

## OBITUARY

### THE RT. REV. ABBOT ETHELBERT HORNE

THE Rt. Rev. Ethelbert Horne, O.S.B., died at Downside Abbey on 3 November, 1952, within a few days of his 94th birthday. He was clothed in the monastic habit in 1879 and for almost half-a-century was parish priest of St. Benedict's, Stratton-on-the-Fosse. He was appointed Prior of Downside Abbey in 1929, resigned the priorship in 1934, gave up his parish work in 1940, and became titular Abbot of Glastonbury in 1940.

Abbot Horne's membership of the Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society dated back to 1886, and for many years he was 'the Father of the Society'. He did not take much active part in the Society's affairs until he was elected a member of the Council. In 1927 he became chairman of Council, which position he held for thirteen years. When the second world war was well advanced, Prior Horne served as President of the Society from July 1940 to July 1942, after which he became a Vice-President up to the time of his death. From 1926 to 1929 he acted as Editor of *Proceedings*. For this publication he was a frequent contributor, beginning with his illustrated papers on 'Somerset Scratch Dials'—Part i, vol. LIX, 25-44; Part ii, vol. LXII, 116-144; Part iii, vol. LXIII, 63-88. In the second year of his presidency he presented to the Library two large volumes of his photographs of Somerset Scratch Dials and one volume of Somerset Dovecots, with descriptive notes (handsomely bound).

Returning to *Proceedings* Abbot Horne's chief contributions were:—

- 'Medieval Embroideries in Somerset Churches', vol. LXXII (1926), 46-51.
- 'Shrine of St. Candida or Wita', vol. LXXIII (1927), xxxiv-xxxv.
- 'Anglo-Saxon Cemetery, Camerton', pt. i, vol. LXXIV (1928), 61-70; pt. ii, vol. LXXIX (1933), 39-63.
- 'Excavation of Pool Farm Barrow', vol. LXXVI (1930), 86-90.
- 'Westwood Church Glass', vol. LXXVIII (1932), li-lii.
- 'An Early Iron Age Site at Camerton', vol. LXXXIII (1937), 153-165; also a note in vol. LXXXV (1939), 238-9.
- Presidential Address—'Is an Archaeological Society of any Use?', vol. LXXXVI (1940), 8-14. (His second Address, 'The Society and the County', given in 1941, was not published in *Proceedings*).
- 'The Falconry, Farleigh Hungerford', vol. LXXXVII (1941), 106-7.

In collaboration with the other Directors (Sir Charles Peers and Sir Alfred Clapham) Father Horne contributed reports, sometimes illustrated, on the excavations conducted at Glastonbury Abbey from 1928 to 1938.\*

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\*The following are the references:—1928, vol. LXXIV, 1-9; 1929, vol. LXXV, 26-33; 1930-31, vol. LXXVII, 83-85; 1932, vol. LXXVIII, 109-110; 1933, vol. LXXIX, 30; 1934, vol. LXXX, 32-35; 1935, vol. LXXXI, 258; 1937, vol. LXXXIII, 153-154; 1938, vol. LXXXIV, 134-136.

Continuing with Ethelbert Horne's literary efforts it should be stated that he published a separate book, 'Primitive Sun Dials or Scratch Dials' (1917), followed by 'Scratch Dials: their description and history' (1929). For the Folk Press he produced 'Idylls of Mendip' (1922) and 'Somerset Holy Wells' (1923). In 1938 he issued a small book entitled 'Somerset Folk', followed by 'West Country Folk' in 1948. In 1934 he published a 'Guide to Glastonbury Abbey' (Catholic Truth Society).

Archaeological excavation also absorbed a considerable share of Horne's active life and this interest probably grew from his friendship with his neighbour, Dr. Arthur Bulleid, both of whom with the undersigned were some years ago appointed correspondents for Somerset with the Inspectorate of Ancient Monuments. The excavations with which Father Horne was chiefly concerned are mentioned above in the list of his papers in *Proceedings*. But of equal value is the paper written and illustrated in collaboration with Arthur Bulleid on the Roman Villa at Keynsham, published in *Archaeologia*, vol. LXXV, pp. 109-138.

Abbot Horne was a good photographer, and among his most successful efforts in this direction were the photographs he took for Dean Armitage Robinson's paper on 'Fourteenth Century Glass in Wells Cathedral', published in *Archaeologia* vol. LXXXI, pp. 85-118.

To *Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries* Horne was a frequent contributor, and he was elected to the editorial committee from the autumn of 1926. He was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries on 6 March, 1924, and served as one of the local secretaries for Somerset for several years. He was a keen member of the Glastonbury Antiquarian Society of which he was President for a time; also of the Bath Branch of the Somerset Archaeological Society (now suspended), to whose *Proceedings* he made contributions.

He made an excellent collection of Sand-Glasses, which he presented to the Science Museum, South Kensington.

Abbot Horne was a pleasant person and friendly companion and enjoyed the everyday things of life. He was an observant man, with a gift for describing what he saw.

H.St.G.G.

#### MRS. CLIVE

Mrs. Violet Louisa Clive, who died at Brympton d'Evercy on 2 March, 1953, was interested in history and archaeology and in the work of our Society. She was born in 1876, the daughter of John Henry Ponsonby, who died in 1916, and grand-daughter of Sir Spencer Cecil Brabazon Ponsonby-Fane, that great authority on Court etiquette, who died in 1915, and who, with Mrs. Clive, made Brympton such a delightful home in which to live.

Mrs. Clive became the wife of Captain Edward Archer Bolton Clive in 1905; he died in July 1929. Their son, Nicholas B. Clive Ponsonby-Fane, is the present owner and occupier of Brympton.

Mrs. Clive took an intense interest in the life of Brympton and the surrounding country, but her greatest pride was in the magnificent garden she created at Brympton. She specialized in growing rare flowers and shrubs, which required constant and careful attention. It was only two years before her death that she accompanied members of the Alpine Garden Society on a tour to Austria and Switzerland.

When at home Mrs. Clive was delighted to show visitors the garden, the house and its treasures. She was closely connected with the local branch of the R.S.P.C.A., and for years was President of Yeovil Amateur Operatic Society.

Her interest in history and archaeology was by no means confined to Brympton and its Church. She joined the Somerset Archaeological Society in 1923 and was elected President at the Crewkerne meeting in 1939. On the termination of her presidency in the summer of 1940, she became a member of Council and remained so until her death. Both Mrs. Clive and her husband were keen on archaeological field-work. He helped the undersigned in the Ham Hill excavations; and from 1948 Mrs. Clive, on occasional visits, did some useful digging at the Meare Lake Village.

Mrs. Clive will long be remembered as an energetic and courageous woman, and for her friendly disposition—always practical and determined to carry out such work as she set herself to do. She was equally interested in the present as in the past, and she moved with ease through the changing scenes of the present century.

H. ST. GEORGE GRAY