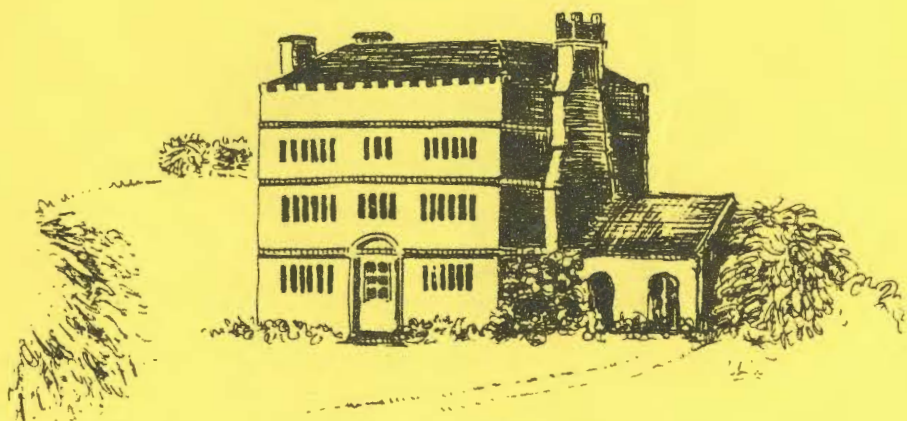


SWINNERTON

Family History



The old Butterson Hall, Staffordshire built about 1560 by William Swinnerton (c.1538-1629) demolished circa 1780 after the building of the new Hall by Thomas Swinnerton (d.1836)

THE JOURNAL OF THE SWINNERTON SOCIETY

VOLUME 9. No.3

MARCH 1993

The Swinnerton Society

was founded in 1973 as a non-profit making organisation devoted to the research and publication of Swinnerton family records and the welfare of St.Mary's Church, Swynnerton, Staffordshire. Research into the history of the Swinnerton Family had been started by the Reverend Charles Swynnerton FSA. in the 1870s and over the course of the years he wrote a number of articles and papers about the family and gathered together many Swinnertons from all over the world. Interest became dormant after his death in 1928 until the present archivist resumed research in 1952 and re-founded the society in 1973. Today it has a world-wide membership and holds a "Gathering" at Swynnerton every 3 years. It is registered as a charity in the United Kingdom No.518 184.

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SWINNERTON FAMILY HISTORY

Volume 9 No.3

March 1993

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Editor - Iain Spencer Swinnerton

FOREWORD - The Chairman

I was chatting to a member at the Gathering last June and the question of the Quarterly Journals cropped up and from our conversation it was revealed that he was not taking the trouble to keep them in a safe place. In fact, he told me, he thought that most of them had been thrown away. I was amazed at such sacrilege and the object of my foreword in this issue is to urge everyone to obtain some binders and file each number carefully. These Swinnerton Family History Journals contain a wealth of information which should be preserved and handed down to our descendants. Apart from the historical value, I find it most interesting to read through the old issues from time to time to refresh my memory on the aspects of our family history which our editor has gone to so much trouble to research and print. The binders, which are strongly made, will hold a volume of ten numbers plus the index. They are coloured dark red and with the Society's Badge embossed in gold on the outer cover and "Swinnerton Family History" in gold on the spine, they look most attractive on the bookshelf. They cost £2.50 each plus .50p postage and can be obtained from the Secretary, David Brock.

The first issue of Volume One of the Journal was published in May 1974 and consisted of one A4 sheet printed on both sides. The first few lines read as follows:

"The first known complete history of the Swinnerton family was published in 1886 as Part 11 of Volume VII of the "Collections for a History of Staffordshire" edited by the William Salt Archaeological Society (now the Staffordshire Record Society).

It was written by the Hon. & Rev. Cannon G.T.O. Bridgman with additional chapters by the Rev. Charles Swynnerton. A limited number of copies of Part 11 were bound separately for the Rev. Charles who gave them to members of his family.

Only two copies are known to survive, one is in the possession of the writer (Iain Swinnerton) - the other belonged to the late Major General C.R.A. Swynnerton CB. DSO. a nephew of the Rev. Charles

and is now in the possession of his son, Colonel J.C.A. Swynnerton, O.B.E"

The next issue, dated June 1974, contained two A4 sheets and it continued to be printed in the same size until July 1979 when number 1 of Volume IV appeared in the A5 size we know today. This current issue is No 3 of Volume 9, so since No 1 in 1974, our Editor has churned out 83 issues which is no mean feat. As many of our members have joined the Society since the Journal was first published I suggest to the Editor that some of the articles could well be repeated under the heading "20 YEARS AGO"

The second issue of the Journal gave the information that a further two copies of the 1886 History of the Swinnerton Family were in the hands of members of the family. For several years I tried to obtain a copy, calling at old bookshops and book fairs without result. Adverts inserted in the Book Searcher's press also drew a blank. My ambition to own a copy was satisfied when our Genealogist & Archivist decided to produce a facsimile copy of the book and this was made possible by a very generous interest-free loan from Mr Roy Talbot, one of our members. This book is a must for every Swinnerton family member and can be obtained from Iain Swinnerton for £12

Have you decided to write your own family history? So far I have received only one enquiry from the offer contained in my Foreword to the last issue of the Journal - a Trophy for the best family history submitted to our family archivist, who will be the judge, time for our 21st Anniversary Gathering in 1995. You have approximately 2 years and 4 months in which to produce it. The Trophy will be a handsome piece of cut-glass, engraved with the family emblem and the name of the winner. -

A FAMILY HEIRLOOM INDEED - DON'T DELAY - START TODAY.

J.E. (Joe) Swinnerton.

THE STAFFORDSHIRE REGIMENT

Colonel J.C.A. Swynnerton, writing in the Staffordshire Society News-letter, says:

All members of the Society will be aware by now that the Staffordshire Regiment has been saved from amalgamation.

This wonderful decision has been the result of intense pressure from many quarters: members of the House of Lords and the House of Commons, MPs of all parties representing Staffordshire constituencies, the County, District and Town Councils, the Press, Radio and Television in the Midlands, numerous other organisations and thousands of supporters and well-wishers from the general public. Not least among these were members of the Society who wrote to their MPs and supported us in other ways if nothing else. The *Save our Staffords* campaign has succeeded in demonstrating to the Country the strength of feeling in our county for its County Regiment. To all those who have helped us in any way we send our heartfelt thanks.



THE
SOUTH STAFFORDSHIRE
REGIMENT

THE FIRST battalion was formed in 1702. Badge: The Stafford Knot, one of the old heraldic devices of the Lords of Stafford; Motto: *Honi Soit qui mal y Pense.*



THE
NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE
REGIMENT
(The Prince of Wales's)

ESTABLISHED IN 1881 from the 64th Foot and the 98th Foot. The history of the former regiment dates back to 1756. Badge: The Stafford Knot and the Prince of Wales' Feathers. Motto: *Ich Dien.*

From which
The Staffordshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's)
was formed

SOME CLERICS - Crockford's Clerical Directory 1877

SWINNERTON, Charles

Colombo, Ceylon. University College London; ordained 1868 by Bishop of Sodor & Man; Inducted 1873 by Bishop of Colombo. Formerly Curate of St. Olave's, Kirk-Christ-Lezayre, Isle of Man 1868-73

SWINNERTON, George Isaac

Clergy House, Portland Rd. W. St. John's College, Oxford; BA (3rd. cl. Theol. Schl.) 1875; Ordained 1875; inducted 1875 by Bishop of London; Church of Holy Trinity, Marylebone, Diocese of London 1875

* * * * *

PRIMITIVE METHODIST MINISTERS (Gt. Britain)

Rev. William Leary 1990

SWINNERTON, William Hartley

1905 Alford	1924 Wirksworth
1907 Shrewsbury	1925 Hoyland
1909 Hereford	1934 Barnsley West
1912 Radcliffe	1937 Horbury Ebenezer
1916 Chaplain H.M. Forces,	1942 Hull, St. George's Road
Aldershot	1946 Southport (Sup.)
1920 Sheffield Mission	

b. Attercliffe 1880 Sept. 24, 1972 Por. Mag. 1921/466: Ref Mins 973/158

Now you can see why it is so difficult to trace the families of Non-Conformist Ministers, they moved around very frequently.

FAMILY HISTORY - AS MUCH FAMILY AS HISTORY

Elizabeth Livesey

It was in 1989 that I began in earnest to research my family history, but the seed had been sown many years earlier by a chance remark made by my paternal grandmother. I wasn't even sure whether she had mentioned a great grandfather or a great uncle but SOMEONE in the last century had been doctor to the Duke of Sutherland. In 1986, before I knew how to do the job properly, I spent a touring holiday in Scotland. In Golspie stood Dunrobin Castle, seat of the Duke of Sutherland. I spent the whole of one of the few sunny days in the castle and paid an extra £1.00 which entitled me to one hour's session, looking at the local parish records on microfilm. There wasn't a single mention of the name I was researching. Later I learned that Dunrobin Castle was the Duke's hunting lodge and only used for two months in the year!

By 1989 I had a better idea of how to set about things methodically. I soon traced back to my great-great-grandfather William Sutherland Meek, a surgeon, born in Betley, Staffordshire, the son of Thomas William Smith Meek and his wife Anne. My first trip to the Record Office in Stafford produced a wealth of information - and the rare opportunity to handle the original registers. (What can compare with the thrill of touching the same pages as those ancestors of long ago?) It wasn't long before I found the marriage of Thomas William Smith Meek to Anne Harding, then Anne Harding's baptism, telling me that she was the daughter of William Harding and Elizabeth and eventually the marriage of William Harding and Elizabeth Swinnerton! (At this point I got carried away, thought I had been very clever and traced the history of the wrong Elizabeth Swinnerton for several generations - but more of that later.)

I was quite intrigued to find myself attached to a Swinnerton because as a raw pre-teen schoolgirl I had had a 'crush' on one of the senior girls whose name was Swinnerton and I idly wondered if there was a connection. As I began to be more involved with family history research I became aware of another Swinnerton whose name appeared in a variety of magazines and, again, I idly wondered if there was a connection. Some time later I noticed in my magazine of the Family History Society of Cheshire that Col. Swinnerton was due to speak at the

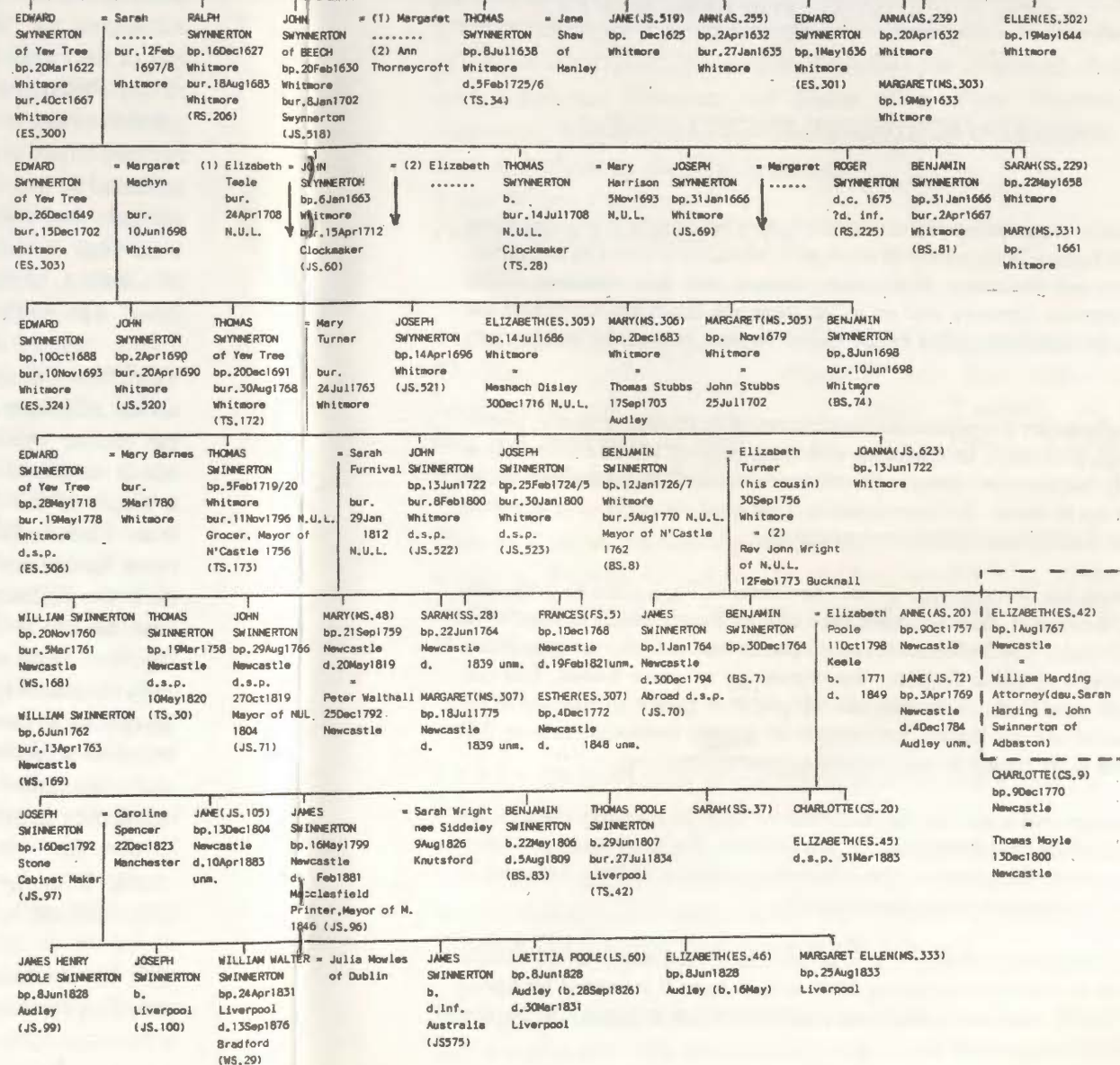
meeting of a nearby branch and persuaded my long-suffering husband to accompany me. What a turning point that meeting proved to be! At the end of the meeting I introduced myself to Col. Swinnerton and told him of my Swinnerton connection. It didn't take him long to identify my position on the family tree or to realise that I had taken a wrong turning. He very kindly suggested that I send him a copy of the information I had collected so that he could put me right. I left the meeting feeling very excited - and with a newly acquired fourth cousin. The Colonel and I were both descended from the same William Harding and Elizabeth Swinnerton, he from their daughter Sarah and I from another daughter, Anne. I promptly joined the Swinnerton Society!

Shortly afterwards my husband Keith and I enjoyed a visit to Yew Tree Cottage where we were introduced to the master trees and served afternoon tea from the family tea service. In the next journal, in the section welcoming new members to the society, was a paragraph which contained the details of my descent. Within a few days I received a telephone call from Nigel Sabell whose wife Kay was also descended from Thomas William Smith Meek and Anne Harding. We compared notes further and discovered that Kay and I were both descended from their son William Sutherland Meek, Kay from his daughter Laura and I from his son William Edward. It wasn't long before we spent an evening together - Kay and Nigel live only a few miles from our home. Not only were we eager to learn about our new-found relations (and we have quite a lot in common) but our respective fathers were too. It didn't take much to persuade them to join us at the Gathering last June and we are quite convinced that there is a family likeness - not surprising really when their grandparents were brother and sister.

So - not only have I added much to my family history research, thanks to the Swinnerton Society, I have also discovered some very nice new relations.

PS. My husband is now going bald and he tells everyone it is due to touching his forelock since I discovered my Swinnerton connection!

**TREE TO ACCOMPANY
THE ARTICLE
'FAMILY HISTORY
- AS MUCH FAMILY
AS HISTORY'
SHOWING THE DESCENT OF
ELIZABETH SWINNERTON
WHO MARRIED
WILLIAM HARDING**



THE STAFFORDSHIRE ENCYCLOPAEDIA

Staffordshire is not only extremely rich in history but equally so in publications about its history. For hundreds of years publications have told of its antiquities, worthies and traditions; of its county houses and their treasures. This comprehensive directory sets out to list these antiquities for researchers and will be an essential addition to any local reference, research or antiquarian's library.

The Staffordshire Encyclopaedia is a directory of Staffordshire people, places, buildings, antiquities, and traditions with approximately 10,000 entries. It is an index to Staffordshire history, with references to over 700 publications where entries can be found. The Encyclopaedia is the most comprehensive reference book on Staffordshire history ever published.

Apart from Ben Weinreb's and Christopher Hibbert's, *The London Encyclopedia* 1983 (Macmillan), there has never been another encyclopaedia devoted to an area of Britain. The Staffordshire Encyclopaedia includes reference to heraldry, the lineage of noble families, the etymology of place names, folklore, archaeological finds, all existing and lost pieces of garden architecture in the grounds of country houses, and records all internal memorials in over 320 churches in the county, as well as notable church furnishings.

The area covered is not only the county before the 1974 boundary changes, but all areas which once formed part of Staffordshire. The study spans prehistory to the present. Each entry will be followed by a concise abstract, followed by a list of references ordered chronologically.

The Encyclopaedia will be published in two volumes at different times. Volume I will be published first in Spring 1995, with Volume II scheduled for Spring 1997. Pre-publication subscriptions are now being accepted for the first published volume or the set.

THE COMPLETE BOOK OF EMIGRANTS 1700 - 1750

A Comprehensive Listing Compiled from English Public Records of Those who Took Ship to the Americas for Political, Religious and Economic Reasons; of Those Who Were Deported for Vagrancy, Roguery, or Non-Conformity; and of Those Who Were Sold to Labour in the New Colonies.

Peter Wilson Coldham
Genealogical Publishing Co. Inc.

14 August 1735 Daniel SWINORTON apprenticed from
Christ's Hospital to his uncle, John
Langworthy and Mr John Caswell of New
England, merchant, to serve Henry Caswell of
Boston, New England (CH)

This is a most interesting discovery. If he was from Christ's Hospital, he was, of course, an orphan but did have at least one relative. I cannot tie him up with any Daniel we know of at present.

* * * * *

SATAN IN St.MARY'S - a Mediaeval Mystery Story P.C.Doherty

"when a tall, silver haired austere man, wrapped in a thick brown military cloak approached and introduced himself as Sir Edward Swynnerton, Constable of the Tower."

Wrong, of course, the Constable was Sir Roger. Nevertheless, this is a pleasant little tale in which the Constable appears quite a lot. The paperback was lent to me by a friend, I have not been able to obtain a copy so if anyone sees one please get it for us.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Col. Swinnerton

When in Kingston recently, I came across an addition to St. Luke's Church conspicuously named "Swinnerton Hall". I made some enquiries as to the origin of the name and learned that the first vicar of the church was George Isaac Swinnerton and that the Hall had been named as a tribute to him.

Apparently he was not only the first vicar but was also instrumental in the building of the church and for raising most of the money for its construction. The foundation stone was laid in 1888 by H.R.H. Princess Mary of Teck.

A spire was added in 1891, the gift of Lady Wolverton. The story told that her coachman had difficulty finding the church hence the spire to guide his way. Seems an Unlikely story to me!

A memorial plaque on the wall inside the church reads:-

George Isaac Swinnerton
first vicar of this parish
Died Jan. 29th, 1925 aged 75
Bessie Kate Swinnerton
Died Sept. 5th 1926 aged 75.

The enclosed pamphlet was all that was available on the church history.

On a personal note, my elder sister Clara married Harding Swinnerton of Bromsgrove, Worcs. (Both deceased) I believe their grand daughter, Lorna Swinnerton my great neice, here on holiday from Australia a couple of years ago, stayed with you. I couldn't quite make out the relationship but Lorna seemed to think that Harding was a distant cousin.

Yours sincerely

D.H. Cooper

(Quite right. Harding Swinnerton was a son of George Swinnerton who was brother to my great-grandfather James Harding Swinnerton. Lorna's father, Harding's only son Derek Swinnerton was a member of the society for some time but dropped out a few years ago).

PARISH OF SAINT LUKE, KINGSTON UPON THAMES

THE PAST

The Parish of St Luke came into existence just over one hundred years ago. The fine red brick building we see today was consecrated on 14 December 1889. Plans were prepared by the London Architects - Kelley & Birchall - and a local firm - W.H. Gaze of Union Street - was chosen as the builders; the cost was just over £5,000 for chancel and nave! It took a lot of hard work to raise the money in Canbury, the most impoverished district in Kingston.

Much of the fund raising was due to the devotion of worshippers who went without meals and new clothes to contribute. The rest was due to such influential figures as the Duchess of Teck and Lady Wolverton (who paid entirely for the elegant spire). In the early days this was an extremely poor district, and soup kitchens were provided to feed the hungry. However, society figures were attracted to the Church, such as Princess Frederica of Hanover, the Duchess of Teck, Lady Bowater, Lady Londesborough, Lady Freake and Mr & Mrs John Galsworthy, parents of the famous author. These were only a few of St Luke's distinguished patrons in the early days.

The first Vicar - the Revd George Swinnerton - was influenced by English Catholicism as a result of the Oxford Movement, which began in the 1830s by great leaders such as John Keble, John Henry later Cardinal Newman, and Edward Pusey. They wanted to remind the Church of England that it was part of the one Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church, adhering to the threefold ministry of Bishops, Priests and Deacons, and having a full sacramental life. They needed services of beauty and colour to help people to understand their Catholic heritage. The second Vicar - the Revd E. Temple Candler - built up much of the liturgical superstructure that is still one of the glories of our worship. He introduced the use of incense and coloured vestments for the first time on 18 October, 1910. All this magnificence enshrined a faith - the perception that the Church of England is part of the Catholic Church, and consequently St Luke's has drawn a congregation from a very wide area as a centre of Catholic worship and belief within the Church of England.

SWINNERTON HERALDRY

In the last issue of this Journal I wrote of a new addition to the family heraldry by their use as Arms of Office. Now, with the birth of Thomas Swinnerton (see Family Notes), we have another set of arms in use in the family.

The whole practice of Heraldry which is, and always has been, basically a system of identification depends upon a coat of arms being unique to one person. Even sons, therefore, cannot use the same arms as their fathers but have to have some mark to show who they are. This is known as differencing and there are different symbols allowing for up to 8 sons!

You may have seen the one called a *label* (which looks like a letter E on its side) on the arms of the Prince of Wales denoting that he is the eldest son.

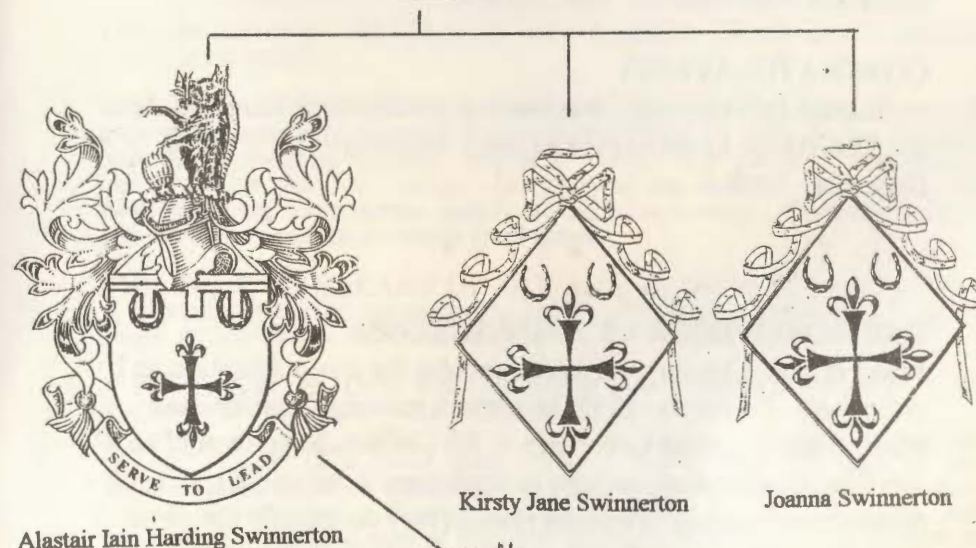
Thomas is the eldest son of an eldest son and so he also has a label but with 5 prongs or points as they are termed to distinguish him from his father who has 3.

Daughters bear their father's arms on a lozenge, not on a shield (because no lady ever rode into battle with a shield!) and there is no distinguishing mark to show which is the eldest. They are usually portrayed with a love knot over the lozenge and this is often given a different colour for each daughter although there is no laid down rule as to any precedence of colours.

The illustrations opposite show how all this works in practice.



Iain Spencer Swinnerton



Alastair Iain Harding Swinnerton

Kirsty Jane Swinnerton

Joanna Swinnerton



Thomas Alfred Harding Swinnerton

FAMILY NOTES.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.

Tom Swinnerton to [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Mrs Valerie Dall to [REDACTED]

Mrs Rebecca Hunt to [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

CONGRATULATIONS

to Alastair Iain Harding Swinnerton and Julie on the birth of their son THOMAS ALFRED HARDING SWINNERTON on 30 December 1992.

* * * * *

THE WORLD BOOK OF SWINNERTONS!

Many of you, I know, received a circular for this publication as I did myself. I wrote to all those who let me know and advised them to have nothing to do with it. All you would get would be a word-processed book on how to trace your family with the name Swinnerton inserted in various places (they do exactly the same book for many other names) and at the end would be a few Swinnerton names and addresses and a few lists of names from Electoral Rolls.

As far as I am concerned, it is a complete rip-off; they have been prosecuted in the USA and ordered to stop but over here they are not actually committing an offence. It is the same firm under another name that I wrote about in the Journal some time ago. If, however, anyone did buy one, I would be very interested to see it.

SWINNERTON SOCIETY PRODUCTIONS

THE SOCIETY TIE. Made in Woven Jacquard with a single Swinnerton Society Cross and Horseshoe badge. Available in Navy Blue, Maroon and Grey. Price £4.50 plus .50p postage. Set of 3 - one of each colour £12.50 plus .50p postage.

BINDERS FOR JOURNALS. Red with the "Swinnerton Family History" embossed in gold on the spine and the Society's badge in gold on the front cover. Each has 11 strings to hold 10 issues (one complete volume) and the index. £2.50 each plus .50p postage.

Both the above are obtainable from the Secretary, David Brock (address inside front cover)

AN ACCOUNT OF THE FAMILY OF SWYNNERTON. A facimile copy of the original history of the family published in 1886 by the William Salt Archaeological Society, Stafford. Over 200 pages of the family history with trees of various branches of the family. £12 plus .50p postage. Every Swinnerton family should have a copy. Obtainable from Iain Swinnerton (address inside front cover).

THE BOER WAR DIARY OF EDWARD ALBERT SWINNERTON
A vivid and personal account of a soldier during the campaign fought in South Africa almost one hundred years ago. Price £4.00 plus 50p postage.

A HISTORY OF THE VILLAGE OF SWYNNERTON AND THE SWINNERTONS OF WARWICKSHIRE.

A general synopsis of the history of the village of Swynnerton and the original family who lived there. Plus - the history of one of the Warwickshire branches of the family and an article on the Family Heraldry by Iain Swinnerton. Researched and produced by our Chairman, Joe Swinnerton. The first part of the book can form the basis of the history of any branch of the family. Price £7.00 incl. postage.

FIRE & FURY OVER ENGLAND - THE SECOND WORLD WAR - TEN LOST MONTHS. The diary of our Chairman, Joe Swinnerton, of his service in the army during the Second World War. 120 pages with many illustrations. a very good "read". Price £7.00 incl. postage.

The above three books obtainable from J. E. Swinnerton, 2, Greaves Avenue, Walsall, West Midlands, WS5 3QE. *Prices quoted apply to orders from the UK. Overseas members please send a Sterling cheque or International Money Order in Sterling.*