



The BC/Yukon Blazon

Patron of the BC/Yukon Branch: The Honourable Stephen L. Point, OBC, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia

Fall 2012

The Royal Heraldry Society of Canada

Vol. 7 No. 1 Issue 13



London Debut of New Tabard

Heralds in Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant

by Carl A. Larsen

The new Canada Tabard made its dramatic entrance on to the international stage on June 3rd in London, during The Thames Diamond Jubilee Pageant. The Queen's Canadian heralds were invited to participate along with their English and Scottish colleagues in this historic event held to celebrate the Queen's 60 years of service to the UK, and to the realms and republics of the Commonwealth.

The 12 km procession down the River Thames included over 1000 vessels of various types, including the Royal Barge Spirit of Chartwell with the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh onboard, along with other senior members of the Royal Family and some special guests. Leading the Royal Squadron was the Thames Launch Connaught with Royal Marine trumpeters on the foredeck and the heralds positioned on the upper deck. Over 1.5 million spectators lined the banks of the Thames and the railings of the bridges, and millions more worldwide watched the pageant on TV. It was a once in a lifetime event celebrating the long reign of our Queen.

As the Connaught reached each of the Thames bridges, the trumpeters saluted with a fanfare to announce the imminent arrival of Her Majesty in the Royal Barge. Spectators saw for the first time, Claire Boudreau, the Chief Herald of Canada, elegantly arrayed in her distinctive royal blue tabard and wearing her silver collar of office, standing on the deck with Garter and Lord Lyon, with the other heralds assembled behind them. I don't think I was alone in feeling a great sense of pride as the beautiful and unique Canada Tabard was shown to the world on this spectacular royal occasion. ▼



Photos: CHA



L to R: Thomas Woodcock, Garter Principle King of Arms, (England); The Rt. Hon. David Sellar, Lord Lyon King of Arms (Scotland); Claire Boudreau, Chief Herald of Canada; Sir Henry Paston-Bedingfeld, Bt., Norroy and Ulster King of Arms, (England)

L to R: William Hunt, Windsor Herald, (England); Claire Boudreau, Chief Herald of Canada; Alastair Campbell of Airds, Islay Herald Extraordinary (Scotland)

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Canadian Heralds Waiting to Board the Connaught

L-R: Catherine Fitzpatrick, Coppermine Herald; Robb Watt, Rideau Herald Emeritus; Forest Pass, Saguenay Herald; Manon Labelle, Miramichi Herald. Note the blue scarves and ties that coordinate with the Canada Tabard and were created by artist Maynard Johnny Jr. of the Coast Salish First Nation in BC, who also designed the raven-bears on the tabard.

Photos: CHA

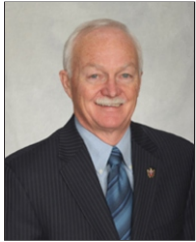
Thames Launch Connaught, part of the Royal Squadron, carrying the heralds of England, Scotland and Canada along with seven members of The Royal Marines Herald Fanfare Team who played a trumpet fanfare as the Royal Barge carrying Her Majesty approached each bridge.



A blazon of heralds on the upper deck of the *Connaught*. Canadian heralds are in business suits and matching blue ties or scarves. The Chief Herald of Canada is easily identified wearing the new Canada Tabard and her silver collar of Cs.

Grant of Arms for Yukon Commissioner

by Carl A. Larsen



When His Excellency, the Governor General appointed the Honourable Douglas George Phillips as Commissioner of Yukon in December 2010, the Prime Minister commented that he brought “a wealth of experience to this new position, having contributed to public and community service in Yukon for more than 30 years.” His Honour was elected to the Yukon Legislative Assembly in 1985 and served in numerous Cabinet posts, and as Government House Leader and following that, as Official Opposition House Leader.

Since leaving political life in 2000, he has been active in many local community activities and associations, and was one of the founding directors of the Yukon Hospital Foundation. Since 2004, he has also been an active member and chair of the Land Use Planning Council and has served as Yukon Administrator since 2007. He has a passion for the outdoors which is evident in the symbolism incorporated into his coat of arms.

His Honour has five adult children and six grandchildren with whom he shares his love of Yukon, and all it has to offer.

On May 26th Commissioner Phillips attended the annual conference of the Governor General, Lieutenant Governors and Territorial Commissioners held in Ottawa this year. The conference opened with the unveiling of his letters patent and artwork by His Excellency, Governor General David Johnston, along with those of fellow Commissioner Edna Elias of Nunavut. The arms were proclaimed by Chief Herald Claire Boudreau wearing her new royal blue tabard. The ceremonies took place at the exhibit site for *From Far and Wide: Honouring Great Canadians*. ▼



Blazon

Arms: Per chevron in chief barry-sapiné Vert and Argent, in base Or a double-queued beaver tergiant Azure.

Crest: A log cabin Or flying therefrom a flag Azure;

Supporters: Dexter a mountain goat sinister a Dall sheep both standing on a rocky mount set with fireweed plants proper above barry-wavy Argent and Azure

Symbolism

Arms: The tree pattern represents Commissioner Phillips’s love of the outdoors and his commitment to wildlife conservation. The gold shape alludes to the mountains of Yukon, and the beaver is the emblem of the Deisheetaan clan of the Carcross/Tagish First Nation, into which Commissioner Phillips was adopted in 2009.

Crest: The cabin is another reference to Commissioner Phillips’s love of the wilderness and camping. The blue flag alludes to that of the Commissioner of Yukon.

Supporters: The mountain goat and Dall sheep are animals that inhabit the mountains of Yukon. Together with the rocky base they indicate Commissioner Phillips’s love of mountaineering. The fireweed is the territorial floral emblem, and it alludes to his interest in gardening. The wavy stripes represent Yukon’s many rivers and his love of fishing.

Motto: ‘S E CALADH AN TEAGHLACH is a Scots Gaelic phrase meaning “Family is bedrock”.



Photo: CHA

L-R: Catherine Fitzpatrick, Coppermine Herald, who painted the arms; Bruce Patterson, Deputy Chief Herald of Canada, who devised the arms; The Hon. Doug Phillips, Commissioner of Yukon and his wife Dale Stokes.

Luncheon & Heraldry at Government House

by Carl A. Larsen

We have always valued the close relationship that exists between Government House and our branch, and events this year have seen it strengthened even further.

As some members were aware, the heraldry exhibit had reached the stage where it needed a permanent location, and Col. James Hammond, new Executive Director of Government House, had a solution. As part of the redevelopment of the historic Cary Mews into a museum, interpretive centre, tea house and gift shop, there was a room available large enough to accommodate our exhibit, and he offered that space to us, suggesting that the exhibit be included in public tours of the estate. The Display Committee, chaired by Steve Cowan, got to work and in short order the exhibit was set up in its new home and ready for its first visitors.

The official opening of the exhibit took place following a luncheon on June 18th at Government House, attended by the Branch Board of Directors. It began with something that had been planned for some time, the presentation of a plaque by Past President Carl Larsen to the Lieutenant Governor, suitably engraved and bearing his arms. As His Honour's term of office was drawing to an end, our Board commissioned heraldic craftsman Laurie Patten to create the plaque as a token of our appreciation for His Honour's patronage, and a commemoration of his exceptional service to the people of British Columbia.

Following the presentation of the plaque, and a delicious lunch, we proceeded to Cary Mews where His Honour took great interest in the heraldry exhibit as the Display Committee showed him the various panels. We then toured the museum and interpretive centre where we found interesting artefacts and exhibits touching on the history of the estate, and the various lieutenant governors who have lived there. We concluded our visit with a short board meeting in the Tea House.

On September 22nd another meeting was held at Cary Mews, this time for the Branch membership, and it was formally announced that the Board had approved the renaming of the heraldry display as The Lawrence J. Patten Heraldry Exhibit and Laurie Patten was called forward to accept the congratulations of the members, and to inspect the plaque displaying his biography, arms and photo, which was to be permanently attached to the exhibit. The business meeting was attended by Col. Hammond and members of the Friends of Government House Garden Society, who play an active role in Cary Mews as well as the gardens. A full report on this project, as well as plans for the future, is being prepared by Display Committee Chair Steve Cowan and will be included in our next issue. ♥

John Neill with Laurie Patten at the meeting announcing that the Heraldry Exhibit has been renamed in Laurie's honour.



Photo: A. Ailo

The Lawrence J. Patten Heraldry Exhibit

This exhibit of Canadian heraldry was conceived and created by Lawrence (Laurie) Patten, FRHSC, SHA, as a project of the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada, BC/Yukon Branch, and is displayed in the Mews under the auspices of the Executive Director of Government House.

Mr. Patten is recognized as the foremost heraldic craftsman in Canada, creating heraldic shields, wall plaques, table shields, scrolls, and other forms of heraldic art for armigers in Canada and abroad.

He pioneered the use of computer graphics to create heraldic images, and utilized the process of sublimation to transfer those images to polymer coated aluminum using a heat process. The colourful, quite striking, and extremely durable coats of arms and badges in the exhibit demonstrate what Mr. Patten has achieved with these techniques.

Much of Mr. Patten's work is privately held, but examples may also be found inside Government House and in Christ Church Cathedral in Victoria, as well as at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Nanaimo, BC and elsewhere.

He is a graduate of the Brighton College of Arts and Crafts, now part of the University of Brighton. In 1954, after service in the Royal Air Force, he and his wife Helene (Lynn) immigrated to Canada and settled in Nanaimo. In 1977 he joined the Royal Heraldry Society of Canada and in 2000 was elected a Fellow (FRHSC). In 1994 he was granted a coat of arms by the Canadian Heraldic Authority in Ottawa. In 2002 he was admitted as a member of the Society of Heraldic Arts, (SHA). Mr. Patten was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee Medal in 2002 and the Diamond Jubilee Medal in 2012.



Coat of Arms granted to Lawrence J. Patten by the Canadian Heraldic Authority on 22 November 1994



Official opening of *The Lawrence J. Patten Heraldry Exhibit* by the Honourable Stephen L. Point, OBC, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia, and Mr. Patten on 18 June 2012.

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Carl Larsen presents a commemorative plaque to our branch patron, the Honourable Steven Point, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia



Photos: Government House

His Honour inspects the The Lawrence J. Patten Heraldry Exhibit. L to R: Tom Mercer, Steve Cowan, His Honour, Laurie Patten, Carl Larsen, John Neill



His Honour pauses in his inspection of the panels as he spots his coat of arms

Mayor Attends Dinner



Nanaimo Mayor John Rattan was presented with a Certificate of Celebration by Robb Watt in formal recognition of his attendance, with his wife Dianne, at the annual dinner held at the National Conference in May. The Certificate also honoured the Diamond Jubilee of the City's historic coat of arms which are the oldest in British Columbia. See page 6 for more.

Photo: J. Burrage



Mayor Rattan Received Certificate of Celebration at Conference Dinner




THE ROYAL HERALDRY SOCIETY OF CANADA

LA SOCIÉTÉ ROYALE HÉRALDIQUE DU CANADA

CERTIFICATE OF CELEBRATION

On the occasion of the Society's 46th Annual meeting being held in Nanaimo to mark the Diamond Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II as Queen of Canada the Board of Directors and the Members of the Society here assembled wish to take special note of the presence of

His Worship John Ruttan, Mayor of the City,
and Mrs. Dianne Ruttan



and recognize the Diamond Jubilee of the City's historic coat of arms, reached last autumn, the oldest municipal coat of arms in all of British Columbia, granted by the Crown 28 September 1951, during the Mayoralty of Earle C. Westwood.

Stephen Murray

Secretary

May 5, 2012

Date

David Cvet

President



2012 Conference Had Something for Everyone



by Carl A. Larsen



The 46th Annual Conference, hosted by the BC/Yukon Branch, has passed into history and all those involved in organizing it, (the entire branch board), can take a well deserved bow for making it the success it was. Accolades to Shirley Greenwood for the

facility and dinner choices; Allan Ailo for his professional graphics and design work on menus, promotional material, etc., Lee Van Horne for his valuable contribution on the website, Steve Cowan and Tom Mercer for their important work with the heraldry exhibit, and Laurie Patton for his guidance and words of wisdom. This is a great team chaired by John Neill.

The 2012 conference was unique in many ways. The theme of the conference, to celebrate the Sixtieth Anniversary of Her Majesty's Accession to the Throne, culminated in a once in a lifetime presentation ceremony in which twenty-two Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee medals were presented to members of the Society by Kevin Macleod, the Canadian Secretary to the Queen and Black Rod of the Senate of Canada.

Attendees were able see the completed Lawrence J. Patton Heraldry Exhibit, as it has now been named in honour of its

creator, that has been a work in progress for many years. It was set up and positioned by the Display Committee at the entrance to the Grand Hotel and attracted much attention from visitors and guests, many of whom were intrigued enough to take the time to look at some of the panels and ask questions about the heraldic art they saw displayed.

The mayor of Nanaimo, John Ruttan, declared the week of the conference to be Heraldry Week in the City and attended the dinner with his wife Dianne as our guests of honour. A Certificate of Celebration, designed by Allan Ailo, was presented to him by Robb Watt (see page 5 for photo and further details). His Worship distributed lapel pins of Nanaimo's coat of arms to all those present.

The most exciting report of the Conference was that of the Chief Herald, telling us of the completion of the new tabard and the plans to unveil it. Combined with the topics of the Beley Lecture, the heraldic colloquium, the Wilkes after dinner address by Kevin MacLeod, the Nanaimo Harbour cruise and the heraldic visit to St. Paul's Anglican Church, this conference truly had something of interest for everyone. ♥



Photo Credit: John Burrage

Back Row: Patrick Crocco, David Cvet, George Lucki, Darren George. **Middle Row:** Ian Steingaszner, Bruce Patterson, Darrel Kennedy, Stephen Murray, Kevin Greaves, Vicken Koundakjian, John Neill, Peter Hannen, David Rumball. **Front Row:** Robert Watt, Kevin MacLeod, Claire Boudreau, D'Arcy Boulton, Carl Larsen, Allan Ailo, Edward McNabb. **Seated:** John Wilkes, Laurie Patten, Shirley Greenwood.

BC/Yukon Branch Members Honoured with Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal

John W. Neill
President



Shirley Greenwood receiving her medal from Kevin MacLeod, Canadian Secretary to the Queen.



Allan Ailo
Vice-President



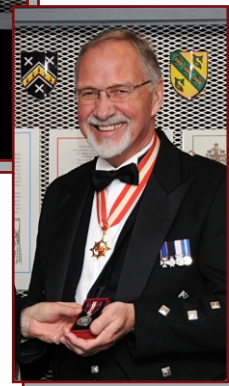
Carl A. Larsen
Past President



Lawrence Patten



Darren George



Robert D. Watt
Rideau Herald Emeritus



Out-of-Province Branch Members



Darrel Kennedy
Ottawa, ON
Assiniboine Herald



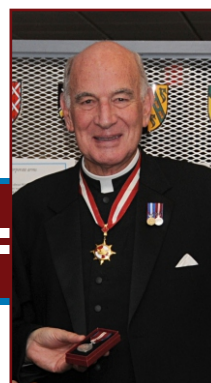
George Lucki
Sherwood Park, AB
President
Prairie Branch



John Wilkes
Aurora, ON
National Director



Kevin Greaves
Hamilton, ON
National President
2001-2006



Peter Hannen
Montreal, QC
National Director



Allan Bird
Manotick, ON
National President
2006-2008
Not present. Photo: 2007

The 2012 AGM in Ladysmith

by Carl A. Larsen

This Branch AGM was held again this year at the Gryphon's Lair in Ladysmith. With good food and service, a spacious dining room, and a great sign, it's a popular choice for us.

The meeting was well attended and it was a special pleasure to see Cowichan Herald Extraordinary Graham Anderson at the luncheon, as we don't see Graham as much as we would like to now that he has moved to Sunridge Place in Duncan. We're hoping to see him again at the Christmas buffet on November 24th in Cowichan Bay.

It was also a pleasure to see a very chipper Alex Greenwood attending with his wife Shirley who brought a large decorated cake to share in the celebration of his 92nd birthday. Members gathered around to congratulate him and sample a piece of his birthday cake with a cup of coffee or tea.

Our luncheon speaker was Joan Merrington who both entertained and informed us with her illustrated talk, *Flags: Powerful Symbols of Identity and Unity*. One member, who was taking photographs for us, said he became so engrossed in Joan's presentation that he put his camera down and didn't pick it up again until the meeting was over.

Reports were read, the new Board was elected, and after the meeting was closed, many members remained to talk and socialize with each other awhile longer. ♥



Photo: Carl Larsen

Graham's Chain of Office



Photo: Charlie Kingston

Graham Anderson Cowichan Herald Extraordinary

Judith Guichon Lt. Gov.-Designate of BC

by Carl A. Larsen



Ms. Guichon, a rancher from the Nicola Valley, will become BC's 29th Lieutenant Governor on November 2nd, following her installation ceremony in the Legislative Chamber. The BC/Yukon Branch extends their best wishes to Ms. Guichon as she assumes this important position as the Queen's representative in our province.

The Honourable Steven Point OBC, remains as Lieutenant Governor until that date, when an official farewell ceremony will be held for him. We express our appreciation to His Honour for his outstanding service to the province during his term of office, and for serving as our patron.

The Canadian Heraldic Authority will be proceeding in due course to work with the new Lieutenant Governor to design her armorial bearings, and we will follow that process with great interest and publish them as soon as they are unveiled. ♥



Photo: Charlie Kingston

Major Alex Greenwood marks his 92nd birthday sharing his cake with fellow members



Photo: Allan Ailo

Joan Merrington's luncheon address: *Flags: Powerful Symbols of Identity and Unity*

Heralds Don't Pun, They Cant

by Allan Ailo

Names and More

An article concerning puns really should start with one, hence the title, a Society of Creative Anachronism pun referring to canting arms. Canting arms, also called *armes parlante*, contain puns that usually refer to the armiger's name, profession or title.

As family names did not start to become common until the 12th century, after the rise of heraldry, the process was possibly reversed in some older arms, with the arms inspiring the choice of family name. In England, the oldest canting arms based on the name would be those originating in Norman French. Arms with puns in English, such as the trumpets of Trumpington, would be newer.

An example of a reference to the family name is the 1596 grant by Dethick and Garter to John Shakespeare: Or, on a bend Sable a tilting spear of the field, steel tipped Proper. He had let a petition for arms lapse years earlier, but apparently his son William had decided to renew it on his behalf. A scene in the 2011 movie *Anonymous* has a brief moment with the bard showing off his newly granted arms backstage at the Globe Theatre.

The arms of Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother are another well known example, with the quartered arms referring to both parts of the hyphenated family name, her father being Claude George Bowes-Lyon, 14th Earl of Strathmore and Kinghorne, KG, KT, GCVO, TD, (1855–1944).

Canadian heraldry carries on the canting tradition, as in the three elm leaves in chief for Robert Elms (2005) and “a crabapple tree fructed and eradicated Vert” in the arms of Peter Crabtree (2002). The family name is very clearly spelled out using a bee and a tau cross in the arms of Bruce W. Beatty, CM, CD, FRHSC (1922–2011), a founding member of our Society who is best known for designing the badge of the Order of Canada and most of the modern emblems of the Canadian Honours System, including the Order of British Columbia.

Some puns use the objects in the name, and hence are quite obvious, such as the castles and lions of Eleanor of Castile (1290), Queen of Edward I and daughter of Ferdinand III (King of Castile and Leon), while others are obscure and difficult to decipher. Two examples of the latter being the cross voided (*crevé au coeur*) of Crevequer and the six annulets (VI points) of Vipont.

The Queen's College, one of the constituent colleges of the University of Oxford, was founded in 1341 by Robert de Eglesfield (d'Eglesfield), chaplain to Queen Philippa of Hainault (the wife of King Edward III of England). The college adopted the coat of arms of its founder as its own, a not uncommon practice among English colleges. The gold mullet of six points on the breast of the first eagle differentiated his arms from those of his father.

Canting arms for a name ending in “field” or “feld” often use the repetition of a charge to make the pun, as in this case, with a “field of eagles”. In the case of William Blizzard, a semy of snowflakes forms a “blizzard” to represent the family name.

Other canting arms refer not to a name but to a title, such as those of the Dauphin, with its dolphins (French: *dauphin*). This was the title of the heir apparent to the throne of France from 1350 to 1791 and from 1824 to 1830. The arms of Sir Cecil Chubb (1876–1934), first Baronet of Stonehenge (1919), alludes to both his title and his gift of Stonehenge to the nation in 1918 by depicting sarsen stones and a lintel on a background of sky and grass. He had purchased the 30 acres of land at a property sale for £6,600 in 1915.



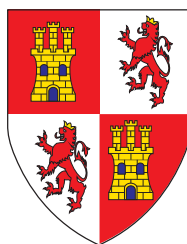
Shakespeare



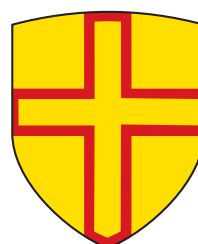
Bowes-Lyon



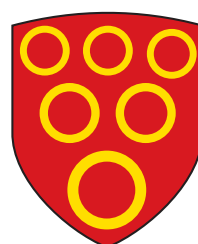
Bruce W. Beatty



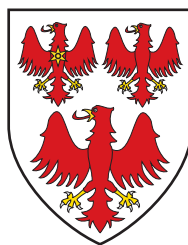
Eleanor of Castile



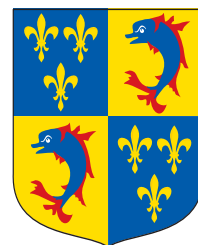
Crevequer



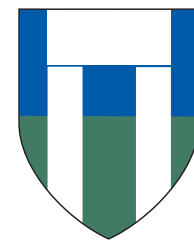
Vipont



Queen's College Oxford



Le Dauphin



Sir Cecil Chubb



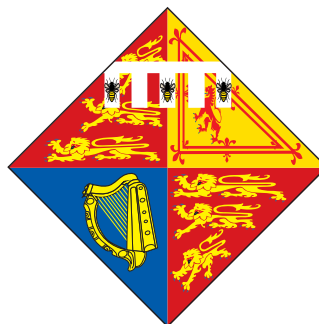
William Blizzard



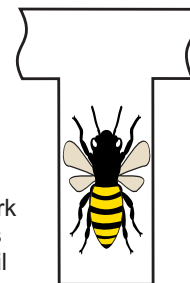
Eberbach



Oxford



Princess
Beatrice of York
Coat of Arms
& Label Detail



Artwork: A. Ailo

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Not all puns are found on the shield. A cant can also be contained in the crest as in the 2009 grant to Douglas Bassett of Toronto; “A demi-Basset hound proper its dexter forepaw resting on a key wards in chief Or”. The coat of arms granted in 2006 to Princess Beatrice of York, daughter of Prince Andrew, Duke of York and Sarah, Duchess of York has three small bees on the label, the “bee thrice” (Beatrice) being a cant on her name. This also alludes to the arms of her mother, which has a bee.

Foreign Vocabulary

When the wordplay spans archaic or foreign languages the reference becomes rather more obscure. Such a case occurs in the arms allegedly granted to Peter Dodge in 1306, blazoned as Barry of six Or and Sable, on a pale Gules a woman’s breast distilling drops of milk Argent. The pun refers to the similarity in pronunciation of the family name and the word “dug” (or *dugge*), slang for “the breast of a woman”.

The shield argent that appeared on the corporate arms of the medieval painters guilds in several countries is itself a pun. The medieval painter (German: *schilter*) was a combination house painter and commercial artist, but up to the mid fourteenth century, the main source of income was making and painting shields for warfare, ceremonies and decoration. To this day, the modern Dutch word for painter is “schilder”, from *schild* (shield). Some painters even assumed arms with the heraldic symbols of their trade, such as those of the Austrian painter Niclas von Brune (Vienna 1408).

Sometimes, the pun is quite obvious, such as the arms of Papillon: Azure, a chevron between three butterflies volant argent. Those conversant with our other official language and fans of the 1973 movie starring Steve McQueen and Dustin Hoffman, realize that “papillon” is French for butterfly.

Charged Puns

A common form of canting arms utilizes a charge that is a representation of a physical object that is the same word as the name, or sounds like the name, such as the often used bird bolt in the arms of those named Bolton.

Bears are frequent charges in coats of arms for numerous family names such as Bearsley, Baring, Barnes and Barnard. The arms, crest and motto of Barnard combine to form a most imaginative pun, the shield being; Argent, a bear rampant Sable and the crest a demi bear. The motto, “Bear and Forebear”, elevates it to another level of punning genius.

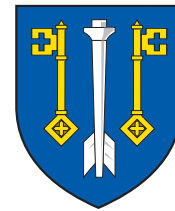
A well known, early example of this type of arms are those of Bern, Switzerland with its famous black bear. The bear in the arms of Bern (Gules, on a bend Or, a bear passant Sable, langued, armed and vilené of the field) has been a symbol on city seals as far back as 1224. The same arms are also used for the Swiss canton of the same name.

The blazon for the arms of the city of Oxford, “Argent, an ox Gules passing over a ford proper”, is worded to ensure the pun is preserved. It ensures that the name cannot be interpreted as “Oxbrook”, as in the name of the German city of Eberbuch (“boar brook”) which has canting arms with a similar concept. Furthermore, as Fox-Davies points out; “The ox seldom occurs, except that, in order sometimes to preserve a pun, a bovine animal is sometimes so blazoned, as in the case of the arms of the City of Oxford.”

German heraldry is rife with canting arms, such as the civic arms of Munich. München, the German name of the city, refers to monks (mönch), with a similar form of the monk having been used on the arms since the 13th century.



Robert Elms



Bruce Bolton



Pori



Dodge



Bern



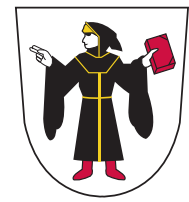
Karhula



German Painters



Niclas von Brune



Munich

Artwork: A. Ailo

Finnish names, like German ones, are frequently compound nouns, which can make punning fairly easy. Finnish civic heraldry is filled with canting arms unrecognized as such by most heraldists due to an unfamiliarity with the language. In order to remedy that, I have selected a sampling of Finnish arms as illustrations. A well known example are those of the city of Pori, founded in 1558. As a bit of trivia, these are the only Finnish arms with a motto. While the present arms only date to 1931, the image has been used in various forms in city seals and such since the 16th century. The name Pori, however, has no meaning in Finnish, so how can these be canting arms? The answer lies in a concept easily grasped by Canadians: bilingualism. The Swedish name of the city is Björneborg; “Bear Castle”. For a Finnish language example with bears (karhu) one would have to look to the municipal arms of Karhula (“Place of Bears”) with its two bears adorsed. The hammers the bears hold refer to the industry, including a major foundry, in the area.

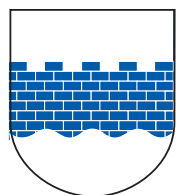
Finnish heraldry is generally very simple in design, illustrated by the civic arms of Lumijoki (Snow River), Haukivuori (Pike Mountain) and Seinäjoki (Wall River). Most municipal arms were created under the republic during the 20th century and reflect the simplicity inherent in Finnish design (and Scandinavian heraldry).



Lumijoki



Haukivuori

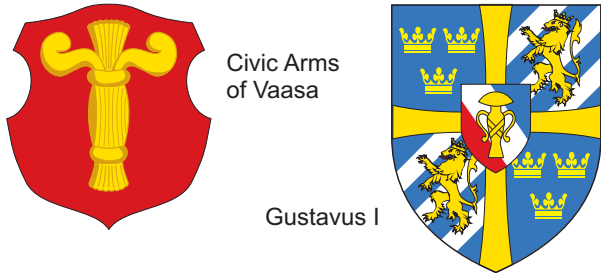


Seinäjoki

The arms of the Finnish City of Vaasa have an origin in those of the Swedish House of Vasa (1523-1654), founded by King Gustavus I (1496-1560) when he ascended the throne in 1523. These are considered canting arms due to the vase (Swedish: *vas*) as

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a charge. In modern times, however, it has also been depicted as a lily, a fascine or a sheaf of grain. In Sweden the Vasa arms remain in use today as the dexter half of the impaled escutcheon on the arms of Charles XVI Gustavus (House of Bernadotte), Swedish monarchs having adopted the practice of placing an escutcheon of the dynastic arms on the royal arms.



Civic Arms of Vaasa

Gustavus I

Allusive Puns

Some canting arms allude to something about the bearer. For example, those of the Milk Marketing Board in England allude to streams of milk. The thought comes to mind that the design might possibly also be appropriate for an individual with the family name of Cryer (“...crying over spilt milk”).

The hunting horns in the Finnish municipal arms of Aanekoski, allude to the first half of the name, “Sound Creek”. A boat with a cross botany represents the name of the municipality of Pyhäjärvi (Holy Lake) and in a similar vein, a cross botany and anchor combination references Pyhärinta (Holy Beach).



Milk Marketing Board

Aanekoski

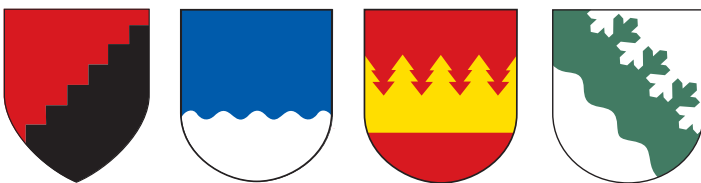
Pyhäjärvi

Pyhärinta

Lines of Partition

The most basic concept for canting arms creates the pun with a line of partition. Alajärvi (1961) surely qualifies as one of the simplest possible designs for this purpose: Azure, in base wavy Argent. The name translates as “Lower Lake”. Other examples are the civic arms of Metsämaa, “Forest Land”, which utilizes a fess sapiné and Kuusjoki, “Spruce River”, with a bend sapinagé and wavy. Sapiné (kuusikoro) and sapinagé (havukoro) are both products of modern Finnish heraldry.

In the same vein, arms that had been granted to the late Arthur D. Stairs (a Royal Heraldry Society of Canada member) by the College of Arms (1964) also have a partition line that expresses a pun; Per bend sinister indented of six steps Gules and Sable. Note the unusual step taken in the blazon, specifying the number of “steps” in the partition line.



Arthur D. Stairs

Alajärvi

Metsämaa

Kuusjoki

A Canting Medley

The coat of arms (2004) of Sir George Martin, Kt., C.B.E., producer to the Beatles, contains several allusions and puns in the shield, crest and motto pertaining to the armiger’s career in the music industry, the most obvious being the three “Beatles”. The literal minded amongst us may well question why there are not four beetles. The conspiracy minded might offer it as further proof of the 1969 “Paul is Dead” conspiracy theory.

The fess resembles a guitar fret while the namesake avian martin holds a recorder, likely a double allusion to both playing music and “recording” music. The final touch is the Latin motto, which can be translated as “All You Need is Love”.

Arms: Azure on a Fess nebuly Argent between three Stag Beetles Or five Barrulets Sable.

Crest: On a wreath Argent and Azure a House Martin proper holding under the sinister wing a Recorder in bend sinister mouthpiece downwards Or.

Motto: AMORE SOLUM OPUS EST.

Badge: A Zebra statant proper supporting with the dexter foreleg over the shoulder an Abbot’s Crozier Or.

The canting continues with the badge, alluding to the 1969 Beatles album and famous recording studio named after the street. Combine allusions to an abbey (abbot’s crozier) with a “zebra crossing” (a pedestrian crossing with white “stripes” painted on the street) and the iconic image of the *Abbey Road* album cover springs to mind. It was the last album he recorded with the Beatles. ♠



Artwork: A. Ailo

Barnard

Badge & Arms of Sir George Martin
Illustrations: College of Arms

Sources: *Heraldry – Customs, Rules & Styles*, C.A. von Volborth, Blandford Press, 1981 • *Heraldry of the Royal Families of Europe*, Jiri Louda & Michael MacLagan, Orbis Publishing Ltd., 1981 • *Basic Heraldry*, S. Friar & J. Ferguson, W.W. Norton & Co., 1999 • *International Heraldry*, L.G. Pine, David & Charles (Publishers) Ltd., 1970 • *A Complete Guide to Heraldry*, A.C. Fox-Davies (rev. by J.P. Brooke-Little), Orbis Publishing Ltd., 1985 • *Canting Heraldry*, D.B.H. Chesshyre (Chester Herald), Coat of Arms No. 139, Spring 1988 • *Canting Arms or Canting Names*, F. Rylance, Coat of Arms No. 114, Summer 1980 • *The Coats of Arms of Sweden - Genesis and Development* by C. G. U. Scheffer (State Herald of Sweden), Coat of Arms No. 17, January 1954 • www.college-of-arms.gov.uk • *The Canadian Heraldic Authority register* • www.chubbfamilytree.com

From the Desk of Branch President John Neill

As our Indian Summer comes to an end with more seasonal squally showers and falling temperatures, it is time to put pen to paper and recount what the Branch has been involved in since our last issue.

In May we hosted the 46th National Conference of the Society at the Grand Hotel Nanaimo which was a resounding success and attracted delegates from all over North America. Our guest of honour for the occasion was Kevin MacLeod CVO CD, Usher of the Black Rod of the Senate of Canada and Canadian Secretary to the Queen, who gave a very engaging after-dinner speech and presented the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Medal to the 22 recipients in attendance. We would also like to thank our event photographer, John Burrage of Nanaimo, for his work in providing us with an excellent record of our conference.

In June, board members were invited to lunch at Government



House, Victoria when the Lieutenant-Governor of British Columbia, His Honour Steven Point, was presented with a plaque featuring his coat-of-arms by Carl Larsen. Afterwards, His Honour was given a guided tour of the portable heraldry exhibit, now known as *The Lawrence J. Patten Heraldry Exhibit*, by Laurie Patten and Steve Cowan. The exhibit has very fortunately found a new home in the Cary Mews, where it has been attracting a great deal of attention from visitors to the gardens at Government House, its tea room and costume museum. The renaming of the exhibit took place at an event held at the Mews this past September when the future development of the heraldry room there was considered.

Our next event will be a Christmas luncheon to be held at noon on Saturday, November 24 at the Oceanfront Suites at Cowichan Bay and I hope to see many of you there. ♥

Miramichi and Saguenay Conjoin on September 29th



by Carl A. Larsen

The following announcement appeared on the October 2nd Facebook page of the CHA and on behalf of the Board and members of the BC/Yukon Branch, would like to wish Manon, and Vancouver born Forrest Pass, much happiness in their new life together.

"This past weekend, Manon Labelle, Miramichi Herald, and Forrest Pass, Saguenay Herald, were married in a ceremony here in Ottawa. The Chief Herald, the Deputy Chief Herald, and Assiniboine, Coppermine, and Fraser Heralds were among the many friends and family in attendance. We suspect that this was the first wedding between two heralds in the centuries-long history of our profession! Congratulations to the newlyweds!" ♥



Hark!

A Sumptuous Xmas Buffet Luncheon

has been arranged at
The Oceanfront Resort & Marina
in Cowichan Bay, BC
on Saturday, Nov. 24th 2012 at 12 noon.



Cost is \$40 including a glass of wine or a Mimosa
For those wishing to stay - \$99.00 + Tax.

Please send in your Reservation Form by Nov. 9

Editor & Art Director: Allan Ailo ♥ Associate Editor: Carl Larsen ♥ President: John Neill 778-420-4040

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