SPRING 2022

THE HERON-ALLEN SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER NO. 40

THE TWENTIETH ANNUAL HERON-ALLEN SYMPOSIUM 2022

Theme: 'Fossils, Monsters and Roman Heads'
Venue: St. Peter's Church Hall, 75 St. Peter's Crescent, Selsey
Time and Date: Saturday 9 July 2022 at 11.00

Programme

11.00 Welcome and Introduction by the Chairman

- Tim McCann, Edward Heron-Allen and the Loch Ness Monster
- The Annual General Meeting
- Lunch at the Seal Hotel, 6 Hillfield Road, Selsey

'Views of Selsey past; geology and coastal change through the eyes of Heron-Allen'. A walk led by David Bone.

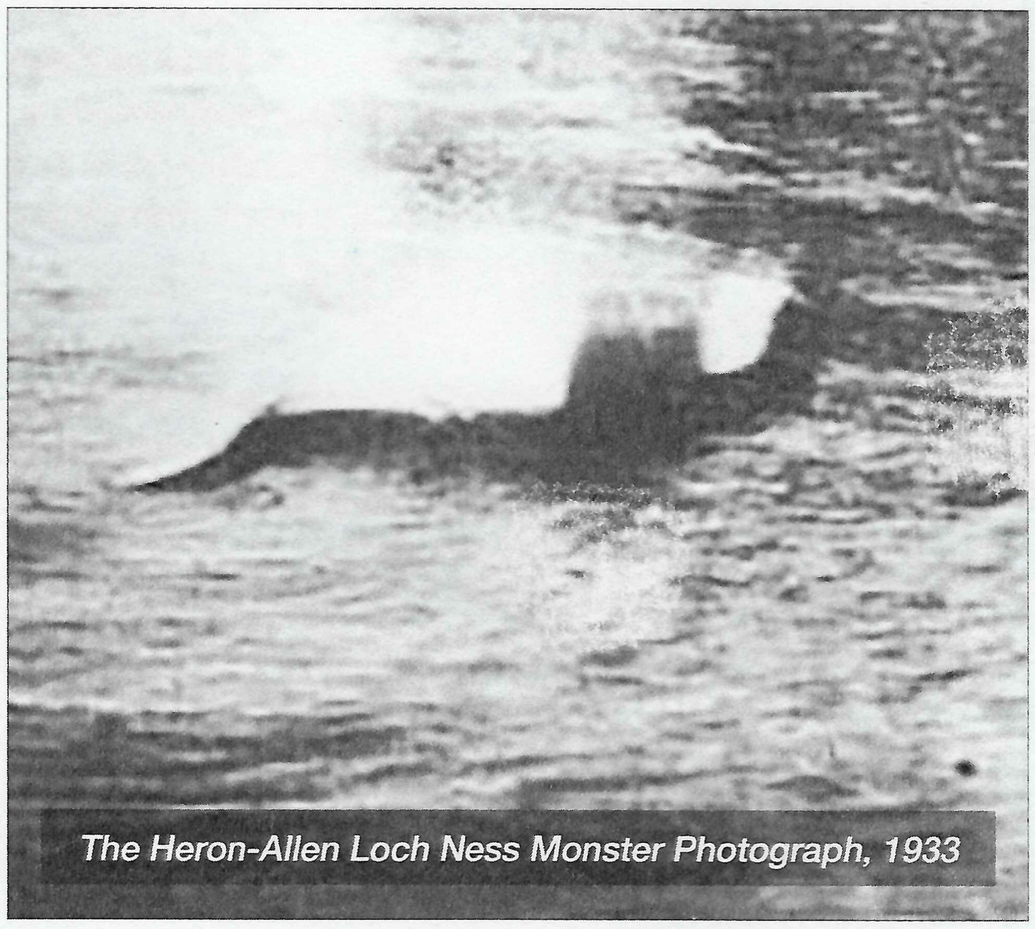
A significant part of 'Selsey Bill; Historic and Prehistoric' (Heron-Allen, 1911) is taken up with descriptions of the local geology and coastal change. A visit to two or three locations (time dependent) will enable us to see some of these for ourselves and further changes that have happened in the last 100 years. Cars essential for travel between stops and parking may be limited. Car sharing can be arranged. There will only be a short walk at each location and ordinary 'sensible' footwear should be adequate. Coastal areas are exposed, so be prepared for the prevailing weather conditions.

Will those wishing to attend the Symposium please contact the Honorary Secretary, Juliet Field at 40 Portland Road, Oxford. OX2 7EY, Tel: 01865 552640, e-mail: jools.field@btinternet.com

Will those wishing to be collected from Chichester Railway Station, please contact the Honorary Secretary.

Those wishing to join us for lunch at the Seal Hotel should inform the Honorary Secretary (01243 602461) before 18 June.

Meals have to be ordered in advance.



The Heron-Allen Loch Ness Monster Photograph, 1933

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ANNUAL HERON-ALLEN LECTURE

11 March 2022, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford
Professor Amy Dickman
"Warriors, Wildlife & Women"

Note:- Amy Dickman works in Wild Cat Conservation at Oxford University's Wildlife Conservation Research Unit, and has worked in Africa for over 20 years, specializing in human-carnivore conflict and community-based conservation. She established the Ruaha Carnivore Project in 2009, which works closely with local villagers to develop effective conservation solutions. She heads a team of over 70 people in the field. focused on ensuring that local communities truly benefit from the conservation of big cats and other wildlife. She is co-CEO of the charity "Lion Landscapes".

Once again the Fields and the McCanns were privileged to be able to attend – and delighted to be able to do so together after the long isolation of the pandemic.

The Acting Principal, Professor Christine Gerrard, gave a detailed introduction to the history of the Heron-Allen association with the college, and initiation of these lectures, before introducing our speaker.

Prof. Dickman began by explaining that she was one of the first people to be awarded a Jerwood bursary for her research (awards given generally under the label of "Fine Arts"!) and that as a child in Devon she wanted to work in the Serengeti and to have a zebra-striped Land Rover.

She then gave a quick summary of her own career, starting from her interest in big cats – continuing the interest shown by humans over 30,000 years ago, with cave drawings, and even a carved image of a lion, made in woolly mammoth ivory.

She actually started with study of ... water shrews! She graduated then to water voles (a tad larger), then badgers (these at least had carnivore teeth). She then went to Namibia – the 6 month plan turned out to last 6 years. Next was Tanzania, where, most memorably, a lion slept on her in her tent on the first night.

Lions in Africa

In 1890 the estimate was 200,000 lions in Africa. Their range and numbers have fearfully shrunk due to both habitat and wild prey loss, and to human-wildlife conflict (HWC). The 2020 mapping of lion populations shows that there are only six large populations left (having more than 1000 lions), and nearly half the other populations have fewer than 50 lions, so these are unlikely to be viable in the longer term. Many areas are now "islands" with little or no connectivity with others.

Lion Landscape

An organization in Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia - dedicated to stopping threats to lions, reducing costs to local people, showing benefits from conservation, moving to community ownership of conservation activities (communities as not just stakeholders, but shareholders!) - and interacting effectively with people who are often both poor and trapped in poverty.
Many local big cats were being found dead (quite often poisoned) - and often missing the right front foot. This was in an area where the Barabaig people in Tanzania lived.

(A Barabaig warrior's status is conferred by his killing - in ascending order of value –

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

a leopard, an elephant, a lion, or a member of an enemy tribe).

When the project set up a solar panel local people turned up – to charge their mobile phones, and it was then able to be explained to them what the project was about. A week after this encounter, there were still 7 dead lions, but the staff decided they should take no action. As a result they were asked to attend a local Barabaig meeting (the first Westerners to do so; only Charles Lane, an Australian, had previously done so). This was the start of a series of actions and initiatives to reduce the killing of lions.

A useful tool was GPS tracking of lions using collars – the locals then knew in real time where the lions were, and therefore could take their livestock in other directions.

The livestock enclosures (bomas) formed of thorn bushes were often inadequate. Providing simple wire fencing on a shared-cost basis led to a cut of 95% in lion attacks to enclosures.

Guarding dogs were also introduced, and the locals taught to train and use them; they were funded for the first year as they were expensive to keep; these, and the supply of mobile bomas reduced depredations and food insecurity. [In Kenya, lion rangers also helped reduce conflict].

The benefits of such schemes have to be tangible so these were arranged. Sixteen schools are supported. (Being able to read and write confers status). Over 60 Simba Scholarships were set up – with insistence that half went to girls; many of these are now going through further education.

The Porridge Project – a simple idea of providing food for the children arriving at school – led to better attendance and attainment – the pupils had simply been hungry. Better veterinary medicines were another tangible benefit, given the vital importance of livestock. These initiatives are often well supported by the women, who will discourage the men from killing wildlife, so that the village continues to get the benefits. However, the benefits were often linked by the locals to the projects and not to the wildlife, so some killings continued.

The project came up with the idea of awarding 'points' for photographs of the local wildlife – the points generating benefits locally. Each photo taken by a local was awarded points depending on the animal photographed (the tariff for this was going to be on a 1 to 5 basis, but locals wanted much larger values, so the top value became 5,000). Points were added up for each village and the highest three scores each got a money prize.

Inter-tribal conflicts were a problem – so football (as a common interest) was introduced to try to offset this. It also seemed a good idea to take people on visits into the National Parks, which were very nearby but not usually visited by the locals, to show them the domestic and non-aggressive aspects of the wildlife there.

Educational films were problematic – those in English

Figure 2: *Professor Any Spackman in the Wild*

Figure 3: *Famous Kenyan Lioness. Queen of Mara*

were by their nature not likely to be accepted as being for the locals. There was similar issue with books – they did not feature the locals. So books were prepared that did (for the first time). As a result of these initiatives – with their positive impacts on real people and wildlife – carnivore killing in the core area dropped by 70%+.

Difficulties remain. For instance

- an unintended effect was that killing of elephants for social status increased.
- the Simba scholarships are open to livestock owners. It can be tricky if a recipient's family loses its livestock, so that eligibility is compromised.
- the ethics of relying on poverty to change behaviour are complex and hard.
- there is a need to change the current wealth drivers – wealth creation is better decoupled from livestock numbers, but the tradition is long-standing.

Other ideas – carbon credits – (Lion carbon) have been particularly effective in Zambia, but biodiversity is important as well.

Co-existence is possible, but project benefits must be integrated into existing revenue, e.g. from livestock (but small stock must be included).

The fascinating and entertaining lecture, given at pace, with both humour and profuse illustrations, evoked lengthy applause, and certainly lived up to the high standard of this lecture series.

Dave & Juliet Field

THE EDWARD HERON-ALLEN SOCIETY (NOT) THE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM 2021

Penzance, Cornwall

Monday 20th September
Timothy and Alison McCann travelled to Fairlea, Bideford, in time for a later afternoon tea with their hosts Pam and David Thompson. After viewing the gardens at Fairlea they then proceeded to take an evening repast consisting of chicken in Parma ham with seasonal vegetables followed by a pudding accompanied by a deal of Czech beer and a passable bottle of red from the Fairlea cellar. There was much entertaining debate over dinner and an examination of the silver plaque from "Large Acres", engraved with an explanation that the timbers used in the room were taken from the decommissioned HMS Foudroyant. A "Large Acres" light switch was also a subject touched upon and handled. Both had been gifts from John and Barbara Mahoney – and both need a long-term home. Any suggestions?

Tuesday 21st September
Weather fine and bright.

Following a light breakfast all four symposiumists set off in two vehicles in search of Penzance and agreed that without trying to travel as a convoy the group would meet at Strawberry Fields in Lifton, a useful watering hole as it is just off the A30 near Launceston. The McCanns arrived before the Thompsons who had not somehow managed to prepare their trunks in a timely manner and consequently set off from Fairlea somewhat later than their fellow group members. After a pleasant lunch, albeit with a 2.30pm deadline imposed by the waitress, the ladies of the party took a long look around the farm shop. Whilst they were engaged in that pursuit, the two gentlemen waited outside to rest and it was decided that a pile of sacks of compost would make suitable chairs. It took just a short time before Mr McCann complained that he was suffering a rather cold and damp experience in his nether regions. Unfortunately, the bag he was sitting on had perforations allowing the moisture to seep out when his weight was added on top. The ladies emerged and setting off for the cars it was noticed that Tim had a rather spread-leg gait.

At the end of an uneventful journey along the A30, the two cars arrived at the Queen's Hotel, Penzance, where Heron-Allen had stayed in 1903 [Fig. 4]. The hotel is set on the sea front with the main promenade across the road and commands a fine view from the Jubilee swimming pool to the east with St Michael's Mount in the distance and Newlyn to the west. After checking in and taking luggage to their rooms both couples took a rest after the day's journey. Tim & Alison were allocated room 95 and Pam and David found themselves in room 73. Whilst room 95 seemed perfectly adequate, there is no doubt that room 73 left a lot to be desired. Room 95 had a reasonable sea view whereas room 73 commanded a fine view of a wall and a partial view of the car park. 73 also presented a challenge for two people to coexist in. When the old and tired wardrobe had its doors open neither could pass the end of the bed.

After a short rest, the group met up in the bar for a pre-prandial and Pam and David were more than delighted to discover that the bar had an excellent supply of draught Budvar beer, the fine Czech lager coming from Ceské Budejovice in the South of Bohemia. Unfortunately, the Queen's Hotel lacked a restaurant service in the evening owing to the fact that the chef had had to go home to deal with a family problem. With foreknowledge of this, a table had been pre-booked at The Boatshed, a restaurant about ten minutes' walk to the east along the sea front near the docks. So, having finished their drinks, the group set off in search. After a gentle walk along the

front it was reassuring to find that The Boatshed were expecting their four guests and in an upstairs room, a bottle of Rioja and some beers were comfortably used to wash down a variety of eatables - fish and chips, a burger, a steak and one particular dish which the final printed bill of fare described as 'fish cakes with pot and rat', the last being identified as something with an 'atouille' end missing, rather than long gnashers and tail. An uneventful walk back to the hotel and so to bed.

Wednesday 22nd September
Another fine morning and bright with some cloud - sea calm. Barometer 30.3" Temperature 19°. ?19o may be meant here?

On arriving the previous day, it was noticed that there were two rather fine Fitzroy barometers on the wall next to the reception desk. It is interesting to note that when Edward Heron-Allen and Nour stayed at the hotel, he noted the barometric reading each day. It is just possible that it was one of these from which he took his readings? In keeping with the tradition, it was felt that noting the daily weather conditions whilst in Penzance would be a good thing to do.

Breakfast had been arranged for 9am. With covid problems in mind the hotel was spreading breakfast guests out so that crowds didn't amass awaiting seating. A good table was provided with a sea view from the front window. The group were greeted by a very friendly waitress who understood that Mr. McCann was in no uncertain terms not interested in the edible substance commonly referred to as hash browns with his English breakfast. The three remaining members of the group consumed good quality continental-style breakfasts with fruit juice and very drinkable coffee and tea.

After breakfast the Thompsons approached reception in search of a better room which the very helpful person said was certainly possible, allotted them to room 55 and said that if they packed their belongings up the staff would move them whilst they were out for the day. Best of all, room 55, turned out to be directly above one of those which Heron-Allen occupied in 1903.

The assembled party met up in the lobby, set off in a westerly direction along the front and then turned north uphill in search of the town centre. Having walked for some distance the ladies of the party, ahead of the slower gentlemen, disappeared from sight. The two gentlemen decided to take a rest sitting on a low wall and chatting amiably. After a while they set off in search of the ladies. Standing on Greenmarket with a fine view of the 19th century Lloyds Bank building in front of them, the ladies were nowhere in sight and had not been seen on the journey, so Tim and David retraced their steps until they were outside the Alverne Restaurant and Lounge. No sign of Alison and Pam. Clearly there was a need for telephonic communication. It turned out that the two females of the party had decided that the two men must have been in front of them and for some reason had turned south to go down the road towards Penlee House Museum & Gallery. This had not been the case, so that by the time the ladies had retraced their steps, the men had passed by the end of the road and were ahead of them. Finally united, the four then took a break at the Alverne café and restaurant where morning coffee was taken. Tim and Alison had been in Penzance some twenty years before, but both observed, that, like so many places, things had changed in terms of the shops and traders over the ensuing years.

The rest of the morning was spent at a gentle pace exploring the streets and shops of Penzance until lunch time found the group at the top of Causeway outside a restaurant called The Singing Rooster. It advertised a fine variety of authentic Polish food and so made an interesting change from the normal English café fare. Goulasz, kielbasa, etc., all went down well with bottles of Zywiec, red wine and coffee.

The afternoon replicated the morning until later when the McCanns returned to the hotel for a rest and the Thompsons continued their exploration finding books and bottle openers and finishing with a coffee and a pain au chocolat at The Wharf House café on the Quay. On returning to Queen's the Thompson met the McCanns taking tea in the hotel lounge. The Thompsons then went in search of their newly allocated accommodation - Room 55. What a contrast! A very large room with a four-poster bed and a bathroom bigger than room 73! Also, a bay window affording the delightful prospect of the promenade and whole bay.

The group reconvened at 7pm for drinks in the bar and then set of for an evening meal. In the morning they had passed a small Thai restaurant just along the road called the Thai Moon. It was not open, but seemed like a good place to plan to eat. The party set out to the Lugger Inn just along the road to the east. A large open seating area afforded a table for four and the group were attended to by Helga, a very friendly woman with a warm welcome and a pleasant smile. Here a nut roast wellington, fish and chips, a spice island and a chicken and mushroom pie were accompanied by a bottle if Chianti and two pints of Madri beer from a brewery near Madrid. So generous were the portions that none of the party felt in need of a dessert. After settling up and bidding a fond farewell to Helga they returned to Queen's for a nightcap in the bar. Mr. McCann was pleased to take a good measure of port wine to round off a very pleasant evening. And so to bed at about 11.00pm.

Figure 4: Queens Hotel, Penzance

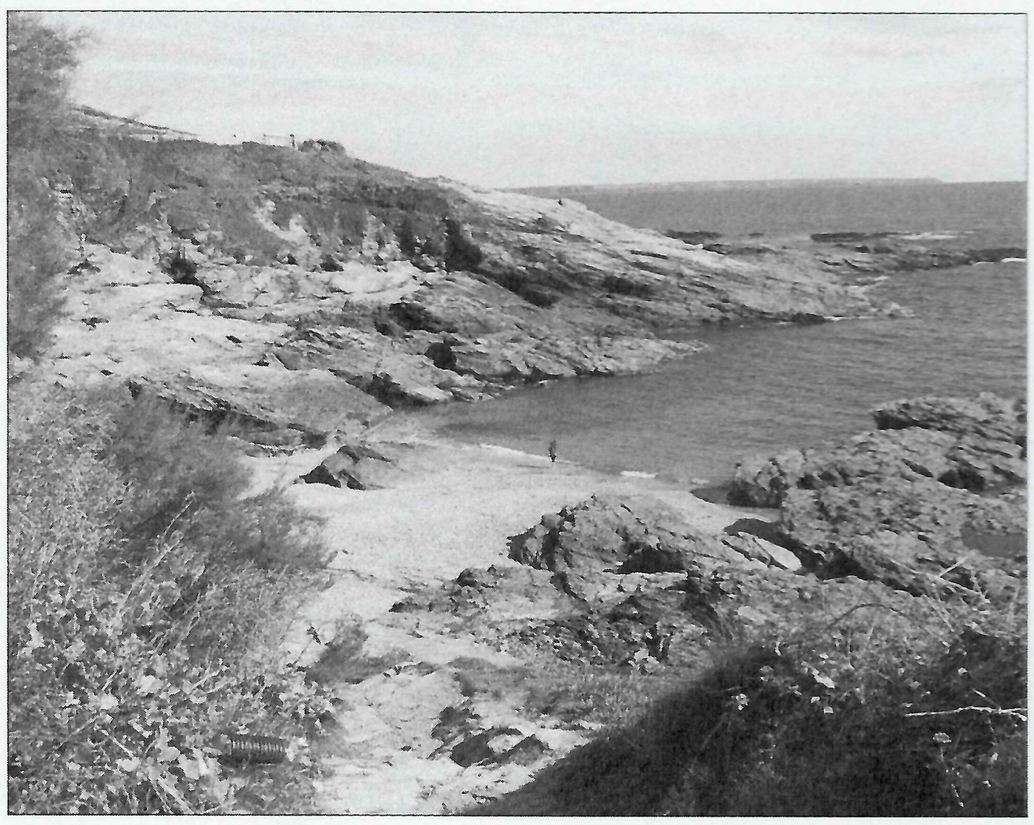

Figure 5: Prussia Cove

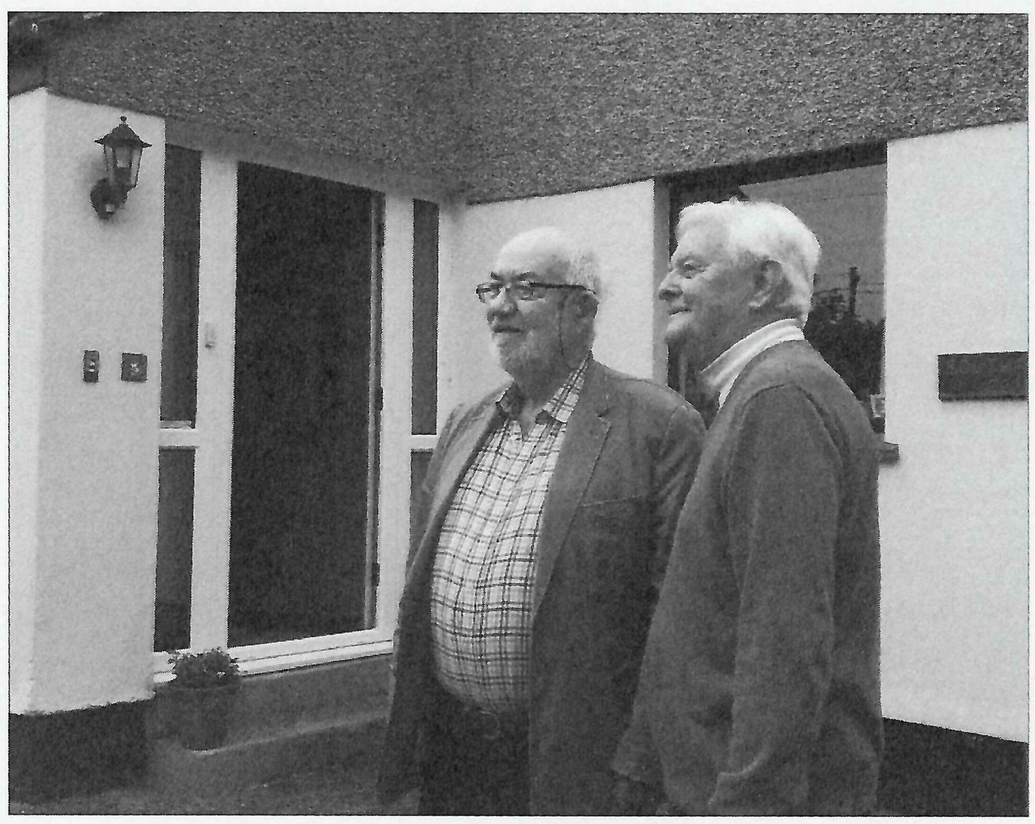

Figure 6: Tim McCann and Malcolm Sutton after a champagne Tea at Relubbus, Cornwall

Thursday 23nd September
Weather conditions poor with heavy sea mist rolling in - sea calm.

Barometer 30.18", Temperature 180 - sea calm. ?Temperature 18o?

Breakfast at The Queen's was taken again at 9am and this time both Tim and David partook of the full English on offer. The hash brown was conspicuously absent even though not mentioned to the waitress who anticipated the situation. To help out, David also had to consume Mr. McCann's leftover sausage as well as his own - Mrs Thompson was not impressed. In rather poor weather the group set off by car with David driving to Perranuthnoe beach to revisit a place which had fond memories for Tim and Alison. With the rain still making a presence the assembled party huddled together while Alison made a bee-line to the breaking waves, determined to dip a toe. There were few other people, but as the weather brightened, another group arrived and proceeded to set up camp on the rocks at the far end of the beach. Tim then set off in their direction for a beach walk. On his return, Alison repositioned her socks and shoes and the group set off in search of a morning coffee. They settled in on an outside table, in better weather, at the Peppercorn café where coffee and cakes were consumed.

A short drive back to the main road and then another turning off to visit Prussia Cove [Fig. 5]. It is always fun to be on a single track road and meet a local bus coming towards you. However, David managed to reverse and let it pass without major damage to his bodywork or losing his nearside wing mirror. Continuing on, the car reached the end of a long and winding road. The group then set off on foot until they reached a viewpoint overlooking Bessy's Cove. Alison went on to reconnoitre and on her return the group walked back round to the main path and took rest near a pair of gate pillars. Whilst there they were passed by a young couple, the man with a cello case on his back. Later it was discovered that we were just along the path from Porth en Alls music centre at Prussia Cove - as reported by Alison after another reconnaissance mission. Having returned to the car steps were retraced to the main road and then back towards Penzance to then turn off again, this time in search of Acton Manor a secluded country residence which Edward Heron-Allen had found and thought seriously about buying on their visit to the area in 1903. When the road became private - Alison walked down to view the house.

Returning to the main road again, it was decided that a lunch-time drink would be in order, so a stop was made at Packet Inn, before the group set off in search of the home of Malcolm and Anne Sutton [Fig. 6] where they had been invited for afternoon tea. It was a very

enjoyable occasion much appreciated by all, not least as champagne was substituted for tea.

After returning to the Queen's Hotel, everyone took a short break and reassembled in the bar for a drink before setting off for the Thai Moon restaurant for an evening meal. Unfortunately, the restaurant was fully booked, but a reservation was made for the following evening. After a short walk, the group found themselves back at the Lugger Inn. Once again, Helga did a good job of looking after the needs of everyone and in addition to similar fare to that taken the night before some desserts were also consumed and the whole accompanied by a bottle of Chianti and beers. Returning to the Queen's, nightcaps were taken, although Tim was saddened to learn that there was no port available, even in a storm.

Friday 24th September
Heavy mist and low visibility - sea calm, somewhat overcast, but no rain.

Barometer 30.09", temperature 170 ?17o

The usual breakfast gathering took place at the appointed time of 9am and then the group set off to walk along the promenade westwards to Newlyn. Just along the road there is a large building now used as an amusement arcade and bowling alley. It was researched later and found to be the original building of the Pavilion Theatre built in 1911. Just a short way along the promenade, two things caught our attention - firstly, on a signpost was a green brassiere hanging up - size 36C. We pondered various scenarios which might explain its being there, but no conclusions were reached. It was pointed out that if Tim Collins were with us he might well have a plausible answer. On reaching the eastern approaches to Newlyn, it was felt that a visit to the Newlyn Art Gallery would be a good idea, to have a look at some interesting works by the Newlyn School of artists. Sadly there were no warning signs at the entrance. After paying an entrance fee of £4 per person, we were faced with some paintings by school children, all well and good, plus a video of a new-age woman dancing on a cliff accompanied by a video of a deaf woman reciting poetry - oh dear. In order to get over the experience, we decided to take the bus to Mousehole. This was a particularly nostalgic visit for Tim and Alison as it was the place where they spent their honeymoon some years earlier and had indeed returned there on many occasions afterwards, After walking around the small harbour and adjoining streets, lunch was in order. We looked around but there were very few places to eat and all of them were full. As a possible solution we returned to the Four Teas Café where earlier there had been a line of people waiting to get in. The manager said we could book a table for 30 minutes later and that she would telephone if a table became available earlier. So it was that half an hour later we returned and after a short wait were seated and eating a much awaited lunch. The rest of the afternoon was spent further looking around until a bus took us back in the direction of Penzance. Pam and David alighted at the western end of Newlyn and Tim and Alison remained on board as far as Penzance.

In Newlyn Pam and David spent time in a the Coddiwomple Gallery they had a fine collection of 1950s German ceramics, It was not difficult to succumb. From there they went into Newlyn and stopped at the Strand Antiques centre where they acquired a bottle opener in the form of a demi-golf ball to add to their growing collections. Finally, coffee was consumed in the Seafood Bar before starting the walk back to Penzance and the Queen's Hotel.

At the usual time in the evening the group assembled in the bar for a drink and then proceed to the Thai Moon restaurant for dinner. An excellent time was had with good service, good food and suitable liquid refreshment. Such was our experience that we booked a table for the next evening too. Back to the Queen's for a nightcap where Pam was particularly taken by the glass containing her Budvar- a design she had not seen before with a very pleasing shape. The kind barman concluded that it should be added to the Thompsons' collection.

Saturday 24th September
An overcast morning with heavy sea mist with low visibility. Light cloud. A choppier sea.

Barometer 29.9", temperature 170. ?17o again?

We took breakfast as usual and then set out walking around the corner to the Morrab Gardens - a small but fine botanical garden with much to look at, not least the large carp in the pond. Exiting the gardens on the north side we then proceeded up to the shopping streets and spent some time in charity shops looking for bargains. In no time at all, the time was right to take coffee in the Alverne Café yet again. As planned it was now time to visit the Penlee House Gallery and Museum, a 19th-century house in the Italianate style built in 1865 for the wealthy Penzance miller and merchant, John Richards Branwell. Here was much to be impressed by - the story of the Newlyn School of painting with many fine examples, particularly by Stanhope Alexander Forbes. Mr McCann was particularly interested in one painting entitled 'On Paul Hill' in front of which he sat for some considerable time, before he came to the conclusion that the front legs of the horse in the foreground were not as they should be, having too much of a human stance. Maybe not everyone agreed. As well as the gallery, there was a well-appointed museum with a variety of exhibits covering a wealth of subjects. When we grew weary, it was clearly time for lunch and we consumed hefty

sandwiches in the garden, the weather now much better than earlier.

After lunch, Tim and Alison decided to go back to the hotel before Alison headed off to church and Tim to take a rest. Pam and David continued on their shopping jaunt around town calling into antique shops and bookshops under a clear and sunny sky.
After our normal evening drink in the bar we launched out again to the Thai Moon restaurant for dinner. Much the same as the previous evening, so a good time was had by all. The usual nightcap was taken in the hotel bar before retiring.

Sunday 26th September
The wind has risen in the night and the sea is much rougher. A cloudy sky.

Barometer 29.2", temperature 170. ?17o again?

Pam and David arrived at breakfast to be told by a staff member that during the night Tim had been taken ill. Shortly afterwards Alison arrived to give us the news that Tim had been really unwell and that she had called a doctor. In due time the doctor called Alison and after discussions an ambulance was summoned and later that morning Tim was taken to hospital in Truro, while Alison, Pam and David remained at the hotel awaiting news. The day was spent reading and taking coffee in the lounge. In the evening David, Pam and Alison went to The Lugger Inn for dinner, and the wind had risen to the extent that the waves were breaking over the sea wall and the rain was falling.

Monday 27th September
The day we had all planned to return home

With Alison's assurances that she would await Tim's recovery in Truro, our week ended. It is so good to relate that Tim was fairly soon fit to return home.

David Thompson

P.S. from Pam: Looking back, we had far more fun than admitted here, and the weather was not consistently miserable. While David's concentration on our consumption of food and drink would doubtless have been appreciated by Edward Heron-Allen, some further explanation of our failure to replicate his stay in Penzance may be needed. The weather was too inclement for any expeditions in search of foraminifera, although we could not be certain that the locations were appropriate. We were also aware that our inexperience would lead us to collect only samples of very ordinary sand. Most significantly, we did not emulate Heron-Allen in having an aquarium installed in our rooms where we could have studied local marine life in greater detail. This did at least protect said creatures from certain ill-health.

OFF THE SHELF: A COUPLE OF ODDITIES FROM THE LIBRARY OF EDWARD HERON-ALLEN

One of the pleasures of collecting Heron-Allen is coming across some of the more unusual items representing the breadth of his interests, as well as his obsessive binding habits [Fig. 7].

The first of the two books shown here is a re-bound copy of Oscar Wilde's story, "The Portrait of W.H.", extracted from the July, 1889 issue of Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine [Fig. 8]. The second, a re-bound copy of Whelan's The Historic Numismatic Atlas of the Roman Empire, was published in 1900 [Fig. 9]. While the Wilde story has been merely extracted and re-bound (including the issue's cover) [Fig. 10]., EH-A has cut and pasted down the Atlas's contents. Further, he has copied the title-page as well as added notes throughout, including a complete index of over 50 entries. Some of the entry numbers have been circled, which suggests that EH-A owned examples of these coins.

Both volumes bear EH-A's 1925 bookplate, "The Portrait of W.H." also including the later plate of collector, Hugh Howard, and The Atlas the signature of EH-A, dated October 1900.[Fig. 9]

Brian Hulan

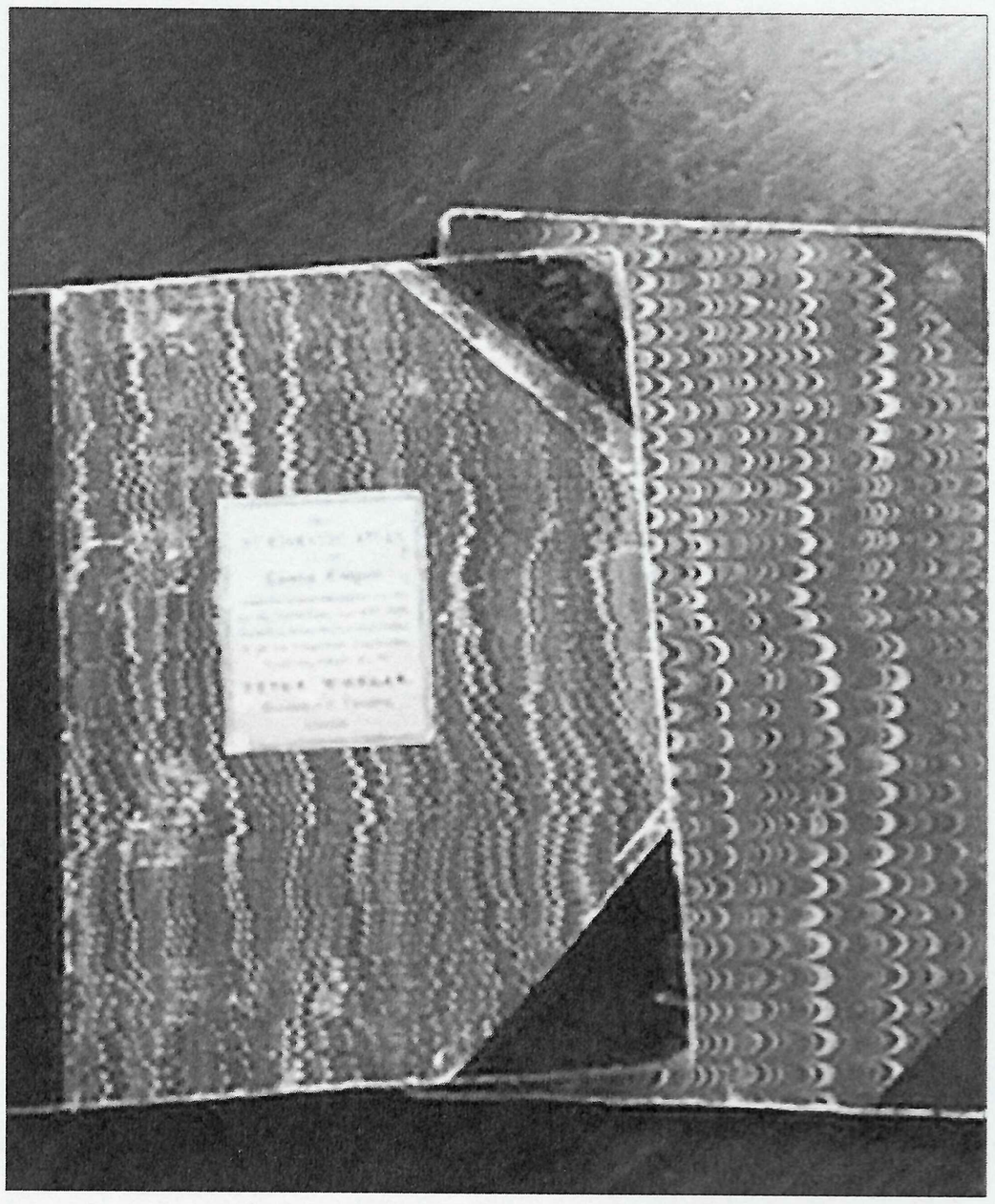

Figure 7: *Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine, July 1889 and Peter Whelan, Numismatic Atlas of the Roman Empire*

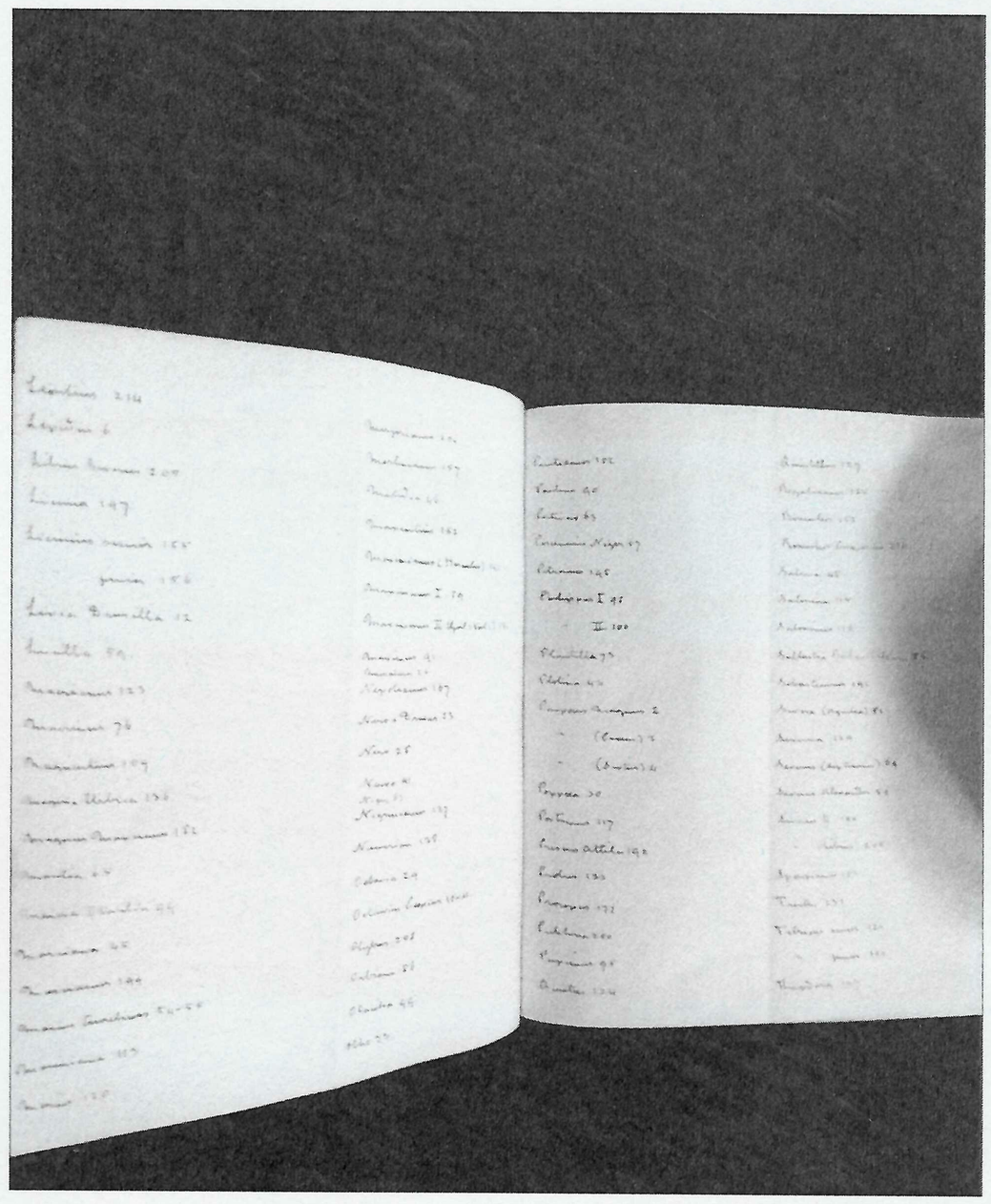

Figure 9: *The index of Peter Whelan's Atlas of the Roman Empire in Heron-Allen's hand*

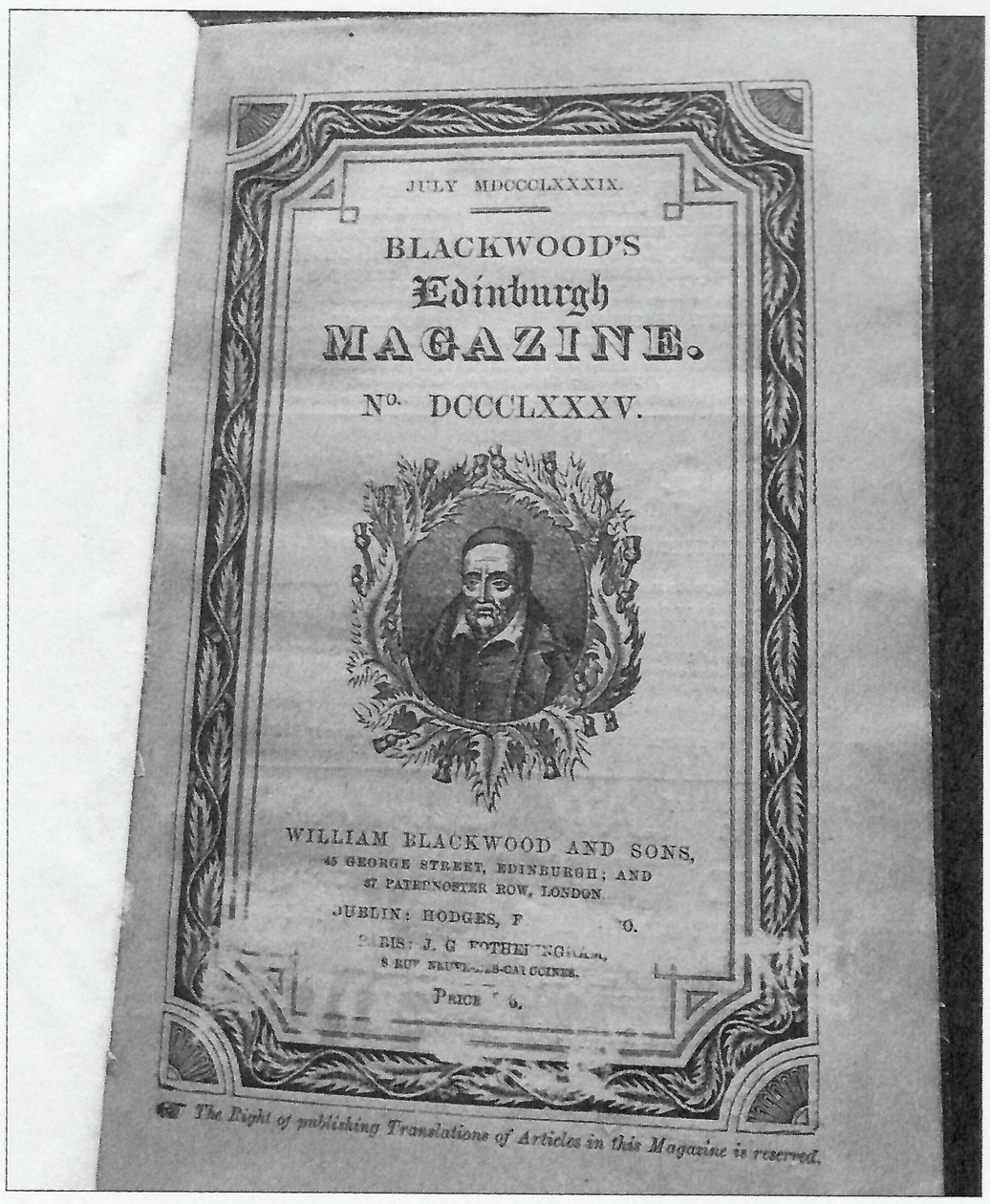

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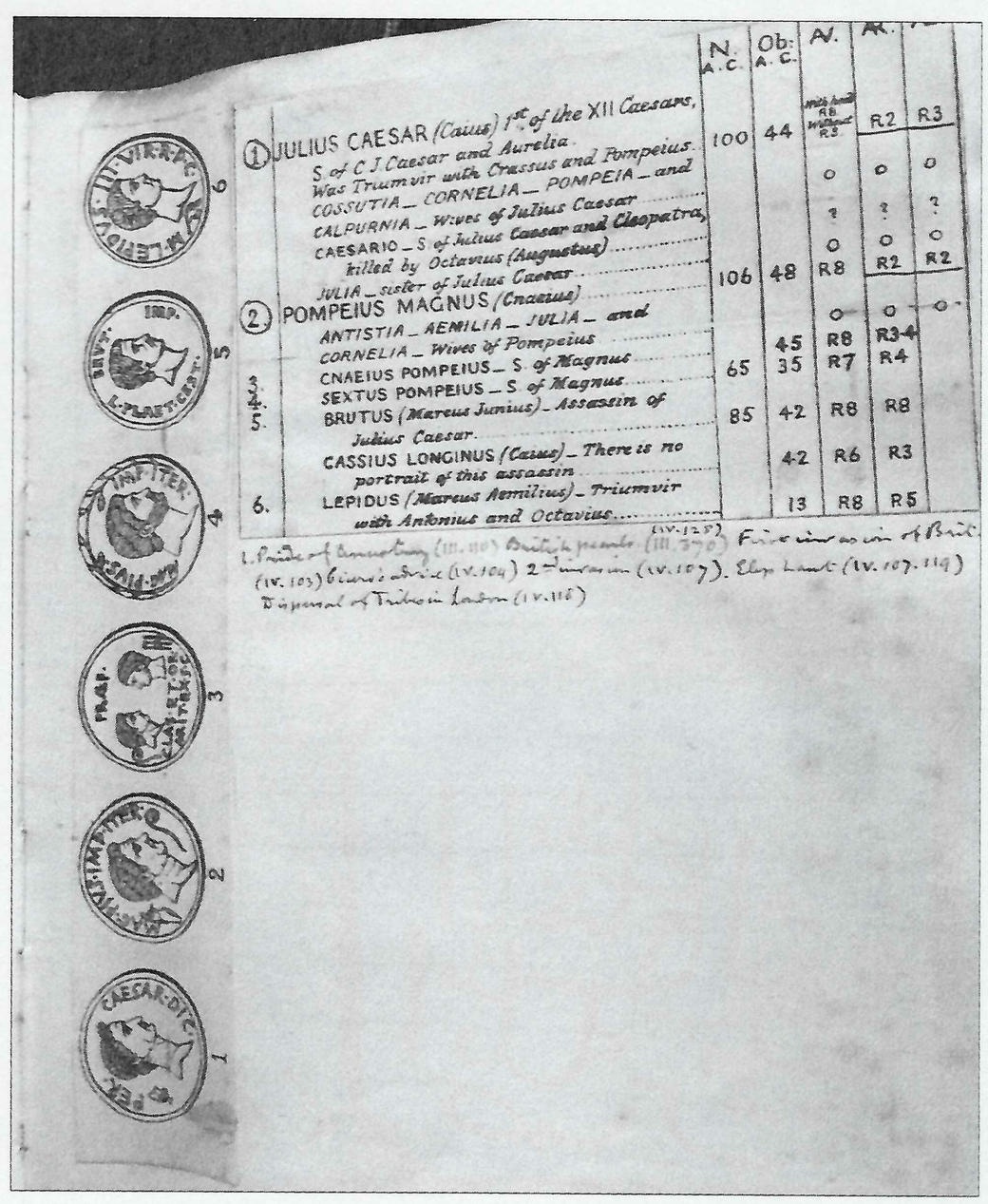
Figure 8: *Heron-Allen's copy of the July 1889 issue of Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine*



		N. A.C.	Ob. A.C.	AV.	AR.	
1	JULIUS CAESAR (Caius) 1st of the XII Caesars, S of C J Caesar and Aurelia. Was Triumvir with Crassus and Pompeius.	100	44	with head R8 without R5	R2	R3
	COSSUTIA – CORNELIA – POMPEIA – and CALPURNIA – Wives of Julius Caesar			0	0	0
	CAESARIO – S of Julius Caesar and Cleopatra, killed by Octavius (Augustus)			?	?	?
	JULIA – sister of Julius Caesar			0	0	0
2	POMPEIUS MAGNUS (Cnaeius)	106	48	R8	R2	R2
	ANTISTIA – AEMILIA – JULIA – and CORNELIA – Wives of Pompeius			0	0	0
3	CNAEIUS POMPEIUS – S of Magnus	65	45	R8	R3-4	
4.	SEXTUS POMPEIUS – S of Magnus		35	R7	R4	
5.	BRUTUS (Marcus Junius) – Assassin of Julius Caesar.	85	42	R8	R8	
	CASSIUS LONGINUS (Caius) – There is no portrait of this assassin		42	R6	R3	
6.	LEPIDUS (Marcus Aemilius) – Triumvir with Antonius and Octavius		13	R8	R5	

Figure 10: *Page of Peter Whelan's Numismatic Alas cut and pasted by Heron-Allen, also with his holograph text*

THE LARGE GOTHIC SYMBOL COMPLEX IN THE MEMORIAL ILLUMINATED MANUSCRIPT OF ARMOREL HERON-ALLEN

The memorial illuminated manuscript, grave marker, and memorial tablet at Oxford have these prominent symbols of puzzling significance [Fig. 11]. The Ivor Jones family, the Heron-Allen Society Board of Directors, and the Lady Margaret Hall administrators have no direct knowledge of its meaning.

The 2017 member consensus suggested a variety of possibilities. The **LX** referred to Shakespeare's Sonnet 60 (pebbled shore), the scientific unit value of Luminosity, or merely the roman numeral for the number 60. The diamond (gem) symbol ♦ on the gravestone was not considered a typographical symbol and is comparable to the other memorial objects on the illuminated manuscript and the memorial tablet. The last symbol was the letter **H**, with various suggested possibilities, Humanity, Heron-Allen, Heron, or just the letter H. After this publication (1), The Cypher-motto of Armorel Daphne Heron-Allen

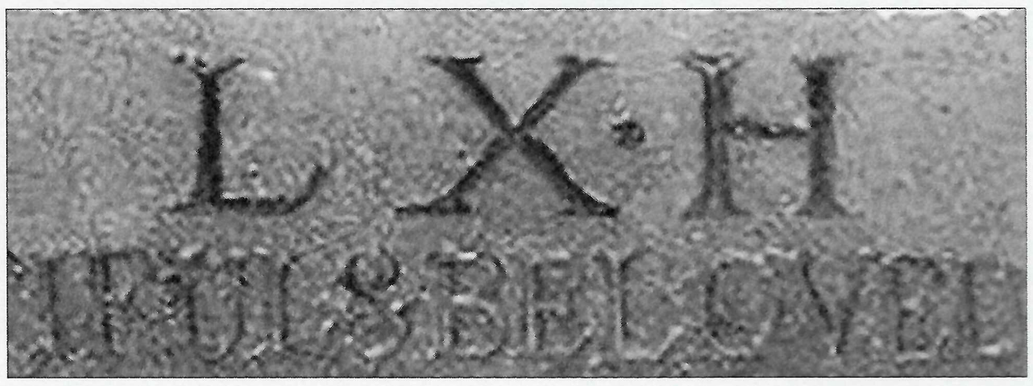


Figure 11a: *Manuscript, Grave Marker*

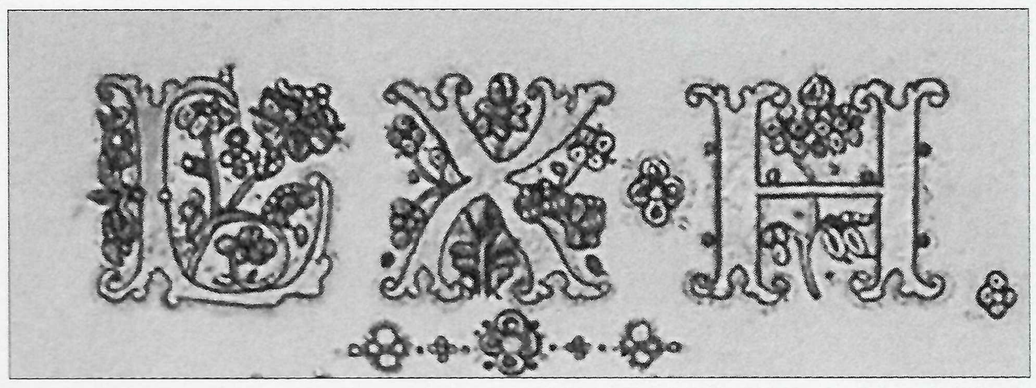


Figure 11b: *Memorial Tavlet at Lady Margaret Hall*

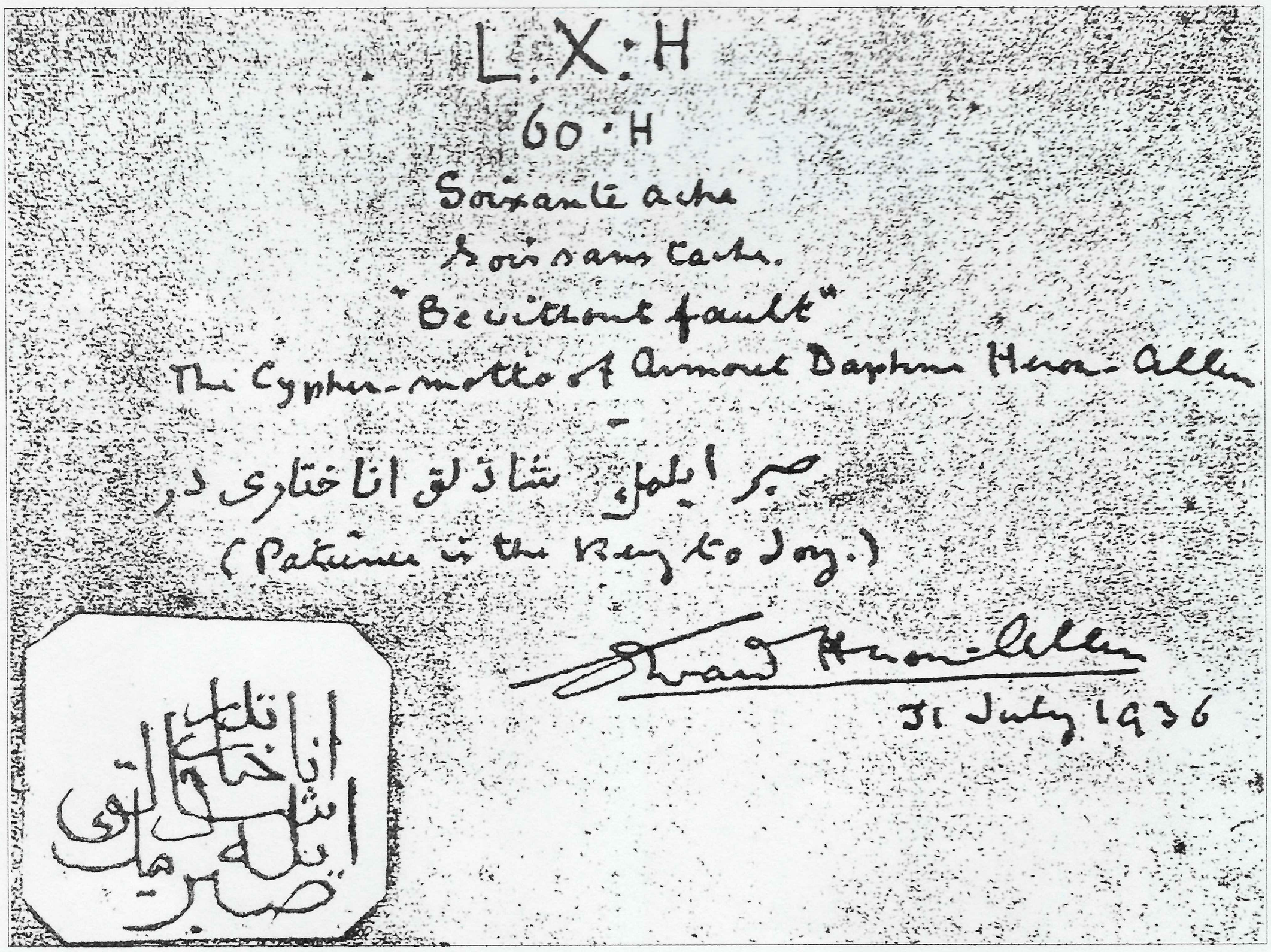


Figure 12: *Heron-Allen's handwritten note on the Cypher Motto*

a fellow member (Bob Forrest) suggested that this might be a cypher. After two years, reviewing his immense library of Heron-Allen ephemera, our president found an obscure photocopy of a note by Edward Heron-Allen dated 31 July 1936 [Fig. 12]. Some members suggested this was a photocopy of a page from a currently inaccessible family book on the life of Armorel Heron-Allen. The note (below) is transcribed as follows:

L.X:H
60 . H
Sioxante ache
[French meaning Sixty H]
Sois sans tache
[French meaning 'Be without fault']
"Be without fault"
The Cypher Motto of Armorel Daphne Heron-Allen
[Single Persian dialect sentence]
(Patience is the key to joy)

[Heron-Allen's translation of sentence]

Edward Heron-Allen 31 July 1939

[Heraldic Persian text/name in left block]

Mevlana Rumi (Jalal ad-Din Muhammad Rumi), a 13th-century Persian poet, used this expression, "Patience is the Key to Joy" in The Masnavi of Rumi, Book Two:

> If you don't see these fishes with your eyes,
> No matter, you have heard their praise of God,
> Being patient is the soul of all your praising,
> Have patience, for that is true praise of God.
> Indeed, no praise is more sublime than that:
> Have patience, patience is the key to joy.

We were close to a resolution of this mystery. Still, the terminology, 'cypher motto' was unsolvable to the 'cypher novices' at the Heron-Allen Society who were blind to the fishes in the pond before them.

We consulted Mr. Nick Pelling, a recognized cipher motto expert in the period of the 1930s in London. Seventeen months later, Mr. Pelling kindly responded after finding our email request in an obscure file on his computer! He states:

The cypher (cipher) motto is simply "L X H," which is pronounced in French "soixante [i.e., 60] ache [i.e., H]". This is a pun (technically a "gramogram") for the same-sounding phrase "sois sans tache," which translates as "Be without fault" or (if you prefer Google Translate) "Be spotless."

Note that this was from the same general era when Marcel Duchamp scandalized the art world with his 1919 version of the Mona Lisa (albeit with a penciled-in mustache) entitled "L.H.O.O.Q.," which is a similar French gramogram for "Elle a chaud au cul," which I would perhaps translate as "she is sexually restless." https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/L.H.O.O.Q.

Well, inviting a cipher motto-ist to a symposium would be a deadly one-sided conversational affair.

A gramogram or grammagram is a letter or group of letters which can be pronounced to form one or more words, as in "CU" for "see you."

They are a subset of rebuses, and are commonly used as abbreviations. They are sometimes used as a component of cryptic crossword clues. [Google]

A rebus is a puzzle in which words are represented by combinations of pictures and individual letters; for instance,apex might be represented by a picture of an ape followed by a letter X. Rebus puzzles use images, symbols, and letters to represent a word, phrase or idiom. [Google]

Yikes!

The problem in solving this mystery is that you had to essentially be a French person looking at three letters, LXH, and say "Sioxante ache" and then decide to make up a pun sounding just like that and say "Sois sans tache." Voila! You have made a cipher motto appropriate for the person or event.

And quite a cypher it was. It only took over eighty-six years for family and friends to understand this mystery. The puzzling question remains why a father wanted to put a cipher motto on his daughter's tombstone. The mysterious and strange mind of Professeur Heron-Allen strikes again. On to our next adventure.

John P. Mahoney

REFERENCES

1.) Mahoney, John P., and Mahoney, Barbara P.: The Mystery of an Illuminated Painted Memorial Text on the Life of Armorel Daphne Heron-Allen. The Heron-Allen Society Newsletter, No. 31, Autumn 2017, (Chichester), 6-11

EDWARD HERON-ALLEN'S DREAM HOUSE IN CORNWALL

Received opinion has it that Edward Heron-Allen looked for a house on the south coast on the advice of his doctors for the health of his elder daughter Itha, but it is clear from his holiday Journals that he was already looking to move out of London when his wife first became pregnant.

In May and June 1904 the Heron-Allens spent a month holidaying in the Queen's Hotel in Penzance where they used their time collecting material for the aquarium they created in their sitting room and visiting archaeological sites. They also found time to visit a tin mine and to do some site-seeing in West Penwith, and were especially interested in two houses on the coast of Mounts Bay to the west of St. Michael's Mount – Acton Castle and Pengersick Castle.

On 5 June Edward Heron-Allen wrote in his Penzance holiday journal : 'we drove all along the edge of the sea about 7 miles past Marazion & Peran & then plunged through narrow lanes down to Prussia Cove, the whilome headquarters of the smugglers & Carter the incumbent landlord of the 'King of Prussia' Inn which gave the cove its name & notoriety. A lovelier & wilder & prettier shore I have never seen bar Capri. The loveliest turf clothes the cliffs & terraces of rock go down to the shore with large rock pools filled with corallines, & the finest coloured trochus & limpets I ever saw, & peopled with rock gobies & blennies that dart about in all directions. Nour lay on the grass & I hunted the rocks with Binkie who fell & jumped into the sea at intervals for more than an hour. There are great caves & holes in the rocks, full of ferns & ideal to bathe in & we are grieved not to have found it before this. We intended to see Praa Sands & Pengersick Castle, but loafed so long in Prussia Cove that we had to drive straight back, arriving at 6.30. Acton Castle just round the point that shelters the cove is a charming looking old place, & the Kentish Boy told us that it might be for sale & the G.W.R. intended to buy it for a hotel! Ever since we have been building it into a castle in Spain where we want to come & live, for Nour has fallen madly in love with the place & it is the ideal southern seaside place that I have longed to live in for years. Pleasant dreams!'

Acton Castle, the subject of Heron-Allen's dreams, [Fig. 13]. Acton Castle, Perranuthnoe, Cornwall is a small castellated mansion, now a Grade II listed building, probably designed by John Wood the younger, famous for his design of the Royal Crescent and much else in Bath. It was built on the headland between Perranuthnoe and Prussia Cove in 1775 as a country house by John Stackhouse of Pendarves, who was a distinguished botanist, and it boasts breath-taking views over Mounts Bay and St. Michael's Mount from the Lizard to the Tater Du lighthouse.

John Stackhouse [Fig. 14] (1749-1819) was the second son of William Stackhouse, Doctor of Divinity and rector of St. Erne, Cornwall, who died in 1771, and nephew of Thomas Stackhouse, the theologian and controversialist. He was born at Trehane, Probus, in Cornwall. On 20 June 1758 he matriculated at Exeter College,

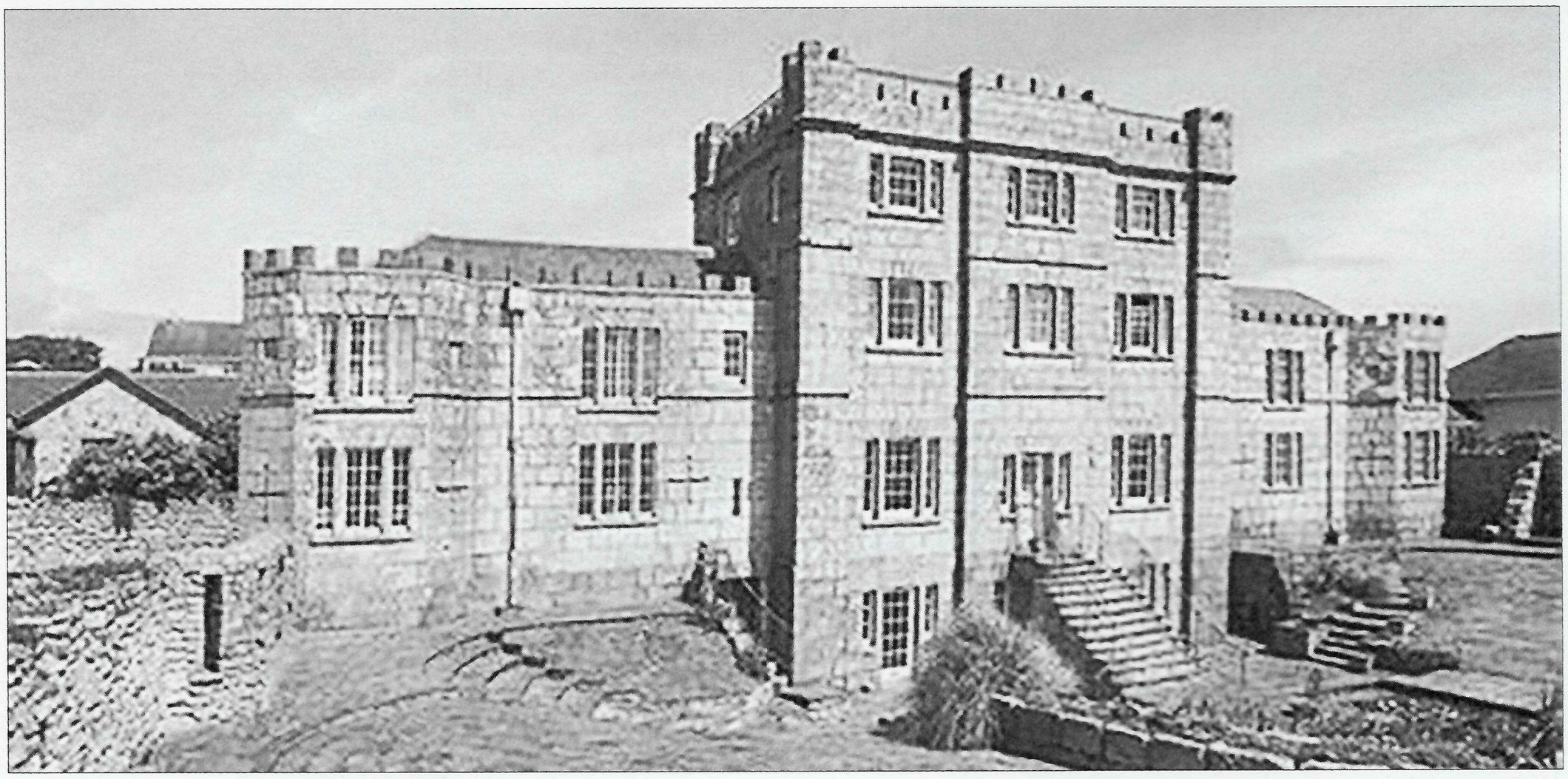


Figure 13: Acton Castle, Perranuthnoe, Cornwall

Cambridge, and was a Fellow of the college from 1761 to 1764. On succeeding his relative, Mrs. Grace Percival, sister of Sir William Pendarves, to the Pendarves estates in 1763, he resigned his fellowship, and, after travelling abroad for two or three years, settled on his newly acquired property. near Camborne. In 1804 he resigned the estate to his eldest surviving son, and retired to Bath.

Stackhouse was a botanist, primarily interested in spermatophytes, algae and mycology. He built Acton Castle, above Stackhouse Cove, Cornwall, in order to further his studies about the propagation of algae from their spores. He was the author of *Nereis Britannica; or a Botanical Description of British Marine Plants, in Latin and English, accompanied with Drawings from Nature* (1797), which deals mainly with the brown algal seawracks or fuci, and was based on his own researches. The *Illustrationes Theophrasti in usum Botanicorum præcipue peregrinantium*, Oxford, 1811, contains a lexicon and three catalogues giving the Linnæan names of the plants mentioned. The edition of *Theophrasti Eresii de Historia Plantarum libri decem)*, in 2 vols. 1813 and 1814, contains the Greek text, Latin notes, a glossary and Greek-Latin and Latin-Greek catalogues of the plants. From it Stackhouse reprinted in a separate form *De Libanoto, Smyrna, et Balsamo Theophrasti Notitiæ*, with prefatory *Extracts* from James Bruce's *Travels in Abyssinia,* Bath, 1815. The standard author abbreviation **Stackh.** is used to indicate this person as the author when citing a botanical name. He was one of the early fellows of the Linnean Society being elected in 1795. [The information in this paragraph is from https://www.liquisearch.com/john_stackhouse_botanist/works; the rest of the information on Stackhouse is from the wikipedia article - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Stackhouse_(botanist)]]

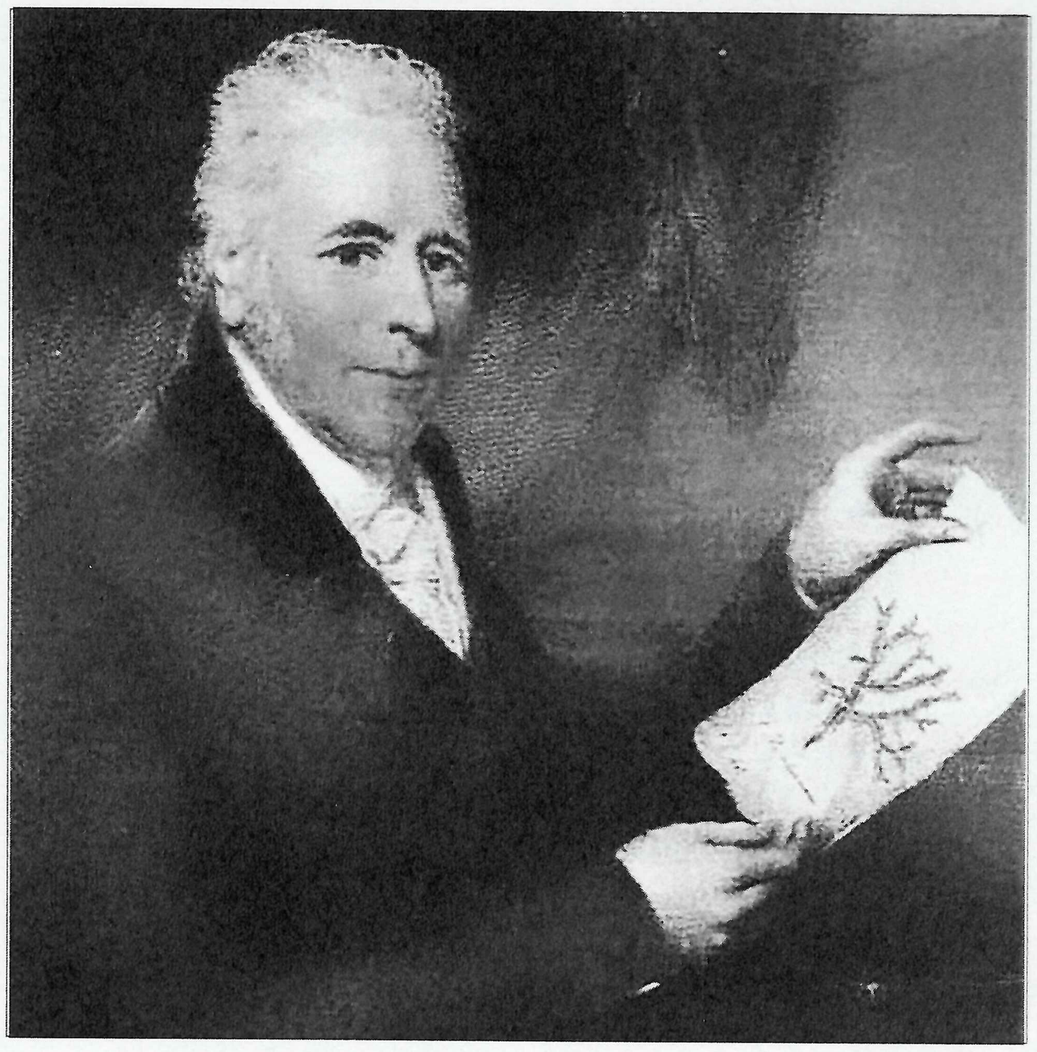


Figure 14: *John Stackhouse, 1749-1819*

On 21 April 1773 Stackhouse married Susanna Acton, only daughter and heir of Edward Acton of Acton Scott, Shropshire – hence the name of the castle – and they had four sons and three daughters. The eldest son, John, died young. The second, Edward William, assumed the surname of Pendarves in 1815. The third son, Thomas Pendarves, succeeded to the estate of Acton Scott, and assumed the additional surname of Acton in 1834. For her he had built the recently rediscovered bathrooms cut into the rocks underneath the headland at the cove.

Stackhouse died at his house at Edgar Buildings, Bath, on 22 November 1819. His name was commemorated by Sir James Edward Smith in the Australian plant genus *Stackhousia.*

Acton Castle later became the home of Vice-Admiral Bulkeley Mackworth Praed, Nelson's navigator at the Battle of the Nile in 1798. In the nineteenth-century two wings were added to the original central tower and the house spent most of the century in use as a hotel.

Today, Acton Castle "comprises seven unique and exclusive dwellings". The Castle's apartments and its garden are under private ownership. The John Stackhouse Apartment comprises the ground floor of the left wing at Acton Castle. [This information comes from https://www.actoncastle.co.uk/, hence my added quotation marks round the most obvious quote]. Whether or not Heron-Allen was aware of the scientific associations of Acton Castle – certainly he did not mention them in his holiday journal – a night's reflection decided him not to pursue his interest in the house. Probably he realised that to live in Cornwall was too far away from his life as a London solicitor.

He had one last look at the house and the next day he visited Pengersick Castle. Pengersick Castle, between Germoe and Praa Sands was built in about 1510 by William Worth as a tower house. It was improved c.1530 as a fortified manor house by John Milliton, but by the end of the century it was already in decline and by the nineteenth century was used as a granary and hay lofts. Heron-Allen wrote in his holiday journal: 'the Kentish Boy took us along the coast road, which was fearsomely dusty today to Praa Sands. On the way we dived down rather interesting & neglected drives in search of our castle, which we found at last, a dull & modern looking erection (but no doubt all the better for that!) magnificently situated on an alp overlooking the cove next to Prussia Cove, but an angry looking maid forbad our exploring it much. Then on to Praa Sands passing the Tudor Castle of Pengersick now left derelict in a

farmyard & used as a barn for corn. It is badly situated & we don't want it.'

The Castle was restored in 1968 and is now a wedding venue.

Heron-Allen's elder daughter, Itha, was born on 9 September 1904. In September 1906 the family holidayed in Bognor Regis for the purpose of finding a house on the South Coast. After searching Bognor, Pagham and Littlehampton they finally found a site on the Selsey peninsula where Heron-Allen purchased a piece of land on which he subsequently built his house – "Large Acres".

It is interesting to speculate how different his life would have been if he had settled in Cornwall.

Timothy J. McCann

TIM (TED) COLLINS (28 DECEMBER 1948 – APRIL 2022)

Members will be very sorry to hear of the death of our prominent member Ted Collins.Ted Collins first met up with the Society when he was on the bill at our first International Symposium held at the Royal Irish Academy in Dublin in 2000. We soon became friends and Ted played a large part in organising our hugely successful second International Symposium on Clare Island. Thereafter Ted and his wife, Eve, were ever-present members of every one of our foreign symposia in Corsica, Venice and Verona, Bologna, Modena and Ravenna, Pisa and Florence, La Rochelle, Mullranny Inishbofin and Galway, and Biarritz and Pau. Ted was always the life and soul of the parties with his wonderful gifts as a raconteur, his seeming ability to know everyone and his extraordinary genius for getting us all caught up in the most extraordinary situations. Sadly Ted and Eve never managed to get over for a society meeting in England [but see typical pose in Figure 15].

Timothy J. McCann

"A polymath" was how Galway hooker sailor and adventurer, Dr Michael Brogan described him, while colleagues at NUI Galway (NUIG) described him as a "true Renaissance man" who was both "kind and respectful" to students and staff.

Brogan first met him in the choir at what was then University College, Galway (UCG), and both were founder members of the Cois Cladaigh choir which marks its 40th anniversary this year.

"Tim contributed so much to maritime history and science, he was a great ornithologist, and he sailed with me on many trips in MacDuach, around Ireland and up to the west coast of Scotland," Brogan said.

Brogan singled out his work on the origins of and extensive writing about the Galway hooker – he published a paper on the subject for the Galway Archaeological and Historical Society.

Tim "Ted" Collins was born in London on December 28th, 1948. His parents Tim and Suzanne were from Co Clare, and as both came from large families they never settled in London, according to their grandson, Tim Collins Jr.

The couple returned to Ennis, Co Clare, when Tim was 11 years old, and opened a greengrocers shop in Abbey Street. Their son attended the Christian Brothers' school in Ennis and began studying at what was then University College, Galway in 1966.

During his time at UCG, he was involved in rowing and sang in the university choir. He graduated with a BSc, and took a diploma in librarianship from Liverpool John Moores University.

He worked in the Long Room Library in Trinity College Dublin for a year where, as Tim Jr recalled at his funeral, he "spoke proudly of looking after Brian Boru's harp and the arduous task of delicately turning the page in the Book of Kells for the tourists".

"Like Tim and Suzanne a few years earlier, he wanted to return to where he felt most at home, however. Happily, he was offered the job as librarian in the new James Hardiman library. It was clear to see that had found his niche," Tim Jr said.

There he met Evelyn Drinan – she had come to UCG to study science. She recalled how he was always as helpful as possible to people looking for something in the library. She also remembered how he offered to buy her a pint while she was on her own in Tigh Neachtain's pub in Galway, waiting for a friend.

They married in 1978 in Barna and lived in Fallon's thatched cottage on the Clybaun Road - a welcoming home remembered in their circle of friends as "somewhere to stay, somewhere to get fed and somewhere to have a late-night sessions".

They subsequently moved to a small red-bricked railway cottage just outside Moycullen beside Ross Lake, and then to Barna where they reared their three children, Tim Jr, Hazel and Adam. His children inherited his love of music – apart from singing, Tim also played the bodhrán.

He was both an avid reader and a prolific, published author on a very diverse set of topics. He wrote a "bio-bibliography" of Irish naturalist Robert Lloyd Praeger, entitled Floreat Hibernia, with a preface by naturalist David Bellamy, published by the Royal Dublin Society in 1985.

He was also author of Transatlantic Triumph and Heroic Failure: The Galway Line, published by Collins Press in 2003. In it, he recounted the colourful history of the Atlantic Steam Navigation Company, the Galway Line, which he described as one of the most unfortunate shipping lines ever registered.

He researched and wrote about Tuam native Dick Dowling who emigrated to the USA and became a decorated Confederate artillery officer in the American Civil War, and he also wrote a biography of his uncle Jimmie Collins who died at the age of 22 after the ship he was serving on, HMS Glorious, went down off the coast of Norway during the second world war.

He was also a contributor to the Clare Island Survey, having participated in the symposia initiated by island resident Ciara Cullen. Following his retirement from NUI Galway, he and Evelyn travelled extensively.

He maintained a keen interest in hurling, soccer and rugby – specifically Clare hurling, Liverpool Football Club and Connacht Rugby - and would often participate in lively discussions on same and other erudite topics with Ernie Deacy in Ernie's shop on Sea Road.

His family also remember his expert cooking, taking pride in his "patent stuffing" for the Sunday roast - a recipe passed on by his mother, Suzanne.

Speaking at his funeral, Dr Brendan O'Connor, marine scientist, recalled that Tim Collins was a "one of a kind" person "whose deep, deep knowledge of the history of 19th and early 20th century Irish marine natural history was exceptional".

" I have never met anyone with a similar in-depth knowledge of this topic. With Tim's passing, I don't think I ever will again either - a huge loss," O'Connor said.

"He was an avid researcher not only of the people who did the research but also the vessels on which they worked. Clearly, his tour de force was Praeger and the Clare Island Survey but he also researched individual Clare Island surveyors including the author of the volume on Foramenifera (a phylum of small shelled protozoans), Edward Heron-Allen".

O'Connor noted that the Heron-Allen Society in Britain would bring Tim with them on field trips to where Heron-Allen had visited to collect forameniferans. They were also keen to quiz him about his knowledge of Heron-Allen.

"It was Tim who prompted me to carry out biographical research on another of the Clare Island Survey specialists, Rowland Southern, a person whose contribution not only to Irish and European specific marine invertebrate phyla but also on a world scale has been greatly under-recognised," O'Connor recalled.

"He regularly rang me to see how I was getting on and would tut-tut when I would tell him " .... sorry, not there yet, Tim"," O'Connor said.

O'Connor recalled Tim's keen interest in local history, and how he would often head off with O'Connor, Michael Brogan and Seamus McGuire to some "out of the way pub for a few tunes on a Friday or Saturday night".

"These sessions (and any encounter with Tim) were all laced with wit, humour, laughter and devilment," O'Connor said.

He was very proud of his grandson Peter Timothy who arrived just over four weeks before his passing. "Ted was definitely over the moon to be a grandfather. We have it on record already that he told us Peter was his favourite grandchild," Tim Jr said.

Tim Jr recalled how his father had watched the England v Ireland rugby match with him and his sister Hazel shortly before his death. His father was "in fine form, giving out about Marcus Smith's haircut, grumblingevery time Maro Itoje got near the ball and of course being delighted with the result as Ireland hammered England on their home turf..."

Lorna Siggins

Reproduced from [*Galway Harbour, Galway Hooker*]

THE SOCIETY'S WEBSITE

The Heron-Allen Society's website is at: http://www.heronallensociety.co.uk The webmaster, Maira Canzonieri, can be contacted through the website or directly by e-mail at: maira.canzonieri@rcm.ac.uk. Maira updates our web-site on a regular basis, and members are encouraged to keep in touch by making use of it. There is an opportunity on the site for members to make comments and suggestions and to post queries.

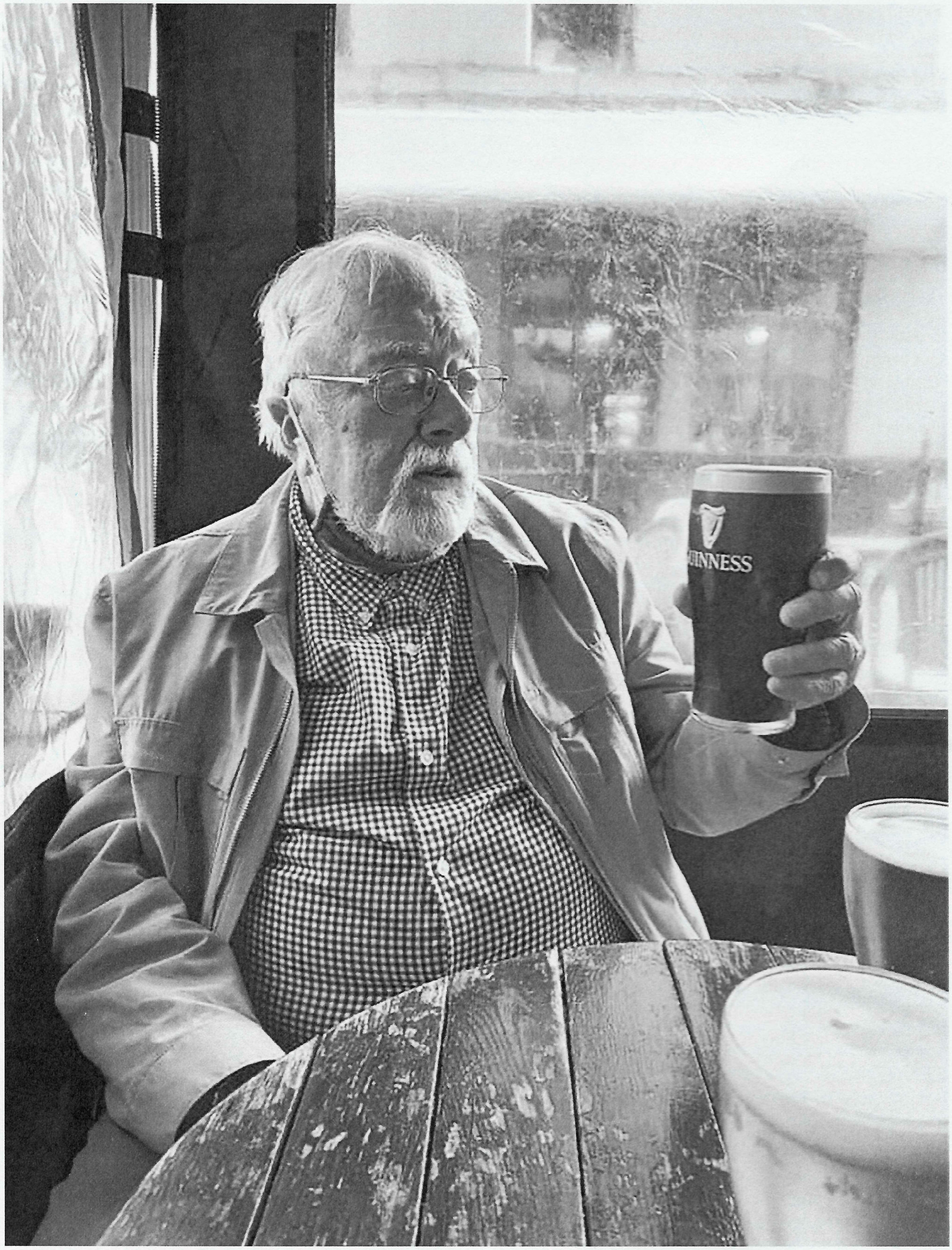


Figure 15: Tim (Ted) Collins