

# The Coat of Arms

Annual Journal of the Heraldry Society



Series 4 Volume 1 Number 235 2018

**The Heraldry Society** is an educational charity. Its purpose is to promote greater understanding and appreciation of heraldry and its related subjects. The society organises lectures, study days, congresses, dinners and other social activities. It offers a course in heraldry leading to examination for a diploma. It publishes a range of source material at modest cost. Members receive the *Coat of Arms* and the quarterly *Heraldry Gazette*.

Help to support our work and participate in our social activities by joining today via our website [www.theheraldrysociety.com](http://www.theheraldrysociety.com)

*Registered office*

53 Hitchin Street, Baldock, Hertfordshire SG7 6AQ

The Society was registered in England in 1956 as registered charity no. 241456.

*The Coat of Arms* is a non commercial, non profit making academic journal. Advertising space is sold in order to subsidise the cost of printing. The contents of this journal will be made freely available to all online via the Heraldry Society website one year following distribution of paper copy to members. Images may be subject to copyright, and should not be reproduced without permission of the originator.

*President*

His Grace The Duke of Norfolk, Earl Marshal

*Honorary Secretary*

John Tunesi of Liongam

e-mail: [honsecheraldrysociety@gmail.com](mailto:honsecheraldrysociety@gmail.com)

*Membership Secretary*

Jane Tunesi of Liongam

e-mail: [memsec@theheraldrysociety.com](mailto:memsec@theheraldrysociety.com)

Material appearing in *The Coat of Arms* does not necessarily represent the views of the Honorary Editor, of the Editorial Panel, or of the Society.

[coatofarms@theheraldrysociety.com](mailto:coatofarms@theheraldrysociety.com)

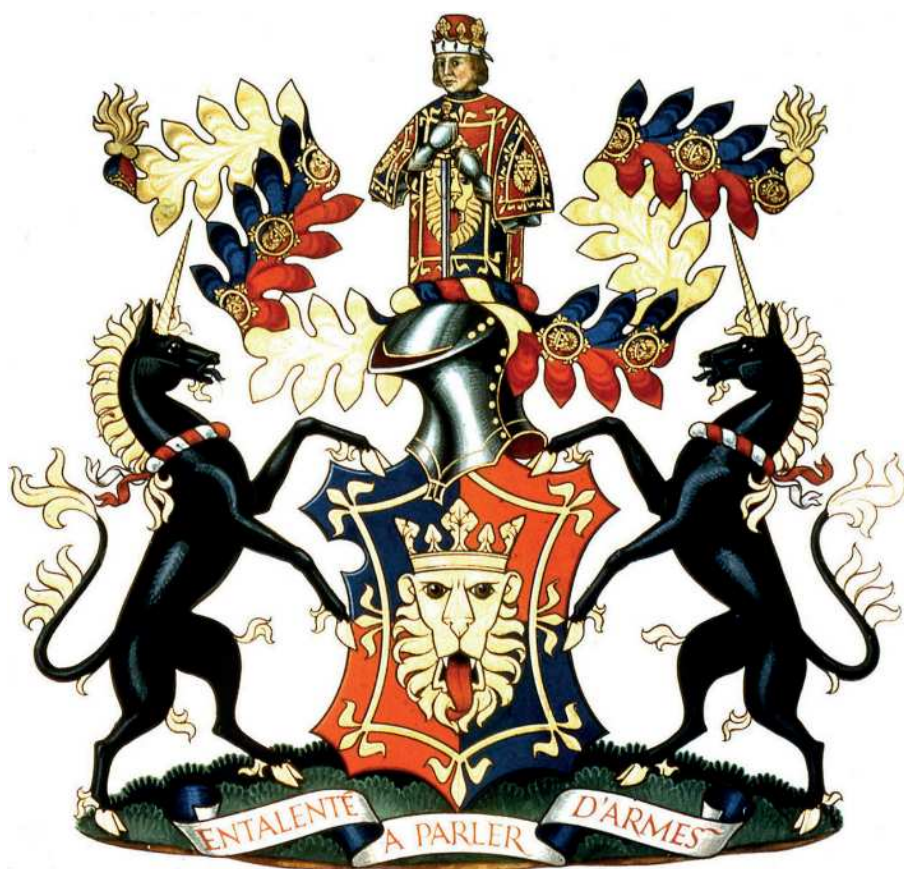
Printed in Bristol by 4word Ltd.

©The Heraldry Society

ISSN 0010-003X

# THE COAT OF ARMS

*The journal of the Heraldry Society*



Fourth Series

Volume I

**2018**

Number 235 in the original series started in 1952



*Founding Editor*

† John P.B.Brooke-Little, C.V.O., M.A., F.H.S.

*Honorary Editor*

Dr Paul A Fox, M.A., F.S.A, F.H.S., F.R.C.P., A.I.H.

*Reviews Editor*

Tom O'Donnell, M.A., M.PHIL.

*Editorial Panel*

Dr Adrian Ailes, M.A., D.PHIL., F.S.A., F.H.S., A.I.H.

Dr Jackson W Armstrong, B.A., M.PHIL., PH.D.

Steven Ashley, F.S.A, a.i.h.

Dr Claire Boudreau, PH.D., F.R.H.S.C., A.I.H., Chief Herald of Canada

Prof D'Arcy J.D.Boulton, M.A., PH.D., D.PHIL., F.S.A., A.I.H.

Dr Clive.E.A.Cheesman, M.A., PH.D., F.S.A., Richmond Herald

Steen Clemmensen A.I.H.

M. Peter D.O'Donoghue, M.A., F.S.A., York Herald

Dr Andrew Gray, PH.D., F.H.S.

Jun-Prof Dr Torsten Hiltmann, PH.D., a.i.h

Prof Peter Kurrild-Klitgaard, PH.D., F.R.Hist.S., A.I.H.

Elizabeth Roads, L.V.O., F.S.A., F.H.S., A.I.H, Snawdoun Herald

*Advertising Manager*

John J. Tunesi of Liongam, M.Sc., FSA Scot., Hon.F.H.S., Q.G.

Guidance for authors will be found online at  
[www.theheraldrysociety.com](http://www.theheraldrysociety.com)



## BOOK REVIEWS

Peter Drummond-Murray of Mastrick and Anthony Lombardo Delarue, *Banners of the bold, a roll of banners and standards of the Order of Saint John in England*. Privately printed, 2018. xiv 141 plates, index. Hard cover. ISBN: 978-0-95126-645-8. Price £30.



My first thought when this substantial volume comprising some 400 pages landed on my desk is that it was a lot of book for the money. The standard edition comprising 500 numbered copies is in good quality hardback cloth binding (there is also a limited edition of 35 numbered copies half-bound in leather with a slip-case at £380). *Banners of the bold* is the fruit of a collaboration between the late Peter Drummond-Murray and Anthony Delarue, both being Knights of Malta with a passion for heraldry and heraldic art.

The first section comprises thirty plates copied from Thomas Willement's tracings of the Tudor manuscript belonging to the College of Arms, which were subsequently published in monochrome by Lord Howard de Walden in 1904<sup>1</sup>; there is nothing to indicate whether they were the only banners and standards connected with the Order that were included in that manuscript. Delarue's images are all in full colour, making them so much more attractive, and many are accompanied by the bearer's coat of arms.

<sup>1</sup> Howard de Walden, *Banners Standards and Badges from a Tudor manuscript in the College of Arms*, de Walden (1904)

## BOOK REVIEWS

There follow seventeen new plates, in the same style, of banners and standards of significance to the Order in Tudor times, but which had not been included in the manuscript. Some of these individuals were not members of the Order. Unfortunately, there appear to be some anachronisms here – quartering arms of the Order with personal arms is a relatively modern usage and was certainly not done by Hugh Revel in the early thirteenth century; Paul Fox<sup>2</sup> found no evidence of ensigning personal arms with the Chief of Religion before the siege of Rhodes in 1480, so we should not see such usage by Roger de Vere (Grand prior in 1269), Robert Hales (Prior in 1372) and probably John Langstrother (Grand Prior in 1469).

The main body, some ninety plates, in uniform style with the earlier ones, is devoted to members of the Order since about 1800. The introduction tells us that selection was “a difficult business” and that many others might have been included. Notwithstanding, there are some surprising omissions of living English Knights, including Field Marshal Lord Guthrie and Cecil Humphery-Smith. Each plate is accompanied by a typically brief entry of genealogical rather than biographical information about the subject. Some of the entries are quite minimalist, while others seem overly long in comparison. There is a number of noticeable errors – both typographical and factual – in the text. It is unfortunate that Peter Drummond-Murray did not live to review critically his own first draft, and Anthony Delarue considers himself to be an artist rather than a writer. Had the text been given a final review shortly before printing, the fact that Matthew Festing had abdicated at the beginning of 2017 would have been noticed. The reference in the title of the book to the Order of St John instead of the Order of Malta might lead British readers to suppose that there is some reference here to the Venerable Order of St John, which is not the case. This being about a Roman Catholic order, the confusion is somewhat exacerbated by the inclusion of two notable Protestants: the Prince Consort and King Edward VII.

The work, which must stand on its artistic merit rather than on its attention to detail, is rounded off with an excellent and effective name index and unusually, a most interesting bestiary index. Over all, this is a very attractive and very reasonably priced book, perhaps to adorn the coffee table, but not entirely to be relied upon as a work of reference.

*Richard C.F. Baker*

Steen Clemmensen, *Editing Armorial: Cooperation, knowledge and approach by late medieval practitioners* (Copenhagen 2017) 2 vols pp 380+220, 2nd vol tables, plates and bibliography. Paperback. ISBN-10: 8771883355, ISBN-13: 978-8771883350. Print on demand £49.62.

As the title suggests, this is not a light read, but is rich in detail of what can be gleaned from making careful study of the key European armorials from the late Middle Ages (1340–1530). In this context practitioners were those who edited armorials. Wherever

<sup>2</sup> Paul A Fox, *Coats of arms of Knights of The Order of Malta in Malta, Rhodes and Rome, Proceedings of the XXth Colloquium of the Académie Internationale d'Héraldique*, Copenhagen 2017 (forthcoming).