



<http://kentarchaeology.org.uk/research/archaeologia-cantiana/>

Kent Archaeological Society is a registered charity number 223382

© 2017 Kent Archaeological Society

OBITUARIES

CHARLES NORMAN POPE

MR. C. N. POPE, who had been a member of the Society since 1936, died on 14th August, 1957. The following notice is contributed by Major H. M. Rand, Chairman of the Ashford Archæological Society :

When, in February, 1947, a number of members of the newly-formed Ashford Association asked for facilities to study local history, opportunity was taken to revive the Ashford and South Kent Archæological Society, which had been dormant since 1929. Mr. Pope, though not himself an archæologist of experience, willingly came forward to act as Honorary Secretary, and to help set the Society once more on its feet. A botanist of note, a hard-working member of the Kent Field Club, and a participant in the local Map Distribution Scheme of plants, he gave cheerful and efficient service to the Society which, from then on, developed steadily. He was a keen photographer, and many of the pictorial records of Old Ashford are from his camera. Moreover, he put together much material bearing on the history of Ashford, from which its more recent story may be written. Never in good health, he resigned the Secretaryship of the Ashford Archæological Society in January, 1953, but, until his untimely passing, he remained an active member of committee.

ALFRED CUMBERLAND

ARCHÆOLOGY in North-West Kent has suffered a great loss in the death of Alfred Cumberland on 23rd October. He came of a well-known Bedfordshire family, but settled in Kent in 1914, becoming a member of the Society in 1934.

Undoubtedly his greatest work is found in Keyes' two massive volumes of *Historical Notes of Dartford*, for which Mr. Cumberland did all the research, and much of the literary, work. He also transcribed the valuable *Dartford Churchwardens' Accounts* which date from 1642 (presenting a copy to the Society's Library).

Mr. Cumberland played a leading part in the most active period of the Dartford Antiquarian Society. He was joint editor of its *Transactions* and all regret that they are no longer published. He was also one of the chief directors of the two important excavations carried out in that period : the Roman site at Farningham and the Saxon Cemetery

OBITUARIES

at Horton Kirby. Since he combined thoroughness with enthusiasm, both operations were carried out scientifically.

Of late years illness has stopped his field work, but he was able to continue as an efficient local secretary of the Society for the Dartford area and as an inspiring influence to the Dartford Antiquarian Society. His quiet service, his lack of aggressiveness and his selfless pursuit of knowledge won for him a sincere regard in an industrial area which had been somewhat indifferent to archaeological affairs.

H.J.B.

LADY HAWLEY

By the death of Marjorie, Lady Hawley, of Tunbridge Wells, the Society has lost a valued member of twenty-eight years standing.

Lady Hawley had resided in Tunbridge Wells for nearly thirty years, where she was a much loved and known figure, taking a prominent part in many local activities and organizations. Her interests were wide, and included the Church, the Arts, Education, and the welfare of the Blind of the County ; she was also a never-failing supporter of the local branch of our Society.

For the past two or three years Lady Hawley suffered much ill-health, which she met and overcame with the same courageous spirit as she showed in all difficulties.

SIR GERALD WOODS WOLLASTON, K.C.B., K.C.V.O., M.A., LL.M., F.S.A.

COUNCIL learned with very deep regret of the death on 4th March, 1957, of Sir Gerald Wollaston at his home at Walmer at the age of 82. He had been a member of Council for many years and was one of our most distinguished Vice-Presidents.

Sir Gerald was the only child of the late Sir Arthur Wollaston, and as a schoolboy at Harrow he was contemporary with another Honorary Freeman of Deal, Sir Winston Churchill. He took his degree at Trinity College, Cambridge, and was called to the Bar by the Inner Temple. In 1902 he began his remarkable career as Fitzalan Pursuivant of Arms Extraordinary. He was appointed Bluemantle Pursuivant in 1906, and from 1919 to 1928 he was Richmond Herald. After two years as Norroy King of Arms, in 1930 he set out on the most distinguished period of his life as Garter Principal King of Arms, an office which he held until 1944.

OBITUARIES

His grandfather, Sir Albert Woods, and his great-grandfather, Sir William Woods, had each held the office of Garter King of Arms, in fact the Wollaston family had been continuously represented among the Officers of Arms since 1819. When Sir Gerald wished to retire in 1944, he was not allowed to do so, and was appointed Norroy and Ulster King of Arms.

As Garter King, he arranged King George V's Silver Jubilee, his funeral, the Proclamation of King Edward VIII, that of King George VI, and the latter's Coronation; he also designed Coats of Arms for the Princess Elizabeth and Princess Margaret. During the war he was asked by the War Office to design suitable badges for London District and other Headquarters, and as Norroy King he took part in the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in June, 1953.

Whether at Windsor or Westminster, he played his part conscientiously and modestly in the great royal ceremonies he loved. He was considered the greatest living authority on heraldry and ceremonial, yet with his immense erudition, he shared his knowledge so unaffectedly that it was a constant interest and pleasure to be with him.

Sir Gerald was a Knight of Justice and Genealogist of the Order of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, and as a barrister he often appeared before the Court of Privileges in peerage cases. He had served, too, in 1918 as Extra Secretary at the British Embassy in Madrid. He took a remarkable interest in all the everyday activities of Deal, whether it was the welfare of local boatmen, or older longshoremen, the British Legion, the Angling Association, the Handelian Society, or the Cricket Club, of which he was a founder member and was still a player at the age of 75. He was also a gifted pianist and for many years organist at Walmer Parish Church.

The memory of this gracious, courteous Herald, with his gentle kindness and his eager twinkling eyes, will long remain with us.

A.R.

Mr. W. P. D. Stebbing adds the following personal note :

"I knew Sir Gerald Wollaston for many years; my younger brother shared Chambers with him in the Inner Temple, and later we were near neighbours at Deal for well over 30 years. Sir Gerald had a valuable collection of heraldic material. His help was invaluable in all armorial achievements, in heraldic hatchments on the walls of our parish churches and especially those in connection with St. Leonard's at Deal. He was active in social work in the town, being especially interested in the welfare of youth, and both socially and as a sportsman his is a great loss to all of us who are connected with Walmer."