Officers; Events in 2015; Fellows & Members; Editor's Note

Stephen L. Wolgast
Kansas State University, wolgast@ksu.edu

Follow this and additional works at: https://newprairiepress.org/burgonsociety

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial 4.0 License

Recommended Citation

This Front Matter is brought to you for free and open access by New Prairie Press. It has been accepted for inclusion in Transactions of the Burgon Society by an authorized administrator of New Prairie Press. For more information, please contact cads@k-state.edu.
Suffrage march, New York, 1910
Registered charity in England and Wales No. 1137522

Information about the Burgon Society can be found on its website at www.burgon.org.uk

Transactions of the Burgon Society

Volume 15 (for 2015)
Published October 2016

EDITORIAL BOARD
Stephen L. Wolgast, editor
Bruce Christianson
Nicholas Groves
William Gibson
Alex Kerr

Published by the Burgon Society
© 2016 The Contributors

ISBN 978-0-9928740-3-2

Opinions expressed in this journal are those of the contributors and are not necessarily those of the Burgon Society. Neither the Editors nor the Burgon Society can vouch for the accuracy of material in the journal or accept legal responsibility or liability for any errors or omissions that may be made.

Front cover: Women in a suffrage march in New York provide an example of how socio-material associations generate the perception of material objects being outside their ‘proper place’, such as academic gowns in a political demonstration. The idea is explained beginning on p. 14.
Primary Source: Jonathan C. Cooper
French Influence on the Dress of Scottish Doctors of Medicine 9

Sandra Wearden
How Academic Dress Is Mobilized in Degree Ceremonies and to What Effect 14

Bruce Christianson and Joan Kendall
A Portrait of an Oxford Nobleman, circa 1705 30

Kenneth L. Suit, Jr
The Iridescent Web: American Degree Colours (1895–1935) 41

John N. Grant
The Tradition of Academic Costume at Acadia University 75
The Burgon Society

Officers
(as at 1 August 2016)

Patrons
The Rt Revd and Rt Hon. Richard J. C. Chartres, KCVO, MA (Cantab), BD (Lambeth), DLitt (Guildhall), DD (London), DD (City), DD (Brunel), FSA, FBS
The Rt Revd Graeme Knowles, CVO, AKC, FBS
Professor Graham Zellick, CBE, QC, MA, PhD (Cantab), Hon LLD (Birmingham & American International University), LHD (New York), DLit (QMUL), AcSS, Hon FRAM, Hon FSALS, FBS

President
James P. S. Thomson, MS (London), DM (Lambeth), FRCS, FBS

Executive Committee (Trustees)
Chairman: Colin Fleming, BA (Stirling), MA, MSc (London), CA (Bermuda and Canada), FBS
Secretary: Alex Kerr, MA (Oxon), MA, PhD (Reading), FBS
Treasurer: Ian Johnson, BA (CNA, FRSA, FBS
Ordinary Members
Professor Bruce Christianson, MSc (Victoria NZ), DPhil (Oxon), FNZMS, FBS (Dean of Studies)
Jonathan C. Cooper, BSc (St Andrews), PhD (Central Lancs), FRGS, FBS (Communications Officer)
Peter J. Durant, BA (Exeter), MSc (Greenwich), FBS (Webmaster)
Professor William Gibson, MA (Wales), PhD (Middlesex), DLitt (Wales), FRHistS, FRSA, FBS
Nicholas Jackson, BA (York), MSc, PhD (Warwick), FBS
Andrew J. P. North, MChem (Oxon), FBS
Susan North, BA (Carleton), MA, PhD (London), FBS
Michael Powell, CJ, MEd, MPhil, PhD (Brunel), ACertCM, AIL, MCoT, FBS
Stephen L. Wolgast, BA (Kansas State), MS (Columbia), FBS (Publications Editor)

Curator
Nicholas Groves, MA, BMus, PhD (Wales), MA (East Anglia), BA (London), FRHistS, FBS

Marshal
John C. Horton, BSc (Manchester), PhD (Cantab), MInstP, FBS
Burgon Society Events in 2015

28 March  Visit to Durham
UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM AND CATHEDRAL
arranged by Kenneth Crawford
Programme included:
Tour of University College
Display in the University Library of Durham and Newcastle robes
Paul Coxon — Talk on the consequences of the separation of the Durham and
Newcastle divisions of the University
Lunch in the Birley Room of Hatfield College
Tour of the Cathedral and refreshments in the Prior's Hall

9 May  Spring Conference
OFFICES OF DELOITE  Athene Place, 66 Shoe Lane, London
Programme included:
Talks
Andrew North — Paradise Lost: The Fall of Oxford Academical Dress
Sandra Wearden — A Socio-Material Perspective of a Degree Ceremony Net-
work
Paul Coxon — Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed, Some-
thing Palatinate Purple
Nicholas Groves — Cambridge 1934: A Missed Opportunity
Colin Fleming — Let Us Now Dress Famous Men

18 July  Garden Party
OXFORD BROOKES UNIVERSITY  Harcourt Hill Campus, Oxford
hosted by William Gibson
The day included brief presentations: Latest developments in Oxford Univer-
sity academic dress (Andrew North); Recently donated Columbia and
Harvard robes (Alex Kerr); Gems from the newly handlisted paper ar-
archive (Colin Fleming)

10 October  AGM and Congregation
THE QUEEN'S CHAPEL OF THE SAVOY  London
Annual General Meeting
Display of academic robes from the Burgon Society Archive
Admission to the Fellowship of the Burgon Society
Professor Kenneth Suit, Jr (by submission — The Iridescent Web: American
Degree Colours 1895–1935)
Sandra Wearden (by submission — Academicals as Active Participants in
Shaping the Social World)
Talk: Nicholas Groves — Several Shades of Grey — and Red, and Gold: Obser-
vations on Some Recent Schemes of Academic Dress
Organ recital by Stephen Disley
Fellows & Members
(as at 1 August 2016)

Fellows

Mr Robert Armagost
Professor Sir John Baker
Dr Richard Baker
Mr David Baldwin
Sqn Ldr Alan Birt
Mr David T. Boven
The Revd Dr John Brennan
Mr Michael Brewer
Dr Giles Brightwell
Mr Ronald Brookes
Mr Stephen Callander
Mr Arthur B. Casey
The Rt Revd and Rt Hon. Richard Chartres
Professor Bruce Christianson
Dr Jonathan C. Cooper
The Revd Dr Noel Cox
The Revd Kenneth Crawford
The Revd Dr Graham Deans
Dr Neil Kay Dickson
Mrs Kathryn Douglas
Dr Donald L. Drakeman
The Revd Matthew Duckett
Mr Clifford Dunkley
Mr Peter Durant
Mr Paul Fielder
Mr Colin A. M. Fleming
Ms Kerstin Fröberg
Professor William Gibson
Dr Nicholas Gledhill
The Revd Philip Goff
Professor John N. Grant
Dr Nicholas Groves
Mr Seamus Addison Hargrave
Dr Thorsten Hauer
Lieutenant Nicholas A. Hoffmann
Dr John Horton
Dr Nicholas Jackson
The Revd Canon Dr Stephen James
Mr Ian Johnson

Dr Michael Kearsley
Br Oliver James Keenan
Dr Alex Kerr
The Rt Revd Graeme Knowles
Mr Charles Ka Shing Ko
The Very Revd Harry E. Krauss
Mr Philip Lowe
Dr John Lundy
Professor Yves Mausen
Mr Timothy Milner
Professor Leonard Eric Newton
Mr Andrew James Peter North
Dr Susan North
Dr Steven E. Plank
Dr Michael Powell
Dr Robin Rees
Professor Aileen Ribeiro
Dr Leslie M. M. Robarts
Dr Alan J. Ross
Dr Matthew Cheung Salisbury
Miss Elizabeth Scott
Dr Mary Shaw
Mr Nick Shipp
Professor Klaus Solberg Soilen
The Revd Canon Ambrose Southward
Professor Kenneth L. Suit, Jr
Mr Jason T. Testar
Dr James Thomson
Mr Charles Rupert Tsua
Mr John Venables
Mrs Sandra Wearden
Mr Stephen L. Wolgast
Professor Graham Zellick

Deceased Fellows

Dr John Birch, died 2012
Mr Leonard Brown, died 2007
Professor Bruno Neveu, died 2004
Dr George Wenham Shaw, died 2006
Members

Professor Anders Ahlqvist
The Revd Fr Kevin J. Alban
Mr James Douglas Anderson
Mr Paul Barber
Mr Terence N. Barcock
Dr John J. Barnes
The Revd Dr Anthony M. Barratt
Mr David Barton
Mr John Bishop
Sgt Adam Boss
Dr Timothy Brain
The Very Revd Dr Godfrey Brown
Mr Ian James Burton
Mr Leslie Carrick-Smith
Dr Peter Chiu
Mr Peter Clarke
Churchill Gowns
The Revd Ivor Cornish
Mrs Janette Corporal
Cosprop Ltd
Dr Paul Robert Coxon
The Revd David Craven
Dr Andrew Crowther
Mr Andrew Mark Davidson
Dr Josu de la Fuente
Mr James Anthony Drabble
Dr M. A. K. Duggan
Dr Jason Dunn
Ede & Ravenscroft Ltd
The Revd Edmund J. Eggleston
Dr Paul Ellison
The Revd Dr David Roderick Evans
Mr Alvino-Mario Fantini
Dr Gordon Fletcher
Mr Ron Fletcher
Dr Anthony William Fox
Mr David Salsbery Fry
Dr Heinz Fuchs
Dr Ian Baird Galbraith
The Revd Professor Peter John Galloway
Mr Thomas M. Garrett
Mr Joseph Goldsmith
Dr Peter John Gorton

GownTown Pty Ltd
Graduation Attire
Mr David Grant
Dr Jack L. Gregory
The Revd Canon Mark N. Gretason
Mr Leslie Grout
Mr Oliver M. Gruber-Lavin y Ochoa
Mr Morgan Hale
The Revd John James Harding*
Mr Patrick Martin Harrigan
Mr Hilary Risdon Haydon
Dr Nicholas G. Heavens
Dr Andrew J. C. Hogg
Mr Peter Edward Holden
Mr Ian Martin Howard
Mr Garry Paul Humphreys
Dr Robyn Humphries
Dr Gavin Hyman
Miss Alice Ruth Hynes
Dr Colin Graeme Johnson
The Revd Anthony J. L. Jones
The Revd Dr Keith Grant Jones
Mr Anthony Jordan
Dr Stephen F. Keevil
Mr Malcolm David Kemp
The Revd B. David Kennedy
Mr Stephen John Klimczuk
Professor Peter Kraus
Dr John Lancaster*
The Revd William Roy Large
Professor Andrew Linley
Mr Paul Lipowski
Mr Jonathan Loft
Mr Bryan George Lowe
Dr Leonard Madden
Mr William Maddox
Maison Bosc
Dr W. Paul Marett
Marston Robing Ltd
Dr Alec McGuire
Mr Ian Stuart Henry McKay
The Revd Christopher James Mogridge

*Fellow elect
Editor’s note

Not so long ago e-books were expected to replace books printed with ink on paper. Publishers, whose livelihoods depend on the profits associated with hardbacks and paperbacks, would go out of business when a reader’s single Nook or Kindle could replace an entire home library. In the contest between old and new, victory would go to the greater convenience and lower cost of digital.

It didn’t happen that way, or it hasn’t happened yet. Analog books actually saw a rise in sales in 2015, when about 17 million more printed books were sold worldwide than in the year before. True, that amounted to an increase of only a slim 3 percent. More significant are the flat sales of e-books. At one time they were expected to account for as much as 60 percent of book sales, but they have settled closer to only one-quarter of all books sold.

I like to think that is good news for the kind of work we are interested in. For one thing, text in print is the primary way we share our ideas and discoveries. It’s a storage tool that does not require a technological intermediary to operate, so it doesn’t require updates to software or hardware—unless you count eyeglasses and the stronger prescriptions that come with age.

For another, the preference for the physical object that is a book, where it’s easy to thumb through pages looking for your scribbled notes, suggests that the tactile experience of putting on a college gown and hood for the first time may come with a certain pleasure. Not only does the touch of the fabric send messages through our fingers, the look of a new graduate in academic dress sends a message to everyone who looks her way.

Technology won’t stop improving, of course. One day everything, even education, may be digital. Yet even those graduates who today complete their course work from a distance, taking classes online and rarely setting foot in a lecture hall, may choose to attend a graduation ceremony remotely too. And some who do go so far as to wear a gown or don a cap while watching from home.

The Transactions is taking another digital step. In the next few months the journal will find a new home online, hosted by New Prairie Press. It’s a web service whose aim is to share scholarly research for free, and to make finding research easier for scholars. In addition to posting our articles, as we will continue to do on burgon.org.uk, the librarians who operate New Prairie Press will assist us by making sure that meta-data of all sorts are attached to each document so that search engines will have an easier time of finding the work our contributors publish.

This all means we will be available to read on paper, to download via pdf, and to discover through digital object signifiers. Wearing a gown to your virtual library is optional.

—Stephen Wolgast