The Coat of Arms

Annual Journal of the Heraldry Society

Series 4 Volume 8 Number 242 2025

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

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@googlemail.com

Membership Secretary
Jane Tunesi of Liongam
e-mail: 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

Printed in Exeter by Short Run Press Ltd..

©The Heraldry Society
ISSN 0010-003X

Cover illustration: submission drawing from the Maharajah of Rewah 1876, source *Taylor* supplement f. 15v, courtesy of the Kings, Heralds and Pursuivants of Arms, see pp. 160-1.

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.H.G., F.R.C.P., A.I.H.

Reviews Editor
Dr Philip Allfrey, D.Phil., M.Litt., a.i.h.

Editorial Panel
Dr Adrian Ailes, M.A., D.Phil., F.S.A., F.H.S., A.I.H.
Steven Ashley, F.S.A, F.H.S., Dip.H.S., a.i.h.
Prof D'Arcy J.D. Boulton, M.A., Ph.D., D.Phil., F.S.A., F.H.S., A.I.H.
Richard Byford, M.A., Dip.R.S.A., F.R.A.S.
Dr Clive E.A. Cheesman, M.A., Ph.D., F.S.A., F.H.S., Norroy and Ulster King of Arms
Dr Steen Clemmensen, Dr Phil., F.S.A., A.I.H.
Prof Anne E. Curry, M.A., Ph.D., F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S., F.H.A., Arundel Herald Extraordinary
M.Peter D. O'Donoghue, M.A., F.S.A., F.H.S., York Herald
Dr Andrew Gray, Ph.D., F.H.S., a.i.h.
Prof Dr Torsten Hiltmann, Ph.D., a.i.h.
Prof Peter Kurrild-Klitgaard, Ph.D., F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S., A.I.H.
Elizabeth Roads, L.V.O., LL.B., F.S.A., F.H.S., A.I.H.
Prof Fiona Robertson, M.A., M.Phil., D.Phil., F.S.A.

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

THE HERALDRY SOCIETY

THE HERALDRY ARCHIVE

HERALDRY SOURCES IN DIGITAL MEDIA

The Heraldry Archive seeks to make accessible in digital media the essential tools of heraldic scholarship, such as learned journals, essential reference works, heraldic surveys, and conference proceedings.

A full list of the titles published so far can be found in the shop on the Heraldry Society's website, at https://www.theheraldrysociety.com/shop/category/archive/, where they can also be purchased.

The Heraldry Archive includes the Heraldry Society's journals, fully digitised:

- Coat of Arms Series 1, 1950-1971
- Coat of Arms Series 2, 1974-2004
- Heraldry Gazette and Escutcheon, 1947-present

The collections are generally presented in HTML (web) format, with the actual documents in searchable PDF format. Usually there are tables of contents and often a search facility.

All are offered for sale in UK on CD-ROM, Data DVD or USB Flash Drive at £20 each (elsewhere £25), including postage and packaging.

Enquiries and suggestions to the project editor: Andrew Gray (archive@theheraldrysociety.com)

ARTEFACTS OF INTEREST

Reported under the Portable Antiquities Scheme and the Treasure Act

A further short selection of small finds of heraldic or related interest. All are items found by metal detectorists and recently reported under the terms of the Treasure Act 1996 or the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS), and all have a unique PAS number. Objects submitted to H.M. Coroner as potential treasure have a T number prefixed by the year in which they were submitted. Unless otherwise indicated, all images are reproduced by kind courtesy of the PAS.

2025.01 HEREFORDSHIRE: COLWALL
HESH-AF0B20. 2022 T984. See **Figure 1.**
An incomplete post-medieval cast silver seal matrix with engraved oval die, probably dating to the seventeenth century. Only the die remains, the reverse of which tapers to a worn break from which the handle would have extended. The face of the oval die is slightly distorted and the edge from 9 o'clock to 11 o'clock has been bent. A coat of arms is engraved on the face of the die; the engraving is worn, but the shield bears two bends and a further bend on a canton; the crest is indistinct but appears to be a winged creature. Dimensions of face 18.86mm x 17.06mm. Thickness at edge 1.68mm; at broken handle 7.65mm. Weight 5.56g. Found 16 September 2022.

Figure 1: Seventeenth-century silver seal matrix from Colwall in Herefordshire, showing the arms of Harford.

The arms are those of the Harford family of Bosbury in Herefordshire: *Sable two bends argent on a canton azure a bend or* (for Scrope). The unusual canton derives from the marriage of John Harford (d. 1559) to Ann Scrope. As recorded in the 1634 Visitation (see e.g. M. P. Siddons ed., *The Visitation of Herefordshire 1634* (*Harl. Soc*. NS 15: London, 2002, p. 59) the crest is a salamander's head between two wings, all enflamed, though later reference books describe it as a phoenix. For three successive generations from the time of the Commonwealth until 1713 the family was headed by men called Bridstock Harford; it is possible the matrix was made for one of them.

Ian Bass and Clive Cheesman

2025.02 KENT: WITTERSHAM

SUSS-338E6F. 2023 T230. See **Figure 2a.**

An incomplete post-medieval silver pedestal seal matrix with engraved oval die displaying a coat of arms; probably seventeenth century. The handle is broken off below the suspension loop. The arms are three escutcheons on a cotised bend; the crest is a griffin sejant supporting another small escutcheon with its forefoot. Overall remaining height 9.26mm; face of die 16.15mm x 13.20mm; section of handle at break 3.6mm x 2.7mm. Weight 4.26g. Disclaimed as treasure and returned to the finder.

The identification must remain uncertain. Arms like these (*Azure on a bend cotised argent three escutcheons azure.*) are recorded for the family of Edward Wymark of Aldesgate and North Luffenham in Rutlandshire, M.P. for various places in the early seventeenth century: G. J. Armytage (ed.) *Visitation. of Rutland 1618-19*, Harl. Soc.

Left, *Figure 2a*: seventeenth-century silver pedestal seal from Wittersham in Kent, with the seal reversed; right, *Figure 2b*: Franks Bookplate Collection no 2642: bookplate of Bishopp. By permission of the Kings, Heralds and Pursuivants of Arms.

vol. 3 (London, 1870), pp. 26, 47; *Hist. Parl. 1604-29* vol. 6 pp. 877-8. But no crest is recorded for these Wymarks. However, families called Bishop have used the crest seen on this object together with arms that differ only in having three roundels on the bend instead of escutcheons: and the Franks Bookplate Collection (no 2642) contains an eighteenth-century instance of an identical shield for Bishopp, i.e. *Sable on a bend cotised argent three escutcheons sable*, with the same crest of *A griffin sejant holding an escutcheon* as found on the ring **Figure 2b**.

Jane Clark and Clive Cheesman

2025.03 LINCOLNSHIRE: GEDNEY
LIN-A8B658. See **Figure 3.**
A complete cast copper-alloy, medieval seal matrix, probably fourteenth century in date. The shield-shaped seal matrix has a tapered and faceted hexagonal-section handle with an apical pointed collared suspension loop. The non-heraldic design on the face of the matrix shows two animals standing upright and facing each other: on the left as viewed is a fox, holding a crozier or shepherd's crook; opposite the fox stands a hare; above the latter there appears to be a bird, possibly a dove or pheasant depicted in profile with its wings raised in flight. In the 'chief' of the shield is the legend LEAME (presumably = 'the soul'). The edge of the shield and its chief are bordered with dots. Height 20.60 mm; breadth of face 15.58 mm; thickness of handle 3.40 mm; weight 5.76g. Found by Paul Green, 2022.

The allegorical or satirical design of a fox preaching is paralleled in the PAS database by WILT-41EDE6, a seal matrix of similar date from Quarley in Wiltshire,

Figure 3: medieval copper-alloy seal matrix from Gedney in Lincolnshire, showing a fox in the guise of a bishop or abbot preaching.

where a crozier-holding fox in the same physical attitude addresses farmyard fowl. The PAS entry for the Quarley find further cites a secular badge in Salisbury and South Wilts Museum showing a fox, robed as a priest, preaching from a pulpit to four geese (B. Spencer, *Pilgrim Souvenirs and Secular Badges. Salisbury Museum Medieval Catalogue*, Part 2 (Salisbury, 1990), p. 114, no 215, fig. 303), as well as a bench-end carving in the church of St Michael, Brent Knoll, Somerset, showing a preaching fox dressed as a bishop (A. Gardner, *Minor English Wood Sculpture 1400-1550* (1958)). For more on the theme in medieval art and story-telling, see K. Varty, *Reynard the Fox* (Leicester, 1967), frontispiece and chapter 4 ('The fox religious').

Lisa Brundle

2025.04 NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: GREASLEY
WMID-17B6E3. See **Figure 4.**
An incomplete medieval (*c.* 1400-1450) copper-alloy shield-shaped harness mount, with an impaled coat of arms on the face and the broken remains of an attachment stud on the reverse. The dexter impalement shows five owls arranged around a small inescutcheon; the sinister a bend charged with three roundels. Traces of black enamel survive in the bend; a lighter colour, possibly yellow or yellowed white, is seen on the owls. Dimensions of face 31.5mm x 30mm; front to back 5.2mm; weight 9g.

The arms are those of Calverley (usually *Sable an escutcheon within an orle of owls argent*.: *DBA* 3, p. 274) impaling Markenfield (*Argent on a bend sable three roundels or*: *DBA* 2, pp. 53-4). Walter Calverley of Calverley, Yorks., married Elizabeth Markenfield of Markenfield near Ripon, probably in the early fifteenth century; R. Thoresby, *Ducatus Leodensis*, ed. T. D. Whitaker (1816), p. 115, citing the marriage settlement of 1414-15.

Teresa Gilmore and Sarah Williams

Figure 4: medieval copper-alloy harness furniture from Greasley in Nottinghamshire, showing Calverley impaling Markenfield.

2025.05 SHROPSHIRE: MORETON SAY
LVPL-019438. 2022 T975. See **Figure 5.**
An incomplete post-medieval cast silver seal matrix with engraved oval die, dating to the period between 1650 and 1750. The object has been broken and about a third of the face of the die and a sizable portion of the body of the matrix have been lost. Enough remains of the heraldry (apparently three mullets on a fess, with a label in the chief of the shield) for an identification. Dimensions of face 14.09mm x 11.48mm; length 21.64mm; width of handle 3.96mm; weight 5.32g. Found 14 August 2022.

The arms are likely to be those of an elder son (father still living) of the Clive family of Styche in Shropshire, who bore *Argent on a fess sable three mullets or*. Many of the family were baptized, married or buried at Moreton Say, among them Robert, 1st Baron Clive (1725-1774; 'Clive of India') whose grave is in the churchyard there. The matrix is in all probability too old to have been made for him.

Heather Beeton and Clive Cheesman

Figure 5: broken post-medieval silver pedestal seal from Moreton Say in Shropshire, showing the arms of the Clive family with a label.

Figure 6: post-medieval copper-alloy seal matrix from Burntwood in Staffordshire.

2025.06 STAFFORDSHIRE: BURNTWOOD
LVPL-432131. See **Figure 6.**
A post-medieval copper-alloy seal matrix, probably dating to 1600-1750. The handle is collared and pierced at the end to allow for suspension. On the face of the almost circular die is a shield with three fleurs-de-lys and a fourth fleur-de-lys sitting directly over it as a crest. Height to tip of handle 25.66mm; diameter of die face 17.14mm; weight 8g.

All four fleurs-de-lys are shown without their tails, and might as such be regarded as 'demi' fleurs-de-lys, but this is a frequent and usually insignificant artistic variation on the standard charge. Assuming this to be the case here, there are many possible identifications for the arms, including Mound(e)ford of Feltwell in Norfolk (*Azure fleurs-de-lys gules*; crest *a fleur-de-lys gules*).

Heather Beeton and Clive Cheesman

Figure 7: post-medieval silver pedestal seal from Colton in Staffordshire.

2025.07 STAFFORDSHIRE: COLTON
WMID-CB1E3B. 2023 T395. See **Figure 7.**
A complete post-medieval cast silver pedestal-type seal matrix, of seventeenth-century date. The face is oval while the lower part of the pedestal is octagonal in section as it rises to the first of two collars. There is a broad attachment loop at the top of the handle. A small impressed mark on the pedestal indicates the orientation of the design on the matrix. This design consists of a shield with helmet and mantling; the shield shows an unidentified tree, bush or shrub. There is no crest. Face of matrix 17.3mm x 15.3mm; height of pedestal 24.4 mm; internal diameter of suspension loop 4.2mm. Weight 7.6 g. Found by Patrick Wilkinson 31 January 2023.

It is not clear whether this is true heraldry, and if so which jurisdiction it might derive from. No identification has yet been suggested.

Peter Carey and Clive Cheesman

Left, *Figure 8a*: seventeenth-century silver pedestal seal from near Elsted in West Sussex, showing the arms of the Theobal family; right, *Figure 8b*: Franks Bookplate Collection no 29177: bookplate of James Theobald of Belvedere House, Lambeth, F.R.S. (1688-1759). By permission of the Kings, Heralds and Pursuivants of Arms.

2025.08 WEST SUSSEX: ELSTED
SUSS-8F6C6B. 2023 T95. See **Figure 8a.**
A complete post-medieval silver pedestal or pendant seal matrix with an engraved oval die displaying a coat of arms; probably seventeenth century. The shield has six fitchy crosses crosslet; the crest is a phoenix amid flames. Overall height 29.02mm; die face 17.03mm x 15.92mm; handle loop 11.67mm across; thickness of handle 6.01mm. Weight 10.91g. Found 29 January 2023; disclaimed as treasure and returned to the finder.

The arms are those of the Theobald family, possibly the family of this name (with variant forms Tybold, Tibald) associated with Seale in Kent: E. Hasted, *History and Topographical Survey of Kent* (Canterbury, 1797), vol. 3, p. 55. The same arms and crest were used by James Theobald F.R.S. (1688-1759), of Belvedere House in Lambeth, timber merchant, natural historian and collector: Franks Bookplate no 29177 (**Figure 8b**).

Jane Clark and Clive Cheesman

Above, *Figure 9a*: fourteenth-century copper-alloy harness pendant from Warnham in West Sussex (2025.09); below, *Figure 9b*: fourteenth-century copper-alloy harness pendant from Kington St Michael in Wiltshire (PAS WILT-883DC5).

2025.09 WEST SUSSEX: WARNHAM
SUSS-969E09. See **Figure 9a.**
An incomplete medieval cast copper-alloy harness pendant dating to the fourteenth century. The pendant is shield shaped with the vestigial remains of an integral suspension loop at the centre of the upper edge. One surface of the pendant is decorated with a stag beetle viewed from above with the jaws pointing to the suspension loop. The egg-shaped body is decorated in champlevé white enamel with a central dividing narrow T-shaped panel of copper alloy. The jaws are of red enamel, each mandible with four branches. The three pairs of legs are not enamelled but incised. The reverse of the pendant is plain. Length 30.87mm; width 24.75mm; thickness 3.31mm; weight 7.59g.

The heraldry is not recorded. Compare a similar shield-shaped harness pendant with a single central beetle (not, however, a stag beetle) found at Kington St Michael in Wiltshire (**Figure 9b**).

Jane Clark

2025.10 YORKSHIRE: DENTON
SWYOR-B6B9D3. See **Figure 10a** and **b.**
A copper-alloy medieval seal matrix, probably late fourteenth or fifteenth century. The circular disk has an integral handle across the reverse with a trefoil piercing and notches on the outside edge to indicate the top of the seal and act as a point of attachment. The object has a brown and dark green patina. The face of the seal shows a full coat of arms with *accouché* shield (a fess between six cross crosslets), helm and crest (a swan's head and neck), mantling, and supporters (two muzzled bears). The swan's neck is flanked by a pair of ragged staves; there are also feathers, suggesting that wings are intended too. In the border, split at top and bottom around the coat of arms, is an inscription that starts SIGILLVM COMI'S before becoming uncertain; the remaining part may read (or have been intended to read) WARICQUE. Dimensions of face 39.55mm x 38.43mm; thickness of disk 4.71mm; weight 42.56g. Found 23 April 2022.

The arms shown appear to be those of an Earl of Warwick, most probably Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick (d. 1439), though he also used more complex versions with quarterings and escutcheons of pretence; see *BM Seals* no 7248, for a similarly simple version on what Birch calls his 'first seal', though with a longer inscription. Given the condition of this object, it is hard to be certain that the inscription is not barbarous. (Thanks are due to John Cherry and Adrian Ailes for their thoughts on this object.)

Amy Downes and Clive Cheesman

PREVIOUSLY LISTED ARTEFACT

2022.1 HAMPSHIRE: WEST TYTHERLEY
DOR-1363A3. Subsequently also 2021 T45. *CoA* no. 239 (2022), pp. 201-2.
This object, the silver pedestal seal matrix of Joan de Estcote (d. 1316) daughter and heir of Walter de Langford, was subsequently declared treasure by H.M. Coroner and is being acquired by the Hampshire Cultural Trust.

Ciorstaidh Hayward-Trevarthen

Above, *Figure 10a*: late medieval copper-alloy seal matrix from Denton in Yorkshire, apparently showing the arms of an Earl of Warwick (2025.10); below, *Figure 10b*: impression of the Denton seal, not to scale.