



January 2022

Dear Member

Hello and Happy New Year!

January Lecture – *TWEAKING THE DRAGON'S TAIL – THE ZEEBRUGGE RAID OF 23RD APRIL 1918*



The story of the midnight raid against the German-occupied port of Zeebrugge in April 1918 is one of the most stirring actions undertaken by the British Navy in the entire Great War. Now fading into comparative obscurity, the valour displayed by our Marines and Sailors, which resulted in the award of eight Victoria Crosses, is worthy of greater remembrance . . .

We got off to an exciting start with our 2022 lecture programme, David and Valerie made a very welcome come back to visit us. The lecture promised to hold some exciting information and interesting detail and it certainly did. The plan to block Ostend and Zeebrugge ports was conceived and executed by the Royal Navy with help from the Marines. We concentrated on the attack on Zeebrugge. It was a daring plan. They were to steam right up to the mole and deploy the troops. They would then attack the German forces stationed on and around the mole and the ports. The troops would have to scale the walls and set up their guns. All this from a moving ship under withering fire. The Germans had added dozens of guns to protect the port. But this part of the exercise was only a diversion. It was to keep the German forces busy whilst three ships full of concrete were sailed into place and sunk thus blocking the port. The German Navy was running its U-Boats from the ports, and they were gradually starving Great Britain and if the shipping losses continued it may not have been possible to continue to prosecute the war.

We were told of many selfless acts of bravery often with only one possible outcome. These were brave men indeed who had total belief in the plan and for what they were fighting. David had researched many of the participants and we learned a lot about their lives and characters and sadly in all too many cases their deaths. Only one other operation resulted in more medals being issued that was the Battle of Rourke's Drift. There were nine hundred troops involved in the attack. Overall, with the sailors who worked the ships and submarines used there were 1684 men and eighty-four officers. It must have been horrendous. The ships used smoke the work of Wing Commander Frank Brock of the famous Brock's Fireworks family. Among his many developments were, the Dover Flare – used in anti-submarine warfare. The Brock Colour Filter, The Brock Bullet (or Brock Incendiary Bullet or Brock Anti-Zeppelin Bullet) – the first German airship to be shot down was destroyed by this bullet. Most British fighter aircraft machine guns used a mixture of Brock bullets, Pomeroy bullets, and Buckingham bullets when attacking zeppelins. Working with A. M. Low and the RFC's Experimental Works in Feltham on wireless triggered bombs for the Zeebrugge Raid and the guided rocket. Sadly, Frank did not survive the attack but what a legacy he left and what he would have gone on to achieve we cannot ever know. Frank's selfless sacrifice was typical and a perfect example of all those taking part.

I mentioned that there were eight Victoria Crosses, but that is not all. There were also seventeen Distinguished Service Orders, 24 Distinguished Service Crosses and sixteen Conspicuous Gallantry Medals.

A total of sixty-five medals. There were also many who were mentioned in dispatches. Overall, 176 men were killed, 412 wounded and forty-nine missing. Was it a success? Yes, their bravery and sacrifice were not in vain. Before the raid U-Boats using the ports were sinking an average of twenty merchant ships per month. After the raid that number dropped to six per month. It took five months for the port to become fully active again. By this time Great Britain's anti-submarine warfare had started to diminish the Flanders U-Boat threat to the point where Great Britain's ability to fight the war was not again endangered.

David did an excellent job of bringing the raid to life. One could almost smell the smoke and hear the guns going off and the shouts of the men involved.

Next Meeting February 17th 7:30 pm "Bosworth's Roman Temple"



We are delighted to welcome back Richard Knox to tell us all about Market Bosworth's very own Roman Temple. This lecture was one deferred from 2019, Richard is an accomplished speaker, and the subject promises to be both enlightening and entertaining.

I cannot promise that our temple will be as imposing as the temple of Augustus and Livia shown left but you never know. Why not come along and find out!

Booking necessary. Please email info@marketbosworthsociety.com or call 07930149408 to book your place.

Lectures and Summer Visits Planned for 2022 & 2023

I am delighted to report that your committee has been working hard to compile an interesting and varied programme of lectures and visits. We try to keep the topics and the speakers local to Market Bosworth but that is not always possible. We hope that you will come along and support the Society and have a lot of enjoyment at the same time. You will see that Richard Knox is making a welcome return to tell us all about Bosworth's Roman Temple. That is definitely local! Richard is the curator of the Battle of Bosworth Heritage Centre and the 1660's House and Garden at Donisthorpe among other responsibilities. Those of you who have heard Richard speak before ('Castles of Leicestershire') will recall that he is an accomplished and entertaining speaker. Definitely one for your diary!

2022		
All Meetings Commence at 7:30 and will be held in the Free Church Barton Road Unless stated.		
Date	Title of Lecture	Guest Speaker
February 17th	Bosworth's Roman Temple	Richard Knox
March 17th	Annual General Meeting (Commences at 6:45 pm)	
March 17th	The Late Roman Army	Nick Marsh
April 21st	Discovering the Roman Landscape	Peter Liddle MBE
May 19th	A Life Behind Bars	Ken Lowles
June 16th	Henry VIII Visits Market Bosworth (Bosworth Hall Hotel)	John White
July 21st	Newbold Verdon - Guided walk and Cream Tea	
August 18th	Taylor's Bell Foundry Loughborough	
September 15th	Growing up at Hall farm Osbaston in the Fifties'	Alan Eames
October 20th	The Church in a Hillfort	Peter Liddle MBE

November 17th	What's in a Name?	Robin Jenkins
2023		
January 19th	The Last Years of ABC Dixie'	Julian Crabbe
February 16th	The Walled Garden at Bosworth Hall	Robert Leake
March 16th	TBA	Marianne Whiting

Help Needed

Many of you will know Rod Proudman, former head gardener at Bosworth Hall. Rod has been extremely helpful with research into the Walled Garden which has developed into a fascinating story. One which you will hear about later. Just recently we heard the bad news that Rod's Daughter Louse has suffered a stroke. She is starting on what will be a long recovery. Her medical team have said that if she were to receive lots of cards or well-wishing letters her recovery would be assisted.

May I ask that you send a card or letter to Louse? Rod's address is 1 Stanley Road, Market Bosworth, Leicestershire. CV13 ONB and he will make sure that Louise receives them. It will make a real difference.

Thank you.

Questions, questions, questions!

Here are some updates on the questions we have been asked which have featured in recent past issues of the Newsletter.

Harris Bridge: We are still looking for more information so please share if you have any. Peter Foss recently contacted me to say that Harris Bridge was shown on a mid-eighteenth-century map he owns. The name is not a modern phenomenon. The search continues.

The Gate House (not the one off Cadeby Lane but the one off the B585)

Does anyone have any photographs of the front of the house? In particular the front door. The owners are planning to replace the door with one resembling the original. A photograph or two would be extremely helpful.

The Boat House in the Market Bosworth Country Park



I am pleased to be able to report that the damaged panel has been replaced. There is no sign yet of any other remedial work, but I will keep you posted.

Please look out for any photographs you may have. We are looking for any, but in particular the inside of the boathouse and the punt which was around in the 1960's. I am certain someone has a photograph. Please continue to share your memories as well.

A question of tolls

We received an interesting question by email. From John Harris

I wondered if the Society has any information on turnpike roads in the area. I live in Tollgate House in Newton Burgoland and cannot seem to find any evidence to support the name. As it would be likely that any such road would carry on to Bosworth, I wondered whether it was a subject with which you had dealt.

I promised John that I would ask in our next Newsletter. Can you help with this? I seem to recall when I looked at an old map there were a series of gates around Market Bosworth, but they could be as a result of the parkland being the private manor of the owners and not necessarily tolls. Please email on info@marketbosworthsociety.com and I will pass on your answers to John.

Electric Car

I shared the details about Sir Thomas Cope's electric car in an article in The Graphic which has generated some interest but as yet not a lot of information. I have a few leads to follow up. I bumped into Nigel Simpson last week and he gave me some information. I am waiting to hear back from the person he named as having further information..

Also, David Holmes took the trouble to write to me via The Graphic. David explained that he has lived in Market Bosworth since 1946 and recalls seeing the car many times in and around Market Bosworth, often parked in The Square. David explains that at the time Britain was still recovering from World War 2 and that rationing was still in force. It appears that as electricity was not rationed but petrol was Sir Thomas was using the car to save his petrol coupons. Can you add to this story?

The Wall on Shenton Lane

I have been inundated with questions about my article reminiscing about South Farm and the wall. Well one person contacted me! I was asked if we had any evidence of cattle on the Gated Lane and I was happy to share this: [Cattle on Sutton Lane TrimThis One - YouTube](#) it shows John Rawson feeding the cattle on the lane with Peter Baylis's son helping out. If anyone has any photographs of cattle in the Gated Lane, I would love to see them.

One from the MBS



Last week I was delighted to welcome Peter Foss (shown right) back to Market Bosworth.

Specifically, Peter wanted to research the Archives. Peter spent three days with us and whilst I was unable to spend as much time with him as I had hoped his visit was successful. I was able to provide Peter with a number of copies of articles, photographs and similar which he wanted to refer to as he revises his book. On that subject, great progress is being

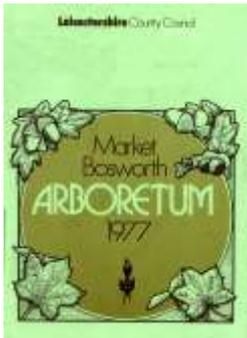


made by Peter. He even has an idea for a format for the new book, which looks fantastic and is set out very clearly. Peter also promised that his revised book will have a much more detailed index than the 1983 book. Now to the question: Peter found this photograph and, as you can read, it is labelled "BOSWORTH HALL PARK GATES" Does anyone recognise them? And where were/are they?

That is enough questioning for now, almost. I have been corresponding with a remarkably interesting person called Karen Lynch. Karen writes a blog about towers, usually follies but she has recently become interested in the Water Tower at Bosworth Hall. I cannot share with you at the moment but am hoping to be able to do so next month. If you want to view Karen's work (which I highly recommend) the link is here [The Folly Flaneuse – Rambles to, and ramblings about, follies and landscape buildings](#). Do please remember to hold down the Ctrl key whilst hovering your cursor. If nothing else, it is a great destination list as we get active this Summer.

Market Bosworth Society Archive

I have already mentioned that Peter Foss has found it both interesting and useful. As promised, I have started work to digitalise the items contained within. The sub-committee had a short meeting on the 18th and have agreed to carry on with the work. It is nearly two years since we had to suspend operations due to Covid-19 restrictions. We have re-examined our plans and on the whole they are satisfactory. We have found some added work which will need to be carried out to ensure the success of the project but nothing that cannot be achieved. We are working slowly and methodically. We will need help though, so you may wish to prepare your excuses now! We will need volunteers to help support the digitiser, getting items ready and putting them away after imaging. We also want to train a few people who will be able to carry on the work after the project is completed. It will be an endless task but a most interesting and enjoyable one. We regularly receive items donated to the Archive. It is wonderful that people trust the MBS with their memories. It is also wonderful that these memories are to be shared.



This month I was contacted by MBS member Mary Penton. Mary explained that she owned a booklet about the Arboretum in the Market Bosworth Country Park and would we like it. I was delighted to confirm that we indeed would value a copy in the archive and Mary kindly dropped it off for me. It is an interesting document dated 1977 (the year I started work) It has a lot of information about the Arboretum, and I counted over 193 trees with some useful background information. Mary also very kindly sent a copy to Richard Hunt who is now in charge of the county's country parks. But do not just take my word for it, pop along to [Latest News! « Market Bosworth Society](#) and have a look for yourself. Fascinating reading and you can still find some of the trees from 45 years ago.

Phil Tebbutt has sent in two articles for us this month, the first was after he had discovered a ceramic mug in his collection. The mug celebrates the re-founding of the Dixie Grammar School as an independent school in 1987. There are images of the school building and the Dixie Family Crest as well as an inscription. The inscription reads:

The Dixie Grammar School, Market Bosworth Leicestershire.

The New Dixie Grammar School will open in September 1987

The Old School



“The former Dixie Grammar School was reported to be the oldest grammar school in the country. There is a document dated 1094 which refers to a school in Market Bosworth and further papers referring to a grammar school in the 12th Century. Accurate records date back to 1320. The first Sir Wolstan Dixie was knighted by Queen Elizabeth I and was given the right to appoint the master to the school. He erected a school building in 1593. Sir Wolstan Dixie was also one of the founders of Emmanuel College, Cambridge together with the Dixie professorship of Ecclesiastical History. The

present school building dates from 1828 with later additions and faces the Market Square in the historic town of Market Bosworth. The old school closed in 1969 and the late Sir Wolstan Dixie expressly forbade the use of his name in connection with any other school. Penelope, Lady Dixie has graciously consented to the inclusion of the family name in the title of the new school and together with her daughter Miss Eleanor (Hereditary Trustee of the Dixie Educational Foundation) is actively supporting the re-foundation of the school.”



Phil wrote to me about another of the coincidences he has experienced.

Coincidences - Phil Tebbutt

My father, born in 1895 was conscripted into the Royal Navy in 1917. He enrolled at Crystal Palace and was posted to Rosyth on the Firth of Forth and then to Scapa Flow in the Orkneys serving on HMS Munster on North Sea Patrols.

A senior rank on the Munster (HMS Munster was an M Class Destroyer similar to the one shown with a bone in her teeth left). was a Chief Petty Officer Allen. This officer had been on the SS Discovery with Capt. Robert Falcon Scott's 1901 expedition to the Antarctic.



My father was a Master Baker and in the mid 1930's was delivering bread to a customer who introduced him to a visitor from Montrose. My father stated to this lady that his Chief Petty Officer came from Montrose upon which the lady informed him that one of her neighbours, a Mrs Kirkpatrick was the daughter of this officer. My father obtained the address and my parents corresponded with Mrs Kirkpatrick for many years until my mother's death in 1947. But this wasn't the end. In the 1970's I wrote a letter to the Dundee Local Newspaper asking if Mrs Kirkpatrick was still alive. I received a reply from a former neighbour who gave me the address in London of the Grand Daughter of Chief Petty Officer Allen, to where I wrote and received a reply. Unfortunately, I lost contact with this lady. Such a small world, isn't it?

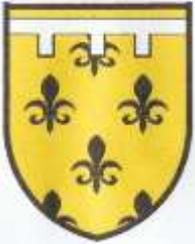
Phi Tebbutt

Addendum

Phil called me to tell me that Captain Scott had been featured on that Sunday's episode of the Antiques Road Trip. Another coincidence?

Thank you, Phil, for taking the trouble to send in these interesting articles.

Battle of Bosworth Heraldic Shields – 135 to 137



135 Robert Mortimer of Thorpe le Soken, Essex. 1446 – 1485

Born in Tendring Essex He was the son of David Mortimer and Elizabeth Doreward. In 1467 he inherited the manor of Ashfield, Suffolk from his cousin George House. Sir Robert also held a moiety of the Manor of Great Bromley of the Earl of Oxford, by fealty and suit of Court, worth £20; also the Manor of Martell's Hall, in Ardleigh ; and estates in Dovercourt (200 acres of arable and pasture, and a messuage, 100 acres of wood, arable, meadow, and pasture, called Painterise), in Tendring and Manningtree, one messuage, 300 acres of arable, wood, and pasture, and 3s. rent ; in Thorpe, " Lardiner Hall " — that is, " Landermere," and 200 acres of arable, &c. — called " Follin Hall."

Sir Robert married Elizabeth Howard daughter of Sir John Howard, Duke of Norfolk, and Katherine Moleyns in 1470. Sir Robert fought and died for King Richard III at Bosworth Field. They had one surviving child Elizabeth born in 1473. Elizabeth, the heir, married George Guilford, son -of "Sir Richard Guilford, Controller of the Household to Henry VII." They had one son (John) and two daughters — Mary married Owen West, son of Lord de la Warr; Anne, Walter Woodland, and afterwards Richard Lynne. The son, Sir John Guilford, for his second wife married Barbara, daughter of Thomas Lord de la Warr. As usual there is confusion about another Mortimer who fought on the other side, but I think I have unpicked the facts sufficiently, please say if you have a differing view.



136 Humphrey Beaufort of Barford St. John Oxfordshire 1453 – 1485

There is a lot of confused information about Sir Humphrey. Some insisting that the name is a misspelt version of Beaufort, which it is not and because there was a family of the same name in Warwickshire. If anyone has any information about our Sir Humphrey who fought and died by the side of King Richard III, I would be pleased to receive it. I think I have managed to untangle the thread although as he died aged just thirty-one there is not a lot to be known about him. He was the eldest son of Richard Beaufort, de Beresford his younger brother was also a Richard, and his mother was Alice (nee Swynnerton). Humphrey was only three years old when his father dies and was placed into the care of Thomas Archbishop of Canterbury and Anne Duchess of Buckingham. He married Johanna (sometimes referred to as Joan) who was born around 1455 and had two surviving children, John Beaufort of Emscote was born around 1484 and died aged 31 in 1516, who married Elizabeth Tate of London. Johanna his daughter became a Throckmorton by marrying Richard Throckmorton of Higham Ferrers, Northamptonshire. The battle resulted in the two children being fatherless and therefore bereft of protection. The inquest, 10th December 1485 followed by an inquisition on the 27th October 1486 both record his death as the 22nd August 1485 but does not say how he died. Some suggest that he was with King Richard III at that fateful charge to end the battle, but I can find no evidence to support that. The fate of

the children's inheritance is also unclear. I have read that the son aged just two was allowed to inherit but could find no record of a wardship. This I found unusual as there would have been extensive lands and therefore being in control of the estates would have been lucrative. I then discovered a passage in a book which says, '*granted to Richard Nanfan, an esquire for the King's body of the custody of the manors of Barford St. John, Salford, Kenkham (Oxford) and all lands of the late Humphrey Beaufeo deceased. The lands were found in the Counties of Oxford and Buckinghamshire and elsewhere in England. Also, the reversion of the manor of Weleton (Northampton) and all lands in Weleton which William Hykford holds (sic) for life (the reversion thereof pertaining to the said Humphrey Beaufeo and his heirs), the whole of the above being in the hands of the crown by the minority of John's son and heir of the said Humphrey Beaufeo; further grant of the wardship of the said John. Also grant of the custody of the manors of Merston and Wolston, alias Wolfricheston (Warwick) and all the lands in Merto, Wolston, Brandon, Brotford and Ri..... (Warwick) and elsewhere in England.* Clearly both children survived and made marriages.



137 Sir John Melton of Aston by Sheffield Yorkshire. Born Circa 1455 – died 1510

Sir John was the son of John Melton. His mother was Margery or Margaret Fitzhugh, daughter of William Lord Fitzhugh. He was married twice, first to Alice Stanley, daughter of Sir John Stanley, Sheriff of Staffordshire, and Elizabeth Vernon. Alice died in 1493. She bore four children, John, Nicholas, Robert, and daughter Elizabeth. His second marriage was to Eleanor, daughter of Sir John St. John and widow of Sir John Zouch. They had no children and she died in 1520. John was a supporter of King Richard III and fought at several battles being knighted by Richard III in August 1482 at Hoton Field near Berwick upon Tweed during the English invasion of Scotland. He fought for Richard III at Bosworth. He served twice as sheriff of Yorkshire firstly in 1453 to 1454 and again 1496 to 1497. He died in July 1510. An inquisition post-mortem was held at Rotherham, Yorkshire, on 20 October 1510. Inquisitions were also held in Hampshire and Northamptonshire. He is buried in the Church of All Saints, Aston, in the Diocese of Sheffield shown left.



Contact Details Please see the website www.marketbosworthsociety.com for information or email on info@marketbosworthsociety.com or if you would like to call MBS then 07930149408. Correspondence can be sent to Market Bosworth Society, c/o 29 Warwick Lane, Market Bosworth, Leicestershire CV13 0JU. If you have any items you would like to preserve for future generations, please contact MBS, or any Committee member. You will find a lot of information on the

Nigel Palmer
Chairman

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