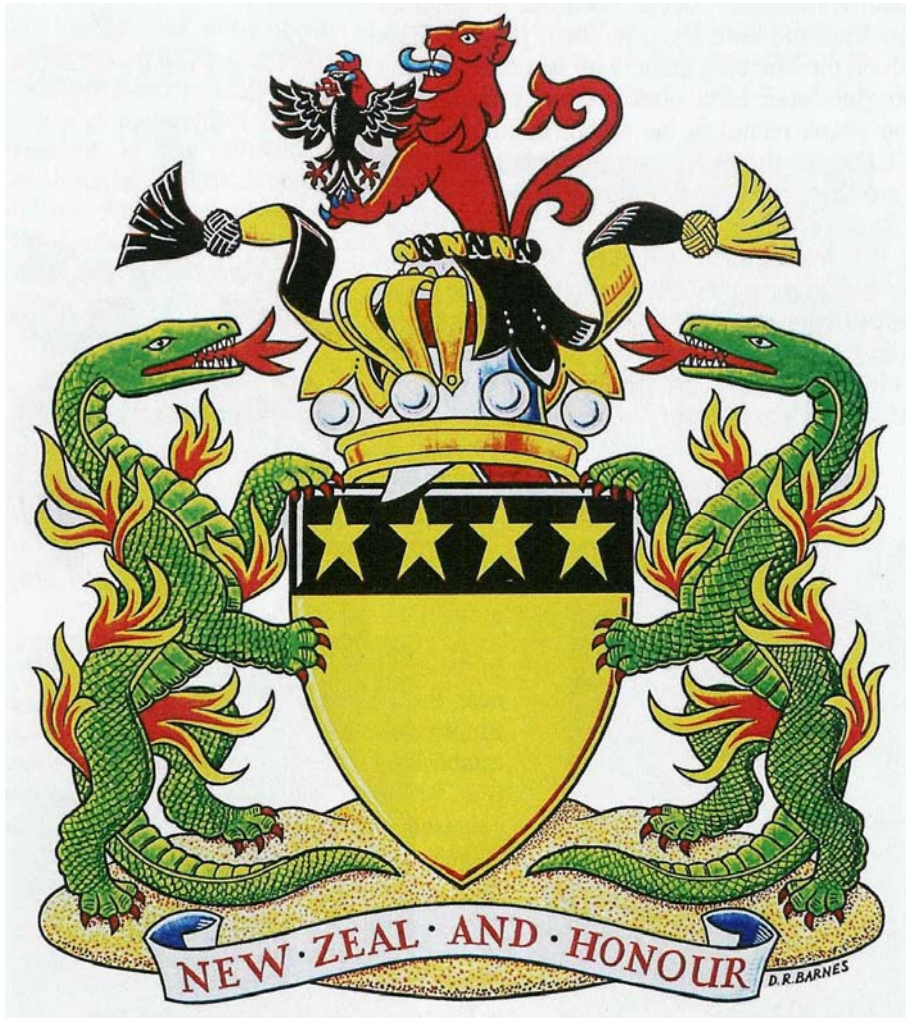


an eagle displayed Sable, and the Supporters On either side a salamander Proper. Salamanders were at first spirits of fire in ancient mythology, and were then shown in heraldry as lizard-like creatures surrounded by flames, as we saw in the last issue. Zoologists then gave the name to a harmless sort of newt-like animal which is not in the least resistant to fire, but these ones are definitely reptilian and are not just flame-friendly but positively bursting with fire. We know Roger Barnes as a master dracologist and congratulate him on this original interpretation.



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The Journal of The College of Dracology

No.153

St Andrew's Day 2013



The Arms of Agutter with Ballard in pretence, by Baz Manning.
 Note the Harp.

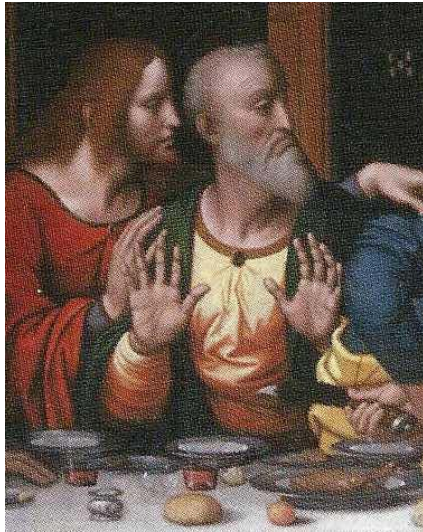


The College of Dracology for the Study of Fabulous Beasts



*With great regret we record the death of Pete Taylor, after a long illness. He had edited *The Heraldry Gazette* and then *The Heraldic Craftsman* with great distinction, and was always a keen supporter of *Dragonlore*. Our thoughts are with his two sons, Malcolm and Gordon.*

*Sadly we also note the death of Ann Gooding, who was skilful in many handicrafts and once sent us a wistful little Dragon. As she was my elder sister, the betting was that I would be the next to go, so if, in the event of such an occurrence, there is somebody who would like to take on *Dragonlore*, it would be very comforting to hear from them.*



Saint Andrew was one of the first disciples of Jesus. He was the brother of Simon called Peter, and by a strange sequence of events, became the Patron Saint of Scotland (and also of Greece, Romania, Russia and Barbados), and is celebrated every 30th November. Since we commemorated Saints David, Patrick and George, our other national Patron Saints, earlier in the year, it is only fair to note St Andrew now. We have hit on this date before, in 1997 (*No 14*), 2000 (*No 21*) and 2011 (*No 131*), but nothing was said about Andrew until *No 131* and then not much. The picture of him at the Last Supper by Leonardo shows an elderly man with his hands raised in a gesture of disassociation, Jesus having just announced that one of those at the table would betray him. The

apostle leaning over his shoulder is St James the Less (*see No 137*).

We have often seen a harp decorated with a female figure, and occasionally that of a lion, but the Ballard arms on the cover is the first time we have seen a Dragon in that rôle. It is there because the grantee's wife was from Wessex, but is not specified in the blazon – just a nice little artistic touch. The painting of the arms is one of Baz Manning's splendid contributions to Goldsmiths Hall, the Agutter arms being full of puns – "goutes or," an arrow or *sagitta*, the crest is an agouti, and the motto continues in the same vein, "Preclare Agitur sed Modeste" meaning "We do well but with modesty."

JOURNAL SCAN

The Blazon Vol 7, No 2, Issue 14, Winter 2012 (*sic*, actually received October 2013). This enterprising journal from British Columbia had just the one Dragon in it, a red demi-dragon crest on a first attempt at designing a coat of arms by a third-grade student in an article by Carl Larsen on "Can Heraldry Really Interest Young Canadians?" After he and Allan Ailo had taught a couple of classes in a school in Burnaby, the answer is a resounding "Yes."

The White Lion Society Newsletter No 59, November 2013, has a few Martlets and three Griffins' heads among the arms of Bishops of Worcester in one of Roland Symons' stunning displays.

Flagmaster 148 (October 2013) has the red Welsh Dragon supporting the arms of Oliver Cromwell as Lord Protector, and a whole page devoted to the New County Flag of Somerset, with a clear drawing of the recently adopted flag itself (*see No 150*) and six of the semi-finalists that failed the final choice, each with the same Dragon on it, some large and some small. Also shown, the arms of Barbados with its heraldic Dolphin supporter.

Tak Tent No 61, Autumn 2031 (November) has some fine carvings of fabulous beasts, one Griffin and one Dragon, taken by James Dempster on a visit to Bologna, but rather surprisingly, no Unicorns at all.

The Heraldic Craftsman No 84, November 2013 has a tiny Dragon's head crest in a stained glass window at the V & A, some Martlets on Burgoyns' shield and the Mercian two-headed Eagle in another of Roland Symons' displays – all for the sharp-eyed.

SALAMANDER SUPPORTERS

Bernard Freyberg was born in England but migrated to New Zealand with his family at the age of two. During the First World War he fought gallantly, winning the Victoria Cross, and in the Second World War he commanded the New Zealand Division, fighting in Greece, Crete, North Africa and Italy and earning the enthusiastic approval of Winston Churchill. From 1946 to 1952 he served as New Zealand's first home-grown Governor-General and was then ennobled. He died in 1963. His arms, illustrated here by Roger Barnes, are blazoned *Or on a chief Sable four mullets of the Field*. The Crest is *A demi-lion Gules holding between the paws*

ONE OF HUPP'S HERALDIC HORRORS



Stephen Tudsbury-Turner sent this example of Otto Hupp's artistic mastery, the crest from the arms of Hiltprant with its animated Dragon.

BOOK REVIEW

Sea Monsters on Medieval and Renaissance Maps by Chet Van Duzer (The British Library, London 2013) is a scholarly and thoroughly well illustrated survey of its field, which includes the examples we showed in No 143 and dozens more besides.

ODD STREAK from *The Daily Mail*, 6 Nov 2013, a new twist on an old joke.



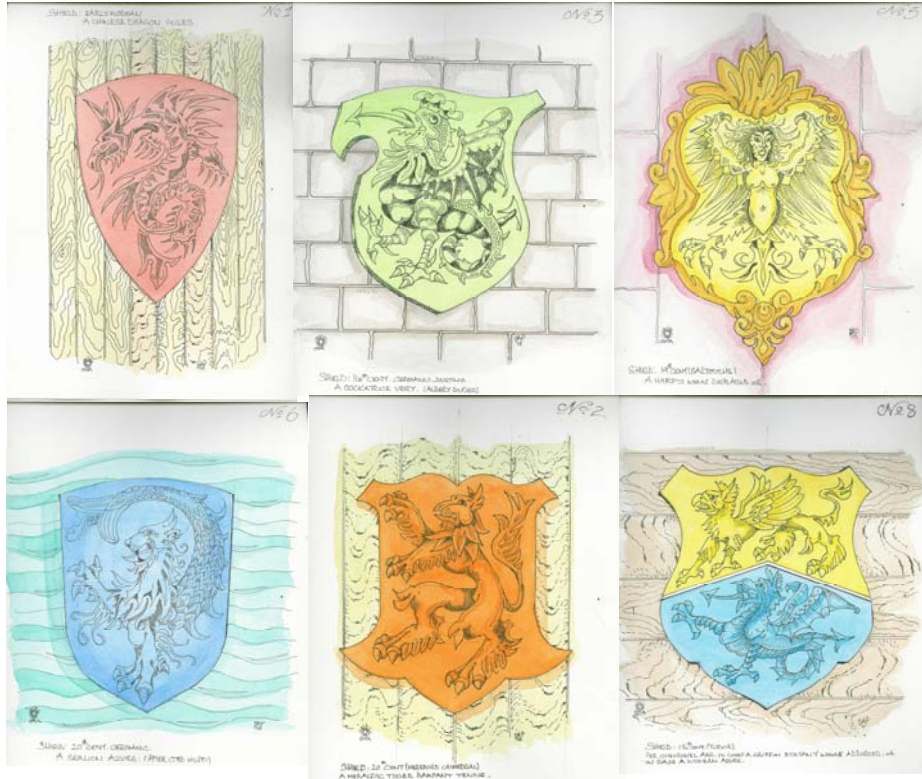
MOTORING MONSTERS

Lord Lingfield sent this picture of his Bagwyn crest (see No 143) in the form of a mascot cast in stainless steel by the distinguished sculptor, the late Sir David Hughes Bt SHA, who died in 2003. For another example of Sir David's work, see No 35, p 4. About the mascot, Lord Lingfield writes, "It decorated my Bentley's radiator for many years and then was retired to the mantelpiece in case the Bagwyn's lengthy horns shredded a cyclist." Pedestrians were also at risk, we are supposed to believe. For another reminder of those carefree days, here is a Griffin



mascot from a vintage Prince Henry Vauxhall, a model from the time before General Motors took over Vauxhalls and turned it into a rival to Fords. This stately car was so grand it made the Le Mans-type Bentley alongside look quite common. Vauxhalls at least kept the Griffin badge, which we have shown from time to time.

A MONSTROUS MISCELLANY FROM THE MIDLANDS



Dave Perks **SHA**, of Stamberwill in the West Midlands, thinking that he had not done enough for Dragonlore, produced a whole album of coloured drawings of fabulous beasts, of which we present a selection above. Note that each is on a shield from a different period.

THREE CHEEKY CHAPS



First is a statue at the Wenshu monastery in China. Next is not-so-cuddly toy and last a baby armadillo in defensive mode imitating the Ouroboros.

A COMFORTING CUSHION



This piece of elaborate embroidery with its glorious Griffins was a present from Una Lewers. It is evidently an aristocratic French coat of arms, and although the embroiderer has been somewhat confused over the colours, it should not be too hard to identify.