



Saint Michael in a window in the Church of St Larwence Jewry by Guildhall
photo by Leslie Hodgson. Note the very realistic Dragon.

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Dragonlore

The Journal of The College of Dracology

No.180 Saint George's Day 2016



Saint George and the Dragon window by Christopher Webb



The College of Dracology for the Study of Fabulous Beasts



Sadly we record the death of Tony Ryan of Bath, a keen heraldist and loyal supporter of Dragonlore, and we welcome to our number Maxwell Craven of Derby.

The picture on the cover is from the Church of St Lawrence Jewry by Guildhall, which was re-built 1954-7 with windows by Christopher Rahere Webb (1886-1966). Another of his windows in the same church, of Saint Michael, is on the back page. Our thanks are due to **Leslie Hodgson** who took the pictures on a visit to London. George became the Patron Saint of England following the Crusades, replacing a sequence of Englishmen. Although a foreigner, he has probably received more veneration than any of his predecessors, and has become a favourite subject for many artists.

The celebration of St George's Day as a national festival is becoming quite common, and vivid re-enactments of his fight become ever more adventurous. The one below takes place at Wrest Park in Bedfordshire, this probably being the dress rehearsal, as it appeared in *The Mail on Sunday* on the Tenth of April, two weeks before the festive day itself.



Heraldry in Canada, Vol 50 NO 1, 2016 has on the cover a pair of Red-Winged Polar Bears supporting the arms of the Canadian Society of Immigration Consultants (*above*) which are a bit more believable than the Raven-Bears of the Canadian Heraldic Authority, but perhaps only marginally fabulous – they may be just bears in fancy dress. The Canadians have a proud record of inventing fantastic hybrid creatures, some of which push the boundaries of believability beyond bearing, but as a new heraldic jurisdiction they are entitled to make up their own rules as they go along. On inside pages one may find a Salamander, two Pelicans in Their Piety and a Unicorn.

The Coat of Arms No 230, Autumn 2015 (came in April) has, for us, just a couple of sketchy Griffins as quarters in the arms of Daniel Parke Jr. (right).



Gonfanon Vol 27, No 1, Spring 2016 (came in April) has the arms of the former Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau with its Griffin crest (right). Now that his son Justin has been elected to the same office, having inherited these arms, the question arises as to what to do with the Prime Ministerial cadency mark, also inherited but now earned anew. Double it?



Saint George and the Dragon from an icon (circa 1600)



This is from an icon presented to the Dean and Canons of Windsor by Gerald Wellesley in the nineteenth century. Note the Princess in the background (where is her little dog?) and the King and Queen watching from the castle tower, in accordance with tradition. The Dragon is unusual anatomically, having some features more mammalian than reptilian, such as the hairy legs and paws, the lack of scales on the skin and the little horns on his head.

A DUNDEE DRAGON



Jack Marsh, my great-grandson, was visiting Scotland and came across this metal monster in the middle of a street in Dundee. "Here's one for great-grandad" he shouted and his Mum took this picture and sent it to me. There is a legend of the Dragon of Dundee and the Nine Maidens of Pitempton, very like other local legends of Dragons that devoured sheep, maidens or even princesses, the biggest difference being that in this one they took so long to investigate why the maidens were not coming home, each being sent to find out until a young man called Martin took on the task and was more than a match for the Dragon. He is commemorated to this day in a

little verse:

*Tempted at Pitempton,
Draigled at Baldragon,
Stricken at Strathmartin,
And kill'd at Martin's Stane.*

JOURNAL SCAN



The Heraldry Gazette 139, March 2016, (came in April) has the Arms of the Worshipful Company of Fanmakers of London with their newly granted Supporters of a Griffin and a Dragon (*above*) on the cover, while within, apart from a few shy Unicorns, one finds the splendid arms of the Worshipful Company of Fire Fighters with its Salamander crest and Sea Lion and Dragon supporters (*right*).

