our way back to Ajaccio on the train, we stopped off in Corte for lunch and a trip to the citadel. Back in Ajaccio, we explored the Napoleonic sites, visited the art collection of Cardinal Flech and found the *Grand Hotel* where Heron-Allen stayed, now the Parliament building. On our final full day we went out to the Isles de Sanquinnaire where Heron-Allen collected his foraminifera, and later we collected further samples on the beach at Ajaccio.

September 2004 found the same eight of us in Venice, where Heron-Allen holidayed more than a dozen times. We did the usual tourist things and found one or two of the places where the Heron-Allens stayed. One of the high spots was being caught in a dramatic hail storm and sitting in a restaurant with cold water lapping the bottom of our legs. We then caught a train to Verona where we were housed in sumptuous apartments and followed Heron-Allen's diaries of his visits. We dined the first evening in the Piazza san Zeno and Sylvia ordered a whole sea bass. Unfortunately several of us helped her with the ample portions and on the following days all those who had eaten the bass were laid low with food poisoning. Nonetheless we walked round the whole city, sat outside the arena and watched the world go by, and dined splendidly at the *Osteria al Boscarel* on successive nights, which was voted our favourite restaurant.

For our second Italian holiday we journeyed to Bologna, Modena and Ravenna following Heron-Allen's trip in 1885 when he was searching for musical instruments for the international exhibition at the Albert Hall. Unfortunately, Tim McCann fell ill before we set off and he and Alison were unable to join the party, but still we mustered eight members. Six of the party flew to Bologna where they enjoyed two days of sight-seeing and good hospitality, especially memorable were the frescoes in the Basilica of San Dominico and the Michelangelo sculptures. They then moved on to Ravenna, where they joined up with Ted and Evie Collins for a feast of mosaics and good food. The tour finished in Modena where the party managed to outdo Heron-Allen by finding a display of musical instruments.

For our now regular September jaunt, ten of us flew to La Rochelle, following Heron-Allen's visit in 1914 when he was researching his biography of Alcide d'Orbigny. On the first morning the ten of us walked to the Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle where we were welcomed by the Curator, Guillaume Baron, who showed us d'Orbigny's collection of specimens and foraminifera that Heron-Allen had examined in 1914. He even presented us with a photograph of Dr. Etienne Loppé, Heron-Allen's contact, and a copy of a Heron-Allen letter. After exploring the rest of the delightful museum the group wandered off to find Heron-Allen's hotel – the *Hôtel de France*, which was duly entered and photographed. The following day saw the group visit the Museum des Beaux Arts and the markets before we all dined outside at the *Di Venezia* beside the harbour where we first encountered our charismatic waitress, Adrienne. On Sunday we caught the bus to the Île de Ré, where we lunched in the capital and explored the island. We paid a fascinating visit to the underground bunker of the third U-boat flotilla, now open to the public. Then some of us travelled in the car to Esnandes, a small seaside town and the home of d'Origbny. After exploring the fortified church they took some samples of foraminifera from the muddy beach before returning for a splendid meal at *La Maree*, with the Collins's friends from Galway, who were passing through. The next day we returned to the Île de Ré, where we did more sampling and explored the rest of the delightful island before reassembling on the mainland for a final dinner at *La Maree*.

Florence was the chosen destination for our fourth Italian trip and nine of us accepted the invitation armed with typescript copies of Heron-Allen's diaries of his earlier visits. However, we began our trip in September 2017 in Pisa. The day after we arrived, together with Minoo Lord, we visited the Piazza dei Miracoli where we explored the Leaning Tower, the Cathedral, the Baptistry and the beautiful Monumental Cemetery. During the day we were joined by the rest of the party. The next day we caught an impressive double-decker train to Florence. Tim and Alison were in time for Benediction and Mass at Santissima Annunciata before we all dined at *La Divina Osteria* which became our base. The following days were spent in an orgy of walking and visiting, taking in the Palazzo Vechia, the Fra Angelicas at San Marcos and the Della Robbia babies, before returning to the hotel for a rest and dinner at *Zazas*. The next day it was the Bargello, the Duomo and the Ospedali degli Innocenti and dinner at *Zazas* again. For our last day we took a bus to the

Piazza Michelangelo with its stunning views over the city and lunched outside tantalising near the burial place of Yoï Maraini. On our last morning we visited the Natural History Museum in the Botanical Gardens where Minoo introduced us as three distinguished palaeontologists from England!

For the next visit we returned to Ireland and stayed at the Hotel in Mulranny, formerly the *Midland Great Western*, on the edge of Achill Island where Heron-Allen and Earland stayed in the first weeks of their momentous expedition to Clare Island. On the first day there were spectacular views across the bay to the County Mayo coast and Croagh Patrick and Clare Island, but when the rest of the party joined us the mist closed in. We walked out to the coast where Heron-Allen sampled and we drove right across Achill to the end of the island at Keem, stopping at the places where he collected samples. After a couple of enjoyable days we drove down to Creggan, where we caught the ferry to Inishbofin. Our room in the hotel had a shared verandah and stunning views across the harbour. We discovered that we had coincided with the annual set dancing and trad week-end and soon the island filled up with musicians and dancers. We walked around the island, found the churchyard from where Professor Haddon stole thirteen skulls and there were many McCann gravestones, and dined well. Once off the island our next stop was Galway City, which we explored on foot before having a wonderful meal at the Kasbah. After Mass in the Cathedral next morning and a visit to Charles Byrne's bookshop we lunched in the popular Museum café before going our separate ways home.

Heron-Allen visited Biarritz and Pau twice: the first time in 1882 together with his parents and his sister when he suffered the pangs of first love; and the second time with his wife and two daughters in 1920. We were a reduced company, very much missing Pam and David, ever-present since Corsica, because of Pam's serious illness. Nevertheless, four of us mustered at Biarritz in September 2019. We spent our time discovering the hotels where the Heron-Allens stayed, finding the spot on the cliffs were Heron-Allen sat with the mysterious Maggie Sullivan, sunbathing on the glorious beaches and enjoying the local cuisine. We caught the train to Pau and enjoyed what Armorel Heron-Allen described as the most beautiful view in the world. We toured Henry of Navarre's castle, the house of Bernadotte and the gardens celebrating all the winners of the Tour de France. In the evenings we dined in a delightful family owned restaurant – *Arthur et Cie*. Then it was back to Biarritz for our final two days before we caught our respective flights home.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

The publication of an annual opusculum and a twice yearly Newsletter, the organisation of an annual symposium and the arrangements for an annual "holiday" were by no means the only activities of the Society. In 2002 the Society financed and erected a plaque in honour of Edward Heron-Allen near to his house at *Large Acres* in Selsey. The West Sussex County Council had earlier erected a plaque but had omitted Heron-Allen's 'F.R.S'. The newly worded plaque was unveiled by Ivor Jones and this was followed by a lunch and some talks. In 2009 the Society paid for re-cutting some of the lettering on the Heron-Allen graves at Church Norton and for tidying up the site and since then one of our members has been responsible for taking care of the condition of the graves. We were associated with John and Barbara Mahoney in the reprinting of Edward Heron-Allen's *A Fatal Fiddle* in 2010. In May 2014, following a suggestion from Alan Lord, a number of members travelled to Ipswich for a weekend at Woodbridge celebrating Heron-Allen's connections with Edward Fitzgerald. Ably led by Garry Garrard we visited Fitzgerald's house, explored the sites in the town associated with him and visited the place of his burial before ending the day with a splendid Persian meal cooked by Minoo Lord in Manningtree.. Finally, at the end of 2018 we published *Edward Heron-Allen. A Bibliography*.

Perhaps the most significant and long-lasting of our achievements was the deposition of Ivor Jones's collection of Heron-Allen's papers in the West Sussex Record Office. There, they joined the collection already established in the Record Office and since that time the collection has been added to by donations from John and Barbara Mahoney, Joan Navarre, Tim McCann and others. It is to be hoped that this permanent collection of Heron-Allen material will be the basis of all future studies of the life and career of Edward Heron-Allen.

Timothy J. McCann

Figure 1: Heron-Allen Society Committee Meeting, Sweets Farm, Dorset. l-r: Lisa Wood, Armorel Wood, Juliet Field, John Whittaker, Pam Thompson, Peter Horton and Tim McCann.

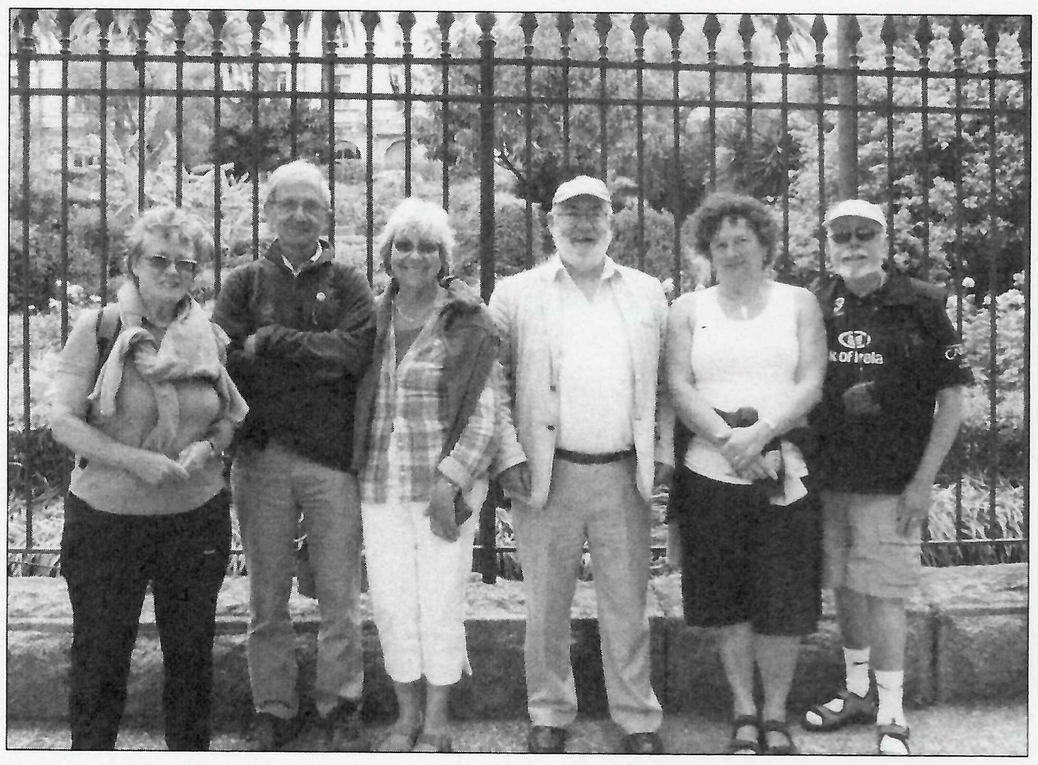

Figure 2: Members of the Society outside Heron-Allen 's hotel, now the Parliament building, Ajaccio, Corsica, 2013. l-r: Alison McCann, Gerald Blunden, Sylvia Blunden, Tim McCann, Evie Collins and Ted Collins.

Figure 3: Members of the Heron-Allen Society at the grave of Edward Fitzgerald, Boulge churchyard, near Ipswich, 2013.

Figure 4: Members of the Society at the Heron-Allen graves, Church Norton, Selsey, 2019.

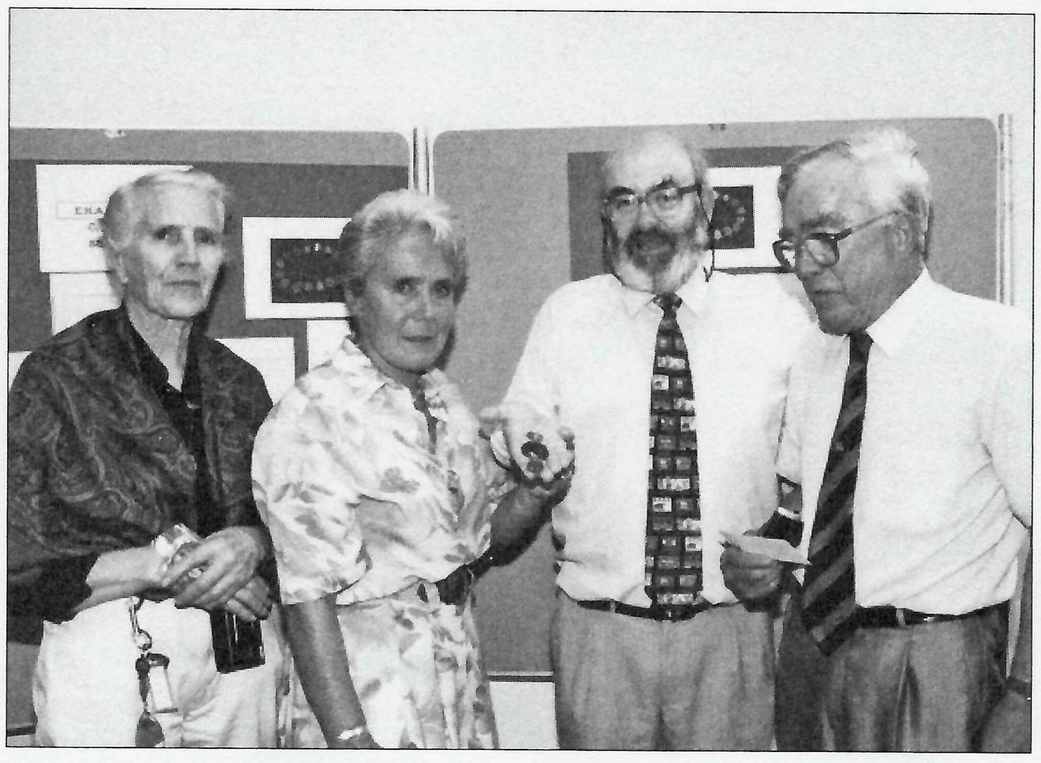

Figure 5: Pat Coleby, Lisa Wood and Ivor Jones admiring Heron-Allen's scarab necklace, the Record Office, Chichester, 2002.

Figure 6: Members of the Heron-Allen Society at the Royal Irish Academy, Dublin, for the Clare Island seminar, 2009.

Figure 7: The Chairman addressing the 19th Heron-Allen Symposium, Selsey, 2019.

PIERINO'S RESTAURANT - HOW TO NOURISH A SOCIETY AND ENSURE IT THRIVES

No, we have not decided to start a cookery column in our Newsletter, although we could construct from the receipts in Heron-Allen's travel journals a fairly substantial Heron-Allen recipe book, not to mention an equally challenging wine list. No, this is simply a short account of a restaurant in London which has played a fundamental role in the Society's development and activities; it might even be in part responsible for its whole continuing existence.

It is not a restaurant which Heron-Allen ever visited, though he might well have been tempted had it existed in his day. Its proximity to the London museum area, especially to the Natural History Museum where he studied and worked, to the Royal Albert Hall where he certainly attended concerts, and to the Royal College of Music to which he bequeathed his exceptional collection of writings on string instruments, would have made it eminently convenient. And his well-documented predilection for Italian food would surely have tempted him.

But *Pierino's* restaurant and even its predecessor, *La Piccola Venezia*, post-dated Heron-Allen by some 26 years. Its predecessor, *La Piccola Venezia*, also in Thurloe Place in South Kensington, was one of several Italian restaurants in London (with others in Knightsbridge, Piccadilly and Notting Hill) founded by Piero Bellini over 50 years ago. He eventually bought the whole building, including that which now houses *Pierino's*. Upon his death on 14 August 1992, *Pierino's* was bought by Michele Grilli, the current owner.

Pierino's and indeed *La Piccola Venezia* were well known to a number of the current EH-A committee, mainly by virtue of being close to our places of work and to South Kensington tube station. Staff from the Natural History Museum were regular customers, and those from the Royal College of Music invariably chose it as a venue for celebrations and leaving parties. As the committee had to find a meeting place and, as some often travelled to London for the day from afar, a substantial lunch was also necessary to sustain them, *Pierino's* was a logical place to meet, especially one so willing to tolerate a table awash with committee papers, delays while some members escaped workplaces, and a tendency to order haphazardly [Figure 8].

But that tolerance of unruly customers and excellent customer service by friendly staff from a variety of countries were far from the best reasons to meet there. The food is always not just reliable and reasonably priced, but outrageously tempting, to such an extent that puddings can only rarely be resisted, even after generous helpings of pizza bread and a sizeable main course. There may occasionally be battles to secure the last dish of liver or the lone slice of lemon meringue pie in the cabinet, but we're a friendly committee, and we can always be subdued by another glass of wine or beer or an excellent coffee. The less said of liquid consumption the better. The Society has met for lunch at *Pierino's* several times after Symposia, so many of you may remember it. This is the point where we must stress that none of this merry-making is at the expense of the Society. We are all very happy to fund our own consumption, to enjoy our get-togethers, and to ensure that planning for the Society's activities is as robust and sensible as it can be for a small

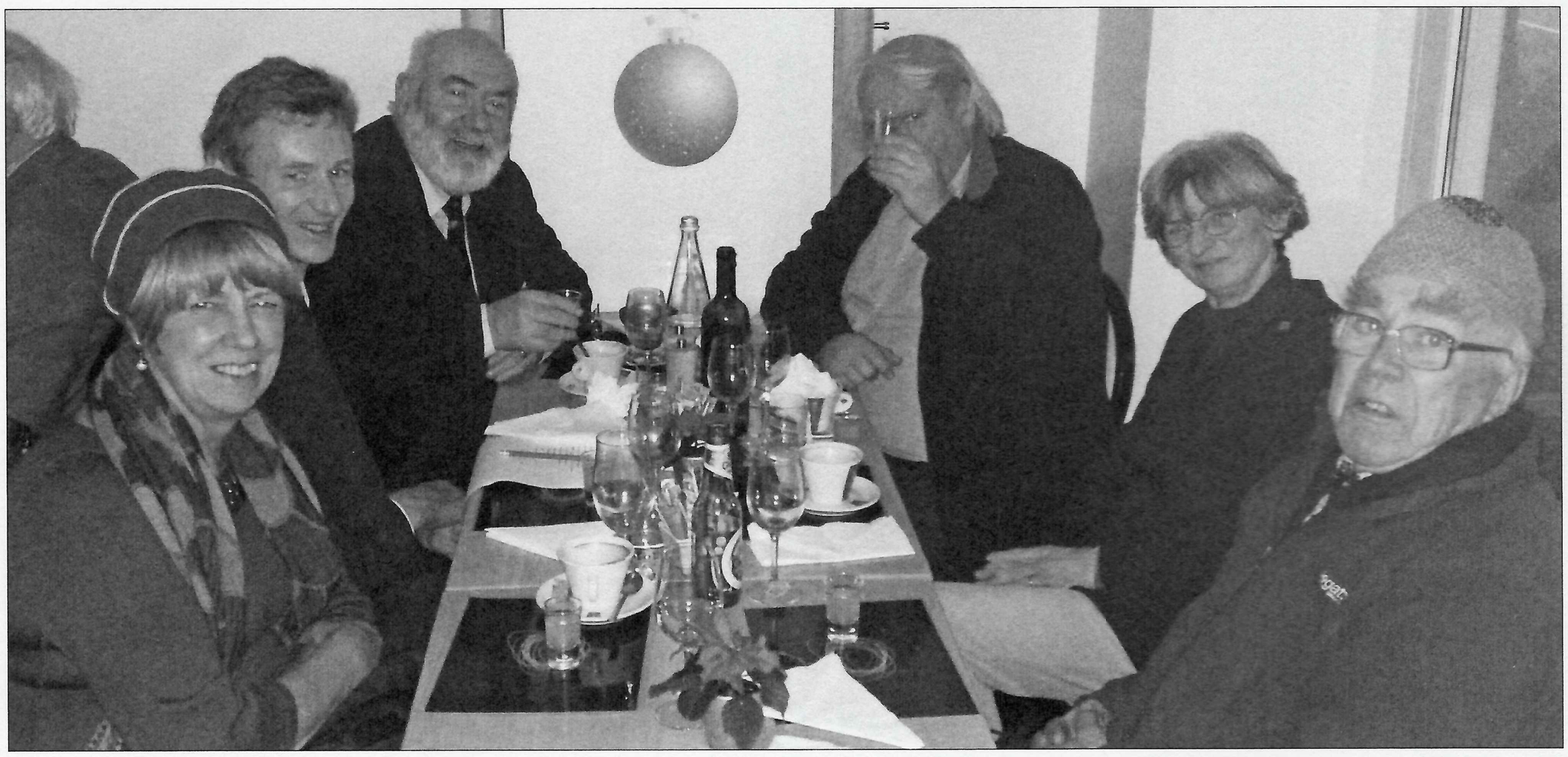

Figure 8: A typical Committee Meeting in Pierino's.

society of limited means. We have occasionally been very pleasantly rewarded for our loyalty. There have been December meetings when Christmas panettone have been pressed upon us as gifts, and our meetings have all too often concluded with a complimentary limoncello. We would all hope that *Pierino's* will continue to thrive, that we can continue to meet there, and most of all that this short contribution can serve as an enormous Grazie molto to Michele Grilli and all his staff.

Pam Thompson

AN INSCRIBED SILVER PLAQUE FROM LARGE ACRES

> Take heed and bring us back once more
> Our Nelson's ship.
> Arthur Conan Doyle, *H.M.S. Foudroyant*

Recently, Richard Pledger, whose family lived at Large Acres in Selsey from December 1958 to 1965, when Heron-Allen's house was demolished, rediscovered an inscribed silver plague when tidying up his late father's workshop. The plaque was originally fixed to the wall above the northern fireplace in the dining room at *Large Acres*. The plaque reads:

> THE WHOLE OF THE / FURNITURE, WOODWORK AND PANELLING / IN THIS ROOM / IS MADE OUT OF THE TIMBERS OF / H.M.S. "*FOUDROYANT*" / SUCCESSIVELY THE FLAGSHIP OF THE ADMIRALS / LORD NELSON, LORD KEITH, SIR THOMAS GRAVES / & SIR J. BORLASE WARREN. / FROM 1798 TO 1812 / AND FROM 1812 TO 1892 GUARD-SHIP AT DEVONPORT. / "*LARGE ACRES*" SELSEY BILL, 1907

The hallmark on the plaque is 'London 1907' but unfortunately the maker's mark is punched at an angle and consequently indistinct. Perhaps surprisingly, however, it is not the triple mark of the Pairpoint Brothers, the London silversmiths who provided the engraved silver plates for the Large Acres chest in 1906, as described in Newsletter no. 36.

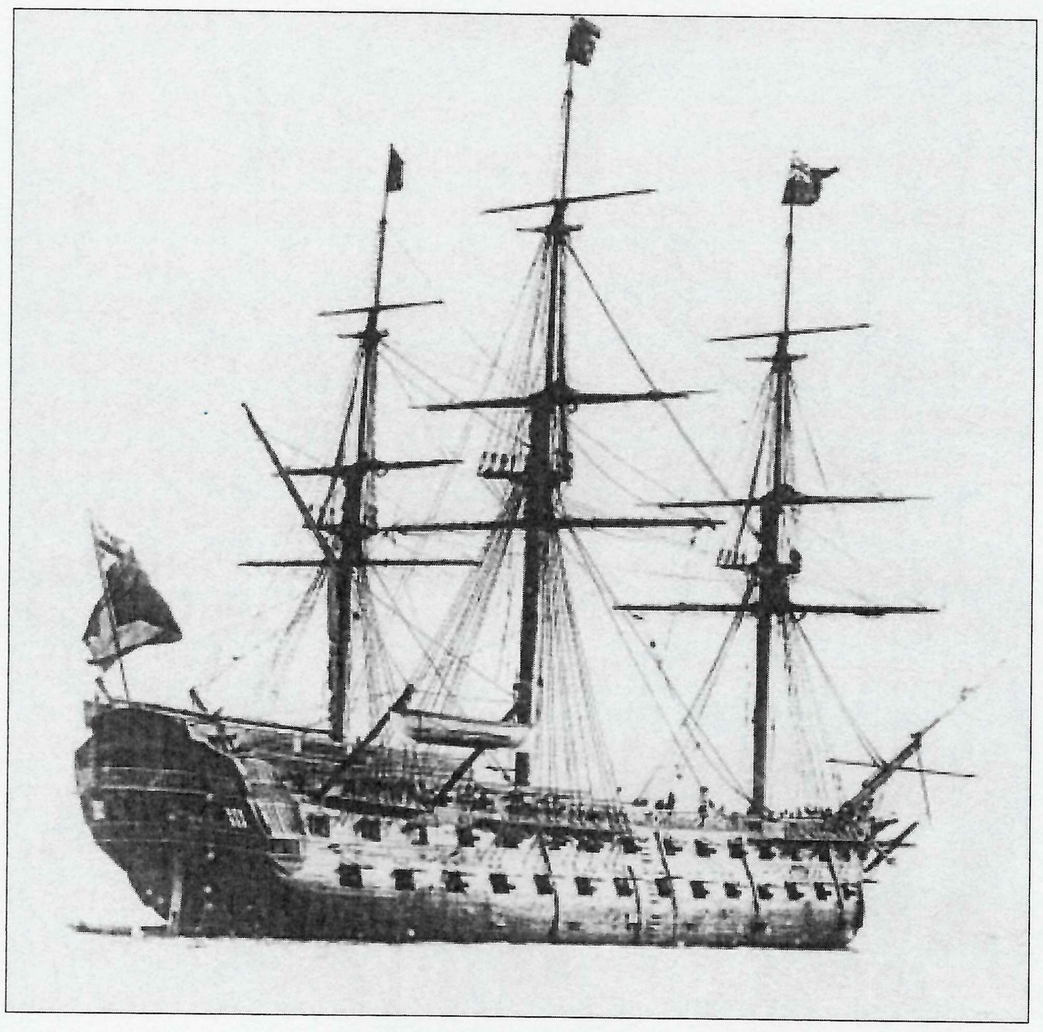

Figure 9: H.M.S. Foudroyant.

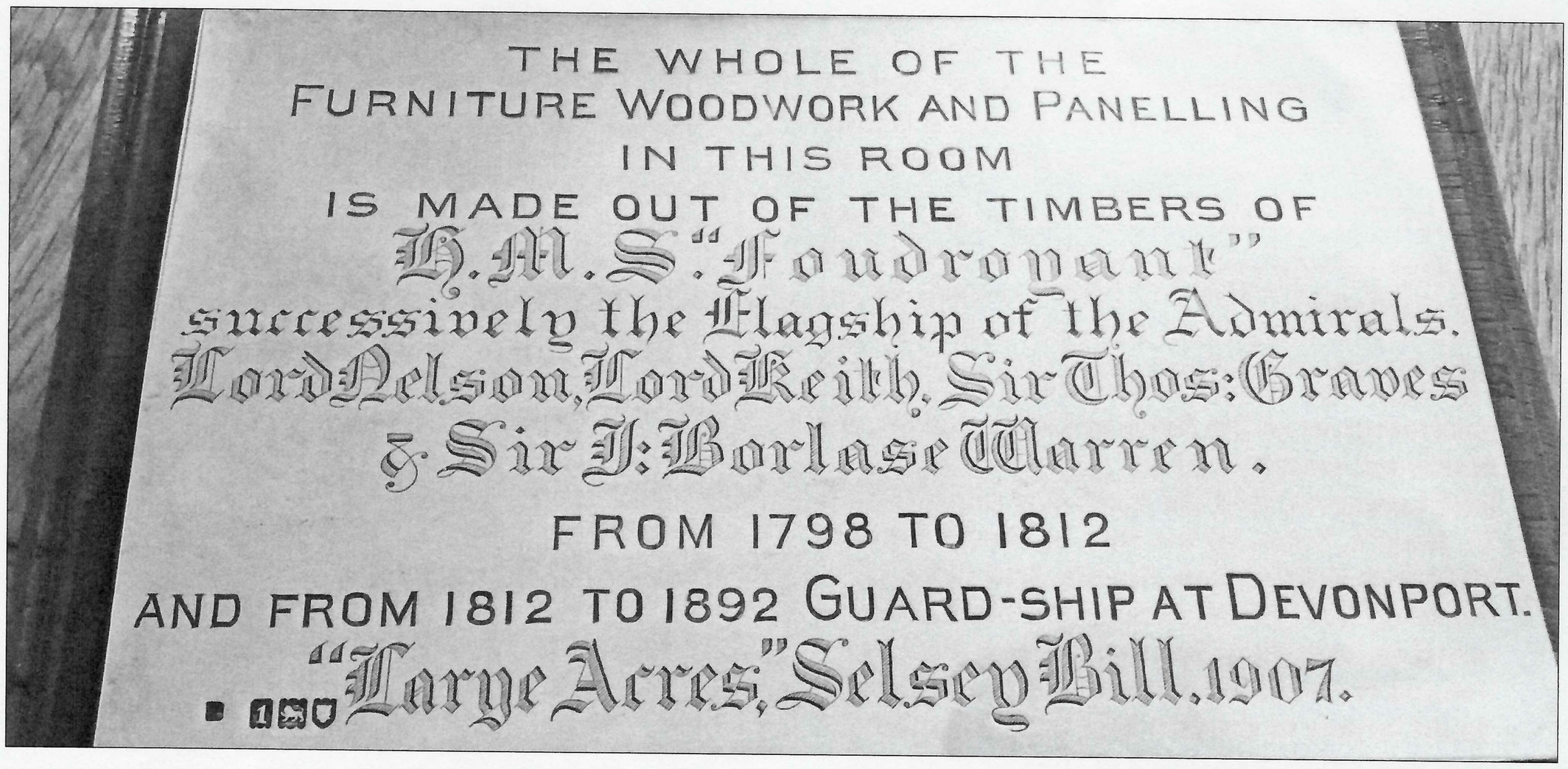

Figure 10: The inscribed silver plaque from Large Acres.

H.M.S. Foudroyant was an 80-gun vessel built at Plymouth and launched in 1798. It served as Nelson's flagship from 6 June 1798 until June 1801. Although she was not involved in any major action in her years on active service, she served all over the world. From 1820 she served as a guardship at Devonport and from 1862 was a training vessel for boys. In 1897 she was towed to Blackpool where she broke up in a storm on 16 June of that year. Much of her timber was rescued and was originally purchased by a Mr. Hayhurst for £250, and some of it was later used as furniture or made into souvenir artefacts by the Manchester firm of Goodall Lamb and Heighway, who purchased the wreck.

It is not known how or when Heron-Allen acquired the timbers. He may have obtained them from Fletcher's Antique Furniture and the Foudroyant Company Limited who purchased some of the timber from the wreck and sold it from the Foudroyant Depot, Talbot Road in Blackpool, but it may possibly have been purchased at the exhibition of timbers from *H.M.S. Foudroyant* mounted by Messrs Waring and Gillow at their show room in Oxford Street in 1905 to mark the centenary of the Battle of Trafalgar. It is probable that the surviving woodwork and panelling went up in flames when Large Acres was demolished in 1965.

Timothy J. McCann and David Thompson

FROM SOHO TO ST. JOHN'S WOOD: EXPLORING EH-A'S 1891 WEDDING CELEBRATION

On 1 July 1891, at St. Anne's Church in Soho, London, Edward Heron-Allen and Marianna Frederika Lehmann were married. Numerous, identical newspaper accounts record this event, giving the story the distinct feel of a press release. Following is one of those articles, this from *The Oxfordshire, Buckinghamshire, and Northamptonshire Telegraph*, Wednesday 8 July 1891:

MARRIAGE OF THE ODD VOLUMES' NECROMANCER.

> **The marriage of Mr. Edward Heron-Allen, the Necromancer of the Sette of Odd Volumes, and Marianna, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph [sic] Lehmann, was the other day performed at St. Anne's, Soho, by the Rev. N. Wade, rector. The three sisters, Liza, Amelia, and Alma, of the bride were bridesmaids, and Mr. T. Wiss acted as best man. The marriage of an Odd Volume is necessarily a rare event, owing no doubt largely to the fact that Odd Volumeship is a distinction that rarely comes to men until they are well advanced in life; and as marriage is in all probability more easily attained than membership of the Sette most of the brethren before joining have availed themselves of a fascination that is more associated with youth, though in the case of Mr. Allen it is highly probable that if he lives to be a centenarian he will be youthful in appearance. In that respect he is a veritable St. Michael, who was said to have had eternal youth. Mr. and Mrs. Lehmann received their friends in their charming London house. Among those present were Sir Richard and Lady Pollock, Sir Arthur and Lady Blomfield, Sir Guy and Lady Campbell, Lady Goldsmid, Mr. Burgess, R.A. and Mrs. Burgess, Mr. Tadema, R.A. and Mrs. Tadema, Mr. Pettie, R.A. and Mrs. Pettie, Mr. Armitage, R.A., Mr. Onslow Ford, A.R.A., the Hon. snd Mrs. Stephen Coleridge, Mrs. Kendal, Mr. and Mrs. Bancroft, Miss Fortescue, Madame Nordica, Madame Van de Velde, Mr. Von Zur Mühlen, Mr. and Mrs. George du Maurier, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Lewis, Mr. and Mrs. George Lewis, Miss Fanny Davies, Mr. Fred Villiers, Mr. Guthrie, Mr. Barry Pain, Signor Piatti, Mrs. Hamish M'Cunn, Mr. George Moore, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Wilde, Mr. and Miss Humphrey Ward, the Rev. and Mrs. Haweis, Mr. and Mrs. F. Macmillan, Mr. J.R. Brown, Mr. Clulow, Mr. John Lane, Miss Marion Terry, Mr. and Mrs. C. Santley, Mrs. Frank Holl, Mr. Bret Harte, and Dr. and Mrs. Priestly, all of whom sent presents, as did also Sir John Millais, Mr. and Mrs. G.H. Broughton, Mr. and Mrs. Sant, Mr. and Mrs. W.B. Richmond, Mr. Wilfred Ball, and Mr. E.T. Reed. Over 200 presents were on view. At five o'clock the charming bride and bridegroom left London to spend their honeymoon on the "Stream of Pleasure" - the Thames.**

That the article was written by someone with a clear understanding of EH-A's association with the exclusive Sette of Odd Volumes is obvious. There is also particular emphasis on EH-A's perpetually youthful appearance. Conversely, there is no mention of Marianna's appearance—not even her gown nor the flowers she chose. Also absent is reference to Mr. Rudolf Lehmann's renown as a portrait painter. EH-A's family had strong connections with St. Anne's Church, 55 Dean Street, Soho, Church of England [Figure 11]. Throughout many generations, members of the family (including EH-A) served as Vestry Clerk. Members of the EH-A Society will remember well our meetings in the Allen Room in Soho and the beautiful stained-glass windows commemorating the Allen family's service to St. Anne's Parish. The church was destroyed during the Blitz. However, the tower

remains and the church was partially rebuilt, incorporating a community centre and public green space.

While there are no known photographs of the wedding, there are existing photographs of the church. EH-A and Marianna would have been graced by a figure: a white marble monument of Lady Grace Pierpoint, her right hand touching her heart, her head turned, facing east. Those attending the service at St. Anne's would have joined the figure in looking at a large stained-glass window, facing Dean Street, which depicted the life of Christ. During the Blitz this window was hit, flying to nearby Frith Street. As of 2014, one of the stained-glass windows in the Allen Room depicts the bombed remnants of St. Anne's.

An invitation to attend the wedding ceremony was apparently a compelling one. Following an article reviewing a gallery opening at the Royal Institute of Water-Colour Painters, the 3 July 1891 edition of *The (Dundee) Evening Telegraph noted that "(s)everal artists were missing from the private view owing to their attendance at the wedding of Miss Marianne Lehmann, a daughter of the artist and a sister of Miss Liza Lehmann, the singer, to Mr. Heron Allen."*

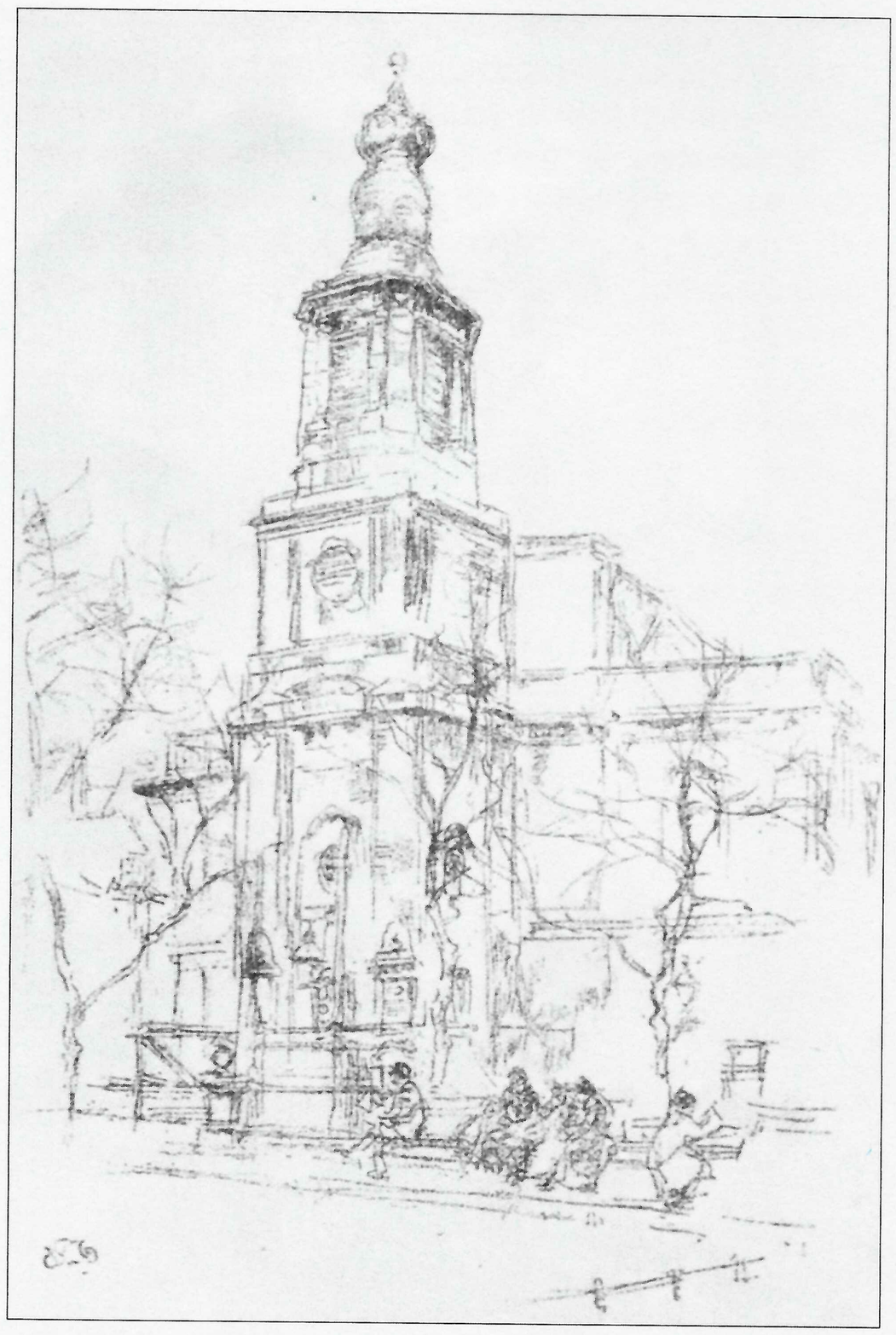

Figure 11: Sketch by Whistler of St, Anne's, Soho.

The wedding reception took place in St. John's Wood, a mecca for artists long before the Beatles strode purposefully across Abbey Road. A quick review of the attendees reads like a veritable Who's Who of the artistic community of the day. Nearly 130 years later, many names on the guest list are still familiar to our ears. Attendees included notable writers (Stephen Coleridge, Madame M.S. Van de Velde, Oscar Wilde, and Bret Harte), actors (Marion Terry, May Fortescue, and *[later Dame]* Madge Kendal) musicians (Fanny Davies, Carlo Alfredo Piatti, Baron Raimund von zur-Mühlen, Madame Lillian Nordica, Academicians (Edward Armitage, [later Sir] Lawrence Alma-Tadema, John Pettie, and [later R.A.] Edward Onslow Ford).

Interestingly, it seems Oscar Wilde was able to attend both the Royal Institute of Water-Colour Painters opening (where he was described as "*…dividing his attention between the eccentric productions of his whilom friend, Whistler, and one of the prettiest women in the room, Mrs. Graham Tomson…*") and the Heron-Allen/Lehmann reception, where he and Constance Wilde are listed among the guests. It is not clear if Oscar exited the Royal Institute of Water-Colour Painters (then located in Piccadilly) and traveled less than a mile to St. Anne's to attend the wedding ceremony itself.

As the wedding party moved from Soho to St. John's Wood, the newlyweds, surrounded by society luminaries, faced an exciting and bright future. In EH-A's self-penned Obituary Notice, the polymath noted that upon marrying Marianna Lehmann, he "*… found himself at once, a member of the most literary and artistic and musical society in London.*"

Notes from the Authors: *In researching this article, we were perplexed by the identity of the individual listed as EH-A's best man, "T. Wiss." We are unfamiliar with and unable to locate any information on this man, beyond his name. We would welcome any information that might help to resolve this mystery.*

Figure 11 shows St. Anne's Church, Soho, London. Site of the 1 July 1891 wedding of Edward Heron-Allen and Marianna Lehmann. The sketch is by James Abbot McNeill Whistler (from The Architectural Review volume 1 Nov 1896 – May 1897. This image is in the Public Domain).

Joan Navarre and Chuck Backus

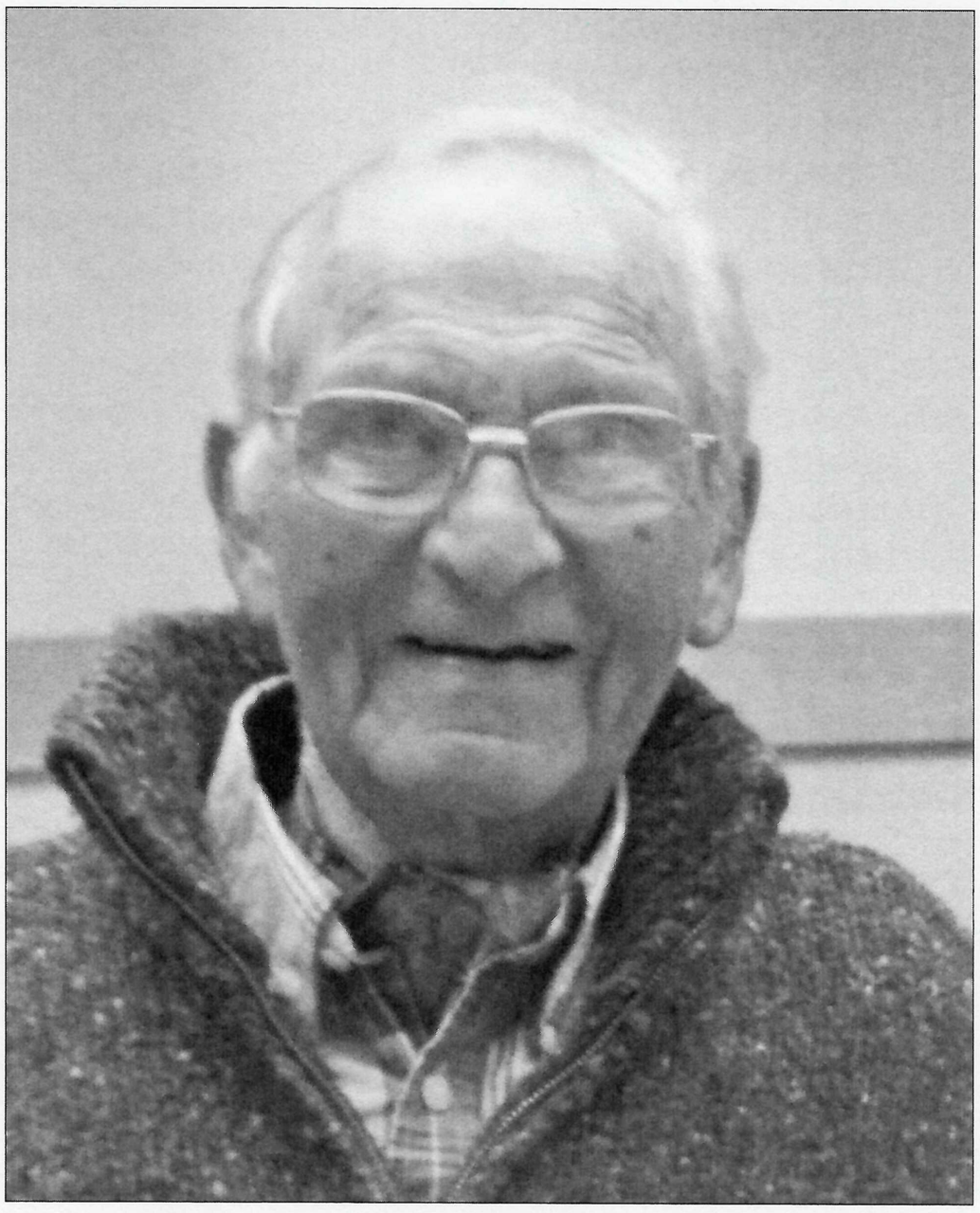

Figure 12: Christopher Wood

IN MEMORIAM – CHRISTOPHER WOOD 1931-2019

Christo Wood, husband of EHA's grand daughter, Liza Wood, sadly died on the Christchurch Macmillan unit Oct 7th 2019 after a period of prolonged debility that he endured with stoicism and resignation. He will be greatly missed by his family and the community he served, who filled the church to capacity to pay their respects, at his memorial service. He was born in Bristol, son of a surgeon, and one of four brothers. He qualified as a doctor in Bristol where he met Liza where she was working as a nurse. They married in 1958. Christo was in the Royal Medical Corp in Plymouth and their son Dominic was born there in 1959. The family moved to Bransgore in 1960 where Christo joined, a then single handed, GP practice. He was much loved and worked tirelessly in that practice until his retirement in 1990. His daughter Armorel, myself, he delivered in 1962. Dominic left school to work in Weybridge. Armorel followed in the footsteps of other great Aunt, Armorel H-A, and qualified from Oxford University with a MA in Physiological Sciences and then on to London to qualify as a doctor in 1986. After retirement Christo supported Liza in her hobby of carriage driving with her pony Mackie and they competed nationally around the country with Dad as 'groom', lorry driver and general maintenance man. He took up croquet later in life, and quietly excelled winning the Men's village Singles two years consecutively before becoming too unwell to play in 2018. He had only two grandchildren in whom he was immensely proud. Nicholas, now 28yrs, an officer in the Royal Navy and now married to Beckie, and Bryher 22yrs who has recently qualified from Bristol University with a degree in law. Christo was committed to working for his community as their family doctor. I was told by so many after his death he was '"ne of life's true 'Gentle' men". He was respected and valued by each and every patient whom he knew personally, always courteous with a wonderful bedside manner. His practice showed their appreciation in 1980 at his retirement when celebrations included a ride in a Lagonda, a helicopter ride, and finally transferring him on a Red Cross stretcher to a party in the village hall. This occasion, I'm sure, remained a highlight of Dads life……. He was committed to his family, a faithful loving husband, father and grandfather. He saw himself as a provider and a fixer of anything broken, material and human. His grandson in a 'Letter to Granpa' read at his memorial service, summarised his Granpa in saying….. 'And it is above all that kindness that I am sure everybody with you here today will remember you for. The type of kindness that most of the time goes unnoticed, the type that works away in the background making sure that all of us were well cared for and as happy as we could be. Although I was not born to witness it I am sure it was that aspect that made you such a fantastic doctor and Father to my Mum. And now for you, I hope you have found some old friends in heaven to do crosswords with and I hope you took your croquet mallet with you so you can play all day long. I hope if you get that chance you might be able to come on some of my journey with me and we can explore the world together.....".

Armorel Wood

EDWARD HERON-ALLEN'S HUNGARIAN DIARY, 1902

[Members of the Society had planned to visit Budapest in September 2020 for their Annual International Symposium. The proposed visit had to be cancelled because of the coronavirus. In place of the usual report of the proceedings we have decided to publish Edward Heron-Allen's account of his short visit to Budapest which he made in October 1902 when returning from Constantinople, where he had been collecting manuscripts].

We reached Buda Pesth at 11.30 where I had a valet de place from the hotel to meet me as I had some idea of leaving the Turkish box until I go home, but I decided to take it to the hotel & re-pack it. Outside the station was a hundred yards of baskets and bundles piled against the wall & on closer inspection the bundles turned out to be women, asleep in every kind of position, waiting for the

markets to open at five a.m. A curious & typical sight. I got to the *Hotel Hungaria*, a magnificent building at midnight & was glad to wash & get to bed as quickly as possible.

10th October 1902

I was up at 7.45. Bar: 29.9, Therm: (inside) 62°. It is evidently much colder here. My room looks straight out over the river Danube to Ofen (Buda) which is shrouded in a damp sort of mist. I wrote the last log before I got down to coffee in the public restaurant at 9.15, where a large crowd were reading the papers, & I found *The Times* of the 7th. I haven't been so close to the news for a month. I went out to post the log & send a telegram for Kings, & as rain threatened I came back at 10.18 for an umbrella & went out in search of a guide book. The Magyar language simply floors me. There is not one word in it that suggests any language I have ever seen printed, but Pesth seems a fine town with broad clean streets & beautiful shops. I found a guide book at last & came back to the hotel to study it & write at 11 & this and a stroll by the river brought me up to lunch-time, 12.30. At this inn there is no reduction in the charge "en pension" so I tried their 4Kr dejeuner, & thought it inadequate for the money, though good as far as it went, which was not far. Afterwards, having worried in vain in Constantinople for a Turkish bath & understanding that this is a paradise of baths, I found my way across the river to Ofen-Buda, by a ferry boat & went to the Bacy Furdo, tickets for which one buys in the tobacconists shops along the quay at 3/4 of the price charged at the bath itself: 75 c does not seem much for a Turkish bath. It is different to the English variety. One wallows with a lot of other people in a circular basin of hot water for a bit, passes through a steam-room, to the scrubbing cells, & so out to a frigidarium where graduated douches cool one off rapidly. I created the greatest excitement, everyone else being black & baboonlike in texture, & have seldom excited so much attention & comment in my life before. This done, I walked quickly so as not to get a chill up the quays past the Royal Palace of Buda which is a fine building grandly situated on a hillside & overlooking the river & Pesth. I crossed the chain bridge & walked around the streets which are modern & clean & gay enough, but did not find anything very exciting or interesting & by a series of odd turns found myself back at the hotel at four where I read, wrote and rested until 5. At 5 I went out again across the town as far up the Andrassy utza (= street) as the Opera House, a fine open place which I must see by daylight & I got back by devious ways to the Hotel at 6 & read until dinner-time, 7.30. The feature of this hotel is its Hungarian gypsy band which plays during dinner, & it is certainly very fine: I can't help thinking however that the Bands from Blue, Green and Yellow Hungary that infest London have rather spoilt one for this form of entertainment. After dinner I strolled up to the "Orfeum' [Figure 13] the principal Music Hall of the place, & saw a good ballet & a good juggler, the usual sisters giggle, the Cinematograph & Paul Martinette whom I should expect to see at the North Pole. I had a talk to a rather attractive chorister, during the second part & learnt a great deal about the management of Music Halls in Hungary & got home to the Hotel at 11.30.

11th October

I didn't get up till 9.30 & had coffee in my room. The coffee here is delicious & the milk is whipped into a froth that is most attractive. The selection of breads and brioches also leave nothing to be desired. Bar. 29'75 Therm. 62°. a dull morning like yesterday, I got out at 10.15, visited Cook's & the Post Office where I found letters & then wandered to the Academy in the Ferencz Josef Ter (Franz Josef Platz). It might just as well be Sunday for the convivial population of Buda Pesth being entirely Jews, three quarters of the shops are shut. A genial, not to say familiar stranger in the Bacy. Furdo Bath yesterday called my attention to the fact, but one realises it if one walks in this City on a Saturday. The Academy (which answers to our National Gallery) is in a magnificent building, but there is very little that is above the continental average in it, the pictures being almost without exception Holy Families or Religiosa, and Dutch pictures of the ordinary domestic & "nature" type. This done I searched my conscience to see whether I had to "do" the National Museum, & finding, to my relief, that I hadn't, I went

Figure 13: Advert for the Orfeum Music Hall, Budapest.

for a long stroll through the shuttered streets, wondering at the awful language. I have never before met a language, which, after 48 hours, gives not the slightest indication of its origin or meaning. For instance "Fodraszat es Borbely a felronoral szemben a szalababan" means "Haircutting & shaving opposite the lift in the Hotel". Volpone is nothing to it. I walked up the Zrinji utsa to the Basilica which was closed and across the Andrassij & Kiraly utszas (streets) to the Kerepisi. All the streets are full of people, & Jewish signs are out everywhere, but the shops (often a whole street) being shut up, & a fine rain falling it was not very pleasant, so I made my way back to the hotel for lunch at 1. buying a rather good pair of single egg stands on the way for 9 kridach. After lunch, at which I had an excellent form of baby mackerel, preserved in oil like a sardine, & goat flesh with rice, I bought post-cards over coffee in the cafe & then came up and wrote & read until 3, when, as the sun had come out I went down, chartered a droschky & drove around, a most interesting drive. First we went up the banks of the Danube to the new Houses of Parliament which is magnificent externally, with fine ironwork gates but is internally in course of construction, most big buildings seem to be only just finished or "in course of construction". they seem to have made a spurt in beautifying the town since the Millennium Celebrations in '96. The Law Courts opposite are quite as fine, a huge pile of buildings of Renaissance design. From here we reached the Margarethan Bridge & drove from it down the Lipot Korut (Boulevard) to the Vaczi Korut, where I found my way into the Leoplodstadt Basilica (of this morning). It is in course of construction but is evidently going to be a most magnificent Cathedral. They've been at it since 1851. From here we drove right up the Andrassy utcza which was full of people. It seems it is a great Jewish Festival today; everywhere empty shops have "Imahaz" (?Tabernacles) on them & masses of Jews going in and out. The upperpart of the Andrassy ut becomes enormously broad & divided into allées by rows of trees. There are two open circuses in it & above them are beautiful detached houses in gardens, evidently the Kensington Palace Gardens of Buda Pesth. At the end is the Millennium Monument (in course of construction) and the Kunstlerhaus which I went into, a fine collection of modern & other Hungarian pictures, very well worth seeing. From here we drove round the Stadtwaldschen (Varosliget). the Hyde Park of the place, where are the Zoo & several Museums, two in course of construction, & here crowds of citizens were taking the air. I mingled with a huge Jewish function held under the trees (which are getting very bare & autumnal, though most of the chestnuts are in second flower, as in Paris). Most of the men wore more or less fine black & white praying shawls, & many of them phylactries & caps, an Ark was erected (apparently of sacking) between two trees, at which a Rabbi was reciting, everyone followed in Hebrew books, & at intervals shouted with the Rabbi, beating their breasts. A fine sight & a wild smell; female Judea sprawled unashamedly all over the grass outside the inner & compact mass of the devout. We drove out past a finely cultivated garden-part, & a huge lake (in course of construction) & so down the Andrassy ut: and got back to the hotel at 5, where I wrote and read till dinner time.

Hotel Hungaria, Buda-Pesth, Hungary

11th October 1902 (Continued) I read until 7 & then dined, & learned that Imatzig means Synagogue, & that today is the Black Fast of Atonement Kispour, during which they pray all day & eat nothing. The meals here are common place, but it is odd to see scarlet peppers in the castors, the universal Hungarian paprika. After dinner I went to the other Music Hall of the Place the Folies Caprice, which the guide book says is "Not for ladies". I don't know why, unless it is that the author thinks it a pity they should see that a café chantant can be hopelessly dull as a quaker prayer meeting. The place is not a patch upon the Orfeum either for building, show, or the café attached, I sat it out but was bored. Got home in the rain at midnight.
12th October

Up 8.15. Pouring rain. Bar 29.5. Therm: 57° After coffee I went to the Post & got letters & had the greatest difficulty in posting No. 29 on account of the "Sammulung" of stamps upon it - a red tapeism I never met before, then I came back wrote letters & packed to go to Vienna.

Oestereichischen Hotel, Vienna

And here I am. I finished packing by !1 & went out for a final stroll not daring to go very far however for I had packed my umbrella. The Jews having got over their fast there were more shops open today until 12 & I loafed about the principal koruts & acquired a first rate pair of cigar ash-pots & a nut-cracker. The quasi iron-mongers here are too tempting, their windows are full of the quaintest most ingenious living apparatus. I got back at 12 & paid my bill, not very heavy considering the place -54fts - & lunched in the restaurant to fortify me for the journey. I got off at one, The Turkish box exciting the wildest interest wherever it makes an appearance & I don't wonder. The station by daylight is a very fine building with parterres of cabbage palms and callas in front of it. I had half an hour to wait & spent it watching the country people going away from market, hundreds of them in every kind of costume huddled against one another all over the floor of the 3rd & no class waiting pens. The first three hours of the journey were fine for we followed the Danube all the way & looked across it to a long range of mountains. In places here the maize is still green in patches & the pumpkins are lying all over the place, acres at a time & a wonderful yellow. After Poszony (Pressburg) it became dark & I read. We arrived in Vienna in pouring rain at 6.

Tim McCann