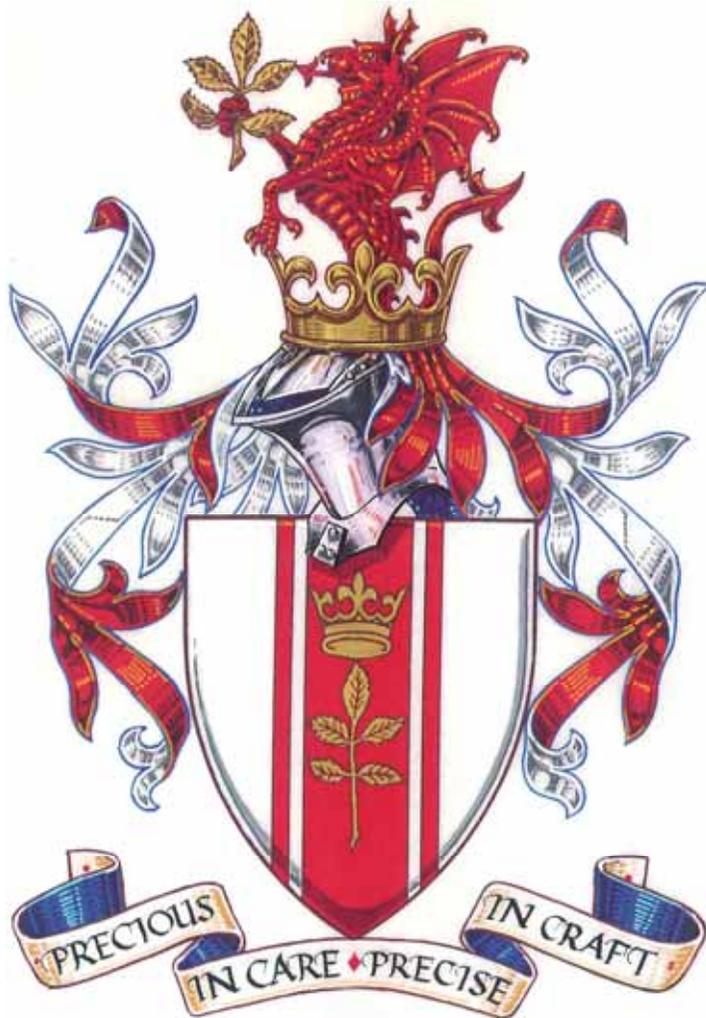


A DEMI-DRAGON CREST



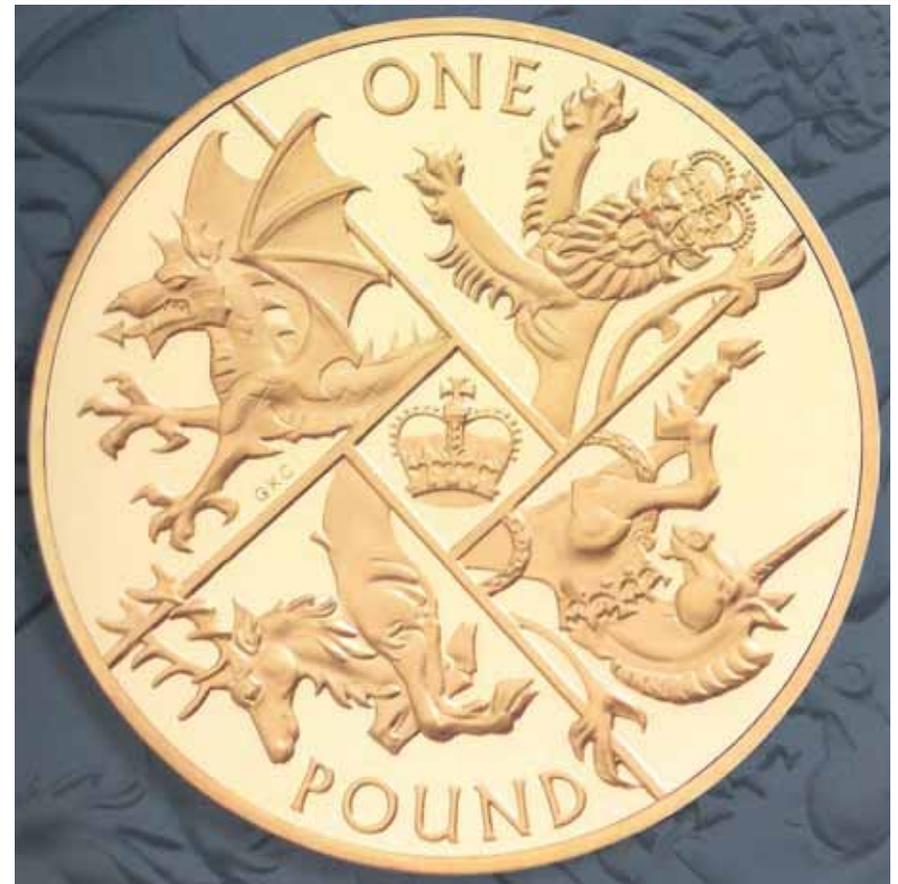
David Elderton has arms which reflect his name. The word 'Elder' can mean either a senior member of a group or the plant *Sambucus nigra*, and both are represented on the shield and in the crest, the former by an Elder's coronet and the latter by a leaf of the plant (blazoned incorrectly as a sprig with seven leaves but botanically a leaf with seven lobes). The Dragon is just for fun. Dave often has a banner of his arms flying at the bottom of his garden.

Issued 23 June 2016 by Ralph Brocklebank, Orland, Church Avenue, Clent, Stourbridge DY9 9QS
Website:- www.dragonlore.co.uk E-mail:- ralph@dragonlore.co.uk

Dragonlore

The Journal of The College of Dracology

No.182 St Etheldreda's Day 2016



Dragon and Unicorn on the Last 'Round Pound'



The College of Dracology for the Study of Fabulous Beasts



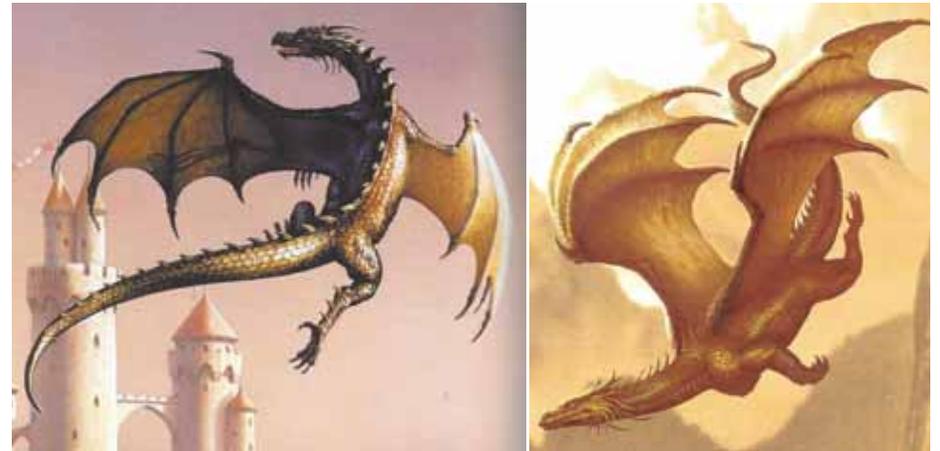
Etheldreda, daughter of a King of the East Angles, was the founder of the monastery at Ely and became its first abbess. She was highly regarded by contemporaries and much revered. She died in 679 AD and is celebrated on 23rd June, Midsummer Eve. So we said in No 74 just ten years ago, when we also mentioned that her name was originally Aethelthryth but was eventually shortened to Audrey, a name not uncommon to this day. And the monastery at Ely became the magnificent cathedral that dominates the fens around it. Her feast day this year has a special significance, being the occasion of the referendum which may determine our country's future course for good or for ill – or perhaps it will make no difference! It is, after all, just a 'tawdry' referendum and not a proper election.

The last 'Round Pound' whose reverse side is illustrated on the cover is being issued in a special brilliant uncirculated form for collectors and will not be put into general circulation. The design, by Gregory Cameron, Bishop of St Asaph in North Wales and a renowned heraldist and designer, includes the four beasts representing the four nations in the United Kingdom surrounding and protecting the Royal Crown. This is the twenty-fifth different design to be used on pound coins since they were first introduced in 1983, most of them more than once. We have had four different versions of the Royal Arms, two sets of plant badges, one set of heraldic beasts (though Northern Ireland had a Celtic Cross with a flax flower rather than their stag), a set of bridges and one lot showing the arms of the four capital cities, London, Edinburgh, Cardiff and Belfast (though I have never seen any of these). The round coin, which was becoming too frequently counterfeited, is to be replaced next year by a twelve-sided bimetallic coin with features hard to copy. Meanwhile some of us can enjoy the splendid rendering of the Dragon and the Unicorn together with the Lion and the Stag.



BOOK REVIEW

The Book of the Dragon by Ciruelo (New York, 2000) is a product of fantasy. We have seen a few of the paintings of Dragons by Ciruelo Cabral from his calendars, but this book, apart from having a wide selection of his illustrations, of which a few are shown here, also has a text giving the supposed biology and natural history of Dragons, together with a vivid re-telling of many dragon legends, from Perseus, Jason and Cadmus through Melusine, Tarasque and Tristan down to Siegfried and Saint George. All he writes is fantastical, even the well-known legends are re-written with variations from the standard tales, and surprisingly all the Dragons are shown much the same, even when they are representing Ketos, Ladon, Fafnir or any of the others. One cannot, therefore, recommend it as a serious textbook on Dracology, but it is beautifully presented and good fun. One original little detail is his mention of a dragon parasite which he calls an *Ichneumon* and is said to wriggle under a Dragon's scales and nibble away at him until he reaches his heart and kills him.



WONDERFUL WINGED BEASTS



David Vaudrey sent a group of photographs of stained glass windows in the Church of Saint Mildred, Whippingham, in the Isle of Wight from which we select just the two emblems of the Evangelists Saint Mark and Saint Luke, the winged lion and the winged bull (*above*). We have seen several examples of these before, but they are all different. While in the Isle of Wight, David visited the Union Inn in Cowes and noted that Fuller's Ales come from the Griffin Brewery with a suitable sign over the door (*below*).



A WONDERFUL WEATHERVANE



Steve Slater saw this 16th-century weathervane on the Tudor Hunting Lodge at Newark Park in Gloucestershire and noted that the dents on its breast had been made by musket balls when it was used for target practice. Since it is now in the care of the National Trust we hope the local sharpshooters will find a more suitable target to practice on.

VISITORS TO METZ BEWARE !



Suspended from the ceiling of the crypt in the Cathedral of Metz is this fearsome creature, which looks as if it might pounce at any time (*above*). Cathie Constant also sent this picture of the Hinky Punk on a carved wooden panel on a 16th-century bench end at Tawstock in Devon (*right*). This mythical and mischievous two-legged beast is said to waylay unwary travellers and lure them into swamps, and is related in folklore to other creatures such as Puck, Jack-o'-Lantern and Will-o'-the-Wisp. It may be the source of the expression "hanky panky."



SOME TUDOR TERRORS

Roland Symons has provided a series of pictures from the collection of the City of Bath Heraldry Society featuring a variety of monsters from a Tudor manuscript.

Some are shown on standards, as follows:

A green Wyvern with a red hand in its mouth, for Charles Somerset, Lord Chamberlain.



A white Panther incensed, for Lord Herbert of Raglan, Lord Chamberlain.



A red Cockatrice with Martlets, for Sir John Oghan, also written Howgan.



An heraldic Tyger argent with golden tufts and mane, for Sir Adrian Fortecue.



A red Griffin tail fourchee with fretwork of gold and platey holding a sword erect argent with hilt and pommel Or, for Sir Hugh Vaughan.



A white Alant (wolf-dog) with seven blue Wyverns each issuing from a crown, for Thomas Fiennes, Lord Dacre of the South.



Two others are shown “from an imperfect standard” alongside a banner, as seen below:

A Lizard tail nowed vert ducally gorged and chained Or, for Sir Edward Belknap.

A Wolf statant of a dark tawny with fins along the back, belly and upon the hind legs of a ‘water colour’ for Nicholas St Lawrence, 4th Baron Howth, Lord Chancellor of Ireland.



Most of these are regular fabulous beasts with which we will be familiar, though perhaps with unusual artwork, while the last few may be somewhat marginal, but worth a look. I had not come across the Alant before and the finned Wolf is also new to me. Many thanks to Roland for sending these beautiful examples of Tudor handiwork.