# 'ARMOREL HERON-ALLEN AND OXFORD': PROCEEDINGS OF THE 7th HERON-ALLEN SYMPOSIUM, 2007

Edited by

TIMOTHY J. McCANN

TALKS DELIVERED AT THE SEVENTH
HERON-ALLEN SYMPOSIUM,
AT LADY MARGARET HALL,
OXFORD, 7 JULY 2007
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*Opusculum XI*
Heron-Allen Society

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'Armorel Heron-Allen and Oxford': Proceedings of the 7th Heron-Allen Symposium, 2007: Talks delivered by Ivor Jones, Joan Navarre, Alethea Pitt, Brian Hulan and Timothy J. McCann at the Seventh Heron-Allen Symposium, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, July 2007.

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Cover: Portrait of Armorel Daphne Heron-Allen, reproduced by kind permission of Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford.

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# THE SEVENTH ANNUAL HERON-ALLEN SYMPOSIUM AT LADY MARGARET HALL, OXFORD

by TIMOTHY J. McCANN

The theme of the Society's seventh Annual Symposium, held on Saturday, 1 July 2007, was Armorel Heron-Allen and Oxford, and it was entirely appropriate that the it was held at Lady Margaret Hall in Oxford, where Armorel had been an undergraduate from 1926 to 1930. The Society is grateful to the Principal and to the staff of the college who made us so welcome.

Armorel Daphne Heron-Allen was born on 15 June 1908. Her father, Edward Heron-Allen, had already decided on her christian name. The edition of *Notes and Queries*, dated 9 November 1907, carries a query from him: 'can any of your readers tell me the origin and significance of the name Armorel for a girl? (cf. 'Armorel of Lyonesse')' . Like Baron Corvo before him, Heron-Allen answered his own query in the issue of 20 February 1908: 'I am at last able to answer my own query. The name is taken from an old Celtic (? Breton) word *armor*, signifying "the sea". Therefore Armorel signifies a sea-maiden', or one who, like Sir W. Besant's heroine, is born or lives by, or belongs to, the sea'. At the time of the birth, the Heron-Allen family were living by the sea at Large Acres in Selsey, and the name seemed entirely appropriate.

Her tragically short life was chronicled in 'The Book of Armorel' and in the Large Acres Visitors books compiled by her parents. Armorel's nephew, Ivor Jones, made full use of the family records in his account of her early life, up to her arrival at Lady Margaret Hall. Joan Navarre followed this introduction with an illustrated exploration of Armorel's close



friendship with her fellow student, Elizabeth Harman, later Lady Longford, drawing on a wide range of sources, including the writings and personal testimony of Lady Longford herself. Alethea Pitt, the widow of Edward Heron-Allen's solicitor, was unfortunately unable to deliver her reminiscences of Lady Margaret Hall and the Heron-Allen family, but we are delighted to include them here. We are also grateful to Lady Margaret Hall for permission to reprint the account of the scholarships founded in Armorel's memory by Edward Heron-Allen after Armorel's premature death, by Alethea Pitt and Marjorie Ridley, the first Heron-Allen scholar.

Brian Hulan was also unable to attend the symposium but his contribution discussing the wide-ranging connections made from Armorel's inscribed copy of her father's book on Omar Khayyam was delivered for him. Finally, Timothy McCann explored the friendship between Edward Heron-Allen and John Johnson, and the former's contributions to the latter's collection of printed ephemera, now in the Bodleian Library, often handed over on the day of the awards of the scholarships in Armorel's memory.

# ARMOREL DAPHNE HERON-ALLEN: THE EARLY YEARS

by IVOR JONES

My aunt, Armorel was born on the 15th June, 1908 to the wife of Edward Heron-Allen. It was an oddity of those days only to mention the father's name – the mother merely being referred to as the wife. How times have changed!

She was killed in a car crash on 30th July, 1930 shortly after her 22nd birthday some five and a half months after I was born so I can't say I ever really knew her. My colleague Doctor Joan Navarre will talk about her University life. This talk is designed to fill in the gap between birth and her time at Lady Margaret Hall to which her father endowed a scholarship in her memory.

Her father, Edward Heron-Allen was a Partner in the Solicitors firm of Allen & Sons. In addition to being a qualified solicitor he was a polymath of no mean ability, being an F.R.S. as well as a member of other Royal Societies and Literary, Scientific and Musical including Ye Sette of Odde Volumes.

He also in his twenties supported himself for three years in the United States telling fortunes from reading palms. His book, *a Manual of Cheirosophy* was published in 1885 and is still in print; I understand it is required reading for anyone in the fortune-telling business.

This is the only reference I will make to her father whose many achievements are recorded elsewhere. The reason I do so is because on 15th November 1918 when Armorel was only 10 years old he wrote along the top of a page of *The Times* of that date "I have accidentally seen Armorel's hands, & if there



is a true scientific basis for Cheirosophy she will die by a violent death between the ages of 20 and 23. It still sends a shiver over me every time I look at that cutting, which I have with me today.

Today is the Society's Seventh Symposium taking place on the Seventh Day of the Seventh month of the Seventh year in the present millennium.

Seven has always been considered a number with the power of good and was believed in by him; indeed when he gave directions for the disposal of the Purple Sapphire he had it enclosed in seven boxes to harness its malignant power.

So let us hope the auspices are with us today.

At her birth her parents started a manuscript scrapbook of her life as they had already started one on her elder sister Itha, my mother.

The front page, written in her father's hand reads " This is the Chronicle of the Events in the Life of Armorel Daphne Heron-Allen called Armorel which signifies sea-girl from the old Breton-Celtic word "armor" which is the "sea" having been named at Selsey in January 1908".

Armorel was born at 4.40a.m.on Monday the 15th June 1908 at No.3 Northwick Terrace, Maida Hill, London NW.

In those days it was not possible to sex an unborn child – so how did her father know that he would have a second daughter six-months before she was born? Psychic or had he read Mint's palm?

The Charities in those days were very much on the ball and pleas from St Mary's Hospital, Plaistow & the Victoria Hospital for Children were quick off the mark and "rewarded" with half-a-crown and one guinea each.

Page two records her weight and page 3 her height up until 1923.

She was christened on 16th July the same year; in addition to the family an additional Godfather was Rowland Berkeley the Parliamentary Barrister (the precursor I suppose of either the Attorney General or the Solicitor General) who wrote in the Large Acres Visitors book on 3rd August 1914 "When the Great War began" probably the first person to use the word "Great".

Her first word (spoken at 10 months) was "Up" the context was not made clear.

The Scrapbook is full of early photographs, her scribblings and fond parent comments but in June 1913 a few days before her fifth birthday her father gave her some sand expecting her just to play with it but he presently found that she was carefully picking out one particular species of foraminifera (Polytrema miniaceum) and arranging them neatly on a slide using tweezers.

The following form a pastiche of her early life:

In early 1914 (before the Great War) when they were driving past Madame Tussaud's her sister asked how wax works were made. Their mother replied that she didn't know but presumed they were made the same way as wax dolls were. "Yes" said Armorel but the question is how do they wax dolls – its no use telling us that.

She certainly had all the imagination of a small child, she called herself Mrs Lillywhite and all her family of course have that surname. There is a mythical husband and father Mr Lillywhite and the family consists of one bear, Big Teddy, four rabbits, several dolls and one or two other creatures – all Lillywhites.



She loved rolling her R's (which I've never been able to do) so that certain words were elongated, for instance disgraceful became disgeraceful.

Just before her 5th birthday, here I'm quoted direct from her mother's "Book of Armorel" she had what might have been a terrible accident. She and Itha went down to the haymaking in Faith's Croft and Armorel was allowed to ride up to the rick on the top of the loaded hay-wagon, with the chauffer to take care of her. She did once quite safely, but the second time the cart went over a big bump in the road, and gave a tremendous jerk, which sent Armorel right up into the air. The chauffeur caught at her but only got a foot and the shoe came off in his hand and Armorel fell into the road.

She appears, however, to have broken her fall by clutching at the hay, & marvellously escaped being run over, or even breaking any bones. I had just come out of the house to the rick, and hearing screams, I ran down the lane to meet them. I took her straight to Doctor Barford (he was the local General Practitioner of the old sort – who you don't see any more). He put a stitch into two tiny but deep cuts, one on the right hand angle of her mouth, the other in the middle of the lower lip – she then goes on to describe her convalescence and the delay in her birthday tea.

I've put this extract in verbatim as she was remarkably lucky not to be scared for life – as you can see from the many pictures of her.

Between the ages of 5 and 6 she developed a real fear of fire, particularly in the home; her parents were at a loss to explain this but luckily for all she grew out of it.

Up until the middle of 1915 she and her sister had had a succession of German governesses (there didn't seem to have been the same internment of aliens as there was in the 2nd

World War). The last one a Fraulein Reichardt was summonsed back to Germany by her family as they expected England to be destroyed by German aeroplanes and Zeppelins.

In March 1915 she and Itha (her sister and my mother) took part in a song and dance pageant in the Empress Rooms (presumably in London) where she represented Canada and Itha sang Tipperary (my memory of my mother's voice was awful!)

In May of that year Armorel had her first serious illness – appendicitis, largely caused by the appendix being in the wrong place in her body, gladly she made a rapid & complete recovery after the operation.

Her father, being who he was went only for the best and engaged one of the leading English Surgeons, Sir John Bland-Sutton, whose fee was 130 guineas – extrapolated into today's prices about £30,000.

We then come to the war years and the entries are mostly about a pretty normal young girl growing up including some of her early school reports which were mainly good or very good until we get an entry "Work spoilt by dreaminess and untidiness, otherwise most intelligent".

During the Great War the Heron-Allen family played their part; her father worked at the War Office on intelligence and propaganda matters (his knowledge of Turkey proving particularly useful) her mother was appointed Commandant of the Grayling Hospital in Chichester which looked after wounded soldiers. Armorel and her elder sister took part in numerous concerts raising money for the West Sussex Hospital (there was no National Health in those days) and for the Star & Garter Home for disabled servicemen. Her Canadian uncles all four in the Canadian Army, spent most of their Leaves at Large Acres.



Then for some unknown reason a whole series of pages have been excised from the record until I can pick up an entry in 1926 which reads "Her term of Headship was rather marred by an epidemic of German measles, which kept the school very depleted all the term (which school?). At the end of term she won the school fencing Cup for the 4th time, after a thrilling fight lasting half-an-hour with Priscilla Willoughby (we wonder what happened to her?) and it's recorded that for the first time in seven years she spent the whole summer holiday at home after having left school at Easter.

In the early twenties she, with other friends, founded an archery club (there was an Archery Ground, full length, built at Large Acres) and of course the Club was called the Robin Hood Club with Armorel taking the part of Robin herself.

Her parents, before the Great War, regularly took their holidays in Europe and in 1920 she and Itha went on their first holiday abroad with them to Pau, Paris and Northern Spain and in 1922 Verona & Venice, later Rome & Florence, and skiing in Wengen with her mother & sister. So you can see she was well travelled before attending L.M.H.

I wonder if it was from this travelling that EH-A formed the idea that beneficiaries of the Scholarship should use part of the Scholarship for recreational purposes.

When in Pau in 1920 her father noted that "she is now called Clicky-paws, a nice Cornish name for a left-handed person"; the first indication of her left handedness I can find is a letter she wrote to her mother in December 1916.

Before handing you over to Dr Joan Navarre I would like to read you a poem she copied some years before and a letter from the Principal of LMH, Linda Grier dated 14th December 1925.

Her poem was the Salutation of Dawn from the Sanskrit.

"Listen to the Exhortation of the Dawn!
Look to this Day
For it is Life, the very Life of Life
In its brief course lie all the Verities and Realities
Of your Existence
The Glory of Action
The Bliss of Growth
The Splendour of Beauty.
For Yesterday is but a Dream
And tomorrow is only a Vision
But today well lived makes
Every tomorrow a Vision of Hope
And every Yesterday a Dream of Happiness.
Look well therefore to this Day!
Such is the Salutation of the Dawn"

The Principal's letter reads as follows:-

"Dear Miss Heron-Allen,

I am writing to offer you a vacancy for next October, provided you pass Responsions in Latin or Greek in or before next July.

Your general work in the examination and your practical science reached a very good standard. Your written science papers were not quite so good but your knowledge in this direction will probably improve during the next two terms.

I feel sure Miss Kirkaldy would give you any advice about your work before you come up in October, if you were to write to her.

I should be glad to know if you can accept this vacancy.

Yours sincerely,"

How many undergraduates get letters like that today?



# "WOMAN OF THE WORLD": ARMOREL DAPHNE HERON-ALLEN AND LADY LONGFORD AT OXFORD

by JOAN NAVARRE

Armorel Daphne Heron-Allen (1908–1930), the youngest daughter of Edward and Edith Heron-Allen, attended Lady Margaret Hall from 1926 to 1930. Shortly after achieving first class honours in Natural Science, she died in a car crash. Armorel suffered a cruel fate, yet her short life was remarkably rich. My talk today focuses on Amorel's undergraduate days at Lady Margaret Hall — specifically, her friendship with Lady Longford, then known as Elizabeth Harman (1906-2002). They were best of friends and budding scholars, and their time at Oxford was full of adventure and growth. Both women balanced their studies with holidays to foreign lands, music and dancing, performances in college theatricals, and visits to the English countryside. As Edward Heron-Allen recognized, they were well-rounded individuals who lived the ideal of 'Woman of the World'.

Before we turn our attention to the subject of Armorel Daphne Heron-Allen and Lady Longford at Oxford, some remarks about names, sources and definitions are in order. First, I shall refer to Lady Margaret Hall as LMH, Edward Heron-Allen as EH-A and Lady Longford by her formal name. When she was at LMH, Lady Longford was known by her maiden name of Elizabeth Harman. I prefer to call her by her formal name, but there will be occasional references to her maiden name. With regard to sources, I am most grateful to the late Lady Longford, the renowned historian, royal biographer and Armorel's devoted friend. While working on the biography of EH-A, I met and interviewed her. We talked many times, starting in the autumn of 2001 and concluding

shortly before her death in the autumn of 2002. At LMH, Peter Meadows, Development Director, and Miss Roberta Staples, Librarian, helped me with my research. I am also grateful to Ivor E. Jones for access to diaries and photographs. I shall be illustrating my talk with items from the Heron-Allen Estate, and some of these items are on display today.

Finally, the phrase 'Woman of the World' was first used by EH-A when he established the scholarship in honour of his daughter. Lady Longford defines this phrase in a remembrance entitled 'Armorel Daphne Heron-Allen, 1908-1930'. She states:

> Armorel was my closest friend at L.M.H. though our disciplines were quite different; Armorel read Zoology, while I read Greats. Such was the variety of her interests, however, that we had much in common. I knew her on the ski slopes and on the dance floor — athletic and beautiful — and we also acted together in College theatricals.
>
> I stayed with her in her family home at Selsey. There I realised the source of her varied interests; it was her father, Edward Heron-Allen. His appointment of myself to the first Heron-Allen scholarship committee as 'woman of the world' was perhaps a tribute to his daughter rather than to me; he rightly believed that young women should try to share Armorel's balanced achievements, both in academia and in 'the world'.[1]

In October 1926 Armorel Daphne Heron-Allen and Lady Longford began their studies at LMH. They met and became firm friends in an era known as The Golden Twenties, The Roaring Twenties or, as the American writer F. Scott Fitzgerald called it, 'The Jazz Age'. Arriving shortly after the end of the Great War, this era countered moral disillusionment with hope

Fig. 1 Armorel Daphne Heron-Allen, Oxford 1927. Lady Longford described Armorel: 'She was very, very beautiful. Extremely clever.' She was tall and athletic. She had 'a beautiful complexion, and lovely colouring'. Her hair was auburn and her eyes were violet coloured.[2]

for a brighter future. It was a time of great possibilities. It was a time of flappers, flamboyance and social change. Women were obtaining the right to vote and entering the workplace in larger numbers. Furthermore, the number of women receiving degrees in higher education continued to expand.

During the 1920s the undergraduates at LMH were redefining the roles of women and making history. Pioneering poets appeared on the literary scene, and women were studying subjects traditionally reserved for men. Literary history was made in 1927 when Gertrude Eileen Trevelyan, an undergraduate at LMH, became the first female to win Oxford's Newdigate Prize for Poetry, the coveted poetry prize which was established in 1806. In 1928, Angela Cave, another LMH undergraduate, became the second woman to win the Newdigate Prize. Both women joined an elite group, for the Newdigate Prize had previously been awarded to such notable Oxford undergraduates as John Ruskin, Matthew Arnold and Oscar Wilde. During the late 1920s, other bright and talented undergraduates at LMH were making their mark. Armorel Daphne Heron-Allen and Lady Longford worked in non-traditional fields of study. The first time I talked to Lady Longford, she underscored this point. She stated: 'Armorel was doing Natural Sciences and I was doing Classics. Both were unusual'.[3]

Armorel and Lady Longford balanced their studies with extra-curricular activities. They enjoyed holidays to foreign lands, music and dancing, performing in college theatricals and visiting the English countryside.

The holidays to foreign lands included skiing in Switzerland. In *The Pebbled Shore: The Memoirs of Elizabeth Longford,* Lady Longford recalls a ski trip to Switzerland with Armorel. The party included Vyvyan Holland, son of Oscar Wilde.



Music and dancing often occurred just outside Oxford, in a Russian enclave in Headington. One Oxford don named Narishkin taught Russian to some and the balalaika to others, such as Armorel. In his memoirs, Rupert Hart-Davis documents Armorel's interest in the balalaika. A photograph of Armorel appears, with instrument in hand.[4]

Armorel and Lady Longford were active members of The Lady Margaret Hall Dramatic Society, and their participation in college theatricals spanned three years. In March 1927, they performed in William Congreve's *The Way of the World.* In May of 1928 they performed in *The Yellow Jacket.* Their final production was William Shakespeare's *Love's Labour's Lost.*

In the 1927 production of *The Way of the World,* Armorel took the part of Mirabell and Lady Longford was Lady Wishfort. Armorel's parents attended the performance on March 5th. The next day, they had a lunch party which included Lady Longford.

Their second play was *The Yellow Jacket.* Lady Longford had attended a production in London during vacation, and recognized at once that its combination of rich Chinese costumes with no scenery would be ideal for the Dramatic Society. She was the play's producer, and she assembled a cast of twenty-eight, including, as she recalls in her memoirs, 'Armorel Heron-Allen, a ravishing zoologist, [who] was the star, doubling the parts of the villainous father and son'.[5]

The Heron-Allens missed the performance on the 19th of May 1928 because they were on the Continent. However, Edith records the source for the costumes and the unanimous response. Armorel was the Wardrobe Manager, and she found just what she was looking for in her mother's wardrobe closet. Edith writes: 'she went back [to Oxford] plus all my Chinese

Fig. 2 The Princess of France (Lady Longford) and Ferdinand, King of Navarre (Armorel Daphne Heron-Allen). *Love's Labour's Lost,* Oxford, May 1929.



coats and shirts and ornaments'. As for the production, 'it was a success. . . the audience packed with admiring young men and others. It was universally said to be the best performance ever seen at any women's colleges, and even the Princ.[ipal], Miss Grier, said it was the most finished production the Hall had ever done'.[6]

*The Brown Book,* the official chronicle of LMH, praises the Dramatic Society 'for their spirited and able performance': 'Not only were the dresses beautiful and the scenery effective, but the acting was more finished than usual. . . . Miss Heron-Allen was very good as the aesthete Daffodil'.[7]

Their final production was Shakespeare's *Love's Labour's Lost.* Lady Longford played the Princess of France and Armorel was the King of Navarre.

Finally, there were visits to the English countryside. Lady Longford visited Large Acres, the Heron-Allen estate in Selsey, many times. She fondly recalled her visits. Edward and Edith Heron-Allen were generous hosts. EH-A was a doting father, always wanting the best.

Lady Longford attended Armorel's 21st birthday weekend at Large Acres. Armorel turned 21 on June 15, 1929, and her birthday had first been celebrated in style at Oxford, with a dinner party of fourteen at the Randolph Hotel. The menu, a copy of which survives, was an original design, with the letters in Greek and hand-painted by Albert Rutherston (1881-1953).

The birthday weekend in the English countryside was unforgettable. Lady Longford recalls: 'It was a weekend of lyrical pleasures, when we moved as in a delightful dream from the lovely market cross of Chichester to Selsey Bill's gulls and pebbled shore'.[8] As an aside, Lady Longford's title for her memoirs, *The Pebbled Shore,* draws upon Shakespeare's Sonnet 60: 'Like as the waves make towards

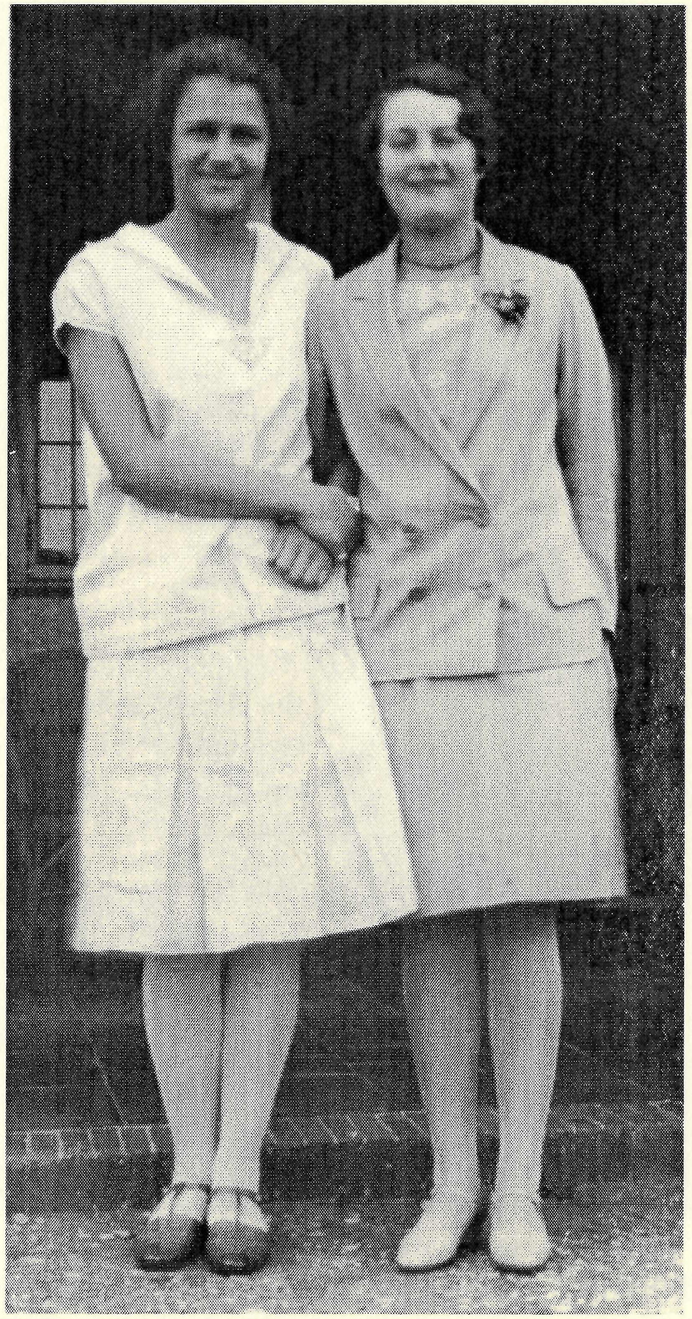


Fig. 3 Armorel Daphne Heron-Allen and Lady Longford at Large Acres, 1927.



the pebbled shore, So do our minutes hasten to their end'. Her title might also serve as an evocation of Selsey's pebbled shore.

EH-A gave Lady Longford some 'imaginative favours. . . in the shape of three little leather volumes printed and published by the famous Elzevirs of Amsterdam, of which one was the *Colloquia* of Erasmus, dated 1655'.[9] This gift was to inspire Lady Longford's later interest in Erasmus and his friend Thomas More.

The Elzevirs were not the first 'imaginative favours' Lady Longford had received from Armorel's generous father. In her memoirs, she recalls another gift, an ebony walking stick with an ivory top and black silk tassel. This gift resulted in a flamboyant fashion adventure. Lady Longford writes: 'I felt it needed an outfit to match it and ordered a dark blue silk shirt and tie, slim blue-grey suit and striking cape, about the length of a matador's'.[10] A photograph of Lady Longford and the walking stick appears in her memoirs. She would later conclude that her new outfit was an adventure in 'bad taste'.

Early summer 1930, one year after Armorel's 21st birthday celebration, Armorel and Lady Longford were preparing to say farewell to Oxford. On the 25th of June, Armorel achieved a first in Natural Science. She wired her family the good news, proclaiming: 'Got a first. . . miraculous jubilations'.[11]

Lady Longford planned a celebration in the country — they were to stay the weekend at a holiday house in Devon. Among the guests were Armorel and her boyfriend Patrick DeLaszlo, the son of the portrait painter Philip DeLaszlo. On the 2nd of July 1930, Lady Longford sent a letter to Armorel, providing directions and informing her that 'we are eagerly expecting you here on the 3rd to-morrow. . . . All love, Eliz'.[12]

Shortly before Armorel and Patrick left, Armorel spent

time with her mother. Edith records that Armorel said to her mother, 'I'm just so happy!' Edith also writes:

'I saw them off—an hour and a half later it happened—of what gross stuff are mortals made'.[13]

Armorel was driving her treasured second-hand car just outside Salisbury when one of the wheels came loose, and the car plunged into a hedge, raced down a bank and overturned. Patrick had broken bones. Armorel was dead.

Armorel's death stunned everyone. On the 3rd of July 1930, the same day of the accident, Patrick, writing from a nursing home in Salisbury, wrote a letter to Edith Heron-Allen. 'Dear Mrs. Heron-Allen, . . . Morella meant so very much to me'. He continues: 'there is the terrible feeling that I shall never see her again'.[14] Lady Longford mentioned Patrick DeLaszlo's love for Armorel to me, and she writes about it in her memoirs. 'For Patrick, the blow was shattering . . . it was something like ten years before he completely recovered and married. His wife's beauty . . . immediately reminded me of Armorel's'.[15]

On the 7th of July 1930, seventy-seven years ago to this very day, Armorel was buried at Church Norton, not far from Large Acres and the sea.

Lady Longford recalled the days that followed.

> On me the effect was numbing. I felt I would come to life again only if I could discuss the whole affair with Armorel herself. Her gentle dark-eyed mother sent me a pair of Armorel's jade ear-rings, which I still wear; her father set up a science scholarship at Lady Margaret Hall in her memory, for which one of the judges had to be 'A Woman of the World'. The college appointed me as the first of the breed, and I enjoyed serving with



> learned men and women from the lab world. After the war the panel all realized that 'women of the world' and 'women of the labs' were no longer two separate species. My post on the panel was abolished. In Armorel's day. . .her mixture of glamour and chic with devotion to retorts and test tubes had been unique.[16]

There is a memorial plaque in the chapel corridor at LMH: 'To the beautiful beloved memory of Armorel Daphne Heron-Allen', with a citation to Philippians 1:3. The King James Version of Philippians 1:3 is as follows: 'I thank my God upon every remembrance of you'. There is also a portrait of Armorel, painted by Stanley Mercer (1889-1932), on display in Talbot Hall.

The great promise of the Golden Twenties included two undergraduates, best of friends, who attended Lady Margaret Hall. While Armorel died young (she was only 22), Lady Longford died peacefully in her sleep on October 23, 2002, at the age of 96. Devoted wife to Lord Longford and mother to a large and distinguished family, she was also a celebrated writer. Lady Longford never forgot her closest college friend. They had shared so much. Armorel Daphne Heron-Allen and Lady Longford lived the ideal of 'Woman of the World'. For the times, their mixture of glamour and style with devotion to research and scholarship was unique.

Notes

[1] *The Armorel Daphne Heron-Allen Scholarship: Its History and Its Holders* (Oxford: Lady Margaret Hall, March 1997).

[2] Longford, Elizabeth. Personal interview. 19 September 2002.

[3] Longford, Elizabeth. Personal interview. 9 October 2001.

[4] Hart-Davis, Rupert. *The Arms of Time: A Memoir* (London: H. Hamilton, 1979), p. 70.

[5] Longford, Elizabeth. *The Pebbled Shore: The Memoirs of Elizabeth Longford* (London: Weidenfeld and Nicolson, 1986), p. 52.

[6] Manuscript Scrapbook.

[7] *The Brown Book. Lady Margaret Hall Chronicle* (Oxford, December 1928), p. 8.

[8] *The Pebbled Shore,* p. 81.

[9] Ibid.

[10] Ibid, p. 59.

[11] Manuscript Scrapbook.

[12] Ibid.

[13] Ibid.

[14] Ibid.

[15] *The Pebbled Shore,* p. 93.

[16] Ibid., p. 93-4.



# REMINISCENCES OF LADY MARGARET HALL AND THE HERON-ALLEN FAMILY

by ALETHEA PITT

## LADY MARGARET HALL

It's a curious feeling looking back almost seventy years, familiar landmarks help but it's a very different world one finds. I haven't invented anything deliberately, and hope I haven't misremembered too badly.

Manners and dress were more formal. We didn't get on first name terms immediately. We changed for dinner in hall – just out of the clothes we'd worn all day – perhaps you still do? – and made a special effort for the times we were summoned to High Table. Of course trousers were not yet even thought of. We had to be in by 9pm., clocking in in the Bear Pit in Talbot. There were late passes – four a term, I think. I did hear that some occupants of ground-floor rooms would "oblige" late comers.

Probably our rather formal relationship between tutors and tutees would seem a bit chilly now, but to us it was just showing normal respect. There were only sixty-seven undergraduates when I came up in 1932, so we all could stay in Hall our full time here. The numbers were about the same in 1944 so I don't know how much had changed. Men friends could only be entertained – with prior permission – in the little room by Deneke front door.

Deneke and the Chapel had recently been completed and I was lucky to get a brand new room overlooking the garden. No showers, but huge bath tubs. The Principal's lodgings were on the first floor.

## MISS GRIER

My abiding memory of Miss Grier is of our first meeting in her long drawing room. She was standing at the far end from the door. As I moved forward I managed to scuffle up folds of the large carpet so by the time I reached Miss Grier I'd scooped up a small mountain. No smile from her and, I hope, a silent gulp from me. Not a terribly auspicious beginning.

One of the sights of Oxford was that of Miss Grier in cal and billowing gown pedalling majestically down the Gilen on her 'sit up and beg' bicycle – student bikes could be bought for 10s. (the same sum as the fine for riding without a front white light).

The 30s was a time of great political activity, debates in the Union and many political party meetings and demos from Oswald Mosley's lot to the Communists.

1945 didn't seem all that different from the Heron-Allen dinner perspective but that was only a fleeting impression.

## THE HERON-ALLEN SCHOLARSHIPS

It was such a happy thing that Marjorie Ridley, the first scholar, had the same sort of wide-ranging interests as EH-A himself and the scholarship enabled her to pursue her delight in music, ballet, literature and travel, and I hope recent and current scholars have been able to do the same in their own way..

Marjorie compiled a short paper on the history of the scholarship explaining its origins. This came about because the early plans to found an archive had foundered and she felt it was important to get at least something on record.

Do you think, even at this late hour, it would be possible to revive the plan of an archive before the passing of time makes



it difficult or impossible to get original contributions from a group of scholars? Perhaps an installment every five or ten years!

I feel it would be a fascinating glimpse of the last sixty years of social history in general and of Lady Margaret Hall in particular. I do hope such an archive will develop.

It has been such a pleasure and privilege to have been enabled to keep in touch for all these years.

## EDWARD HERON-ALLEN

Seventy years have defeated me and I can come up with no specific memories of EH-A, but the original and abiding appreciation of his extraordinary wide ranging interests and dedication to making them real, not just dreams. He was an eighteenth-century amateur polymath, a fellow of the Royal Society and had been a trick rider in circuses around the States when in his 20s. Beat that if you can!

# THE ARMOREL HERON-ALLEN SCHOLARSHIP: A HISTORICAL NOTE

by ALETHEA PITT AND MARJORIE RIDLEY

The Scholarship was founded in 1936 by Edward and Edith Heron-Allen in memory of their daughter Armorel. Armorel was born in 1908; she was at Lady Margaret Hall, 1926-30 and was awarded First Class Honours in Natural Science (Zoology) in 1930, the year in which she died. The Scholarship was to be awarded to an undergraduate who was intending to read Zoology or Physiology or, in the care of there being no suitable candidate, some other branch of Natural Science. Its monetary value was to be £300 per annum, considerably more than that of any other College Scholarships: the Trust Deed stated ' ... the Founders, following the expressed wish of their dughter, are desirous that the Armorel Daphne Heron-Allen Scholarship shall be such as will enable the elected Scholar not only to pay her academic fees and expenses but also to take part fully in the social life of the Hall and the Unversity and to enjoy proper holidays during the vacations'. It was first awarded in 1944.

The Scholarships were for some time awarded successively. Each Scholar received the full financial sum, which was increased so that in 1955 it was £400 per annum and in 1963 £450, for the duration of her stay at Lady Margaret Hall.

In 1961 the Trust Deed was modified and the value of the Scholarship reduced to £100 per annum, later £200 per annum, to bring it into line with other College Scholarshops: thereafter it was awared annually subject to the presentation of a suitable candidate. The stipulation as to the subjects to be read were



also modified somewhat, the Scholarship being awarded to '.. a student intending to read Natural Science with a view to taking Honours in Zoology, Physiology, or Biochemistry. In default of a candidate of sufficient merit in any of these subjects it may be awarded to a candidate intending to read any other Honour School in Natural Science or the Honour School of Mathematics'. In 1986 there were further modifications: these included taking account of the decision to award all Scolarships at the end of the first year as an undergraduate, and a further enlargement of eligible subjects to include Botany, Human Sciences and Applied Biology, while Mathematics was excluded. Although men have been admitted as undergraduates since 1979, the Scholarship has continued to be awarded only to women.

In some years, but latterly infrequently, an Exhibition was awarded as well as, or in lieu of, a Scholarship; and on some occasions more than one award was made for the same year. For several years a leaving present was given to the Scholar. Book grants and grants for foreign travel have also been given, sometimes instead of a Scholarship or Exhibition. Throughout its history, funds from the bequest have been applied towards the Fellowship in Zoology.

The academic reports of the current Scholar or Exhibitioner were considered annually by the Election Committee. Following the meeting there was a dinner to which she was invited. In 1969, the 25th. Anniversary of the Scholarship, a dinner was held to which all past Scholars and Exhibitioners were invited; this was repeated in 1977, and again in 1994, the 50th. Anniversary. In recent years, the practice has been for all current holders of the award to be invited to a dinner following the meeting of the Election Committee: this dinner is also attended by other guests, mainly Fellows in related disciplines, together with their wives or husbands.

The Election Committee has been made up of the Trustee, the Principal, the Examiner in Zoology (and of other subjects, if deemed appropriate); together with two others to represent scientific, educational and general interests, originally designated as a medical psychologist and 'a man or woman of the world'. The first Trustee was Mr. Hewitt Pitt, the Treasurer of the Hall and a friend of Edward Heron-Allen. After his death in 1964 he was succeeded by his wife Mrs Alethea Pitt (Lady Margaret Hall 1932-1935) and she handed over the Trusteeship to her son, Mr. William Pitt, in 1995. The principals have been successively Dr. Lynda Grier, Dame Lucy Sutherland, Mrs. E.L.M. (Sally) Chilver, Mr. Duncan Stewart and Sir Brian Fall. The Examiners in Zoology have been Mrs. Wilma Crowther (LMH 1937-1940, Fellow 1951), Dr. Anne Keymer (Fellow 1986), and Dr. Sean Nee (Fellow 1996). Others serving on the Committee have been Sir Farquhar Buzzard, Sir Charles Symonds, Dr. Edward M. Buzzard, Elizabeth Pakenham, Countess of Longford (Harman, LMH 1926-1930), F.W.D. (Bill) Deakin, Sir Arthur Norrington, Dame Janet Vaughan, Lord Taverne and Dr. Marjorie Ridley (LMH 1944-1947), first Heron-Allen Scholar.

From 1997 various changes will be implemented. Candidates will be chosen from those women undergraduates reading for the Final Honour School in Biological Sciences; one or more of those achieving a distinction in the First Public Examinations will be awarded a Scholarship, with an initial book grant. In the absence of such a candidate, a candidate who had narrowly failed to obtain a distinction will be considered for the award of an Exhibition. These awards will be made subject to Tutor's recommendation and the approval of the Education Committee.

A Heron-Allen Travel Scholarship will be available for award each year to women undergraduates who are reading



Life Sciences, and who are already holders of College Scholarships or Exhibitions. These Scholarships will be awarded at the discretion of the Election Committee.

It has been decided that, as from 1999, the academic Scholarships and Exhibitions and the Travel Scholrships will be made available to men as well as to women.

"OFF THE SHELF":
ARMOREL HERON-ALLEN
AND UMAR KHAYYAM

by BRIAN HULAN

Off the Shelf:
**Armorel Heron-Allen's 'Umar Khayyam**

Heron-Allen Society Annual Meeting
Lady Margaret Hall
7th July, 2007

Submitted by:
Brian Hulan

Proposed:

As a regular event at each Society meeting, one member in good standing to present a Heron-Allen item pertaining specifically to the focus of that year's agenda. The member need not be present to participate, though this is obviously preferred.

As a first effort towards realizing this proposal, I submit the following volume:

**The Ruba'iyat of 'Umar Khayyam**

London: Duckworth and Co., 1908.

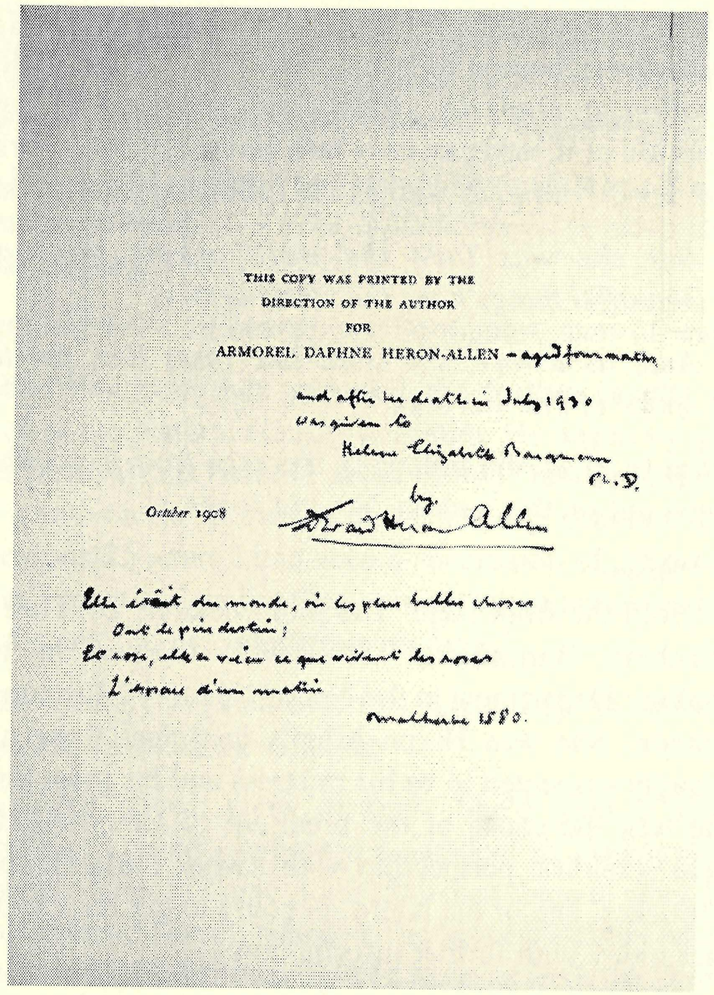
A special presentation copy of this edition of 'Umar Khayyam, with a printed colophon leaf that reads: "This Copy was Printed by the Direction of the Author for Armorel Daphne Heron-Allen // October 1908." Following thereafter, EH-A has added in ink:

"-aged four months and after her death in July 1930 was given to Helene Elizabeth Bargmann Ph.D.", and with a further quotation inscribed below his signature:



Mais elle etait du Monde ou les plus belles choses
Ont le pire destin
Et rose elle a vecu ce que vivent les roses
L'espace d'un matin.

EH-A seems to have had this volume specially bound, perhaps adding the vellum spine stamped in gold to be consistent with the 1898 binding.


THIS COPY WAS PRINTED BY THE
DIRECTION OF THE AUTHOR
FOR
ARMOREL DAPHNE HERON-ALLEN

October 1908

Fig. 1 The Ruba'iyat of 'Umar Khayyam', 1908, showing the Heron-Allen inscriptions.

HOW THE SOCIETY WORKS

When I sent photos to Tim McCann of this special copy of the 1908 'Umar, I thought of it principally as a poignant testimony to Armorel's memory. It is rare for a presentation to capture so profoundly the experience of loss as does this one. This was true in spite of the fact that I did not know the identity of the later presentee – nor could I decipher portions of the inscription.

I was very quickly to learn much more about it. Tim identified the quotation as being from Francois de Malherbe, *Consolation a Duperier,* 1580, and provided a flawless transcription of it, never an easy task given EH-A's notoriously difficult handwriting, as well as the following translation:

> *But she was from the world where the most beautiful things have the worst destiny*

> *And, as a rose, she lived like roses live, for the space of one morning.*

I then received the following message from Tim, who had first been put on this path by Venetia Jones:

"Brian
Hold the front page. The plot thickens. Dr. Helene Elizabeth Bargmann, 1897-1987, worked in the Zoology Department at the Natural History Museum in London. She was Heron-Allen's confidant there and strongly suspected to be his mistress and his great love. She was the cause of the break-up of Heron-Allen's great scientific partnership with Arthur Earland. John Whittaker, late of the NHM, is going to get back to me later today with further information."

Next, with the assistance of John Whittaker, Tim was able to track down this information about Helene Elizabeth Bargmann's publishing history:



Helene Elizabeth Bargmann did publish. Apparently her field was siphonophora. The British Library catalogue lists five works:

Helene Elizabeth Bargmann, *A Biology Handbook for Schools* (Pitman, 1932)

Helene Elizabeth Bargmann, *The Reproductive System of Euphasia Superba* (1937)

Helene Elizabeth Bargmann, *The developement and life history of adolescent Krill, Euphasia Superba* (1945) [These last two were published in the Discovery Reports)

A.K. Totton, with assistance by Helene Elizabeth Bargmann, *A Synopsis of the Siphonophora* (British Library, Natural History, 1965).

*Siphonophora,* of course, are Portuguese man-of-war.

John Whittaker then reported the further results of his research at the Natural History Museum. He began by quoting a letter from Arthur Earland about EH-A: "and until the "Last Lady" came on the scene we never had any disputes. During the previous 25 years I had seen a succession of "Secretaries - Ladies" come and go but they confined their activities to their own jobs and did not interfere with mine".

John strongly suspects that this "Last Lady" is, indeed, our Helene, and he went on to write:

"So what do we know of her? She'd been a friend of Armorel's at Oxford (perhaps a co-student in Zoology) and a subsequent visitor to Large Acres. She then came to work for the British Antarctic Survey, based at The Natural History Museum. She later worked in her own right on material from the Discovery Expeditions (see her publication list), but initially she may have been an Assistant and would presumably have helped EH-A & Earland with their own Discovery work. EH-A may have even

got her the job, perhaps originally through the Armorel connection. Anyway, Heron-Allen & Earland published Part I of their work on the Foraminifera of the Discovery Expeditions in 1932. It was about this time that Armorel had tragically died and EH-A went to Ceylon with his wife, ostensibly to see over his Lanka tea plantations, but mainly to get away from this country and his grief. Whilst away, we presume Earland had been ranting on about EH-A to Helene Bargmann, little knowing the depth of their relationship. On his return, she then apparently "spilled the beans" to EH-A and also finding that Earland's write-up of the second part of the Discovery Reports, which he had left him to do, was not to his liking, withdrew his name.....and hence the famous note found by Clive Jones stuck into his copy of Part II (1933) and subsequently covered with layers of paper. That was the end of Heron-Allen & Earland's collaboration."

Finally, in a telephone conversation with Tim, Alethea Pitt reminisced about the dinner parties she and her husband Hewitt Pitt, EH-A's solicitor, shared with EH-A and Helene Bargmann at their flat in Maida Vale. She mentioned that she can remember Helene clearly. She thinks that she was of Danish extraction and that she had an older sister who lived in Denmark. She confirms that she was not at Lady Margaret Hall with Armorel. She describes her as 'very nice' and says that she was 'tallish, dark-haired and smiley: not fat and not scrawny', and what we would describe as 'a liberated woman'. She also believes that she was an authority on whales.

The occasion to share this volume with the Society has been amazing and one from which I've learned a great deal. To Tim McCann, John Whittaker, Venetia Jones, Alethea Pitt and others who added their knowledge and insight, my sincerest thanks. As a closing side-light, you might like to know that I found this book in 2004, so there is still much to be discovered out there.

*Very special thanks to Tim McCann, who truly made this first edition of 'Off the Shelf' possible.*



# "MEN OF PRE-VISION": EDWARD HERON-ALLEN, JOHN JOHNSON AND THE JOHN JOHNSON COLLECTION OF PRINTED EPHEMERA AT THE BODLEIAN LIBRARY, OXFORD

by TIMOTHY J. McCANN

Outside the immediate family, Vyvyan Holland was perhaps the most regular house-guest of all his male friends at Edward Heron-Allen Sussex home, Large Acres. In the second volume of his autobiography – *Time Remembered after Pere Lachaise* (1966), he wrote that "what most attracted me to Heron-Allen was his love of collecting things". Vyvyan Holland collected stamps, autographs, nineteenth-century fashion plates, glass paper- weights, coins, books and Chinese snuff bottles. He described Heron-Allen as, "apart from his collection of books, which interested him most", collecting 'old English silver, glass, china, musical instruments, seals, walking sticks, precious stones and stamps". The two friends both collected Tibetan Gods, and some pieces from their collections are illustrated in Edward Heron-Allen's *The Gods of the Fourth World, being Prolegomena towards a discourse upon the Buddist Religion and its acquired Pantheon* (1931). One of Heron-Allen's collections that Vyvyan Holland omitted to mention was his printed ephemera and more particularly his watch papers.

All Heron-Allen's collections were housed in the Library which he had built beside Large Acres in 1926, after he sold his London house. However he soon found that his collections were suffering from dampness, whether because of the sea air or imperfect construction of the library itself. As a result, he gradually deposited his major collections in national repositories. Clare Powell at our third symposium, described how, having joined the London Library in 1922, he began to

donate copies of his own books and, in 1939, in a codicil to his will, bequeathed to the Library, his "entire collection of the works of or connected with Edward Fitzgerald, including all translations, texts both manuscript and printed, manuscripts in all languages including my own, correspondence and miscellanea of any and every kind connected with his works especially Omar Khayyam and Saloman and Absad".

Clive Jones told us, at our fourth Symposium, how Heron-Allen began depositing his unrivalled collection of scientific books and papers relating to the study of foraminifera to the British Library (Natural History) in 1925, and how he continued up to his death in 1943 to donate to what we now know as the Heron-Allen Library at the Natural History Museum. Pam Thompson, in our sixth symposium at the Royal College of Music last year, told us how Heron-Allen deposited his collection on the history and manufacture of the violin to the Library there. In 1938, spurred on by John Johnson, he turned his attention to his collection of printed ephemera.

It is difficult to gain a complete understanding of Heron-Allen's collection of printed ephemera. We don't know why or when he started the collection, and it is not mentioned in his *Notes upon the Literary, Scientific, and Artistic Activities of Edward Heron-Allen FRS,* though a clue is given in a note he published in *Notes and Queries* in 1932. Joining a discussion on domestic articles that have fallen into disuse, Heron-Allen wrote: 'John Eliot Hodgkin, prince of collectors, said to me forty years or more ago, when I complained that "collecting" was beyond the means of young people: "start collecting things that are bound to disappear". Unlike his other collections, his printed ephemera does not seem to have been listed, described or alluded to in his surviving correspondence, apart from that with John Johnson. It is clear from his correspondence with John Johnson, however, that he had



several collections - watch papers, trade cards, fruit papers, tobacco papers, snuff papers and court plasters, as well as the usual stamps, bus tickets, posters and invitations.

In 1925, prompted by a review of Ambrose Heal's, *London's Tradesmen's Cards of the XVIII Century* in *Notes and Queries,* a periodical to which he contributed no less than 194 items between 1901 and 1941, Heron-Allen first alluded to his collection. 'I wonder', he wrote, 'if anyone besides myself and the late John Eliot Hodgkin ever made a collection of watch papers, engraved with the name of watchmakers and jewellers, which people put between the outer case of the old "burge" watches and the watch itself to prevent rattling and to keep out the dust. Sweet young things embroidered silk discs for their swains to serve the same purpose. In the early 'eighties when the horrible fashion arose for making jewellery out of eleborately perforated and engraved "escapement" covers, I picked up dozens of them for next to nothing in Clerkenwell Road. Some of the best engravers were of Dutch provenance'.

Watch papers are small printed round paper inserts that were placed in pocket watches to protect their inner workings from dust. They were usually printed on one side with the names and addresses of the watchmaker or fixer, and a manufacturing or repair date was often handwritten on the reverse. Some bore intricate illustrations, often showing allegorical figures and even timepieces. Heron-Allen's collection seems to have dated from the 1870s and 80s, and, as well as containing local Sussex and London papers, contained examples from all over the country. He collected them because of their importance as a practical complement to watches and examples of printing art, and despite their being described as "an old-fashioned ornament for the inside of a watchcase made of paper fancifully cut or printed,." They remain much in demand for collectors.

Trade cards evolved from cards of the late 1700s used by tradesmen to advertise their services. Although examples from the early 1800s exist, it was not until the spread of colour lithography in the 1870s that trade cards became plentiful. By the 1880s, and most of Heron-Allen's collection dates from these decades, although much of his collection was in black and white, trade cards had become a major way of advertising goods and services especially in America. The popularity of trade cards peaked around 1890, and then almost completely faded by the early 1900s when other forms of advertising in colour, such as magazines, became more cost effective.

Fruit papers, snuff papers and tobacco papers, that Heron-Allen also collected, were basically printed wrappers for the items concerned. Court plasters, were the cloth or printed papers with an adhesive substance which were used to cover cuts or scratches on the skin, or blemishes. The name came from their use by ladies at court in order to make beauty spots. Heron-Allen had collections of all these examples of printing as well as the more standard collections of ephemeral printing, such as posters, stamps and advertisements and it was these that attracted the attention of John Johnson.

John Johnson, who approached Heron-Allen in 1938, was a classical scholar and a printer. He was born in 1882, and was educated at Magdalen College School and Exeter College, Oxford. After a short spell in the Egyptian Civil Service, he returned to Oxford and established a reputation as an editor of papyri. In 1915 he was appointed acting assistant secretary to the delegates of Oxford University Press, and, after a successful career choosing manuscripts and encouraging illustration was appointed printer to the University in 1925. Johnson transformed the reputation of Oxford University Press, which had fallen very low, produced many great and beautiful books and completed the printing of the *Oxford English Dictionary.*



But his most lasting claim to fame and his connection with Edward Heron-Allen is due to his vast collection of printed ephemera. Johnson's intention, unlike that of previous collectors, who had specialised in one area of collecting, was to encompass them all. He wrote that his collection "was to be the museum of what is commonly thrown away ... all the ordinary printed paraphernalia of our day to day lives in size from the large broadside to the humble calling card, and varying in splendour from the magnificent invitations to coronations of Kings to the humblest piece of street literature sold for a penny or less". To Heron-Allen he wrote that "you could hardly realise how hard it has been to gather the material for this little museum of the printed ephemera of the world". Johnson's collection, which included over a million items, was grouped under 680 headings, such as advertisements; artists; authors; booktrade and publishing; education; entertainment; political, religious, social and economic history; printing processes; private presses; transport and travel; and other ephemera kept according to its genre.

Johnson told Heron-Allen that "every evening of my life I spend three hours sorting and classifying, and so the work of sorting has kept pace with the gathering. And everything becomes the property of the University (almost of the nation) as it enters these doors". The two men were both magpies. "As usual the world started by calling me mad", Johnson wrote to Heron-Allen, "just as they used to call Nicholson (greatest of Bodley's librarians) mad for just the same reason. How well I remember all those cheap jeers at Nicholson's collections in the Bodleian which all afterwards came here rather than go to the destructor. Yet I do not think anyone who has seen the collections as now growing and grown would call any one of those who have contributed to it other than men of pre-vision. Johnson formed the collection for Oxford University Press

and, during his life-time, it was housed there and was called the Constance Meade memorial collection of ephemeral printing, after one of its main benefactors. In 1968, twelve years after his death, it was transferred to the Bodleian Library, where it remains, and was renamed the John Johnson collection of printed ephemera.

The two men, united in a common enthusiasm, had a common friend in Ambrose Potter, and shared a common sorrow. Ambrose Potter, their common friend, was a fellow collector, whose enthusiasms were as varied of those of Heron-Allen, and his donations to public collections were as generous. They were further connected through their mutual interest in Omar Khayyam [8], and Potter's correspondence with both Heron-Allen and Johnson relates to his compilation of his Bibliography of the Printed Editions of the Quatrains of the Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam. Johnson confided in Potter his collecting intentions in a letter written from OUP. 'I myself was determined', he wrote, 'to make the collection so good that its quality would be its own protection for all future time. And that, I believe, I have done. Every gift that comes to it adds to its protection. It is university property and it cannot be lightly disregarded or handled. Even the Bodleian comes to draw from it for every exhibition that it stages. If it survives the war, then I believe it will become one of the well known collections of our future world. For there is nothing else of the kind'.

The correspondence between Heron-Allen and Johnson, now in the Bodleian Library, begins in May 1938, when Potter acted as an intermediary: Johnson's first letter on 6 May 1938 beginning: 'our common friend, Ambrose Potter, has sent on your letter to me: but it is clear from the letters that they already knew each other. In that first surviving letter, Johnson reminisces: 'I wonder if you still remember how I delivered those books to you one Easter Day, or was it a Whitsun Day?'



And when Heron-Allen mentioned the death of Armorel, Johnson showed that their acquaintance was of long-standing, and that they shared a common sorrow by writing: 'yes indeed, I remember that most tragic of happenings both in itself and because a young cousin of mine died at just the same age at just the same time after a brilliant career at Somerville. I remember wanting to write to you at the time, yet I did not feel I knew you quite wll enough to warrant writing at such a time. Yet you had all my sympathy'.

Once they had re-established contact, the two friends lost no time in transferring part of Heron-Allen's collection from Large Acres to Oxford. By this date the Large Acres Visitor's Book had petered out and Heron-Allen had drawn his Notes upon the Literary, Scientific, and Artistic Activities of Edward Heron-Allen, F.R.S. to a close, but we know from the correspondence that Johnson visited Selsey on 14 May 1938, when he worked on watch-papers, though Heron-Allen forgot to show him his collection of tobacco and snuff papers. The following day Heron-Allen wrote: 'I forgot to give you, if you want them, the 'uncut' sheets of tobacco (& snuff papers) – six or eight of them are about, I suppose about 1860-70. I will bring them (with the watch papers) on the 26th. When we are coming back to entertain at lunch the 'Armorel scholar of 1938' Isabella Ashington, the President of the JCR. If we can we will look in at the Sanctuary, at about 2.30 or 3'. The Sanctuary was where Johnson housed his growing collection. Heron-Allen duly paid his visit and it is clear from the correspondence that there was a two-way traffic in ephemeral material. Johnson was giving items to Heron-Allen too. Heron-Allen handed over a collection of court plasters and duplicate bus tickets, which were quickly mounted on hinges on black mounts in Oxford. Later in the month a parcel of uncut quills arrived from Selsey, together with a number of stamps and a large plan.

The pace of the correspondence quickened during the summer of 1938, and, by June Heron-Allen was requesting the help of a young female cataloguer to help him prepare his material for Johnson's Museum. On 23 June Ivy Thurlow sent Johnson 450 fruit papers at Heron-Allen's request. In November Heron-Allen was still sending Johnson packets of tickets, but soon, as he became gradually more frail, the packets from Large Acres were sent less frequently and the correspondence between the two men gradually petered out.

Any attempt to reconstruct Heron-Allen's collection of ephemera that he handed over to Johnson is severly hampered by the fact that Johnson does not seem to have kept any register of his accessions apart from the correspondence with his donors. Heron-Allen's bus tickets, court plasters, fruit papers, invitations, quills, snuff papers, stamps, snuff papers, trade cards and watch papers seem to have been merged with the collections of other donors. Julie Ann Lambert, the Librarian of the John Johnson Collection, has expressed to me her opinion that most of the watch papers are from Heron-Allen's collection, and I have chosen a small selection to illustrate what must once have been in the Library at Large Acres. From the capital, there is a watch paper of William Hughes, watch-maker, while from Sussex there are examples from L. Ray, watch-maker of Battle, Collbran, watch and clock-maker of Hailsham, Robert Weston, clockmaker of Hastings and Henry Grant, watch and clock-maker of Hailsham and finally papers illustrating Brighton Pier and the Pavilion.

Among the trade cards are two, which are almost certainly from Heron-Allen's collection. First, the magnificent card of F. Fleet of Chichester, undertaker, and then the well-known card of George Wheeler, cricket bat maker of London. The latter being one of the many cards and papers designed by the artist W. Newman of Bishopsgate.



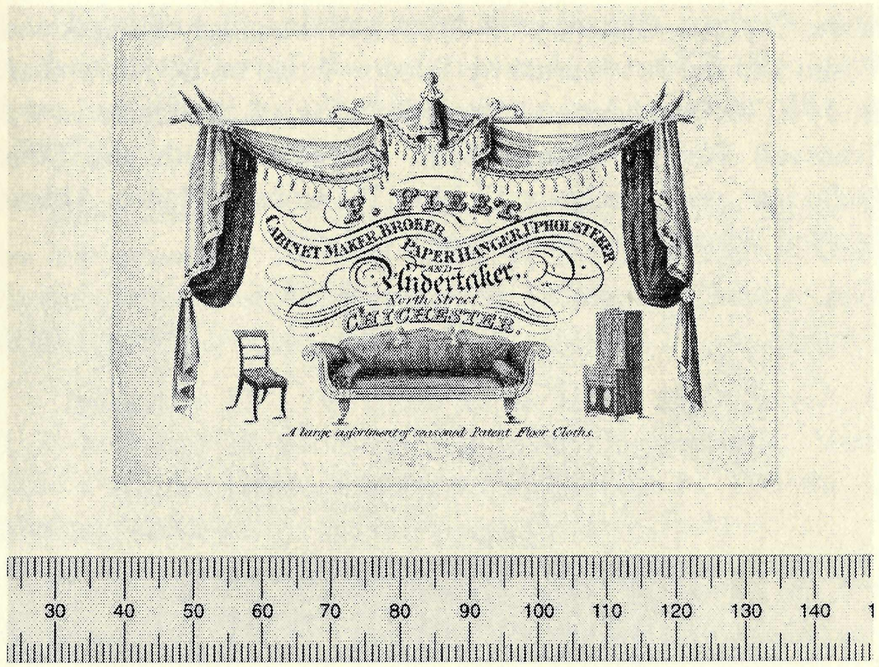



Fig. 1 Trade Card of F. Fleet of Chichester from the Bodleian Library, John Johnson Collection Trade Cards 4, 65.

A final section, which are certainly from Heron-Allen's collection are the invitations. Besides their interest as examples of printing, these invitations also tell us about Heron-Allen's social life and artistic interests while he was in London. They are all invitations to exhibitions in London and include Richard Beavis's exhibition of drawings from the 'Land of the Cid' at Arthur Tooth & Son's Galleries on 1 December 1888 ; C.E. Johnson's entitled, 'Highland Sports on Loch, Moor and Mountain' at the same gallery on 8 February 1890; and R.H. Carter on 'The Shetland Isles' on 18 April 1891, also at the same gallery. For 1897 there are invitations to exhibitions by Dudley Hardy, and Percy Sturdee on 15 May; Henry Mayer, of black and white comic drawings, at the same gallery on 7 November; and Percy Sturges, all at the Clifford Gallery in the Haymarket. In 1898 he received invitations to the Sauber Show

at the Clifford Gallery on 5 April, and drawings of Black and White and the Art Journal by Stanley Wood on 20 November. In 1900 he was invited to an exhibition of 'Incidents in the Transvall War by George Scott at Arthur Tooth and Sons Galleries , and finally on 17 May 1913 one by James Abbott McNeil Whistler at Dowdeswell's Gallery.

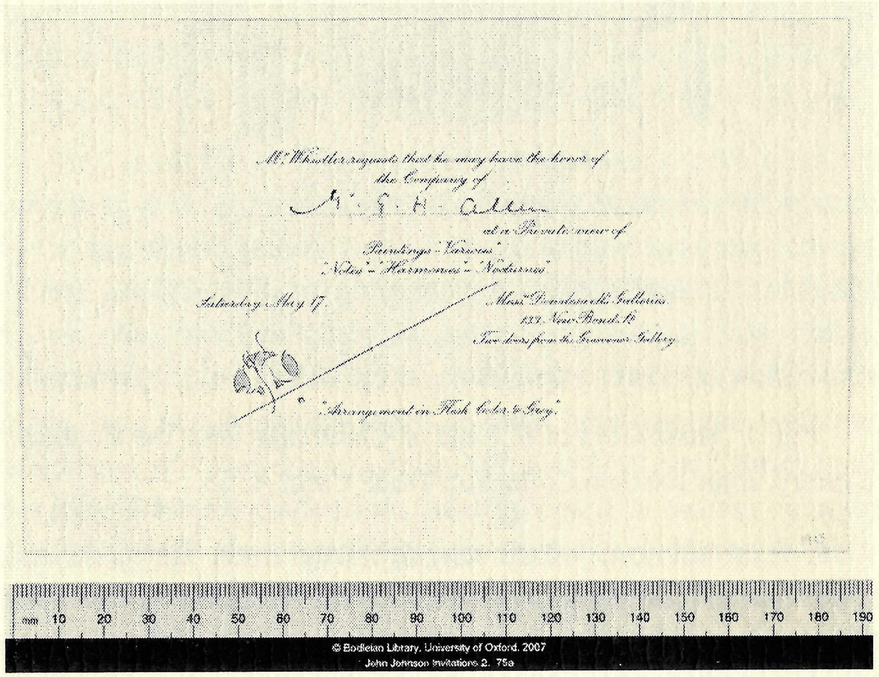



Fig. 2 Invitation to an exhibition by Whistler at the Dowdeswell Gallery, 1913 from the Bodleian Library, John Johnson Collection, Artist's Invitations 2, 75a.

The printed ephemera that Edward Heron-Allen passed to John Johnson for his proposed museum, was not as important a collection as his material relating to the history of the violin, or to Persian literature and Edward Fitzgerald, or to foraminifera, but it is an interesting facet of his collecting enthusiasm, joined him to a like-minded friend and formed another link between Heron-Allen and Oxford.



*Opusculum I* *Notes upon the Literary, Scientific, and Artistic Activities of Edward Heron-Allen, F.R.S.* Extracted from his Diaries and other Documents by Christopher Blayre (2000).

*Opusculum II* *Edward Heron-Allen.* A Talk delivered by his grandson Ivor E. Jones at the first Heron-Allen Symposium, West Sussex Record Office, Chichester, July 2001 (2001).

*Opusculum III* *The Quest for the Heron-Allen Society.* A Talk delivered at the first Heron-Allen Symposium, West Sussex Record Office, Chichester, July 2001, by Timothy J. McCann (2002).

*Opusculum IV* *"The Beauty and Mystery of the Foraminifera". The Foraminiferal research of Edward Heron-Allen FRS, with an assessment of his scientific career.* Based on a talk delivered on the beach at West Street, Selsey, to members of the Heron-Allen Society and guests of the West Sussex County Council, following the unveiling of a plaque in honour of Edward Heron-Allen by Ivor Jones, 15 July 2002, by Richard L. Hodgkinson and John E. Whittaker (2003).

*Opusculum V* *Reflections on Heron-Allen's War Journal.* Talks delivered at the second Heron-Allen Symposium, West Sussex Record Office, Chichester, July 2002, by Brian W. Harvey and Carol Fitzgerald (2003).

*Opusculum VI* *'Portraits and Persia: Bookplates and Bognor': Proceedings of the third Heron-Allen Symposium, 2003,* Edited by Timothy J. McCann. Talks delivered at the third Heron-Allen Symposium, The Allen Room, Dean Street, London, July 2003 by Bryan Burrough, Claire Powell, Peter Allpress and Timothy J. McCann. (2004).

*Opusculum VII* *'Edward Heron-Allen FRS: Scientist': Proceedings of the fourth Heron-Allen Symposium, 2004.*

edited by John E. Whittaker. Talks delivered at the fourth Heron-Allen Symposium, The Natural History Museum, London, July 2004, by Richard L. Hodgkinson, Michael A. Kaminski, Clive Jones and Andrew S. Henderson & John E. Whittaker (2005).

*Opusculum VIII 'Edward Heron-Allen and Friends': Proceedings of the fifth Heron-Allen Symposium, 2005,* edited by Timothy J. McCann. Talks delivered at the fifth Heron-Allen Symposium, The Allen Room, Dean Street, London, July 2005, by Timothy J. McCann, Joann Fletcher and Richard L. Hodgkinson (2005).

*Opusculum IX 'Edward Heron-Allen and Music': Proceedings of the sixth Heron-Allen Symposium, 2006.,* edited by Peter Horton. Talks delivered at the sixth Heron-Allen Symposium, The Royal College of Music, London, July 2006, by Brian Harvey, Pamela Thompson, Peter Horton, Joan Navarre and Garry Garrard. (2007)

*Opusculum X 'The Purple Sapphire', by Edward Heron-Allen.* First published under the pseudonym Christopher Blayre in 1921 and republished, with additional material by Timothy J. McCann and Steve Farrar, to celebrate the Natural History Museum's exhibition, 'The Vault', 2007. (2008).

*Opusculum XI 'Armorel Heron-Allen and Oxford': Proceedings of the seventh Heron-Allen Symposium, 2007,* edited by Timothy J. McCann. Talks delivered at the seventh Heron-Allen Symposium, Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, July 2007, by Ivor Jones, Joan Navarre, Alethea Pitt, Brian Hulan and Timothy J. McCann. (2008).

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