The Heron-Allen Society

Newsletter
no. 6
Spring 2005

FIFTH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

The fifth annual Heron-Allen Society Symposium will be held in the Allen Room, Dean Street, Soho, London at 11.00am on Saturday 2 July 2005.

PROGRAMME

Theme: Edward Heron-Allen and Friends

Welcome and Introduction by the Chairman

'Edward Heron-Allen, Raymond Tinne-Berthon and Treasure Trove at Selsey', by Timothy J. McCann

'My friend Fortescue William Millett, the last of the "Great Foraminiferologists"' by Richard Hodgkinson.

'Edward Heron-Allen and Bram Stoker's Mummies', by Dr. Joann Fletcher

Lunch at the Golden Lion, Dean Street [on the first floor on the opposite side of the road from the Allen Room]

Annual General Meeting

'Edward Heron-Allen's Juvenilia' by Ivor Jones and the Jones Family

Edward Heron-Allen, c.1910

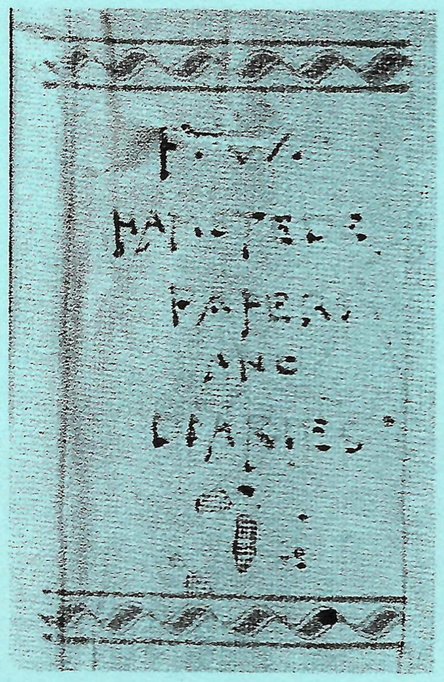
Will those wishing to attend the Symposium please contact the Secretary, Ivor Jones at Sweets Farmhouse, Stour Row, Shaftesbury, Dorset. SP7 OQH. Tel: 01747 838201. E-mail:heron_allenjones1@hotmail.com. A buffet lunch has been arranged at the Golden Lion (provisional price c.£6 a head). It is important that all those wishing to join us for lunch should let the Secretary know by 18 June.

ANNUAL HERON-ALLEN LECTURE

The annual Heron-Allen lecture will take place on Friday 11 March 2005 at 5.15pm in the Talbot Hall, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford. The speaker will be Dr. Garry Brown, Tutor in Biochemistry at Lady Margaret Hall. His title is, "When the wheels stop spinning: genetic defects of microchondrial energy generation".

Will those wishing to attend the lecture please contact Julia Gilbert, Development Officer at Lady Margaret Hall (e-mail: development@lady-margaret-hall.oxford.ac.uk or tel: 01865 274362)

EDWARD HERON-ALLEN AND FREDERICK WILLIAM HAMSTEDE



E.H-A;s file of Hamstede Papers

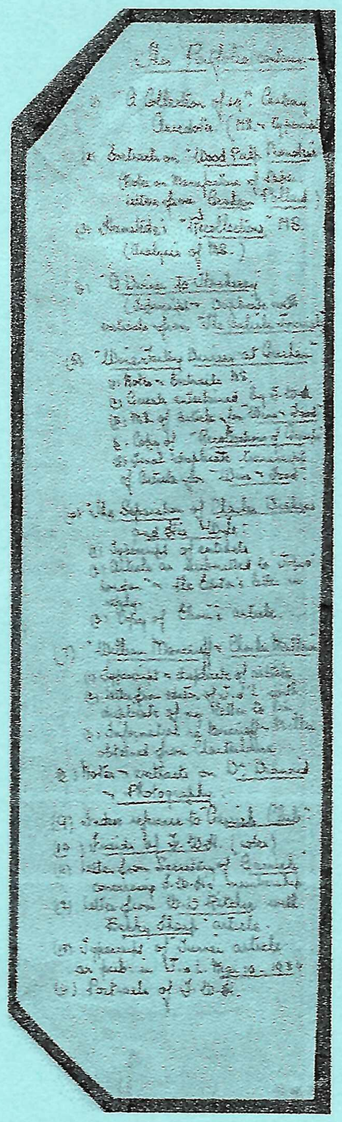
Towards the end of 2004 West Sussex Record Office was offered and duly purchased a file of Edward Heron-Allen's papers relating to Frederick William Hamstede.

Frederick William Hamstede was born in London on 4 November 1803, the son of James Frederick Hamstede and Anna, nee Richardson, his wife. Frederick William Hamstede was crippled after a childhood accident and was educated privately at Woolwich and then spent six years in Bremen with his parents. For many years he was engaged in a commercial career, but from an early age he was involved with literary society. He was first introduced into such society by his cousin, Major Richardson, the founder of the *London Weekly Review*, which later became the *Court Journal*.

Hamstede has two claims on our attention. First, he was a member, and usually secretary, of a succession of literary dining clubs. He began in 1847 with the Museum Club, which included a number of well-known writers among its members, and of which an inner core of twelve members soon formed the Zodiac Club, chaired by Douglas Jerrold. After the dissolution of the Museum Club, many of the former members formed the Hooks and Eyes Club in 1850, of which Hamstede was the Secretary. This quickly became Our Club, and then Thackeray was elected to join the original twenty seven members, which included Jerrold, Macready, Horace Mayhew and members of the Dickens family. Hamstede was also a member of the Gresham Club and in 1854 became a member of the Garrick Club, when Charles Dickens was one of his proposers.

The second claim is that he kept a detailed diary of his literary pursuits, wrote a volume of "Recollections" and maintained an extensive correspondence until his death in 1884. Hamstede was an intimate friend of Heron-Allen's maternal grandmother, whom he met in 1823. He was a regular visitor to Heron-Allen's father's house, and when he died his papers came into Heron-Allen's possession. Heron-Allen jealously preserved these papers throughout his life, but does not seem to have done anything with them. When his health declined after the death of his daughter Armorel, he passed the collection to Harriett James, who lived in Selsey and collaborated with him on some of his later historical and literary projects. Harriett James used the diaries as the basis of two articles - 'Thackeray and Becky Sharp' and 'William Turner' which were published in *John O'London's Weekly* in February and March 1934. She also prepared other articles - 'A Dinner to Thackeray'; 'Wine Tasting Dinners at Greshams'; 'The Separation of Charles Dickens and his Wife'; and 'William Moncrieff and Charles Matthews' - which she offered to *John O'London's Weekly*. The article about the Gresham Dinners was eventually published in the *Wine and Food Society Review* in September 1936.

The file purchased by the Record Office is inscribed on the back in Heron-Allen's hand 'F.W. Hamstede Papers and Diaries'. On the inside cover is a list, in Harriett James's hand, of fourteen items:



Inside cover

(1) A Collection of 19th. Century anecdotes (MS & typescript)
(2) Extracts on 'Wood Pulp Promotors' (Notes & 3 letters to EHA from Graham Pollard of Birrell & Garnet Ltd, booksellers, 1935)
(3) Hamstede's Recollections (MS., with letter to Edmund Yates from FWH, 1872))
(4) 'A Dinner to Thackeray' (TS)
(5) 'Wine Tasting Dinner at Greshams'
(6) 'The Separation of Charles Dickens and his wife' (T/S with correspondence)
(7) 'William Moncreiff and Charles Matthews' (T/S with correspondence)
(8) Notes and extracts on Dr. Diamond & Photography

(9) Index of references to the Garrick Club
(10) Friends of F.W. Hamstede
(11) Letter from Secretary of the Garrick Club concerning Hamstede's membership (Actually 2 letters to EHA, 1935)
(12) Letter from W.W. Richey with Becky Sharp article
(13) Typescript of 'Turner' article
(14) Portraits of F.W. Hamstede.

When the file was offered to the Record Office, most of the contents were intact, but it did not contain items 4, 12, 13 and 14. The Hamstede Diaries were not in Harriett James's contents list, and their present whereabouts is unknown. Heron-Allen told the Secretary of the Garrick Club in 1936 that he still possessed the diaries, but they were not listed in any of the sale catalogues after his death. Some of Hamstede's correspondence and papers can now be found in Heron-Allen's autograph books. Presumably the Hamstede file descended with Harriett James's papers and not with those of Heron-Allen. It is now with other Heron-Allen papers in the custody of the West Sussex Record Office and available for consultation.

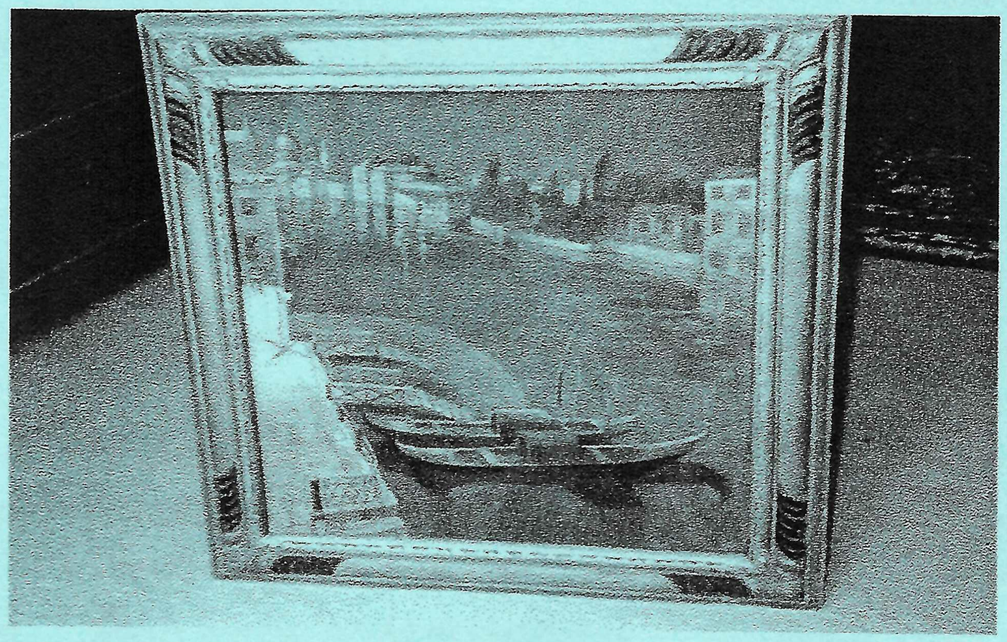
Timothy J. McCann

WINIFRED ELIZABETH BEATRICE HARDMAN

In Newsletter No 4 it was stated that the painter of Edward Heron-Allen's portrait was William Hardman, in fact, the artist was Winifred Elizabeth Beatrice Hardman.

According to the 1901 Census, she was born in Rawtenstall in the Rossendale Valley, East Lancashire, the daughter of William and Winifred (Freda) Hardman of Brooks Bourne in Bleasdale, near Garstang, West Lancashire. He was a labour worker at the Lancashire Reformatory School there.

Winifred Hardman studied at St. John's Wood Art School and entered the Royal Academy schools on 27 February 1913: her studentship expired in 1921. The Academy Schools were greatly disrupted during World War I, so this would explain her extended tenure. She exhibited at the Royal Academy, the Royal Scottish Academy, the New English Art Club, the provinces and overseas. She was a Member of the Society of Sussex Painters. From c.1920 she was a painter in oil and tempura of portraits and figure subjects. She first exhibited at the Royal Academy in 1923 with "Florence from the Windows of the Uffizi" and last in 1959 with "Tulips and Iris".



Moonlight in Venice by Winifred Hardman (PH. 18,651)

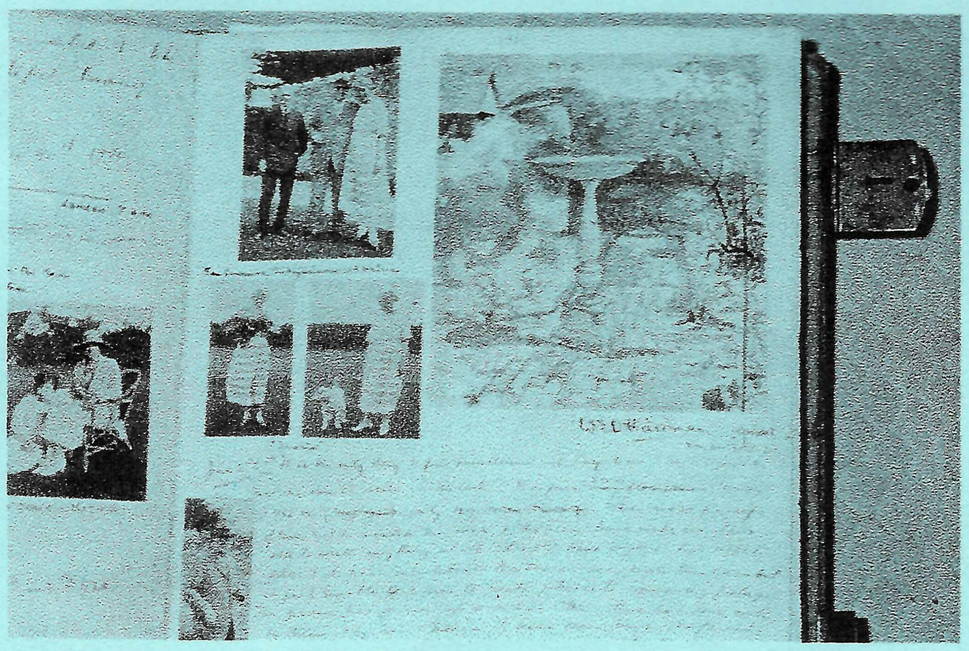
I took an interest in Winifred Hardman when I bought an oil-painting of hers which had belonged to EH-A and I've entitled "Moonlight in Venice". The painting could have been inspired by EH-A talking to her of Venice, where he spent his honeymoon. He revisited the city many times, and, in 1922, with his family. EH-A had a life-long affection for Venice, as does Society member Jan Morris. It is noted that Winifred first exhibited a painting at the Royal Academy in 1923, so "Moonlight in Venice" could have been painted in the same year.

The oil-painting despite being cleaned by experts is still sombre, with dark turquoise the predominant colour of the canal, the moonlight is seen shining on two gondolas moored alongside a jetty and also shows buildings on both sides of the canal. Symbolically the moon meant much to EH-A.

On 3 October 1999 one painting and a drawing of hers were on the website of artprice.com. The water-colour was of a gondola on a Venetian canal and it does sound as if they could have been the precursor of "Moonlight in Venice".

Winifred Hardman's first visit to the home of EH-A, Large Acres, Selsey Sussex, was 12 April 1917 with Gladys Bingham, EH-A's "red-headed protegee" (mentioned in the "War Journal"). They were on holiday from working as oxyacetylene welders, makers of airplanes and bombs at Hendon. Gladys Bingham's father was the curate-in-charge of Christchurch, Harrogate, Yorkshire who married EH-A to Edith Emily Pepler in November 1903. In November 1918 Winifred joined the "FANY" she called it Field Ambulance Nursing Yeomanry (actually First Aid Nursing Yeomanry) and helped with repatriating refugees in Alsace Lorraine.

On her second visit to Large Acres, her mother Freda accompanied her, staying from 2-6 June 1921. In the Large Acres Book, vol. 1, are photographs of her with the noted scientist, Sir Roy Lankester, and others by herself, where EH-A has captioned them with "Sunshine", a name he must have chosen because of her sunny disposition. At this time she painted a water-colour as a 'thank you' for her visit, which has been pasted in the Visitors Book. Winifred's water-colour is painted from the pergola, of a birdbath, which was situated in the middle of the rose garden at Large Acres.



Birdtable at Large Acres by Winifred Hardman (PH.18,650)

Winifred Hardman visited "Large Acres" again 8-13 May 1924. This time she left a poem in the Large Acres Visitors Book:

"Oh woe is me! Alackaday!
How can I think of things to say,
That differ from the usual way
Of writing that - I've loved my stay
In Selsey" - Though the sky be grey
And rain has fallen every day,
I've seen the flowers bright & gay
More beautiful this chilly May
Than any blossoms London way.
And watched the waves, that in their play
Would swallow up the fishing bay -
Also Mah Jong "I've learned to play
And heard the "concealed dragons" neigh!
So with this wish I end my lay:-
Please may I come again some day."

"Sunshine"

Her last recorded visit to Large Acres was 23-26 March 1928, whereupon she wrote:-

"Er is ein tijd te Komen
Er is ein tijd te gaan".

It is interesting to note that Gladys Bingham's address is given as 327 Keisergracht, Amsterdam, Holland in EH-A's *Selsey Bill, Historic and Prehistoric* etc (1911) and that her wartime friend Winifred liked painting tulips.

It seems likely that Winifred painted the portrait of EH-A sitting at his desk, in the Science Room adjoining his Large Acres Library upon her visit in 1921.The portrait is dated "1922" in her own hand, so she obviously finished it in the year after her visit. The whereabouts of the original portrait is unknown. A photograph of this painting is on display in the Heron-Allen Room at the Natural History Museum in London. A copy was sent to the Smithsonian Institute in America by none other than our member Dr. John Whittaker of the NHM in the 1980s.

Winifred Hardman's name disappeared from the electoral registers of Bosham (Chichester) Sussex in 1972: she would have been 82 when she died.

If any member knows anything about the portrait that Winifred Hardman painted of EH-A, the Society would love to hear from you.

Venetia B.N. Jones

Sources:

Royal Academy Exhibitors, vol. IV E-Har (1978), 255.
Dictionary of British Artists Working 1900-1950 by Grant Waters
Eastbourne, *Eastbourne Fine Arts* (1975), 150.
Large Acres Visitors Book, vols. 1 & 2
The Archivist, Royal Academy, 6 April 2004
Members of the EH-A Society

AN INTERVIEW WITH MORTON SWINBURNE IN THE BOGNOR POST, Saturday 19th January 1929.

Part 1

[This is the first part of an interview that appeared in the Bognor Post on 19 January 1929. The article was signed 'M.S.' This was almost certainly Morton Swinburn, who was editor of the Post from 1935 until 1966. Swinburn, like Heron-Allen led a colourful life. In his youth he was a well-known professional boxer, and later taught boxing at Northcliffe House School in Bognor for 20 years. He joined the Southern Post Ltd in 1925 from the Portsmouth Times and was the reporter in charge of the Chichester and Selsey area. Heron-Allen would have found him a kindred spirit since Swinburn had a life-long interest in natural history and wild life. He was a elected a fellow of the Zoological Society in 1938.
TJM]

This is the romance of Mr Edward Heron-Allen F. R.S. whose remarkable career outshines the most extravagant fiction. Mr Heron-Allen, who first saw the light of day on December 17th 1861, has gained renown as the world's highest authority on Foraminifera (minute forms of marine life), but in addition to this particular branch of science, which admitted him to the Fellowship of the Royal Society, he is an Oriental scholar, litterateur, archaeologist, lawyer and meteorologist, to name only a few of his manifold interests. Contrast these learned activities with the fact that during a visit to America in his early days he kept the wolf from the door by becoming in turn – journalist, actor and even circus rider and you have some idea of the amazing versatility of this amazing man.

Mr Heron-Allen bears striking testimony to the truth of the old saw that work never kills. Despite his sixty-seven years, he radiates energy. Moreover, he has the happy faculty of conversing upon obtuse technical subjects in a manner easily understandable to the lay mind.

During an interesting talk in his spacious library at "Large Acres", Selsey, Mr Heron-Allen gave me a brief sketch of his varied career. He spoke of his early days at Harrow, how, after joining his father's firm as an articled clerk, he apprenticed himself to a violin maker, in order to learn the secrets of the craft, and passed on to discuss the hedonistic philosophy of Omar Khayyam.

It was pure chance that first excited Mr Heron-Allen's interest in marine zoology. Even as a boy the wonders of the microscope always had a strong appeal and one day his science master at Harrow gave him a small box of sand collected in the West Indies "just to keep me quiet" as Mr Heron-Allen put it. Many eventful hours did the young scholar spend with the sand and the microscope, separating and mounting the minute shells which struck him as being the most beautiful. These diminutive marvels of marine life proved to be species of Foraminifera which were afterwards to form his life's study.

At this time, the microscope and the violin vied with one another for pride of place in the boy's affections and when he left Harrow at the end of 1878, he began to collect books relating to the history and construction of that instrument. After much study and research he elaborated a theory concerning the origin of the violin which had never been advanced before.

The ancestor of the violin was generally supposed to be the Welsh Crwth, of which one finds representations in the sculptures of the 12th and 13th centuries. But Mr Heron-Allen came to the conclusion that the crwth was a modified descendant of the Greek lyre, whilst the violin was the lineal descendant of the earliest bow instrument which originated, according to tradition, in China or Ceylon about 4,000 B.C.

Mr Heron-Allen submitted his contention to Carl Engel, the curator of musical instruments at South Kensington Museum, but Carl only laughed and declared the theory to be all nonsense. Undoubtedly the ancestor of the violin was the crwth, he said.

Engle died and his library was sold and at the sale, where he sought to purchase books on the violin, Mr Heron-Allen made the acquaintance of Bernard Quaritch, the famous bookseller. They became great friends and he invited the young student to read a paper on his theory before the

"Sette of Odde Volumes" a literary dining club which Quaritch had founded in 1878. Mr Heron-Allen expounded his theory in June 1882 and fortunately (as it proved) his youthful vanity induced him to print his paper, which he dedicated to "The Sette".

Now for the curious sequel. In 1883, Carl Engle's history of the violin was published by his literary executor and in it he stated as his own, Mr Heron-Allen's theory of the ancestry of the violin. This was acclaimed as correct by the entire musical and antiquarian world!

Meanwhile Mr Heron-Allen discovered that no book had ever been written on how to make a violin. More or less accurate theories had been published and elementary accounts of the construction had been included, but the real practical secrets had not been divulged. Determined to glean first-hand information on the subject, he apprenticed himself to Georges Chanot, the last of the great classic violin makers. Every moment that he could steal from his profession saw him busily engaged in the workshop, or serving in the shop itself.

It should be mentioned that at this period Mr Heron-Allen was an articled clerk to his father and that he subsequently became head of the firm of Allen and Son, who were, and still are, the oldest firm of solicitors in London that have existed in a long unbroken succession from father to son, since the latter part of the 18th century. But to return to the violin.

During his period of apprenticeship Mr Heron-Allen noted carefully every step in the construction of two violins which he made in Chanot's workshop. One of these instruments he always played at concerts or in orchestras and is used by his daughter to this day.

As the result of his practical observations, Mr Heron-Allen published in 1884 a comprehensive treatise on the history and construction of the violin. When the book made its appearance Chanot was highly indignant, declaring that he would never have accepted the author as a pupil had he known that the closely guarded secrets of the art were to be made public.

It remains today the only complete practical treatise on violin making and Meredith Morris, in his work on "English Violin Makers," attributes the foundation of the modern school of violin makers to Mr Heron-Allen's book.

The immediate outcome of this work was the beginning of Mr Heron-Allen's public life. He was appointed at the age of 23! – Commissioner for Italy of the Music Loan Exhibition held in London in 1885, and proceeded to Italy armed with credentials from the Prince of Wales to the Civil Government, and from the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster to the Papal Authorities, with plenary powers to collect and forward to England musical instruments, manuscripts and other such matters for exhibition. The result was the unique display of musical appliances of which the magnificent illustrated catalogue is the lasting monument. Mr Heron-Allen relates the astonishment depicted upon the faces of Syndics of the towns and Bishops of dioceses in finding that the much heralded "Plenipotentiary" was a mere youth of unparalleled assurance.

While studying violin construction at first-hand, Mr Heron-Allen founded the now celebrated amateur orchestral society, "The Strolling Players". It was the first society of its kind to admit ladies, for violin playing amongst ladies was then a very rare thing.

Morton Swinburne

AMENDMENTS TO NEWSLETTER 5

London Adventure Explorations into Hidden Literary London

In the brief notes I made in my diary during the walk, I made some factual errors.
First, EH-A read Cyril Wilde's horoscope not his palm.
Secondly, Linley Sambourne did not design the cover for EH-A's book, but EH-A and his wife Marianna (Molly) did visit him in his house.
Thirdly, it was the Geological Society - not Microscopic Society in the courtyard of the Royal Academy of Arts.

V.B.N.J.

THE HERON-ALLEN BIOGRAPHY

Joan Navarre is writing a biography of Edward Heron-Allen. Any information concerning Heron-Allen (e.g letters, manuscripts, photographs) will be greatly appreciated.
E-mail: jnavarre@hotmail.com

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

Andrew Henderson and John E. Whittaker, "The Clare Island Survey of 1911 - a scientific expedition with pretty girls', in *Opusculum VII* (2005), 51-58.

Richard L. Hodgkinson, 'An Introduction to Foraminifera', in *Opusculum VII* (2005), 3-10.

Michael A. Kaminski, 'Edward Heron-Allen and his theory of "Purpose and Intelligence in the Foraminifera"', in *Opusculum VII* (2005), 11-31

Clive Jones, 'Some Treasures of the Heron-Allen Library at the Natural History Museum', in *Opusculum VII* (2005), 32-50

John E. Whittaker, (ed.), *Edward Heron-Allen FRS: Scientist. Proceedings of the 4th. Heron-Allen Symposium, 2004.* Heron-Allen Society Opusculum VII, (2005)

ADDITIONS TO THE HERON-ALLEN ARCHIVE AT WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE

CORRESPONDENCE

Copies of correspondence between Richard Le Gallienne and Edward Heron-Allen, with letters from Messrs. Withalls & Belton and George C. Haite, 1893. (Add. MS. 54,842) [By kind permission of Liverpool Record Office]

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographs taken at the 4th. Heron-Allen Symposium at the Natural History Museum, 3 July 2004 (PH. 18,629-18,633)

Photographs taken at the unveiling of a plaque to Edward Heron-Allen at Selsey, 15 July 2002 (PH. 18,634-18,647)

Photograph of the portrait of Edward Heron-Allen by R.B. Ogle, 1920 (PH. 18,648)

Photographs of watercolour of the garden at Large Acres, 1921, by Winifred E.B. Hardman (PH 18,649-18,650)

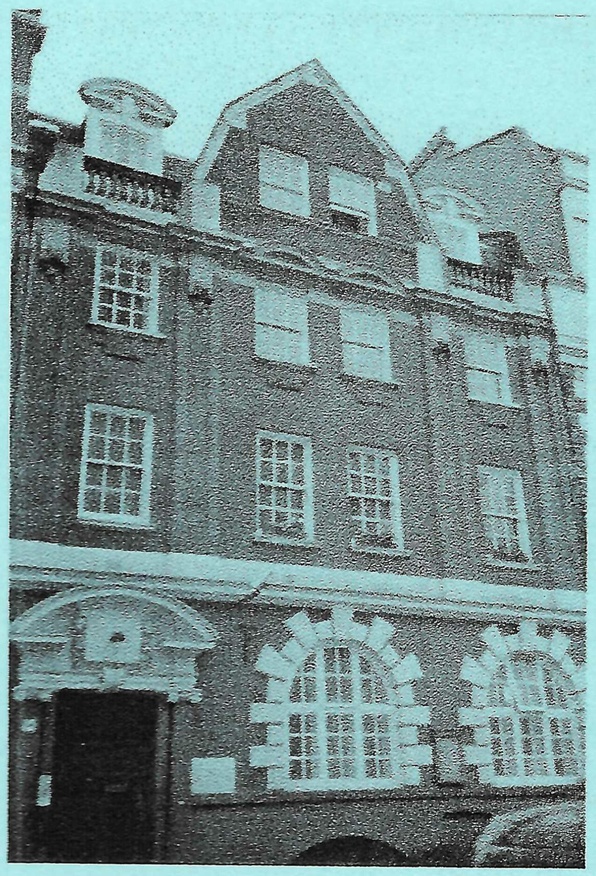
Photographs of 'Moonlight in Venice'; by Winifred E.B. Hardman (PH 18,51-18,653)

Photographs of the London Adventure Heron-Allen walk, June 2004 (PH 18,654-18,655)

BOOKS

Selina Dolara, *Bella-Demonia* (Chicago: Belford, Clarke & Company, 1889)

OFFICERS



The Allen Rooms, Dean Street, Soho, (PH 17,792)

Chairman/Archivist — Timothy McCann, West Sussex Record Office, County Hall, Chichester. West Sussex. PO19 1RN. Tel: 01243-753616. E-mail: tim.mccann@westsussex.gov.uk

Secretary/Treasurer — Ivor Jones, Sweets Farmhouse, Stour Row, Shaftesbury, Dorset. SP7 OQH Tel: 01747-838201. E-mail: heron_allenjones1@hotmail.com

Secretary (in waiting) — Fiona Jones, Sweets Farmhouse, Stour Row, Shaftesbury Dorset, SP7 OQH Tel: 01747-838201 E-Mail: Fiona.Jones@ubht.swest.nhs.uk

Minutes Secretary — Peter Wilkinson, West Sussex Record Office, County Hall, Chichester West Sussex. PO19 1RN. Tel: 01243-753618 E-Mail: peter.wilkinson@westsussex.gov.uk

MEMBERSHIP

Members pay a fee (a minimum of £10) on joining, and £10 annually in July thereafter. Members are entitled to the Newsletter, information about the annual Symposium, the current Opusculum, and information about the Society's activities. Any Society publication will normally be paid for separately. Any back publication will be charged for separately (if still in print). Members are reminded that prompt payment of subscriptions enables the Society to continue to publish its Opuscula. Enquiries should be addressed to the Secretary.

I/We enclose my/our subscription for 2005.

Name:

Address

The Heron-Allen Newsletter was edited by Timothy J. McCann and designed and produced by Caroline Adams

THE HERON-ALLEN SOCIETY

ACCOUNTS 1.7.01 - 30.6.02

RECEIPTS		PAYMENTS	
Brought Forward	205·75	Stationery & Postage	51.78
Subscriptions	358·30	Opuscula No. 3.	181.00
Bank Interest	0·43	Balance 30.6.02	331.70
	£ 564:48		£ 564:48

Hon. Treasurer