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CHOWKIDAR

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Editor: Dr. Rosie Llewellyn-Jones

British Association For Cemeteries In South Asia (BACSA)

Notes on BACSA

The Association was formed in October 1976 to bring together people with a concern for the many hundreds of European cemeteries, isolated graves and monuments in South Asia.

There is a steadily growing membership of over 1,900 (2003) drawn from a wide circle of interest- Government; Churches; Services; Business; Museums; Historical & Genealogical Societies. More members are needed to support the rapidly expanding activities of the Association – the setting up of local committees in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Burma, Sri Lanka, Malaysia etc., and the building up of a Records archive in the Oriental and India Office Collections in the British Library; and many other projects for the upkeep of historical and architectural monuments.

The enrolment fee and subscription rates are obtainable from the Secretary.

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The Association has its own newsletter, *Chowkidar,* which is distributed free to all members twice a year and contains a section for 'Queries' on any matter relating to family history or condition of a relative's grave etc. There are also many other publications both on cemetery surveys and aspects of European social history out East.

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HARRY ANDERSON'S STORY

Earlier this year BACSA member Virginia van der Lande returned from a visit to India, where she has long family ties. Colonel John Cumming Anderson of the Madras Engineers was her mother's paternal grandfather and there is a relationship with the great General Sir James Outram too. Another connection, Lieutenant Robert Anderson, published his *Personal Journal of the Siege of Lucknow* in 1858, a year after the terrible events of the Mutiny. 'While in Calcutta' Dr van der Lande tells us 'I played truant for a day to visit the Anglican cemetery at Krishnagar where BACSA's 1982 list told me of the tomb of an uncle of Colonel John Cumming Anderson. This was Captain Henry (Harry) Anderson of the 12th Native Infantry, who died from tuberculosis at a tragically early age.' For over a year Dr van der Lande has been transcribing Henry Anderson's manuscript diary which is held in the British Library. 'The diary is well-written, that of a keen and intelligent young officer who is ambitious and anxious to advance in his career. Indeed I have confirmed that his father, Dr James Anderson LLD of Monkshill provided a false baptismal certificate to the Directors of the Honorable East India Company, making Henry nine months younger (and under the minimum age) and hence only in his sixteenth year when he enlisted, so keen was his widower father to get his many sons off his hands.'

Henry's diary commences on 7 July 1804 and includes the period when the East India Company's Army was still involved in fighting Mahratta chiefs, in the aftermath of its capture of Delhi, the year before. The diary covers the campaigns at Deig and Bhurtpore and then, in September 1807, a series of smaller campaigns in the Doab. 'It was during the siege at Comona that Henry first showed signs of the disease which would later kill him. The last section of the diary describes a voyage for the restoration of his health on a small trading ship with a cargo of cattle, to Tasmania via Ceylon, starting in December 1808. Early in 1810 Henry returned to India and went to stay with his brother Robert an indigo planter, at Ratanpur near Krishnagar, in Nadia district.' It was here that Henry died that same year, aged only twenty-seven. 'He was interred with all the honours due to his Rank at Kishenaghur' and the inscription on his tomb reads: 'Sacred to the memory of Harry Anderson Late a Captain In the H.C.12 Reg Native Infantry Who departed this Life The 30th day of July A.D. 1810 Aged 27 Years'. (see page 84) Henry left a son, William, born at Cawnpore to a local woman, and the young lad was subsequently looked after by Robert, together with the Anglo-Indian offspring of another deceased Anderson brother. When Robert left India he took Henry's son, William, with him and sent him to

school at Udny Academy in Aberdeenshire, where he was contemporary with his cousin, James Outram. Family letters in the National Army Museum have enabled Dr van der Lande to fill in many details of William's life in Scotland and to identify his descendants. One of his daughters even married into the Scottish aristocracy.

Krishnagar lies some 130 kilometres along the main road north to Darjeeling. Dr van der Lande found when she got there 'nowhere local to stay or even enjoy a meal, let alone the other usual facilities'. However she did find St John's Anglican Church there, and the cemetery, which is about two kilometres distant and reached by a series of turns. The church is in excellent condition and has a congregation of about a hundred. Mr Mukerjee is the Parish Secretary and the Reverend Prakash Gayen the Minister in charge. There have been problems with squatters in the cemetery and in the oldest part, the north west corner, the tombs were embedded in heavy scratchy undergrowth. But Dr van der Lande did manage to find and photograph the tomb and inscription to 'Harry' Anderson and to capture the melancholy beauty of the old tombs lying among the verdant palms of Bengal. (see page 85) Recorded burial dates range between 1807 and 1869, with the usual sad number of infant deaths, including Cecil Brownlow, infant son of Henry Twisden Forbes.

MAIL BOX

'Some years ago' writes BACSA member Valerie Robinson, ' my husband and I bought a house in Kingussie, Invernesshire which was previously owned by an Assam tea planter, named Duncan Young. He had died alone while living there. Local people did not have much to say about him, so one day, out of curiosity, I visited the local cemetery in the hope of finding his grave. I was unsuccessful in my search, but imagine my surprise on finding the graves of members of the Royal Indian Army Service Corps there.' How these gallant men found their graves in a lonely little Scottish cemetery is told in an article by Major Philip Malins, MBE, MC, enclosed with her letter by Mrs Robinson. At the beginning of the Second World War a request was made by the Royal Army Service Corps for animal transport units. Within weeks Force K6, a contingent of the Royal Indian Army Service Corps was on its way to France with four mule units (from Rawalpindi, Kohat, Peshawar and Landi Kotal), together with a Supply Depot, a Reinforcement Unit, part of an Indian General Hospital and a Remount Department with Lieutenant Colonel RWW Willis as Commander. The whole contingent comprised 1,800 personnel and 2,000 animals. On 26 December 1939 the troops and mules disembarked at Marseilles into the most severe winter for over a century.

The Animal Transport Units were soon in great demand for moving engineering stores, ammunition, and supplies around, and were stationed at Le Havre, Dieppe, Le Mans and Arras. But at the Dunkirk evacuation in June 1940 all the mules had to be abandoned, together with supplies and equipment. Force K6 arrived in Britain, but it took some time before they were re-employed in caring for animals belonging to the French Army, which had previously been shipped across the Channel. It was feared that if the K6 men were returned home to India, so soon after Dunkirk, it might be seized on as anti-British propaganda. By the end of 1941 the value of the animal transport units had been fully appreciated and the K6 men were now equipped with pack horses and were employed with British units training for mountain warfare. Much of the training was carried out in the Brecon Beacons and Monmouthshire, before the Force was moved to Invernesshire. There they remained until 1944, 'enormously popular and admired, immaculately turned out, friendly and courteous, and were taken to their hearts by the local communities where they were stationed'. The Force was eventually repatriated and disbanded in Jullundur on its return, but sadly nine members did not go back to India. They lie now in the little cemetery at Kingussie, where their graves are in immaculate order. Information from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission shows that the men, all Muslims, came from northern India, many from places now in Pakistan, like Gujrat, Hazara, Rawalpindi and Jhelum. The photograph on page 84 shows the stone commemorating one of the oldest men – Driver Khushi Muhammad who died aged thirty-five in April 1943.

Mrs Patricia Redmond wonders if readers remember the Ezra family who lived in Kyd Street, Calcutta. 'As a little girl in the 1940s' she tells us 'we lived in a lovely old East India merchant's house which was right opposite Lady Ezra's rather grand mansion built in typical 19th century colonial style. My ayah used to take me to the gardens and park at the back of the house, which had high wrought iron gates with 24-hour uniformed chowkidars on duty. In a small 'private zoo' in the gardens were peacocks, ostriches, cranes, various types of parrots and a magnificent jackdaw that answered to the name of Jack. The Ezra house also had its own dairy with resident cows, goats and a poultry yard full of geese. The grounds must have covered about three or four acres, an absolute sanctuary in Calcutta. Few people knew about this place and so it became my very own "secret" garden. Sir David Ezra (1871-1947) and his wife, Lady Rachel, who was a relative of the Sassoon family, were wealthy people in the Jewish community in Calcutta at that time, and were involved in supporting the Habonim, a religious and social group for young Jewish people there. The philanthropic couple died childless, and are buried in the Jewish cemetery.

Sadly when Patricia Redmond revisited Calcutta in 2000 she found that their beautiful old house 'was all but demolished, as was indeed my own home opposite. There were steel fences around Lady Ezra's house and just a roofless ghostly outline of the building stood starkly against the sky line. Even the surrounding trees were no more. There were no signs that there had ever been a garden, zoo or a children's play area there.' How, she wonders, did the Ezras acquire this large estate, which has now been broken up for ever?

A letter of thanks has come from Allan Niblett who lives in Mallorca. He says that the 'paper chase' which eventually led him to find his relatives' graves, went via the Boys' High School and College in Allahabad, through BACSA, and ended in the Rajapur Cemetery with the discovery of the graves of his grandfather and an uncle who were buried there in 1918 and 1956 respectively. Mr Niblett writes 'A year ago, on my first visit to Allahabad, trying to find the house where my grandparents lived, I found myself talking to a nun. I mentioned my name and she said she had taught a cousin of mine at school. When I mentioned I was looking for the graves of some relatives, she directed me to the Rajapur Cemetery. With the state of repair in which I found it, there being only a small area cleared and even smaller attended to and behind it, a veritable jungle with trees, bushes and grass three foot high, I nearly turned around and left. Anyhow, having come this far, I asked one of the malis if he had any papers or a plan. He went into a store room and brought out an old gunny sack and emptied its contents onto the floor in front of me.

Amongst the flaking papers and books and files kept together by string threaded through metal tags, were the accounts of payments made for the burial services, cost of headstones, list of graves with numbers and zones and a sheaf of original death certificates. Amongst these was one for my uncle, giving his cause of death, profession and where and when he died. On my return I got in touch with BACSA. A year later I returned to the cemetery. The front entrance has been painted white. There are paths lined with trees. An area the size of a football pitch has been cleared. Graves are visible and are being attended to. A programme is in place for clearing the remaining area, the extent of which is enormous, but can now be seen. Mr Darrel Deacon of Bethany Convent works there voluntarily, with paid assistants. He is starting to collate all the information and registering all the names, dates of burial and grave sites. He was able to locate my uncle's grave. One of the boys, using a pumice stone and water, cleaned the mildew from the surface of the stone, showing up the inscription. As a long shot, I gave him my grandfather's name and date of burial, thinking

he'd tell me it must be located in the back of beyond, amidst the impenetrable thicket, in which lies a common grave for 145 British soldiers. But no. One of his boys shouted and called us across to a little copse. They all, with scythe, axe and cutter, set about uncovering a marble burial stone of my grandfather, with his name and an inscription from his family. So, starting at the right place (BACSA), being put in touch with the right people (the Boys' High School, via the Area Representative for Allahabad, Edwin Wilkes), finding some dedicated workers (Mr Deacon) and a great deal of persistence and persuasion, one can find the grave(s) one is looking for – not quite a needle in a haystack, but almost!'

Freddie Young was one of those larger than life characters who sometimes flit across the pages of our Indian history. His title, in the 1920s, was 'Superintendent of Police, In charge Special Dacoity Police, United Provinces, Roorkee,' but he was clearly much more than a police officer. Mrs Nancy Vernède has sent in a fascinating Report written by Young on the operations of the Special Dacoity Police in 1924, together with a photograph and personal recollections of the man. Her late husband, Mr Raymond Vernède, ICS, wrote a vivid pen portrait: 'Freddie Young was that rare bird, a real eccentric serving after his proper time – the 18th or early 19th century and a joy to know. I was a witness to his method of work and how he achieved his fabled reputation. He never answered or paid any attention to formal orders or instructions from the Government or his own chief – the Inspector General of Police – they all went straight into the waste paper basket. His movements were unpredictable and never advertised. He used to ask me to accompany him on some of his forays into the notorious Chambal river mud ravines, where the mud walls between ravines were so thin that you could hear men talking on the other side. But if you tried to arrest them, by the time you broke through the wall, the birds had flown.

Freddie ignored most rules but he had to follow the Code of Criminal Procedure. This provided for the identification of suspects at a parade held before a magistrate. Being a conveniently handy magistrate I was called on frequently for this duty. I cannot remember a single occasion when any of the witnesses identified any accused person. They were so terrified of the dacoits that they all walked past the line of men with their eyes fixed firmly on the ground. After Nancy and I were married Freddie visited us now and again, never with much, if any, warning. Sometimes the first we knew was when we heard the bearer call to the cook "Young Sahib agaya – bara anda rumble-tumble banao" (Young Sahib has arrived – prepare a scrambled egg dish with twelve eggs.)

Freddie Young cleaned up the dacoits and this lasted until the end of the British Raj. The great tragedy is that no-one has written up his life and all that remains are the stories.'

Young's Report, to the Inspector General of Police in the United Provinces, makes fascinating reading, with its details of local dacoits, including the Bhantu gang, the capture and sentencing of the dacoits, and the intelligence gathering needed to keep one, if not two, steps ahead of the criminals. Dacoits may have a semi-popular image in films and books, but there was nothing attractive in the murders and robberies with which they terrorised the villagers. What does came as a surprise is that the arrival of the railways across India increased the dacoits' range, and that many of the crimes they committed 'were almost invariably in the neighbourhood of railway stations and frequently in the precincts of the station itself.' Station arrests were common, leading to the discovery of fire-arms, ammunition, and stolen property. Another surprise is that the Salvation Army established settlement camps at Najibabad and Fazalpur for 'lesser dacoits' where they were weaned away from their former ways and shown how to make an honest living. Freddie's exploits, particularly his capture of the notorious dacoit called Sultana, formed the basis of an American film called 'The Long Duel' made in 1967, where Trevor Howard played the part of Young. Mrs Vernède adds that Freddie Young was unmarried, and she is uncertain when he died. Of course *Chowkidar* would like to know where he is buried, and if there are other memories of this remarkable man.

CAN YOU HELP?

An article in the Spring 2004 number of *Chowkidar* about the Peppé family (the Scottish zamindars) of Gorakhpur, near the Nepalese border, produced a good response from readers who knew members of the family. In particular, BACSA member Ram Advani tells us he first met Humphrey Peppé, the last zamindar, in the 1960s in Gorakhpur, where the two used to play golf. The local station was named Peppé Ganj. When Humphrey Peppé decided to leave India for good and settle in East Sussex, he was unable to bring out a sizeable sum in rupees, because of foreign exchange regulations. So Humphrey's brother, a naval officer, was instructed to dispose of the money by handing it out to the local peasants as a 'Christmas gift', a generous gesture from a model zamindar. Other members of this widespread family included George Tosco Peppé (1848-1893) who arrived in India in 1866 and worked in estate management in tea and indigo. Hugh Rayner tells us that George was also an amateur or a semi-professional

photographer, working in the Chhota Nagpur area. His pictures of the Juang tribe were later published in Calcutta in 1872. He is buried at Ranchi. There is also mention of a Colonel Peppé in the 1960s, who was Secretary of the Dehra Dun Club. Jeannette Hawkins from Australia tells us that Colonel Peppé was a 'charming, elderly man' who lived at the Club and had been allowed to 'stay on' there after Independence.

An interesting letter from Captain WWF Chatterton Dickson tells us that he is descended from the Irish family of Camac, which had connections in India in the 18th century. Camac Street in Calcutta was named after William Camac, a judge at Tipperah and Dacca. But his query to readers is about William Decluzeau, the son of a Dublin wine-merchant who arrived in India in 1804 and became an officer in the East India Company's Army. From 1814 to 1816 William was serving as a lieutenant during the Anglo-Gurkha war on the Nepalese border. He fought in Ceylon during the Sinhalese insurrection there in 1817/18 and was present at the capture of Bhurtpore from the Jats at the beginning of 1826. But by the end of that same year, on 21 November, William was dead. He was buried at Karnal, in the old cemetery, with a simple inscription that read: 'To the memory of Capt W. Decluzeau 6th Reg N.I. who died at Karnal Novr 21st 1826.'

'William Decluzeau seems to have left a number of offspring, among whom may have been a John William Decluzeau, who was a Medical Apprentice in the Bengal Horse Artillery in 1837 and a daughter, Ellen, who married a Frederick Constantine Bolst in Calcutta in 1834. Their two sons carried the name Decluzeau as a Christian name and seemed to have been in subordinate government employment in Calcutta in the 1860s and 1870s. A street directory shows them living in Joratalao Lane and later Wellesley Square.' Any information on inscriptions on graves or memorials or indeed any references to the Ducluzeau family would be welcomed by Captain Chatterton Dickson.

Two animal-related queries have come in recently, the first from Mr Edward Donald, who is researching the sport of cheetah coursing, which he says was popular in India from the middle of the 14th century until very recently. The sport is thought to have originated in Persia, or possibly further east, in Central Asia, although the name 'cheetah' comes from the Indian word for 'spotted'. The animals, reputed to be the fastest on earth, were taken to hunting areas on horseback or by cart, blindfolded for the journey. When the blindfolds were released, the cheetahs would easily outrun their prey of small antelopes, rabbits, etc. and bring them down to kill. It was the art of the chase that was the sport, not the final trophy.

Mr Donald thinks it might not be too late to get accounts from people who may actually have witnessed cheetah coursing, or may have anecdotes passed down from relatives, photographs, or, most exciting of all, an old ciné film. He remembers his grandmother telling him stories of the sport near Peshawar, and the recent exhibition of the painting by William Stubbs, entitled 'Cheetah and two Indians', painted in 1765 in Richmond Park, has inspired him to find out more. There is little written on the subject, because the art of the cheetah trainer was passed down from father to son by oral tradition. Districts where cheetahs were known to have been used for coursing include Baroda, Dewas, Gondal, Alwar, Bhavnagar, Kolhapur and particularly Patiala, where the Maharaja, Bhupindra Singh, kept a large stable of cheetahs. Anyone with memories of this sport, which was usually associated with the royal families, is asked to contact Mr Donald through the Editor.

The second query comes from the BBC's Natural History Unit, which is planning a series on man-hunters and man-eaters. They are particularly interested in the man-eating leopard of Rudraprayag, which was documented by Jim Corbett in his book of the same name. This particular leopard is estimated to have killed 125 people during its eight year reign of terror, from 1918 to 1926. It was finally despatched by Corbett, who concealed himself in a mango tree. During the long hunt for the leopard, Corbett wrote a number of letters to the Deputy Commissioner of Garhwal, William Ibbotson, who used them to file his reports on the carnage that the leopard was wreaking. The researcher of the BBC programme, Laura Fudge, is trying to track down these letters, if they still exist, and contemporary newspaper reports, too. Jim Corbett, whose grave lies in Kenya, where he emigrated after leaving India, was childless, so there are no direct descendants. But there might still be relatives of both the Corbett and the Ibbotson families, who could provide information. Please contact the BBC through the Editor or email to laura.fudge@bbc.co.uk

The last *Chowkidar* carried information about the grave of Frederic Augustus McGowan which lies incongruously outside the old operating theatre of the Balrampur Hospital in Lucknow. McGowan (whose name was engraved as 'Megowan' on his tomb), died in 1860 aged twenty-seven. Despite careful research, it has not been possible to establish what he was doing in Lucknow and whether or not he was a medical man. We do know that his father, John McGowan, was a matross, or gunner's assistant in the artillery, and that John married Dorathea [sic] Henly, a widow, at Meerut in 1816. But of Frederic Augustus McGowan himself, we still unfortunately know nothing more than the place of his burial. (see page 85)

And now there is another mystery man from Lucknow (what a place it still is for this kind of thing!) who is commemorated by a memorial window at Stratfield Mortimer in Berkshire. The window, in the church of St Mary the Virgin, is a very handsome affair with three long panes, or lights, as they are properly called, with three smaller quatrefoil lights above. The three long lights depict biblical scenes, but at the bottom of each are roundels containing very recognisable buildings to anyone who knows Lucknow. In fact the buildings are so clearly depicted that not only can they be immediately identified as the Great Imambara, the Asafi Mosque and the Musa Bagh, but it is also evident that each was copied from photographs taken by Felice Beato in 1858. (see back cover) The inscriptions on the window give no clue, other than that it commemorates Arthur RN Gould who died in 1868. The window was erected the same year, by Clayton & Bell, at a cost of £122.13s 6d. But our enquirer, David Stone from NADFAS (the National Association of Decorative & Fine Art Societies) Reading branch, who brought this to our attention, has not been able to find out anything about Arthur Gould and his Lucknow connections, which were obviously important since its buildings appear on his memorial. And is this perhaps the first and last time that a depiction of a mosque has appeared in a Christian church? Ideas and information via the Editor please.

And while we're on the subject of church memorials, Richard Morgan spotted an interesting one in St Michael and All Angels Church, Brighton which commemorates the rescue of two sisters during the Indian Mutiny. Two carved capitals on the north and south of the chancel steps show two figures with an elephant and a tiger, while on the opposite side these same figures are shown being greeted outside a city gate by their brother. Unfortunately this is all the information we have, and the accompanying photograph is not clear enough to reproduce. What the church guide book does tell us is that work on the capitals was not started until 1902, nearly fifty years after the Mutiny, but the names of the sisters involved are not given.

A query from Merilyn Hywel-Jones is also connected to the Mutiny. Miles Ryan, an Irishman, born in Londonderry in 1826, won a VC in the action at the Kabul Gate, Delhi, in 1857. Ryan was a drummer at the time, in the 1st European Bengal Fusiliers, and this seems to have been his only moment of fame, because he then disappears from history. He died in 1887, still in India, and it is believed his grave lies 'somewhere in Bengal', but extensive research has failed to turn up anything more definite. Any ideas would be welcomed, via the Editor.

An intriguing query, which harks back to the escape of Britons through Burma to Assam, has been sent in by Denis Segal of London. While on leave in 1944, Mr Segal stayed with a tea-planter, Ronald MacGregor Thomson, on the Margherita Estate in Assam. At that time, Mr Segal was only aware of Thomson's skill as an expert jungle man and hunter, who knew elephants well, and was a rogue tiger tracker. Modestly, Thomson did not say anything about his important role in rescuing the Burma refugees two years earlier, as they struggled in. He had been appointed honorary magistrate in 1938 and this may be why he assisted in setting up, in 1942, the Margherita Casualty Clearing Station, which was known as 13 (Ind) CCS. By the following year the refugees had moved on and the camp was closed down, Thomson quietly reverting to his former occupation. Denis Segal has been able to glean a little information on this unsung hero. Ronald Thomson is thought to have been the younger son of an Indian Army officer, who died suddenly, leaving his widow in straitened circumstances. Young Ronald took the unusual course of going off to live among the Naga tribesmen (then still headhunters), where he shot tigers and sold their skins along the river.

He was eventually persuaded to leave the jungle and be trained as a tea planter. He had married, in St Paul's Cathedral, Calcutta, Elsie Laura Mason, in 1933. 'I have examined literally thousands of pages of documents and many dozens of books' Mr Segal tells us, 'and so far have found a few tributes by officials (military and civil) to the great work he did in the rescue operations. Despite the entreaties of Judge Henry Braund to the Governor of Assam to put Thomson up for a CSI (Commander of the Star of India) or the like, he was never honoured, being a tea planter.' But more information about this interesting man would be welcomed by Mr Segal, and it is possible that BACSA members, with their long memories, can add something to his biography.

JOHN PAYNE 1928-2004

The announcement at the BACSA Annual General Meeting in March 2004 that our Treasurer, John Payne, was suffering from cancer, came as a shock to everyone, especially as he had been in robust health until the beginning of this year. John was planning another of his lengthy visits to south India, inspecting cemeteries, encouraging projects and meeting old friends. Few of BACSA's Executive members could rival John's long connection with the subcontinent. Although not born in India, he worked there for Lloyd's Bank for over twenty years, from the 1950s to the early 1970s. When he retired from the Bank, he acted as its travelling auditor in Africa and the

Middle East for four years. On his second retirement he took an MA in Indian and African history at SOAS (the School of Oriental & African Studies), University of London. John was a latecomer to BACSA, joining us in 1996, but then throwing himself enthusiastically into our work, by becoming treasurer in 1999. He had previously been the treasurer of another learned Society, the Royal Asiatic Society, and was to be seen frequently at lectures and receptions at their Queen's Gardens headquarters.

On the announcement of his death, BACSA received many tributes, including one from Mr JV Reddy, General Secretary of the newly formed British Cemeteries Maintenance Commitee in Andhra Pradesh, with which John had been much involved over projects in Bimlipatam, Rajahmundri and Vizagapatam. Phone calls of sympathy came in from Calcutta, Madras, Bombay and Karnataka, which were very moving. At his funeral on 9th June this year, at which BACSA was well represented, it was revealed that John had been quietly supporting children at an orphanage in Andhra Pradesh. In another generous gesture, he has left his extensive library of books to BACSA. Many of these will appear with a memorial note in the second-hand Book List which accompanies this *Chowkidar*. John will indeed be deeply missed, and we extend our sympathy to his widow Pat. (TCW and RLJ)

John Payne left a very large collection of Indian music, mostly classical, on cassettes and CDs. Pat Payne would like to find a good home for them. She does not want any money, but a donation to BACSA would be appreciated. Please phone her on 0208 462 1634.

NOTICES

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has been quietly reprinting, over the last few years, a number of rare books on 19th century explorations and catalogues of antiquities. While in Delhi earlier this year, your Editor visited the ASI headquarters and obtained a recent Publications Price List (August 2003) which is indeed promising in what it offers. There are nearly a hundred 'Memoirs of the Archaeological Survey of India' which include *An Archaeological tour in Waziristan & Northern Baluchistan* by Aurel Stein (1929) at Rs.210, and *Excavations at Taxila, the Stupas and Monasteries at Jaulian*, by Sir John Marshall (1921) price Rs.175. The New Imperial Series (Exhaustive Research on Antiquarian Remains) include reprints from the 1880s, and the Annual Reports of the ASI from 1902 to 1936 range in price from Rs 1000 to Rs2120. (*continued on page 86*).....

left: the isolated cemetery at Kingussie, Scotland
(see page 75)

below: Virginia van der Lande at the grave of Harry Anderson
(see page 73)

right: Dr Nautiyal at the grave of Augustus McGowan, Lucknow
(see page 80)

below: old tomb at Krishnagar Nadia District, West Bengal
(see page 74)

.....(*continued from page 83*) The heading 'Antiquarian Remains' includes reprints from the 1880s, and the Annual Reports of the ASI from 1902 to 1936 range in price from Rs 1000 to Rs2120. Also here are Alexander Cunningham's reports from the 1870s, again at very reasonable prices.

The publications 'are supplied on receipt of full cost by Demand Draft in favour of the Director General, Archaeological Survey of India, 11 Janpath New Delhi 110011, India, including charges for packing, forwarding and post etc.' Since these charges are not spelled out, it is probably better to write or email first, and indeed to request a copy of the ASI Publications Price List to see what is on offer <asi@del3.vsnl.net.in> I would be interested to hear if members succeed in purchasing books direct from the ASI without too much difficulty.

Old Roman Catholic Cemetery, George Town, Penang. Information has been received that twenty-three European graves dating from 1844 to 1891 are due to be exhumed shortly from the old cemetery in order to convert it into a playground. Members wishing to have further details of the proposals and the names of those affected, should write to Major Alan Harfield, 8, The Paddocks, Iwerne Minster, Dorset DT11 8PJ.

Secrets of the Indian Mutiny is the exciting name of a guided tour which is taking place from 24 October to 10 November 2004, organised by Palanquin Travels Ltd. A small party has already been assembled and there is room for four or five more people. The itinerary starts in Delhi, visiting Skinner's Church, Kashmir Gate, the Red Fort, and the Ridge 'with all its ghosts and memorials'. The party then travel to Jhansi, Gwalior, Agra, Lucknow (where they will meet BACSA member and bookseller Ram Advani in his shop), and visit the Residency. Then on to Cawnpore, Benares and Calcutta, before returning to Delhi. The cost is a very reasonable £2,400 per person. Interested readers should contact Mr Hugh Purcell at 98 Boston Place, London NW1 6EX, or email him at h.purcell@btopenworld.com

Folklore from Central India and Rajputana is the title of a rare book published in 1897, possibly in India. The author was Alice Elizabeth Dracott, the great aunt by marriage of our enquirer, Chris Dracott. He has been trying to track down this book for years, and the only known copy is in the British Library. The author, who sometimes wrote simply as 'AeD' published a number of other books on Indian folk tales, which Mr Dracott does have. Alice Dracott (neé Goodall) married Charles Hammond Dracott at Indore in 1894. After her husband's death in Simla in 1937, she seems to have fallen on hard times, and information about her would be welcomed.

BACSA BOOKS [Books by BACSA members. These can be ordered via BACSA, at no extra cost and will be sent with an invoice.]

The Diary of an Indian Cavalry Officer 1843-63 John Hatfield Brooks ed Richard Morgan

Nearly 150 years after the Great Revolt of 1857/58, previously unknown material is still coming to light, and this book is a good example. The diaries of John Hatfield Brooks, which are privately owned, are on loan to the Bedfordshire & Luton Archives and have been carefully transcribed and annotated by Richard Morgan, who is a collateral descendant of the author. Although not directly involved with the major battles and sieges of the Mutiny, there is very useful material here. At the end of 1857, Brooks was detailed to the Sarun Field Force when the Gurkhas, offered to the East India Company by the Maharaja of Nepal to help put down the insurrection, were still an unknown quantity. The winter of 57/58 was spent in mopping up rebellious areas around Gorakhpur and 'capturing treasure' from the petty rajahs there. Gurkhas did not, at this time, have the reputation for fighting that they do today, in fact they were keener on looting, and introduced themselves to the British as 'searching for plunder'. They were described as 'very short men, wearing loose blue trousers, red jackets, green turbans with brass crescent in front, and were extremely dirty'.

Although there is plenty of action during Brooks' years in India, as he rides across country, putting up in camp or dak bungalows where he can, there is plenty of domestic detail too. He met his future wife, Sophie Cloete, from a Cape family, on 13th November 1850 at Lucknow and by 23rd December that same year had married her in Calcutta Cathedral, the honeymoon being spent at neighbouring Barrackpore. The couple were to have two daughters, and perhaps unusually for the time, Brooks showed a loving and lively interest in the two little girls, recording their first stumbling footsteps, first words, and first milk teeth. Both children were spared to survive into adulthood, and the family retired to Flitwick House in Bedfordshire, where Brooks outlived his wife by ten years, dying in 1907.

Not only changes in India are apparent from the long sweep of these diaries, but in England too. Commencing his first journey to India in 1843, Brooks caught the train to Southampton from 'the terminus at Nine Elms, Vauxhall', one of the first passenger railways in England. By the time he arrives home for a long leave in 1859, he is running up to London for the day by train from Flitwick. Richard Morgan has done an excellent editing job, being both unobtrusive

in the text and informative in the extensive notes. He has not only tracked down everyone mentioned in the Diary, but has usually managed to fit them into context as well, so we know their family connections. Once again, today's reader is struck by how very intertwined through marriage were the families who served in India, with names repeated through the decades - the Lyalls, the Plowdens, Mackenzies, Ricketts, Pattles, Mundys, Maynes and Moneys, so that at times the whole ruling class seems to be related to each other, as indeed to some extent they were.

What Morgan doesn't point out, and what strikes one today with equal force, is that although Brooks served twenty years in India, there is almost no mention of Indians anywhere in these diaries. Occasionally a note like 'the inquest' over the bodies of two Indian soldiers who had fallen out over a woman (September 1854) or during the Mutiny of '4 wretches hung at night' (November 1857) appears, but the Brooks appear to live in a bubble in which Indians played almost no part. Yet every move the family made could only be made with the assistance of its Indian retinue, and by so isolating themselves they remained resolutely disengaged with India. By contrast, Brooks' brother-in-law, Major Robert Wilberforce Bird, chose to support the last Nawab of Oude, who was a personal friend, when that monarch had his throne snatched away by the East India Company which annexed the country in 1856. Not only did Bird accompany members of the Oude royal family to England in a vain bid to win back the throne, but he also addressed members of the Southampton Athenaeum on the subject in 1858 and published a pamphlet entitled 'The Spoilation of Oudh', a very unfashionable view at that time. This is a very nicely produced book, with illustrations and family trees, but a map would have been useful, as we trace Brooks' peregrinations over northern India. Recommended. (RLJ)

2003 Pagoda Tree Press, 4 Malvern Buildings, Fairfield Park Bath BA1 6JX. ISBN 1-904289-16-9 £35 to BACSA members, plus postage of £4.45 pp289

A Portrait of the Hindus: Balthazar Solvyns & the European Image of India 1760-1824 by Robert Hardgrave

This is a huge and handsome book and the author rightly states that it is 'intended to be the basic reference work on Solvyns that will stand long after the dust has settled on current debates....' The etchings will be familiar to many people who would be unable to name Solvyns as the artist, just as those who vaguely know his name are unable to recall any of his pictures. But there can be no more excuses now with the publication

of Professor Hardgrave's magisterial work in which he covers the artist's life and output in a scholarly but very readable fashion. Solvyns, from a wealthy merchant family in Antwerp, spent thirteen years in India, entirely in Calcutta. He was already known as a maritime painter and there are a small number of lively oil paintings, including 'The Launching of Gabriel Gillett's Armed Merchantman in Calcutta Harbour' (1798/99) that will stand comparison with the best of the 'Company' painters.

Because Solvyns has never been a popular artist, not even in his own life time, many of his works have been lost, or misattributed. The artist had to seek work with Steuart & Co, coachmakers, on his arrival in Calcutta in 1791, where he was employed in painting and decorating luxury carriages, palanquins, sedan chairs and howdahs. It is, however, for the album of 250 etchings entitled 'A Portrait of the Hindus', first published in 1796, again in 1799, and subsequently re-issued in Paris in the early 1800s, that he is best known. These etchings were to become influential in the way Europeans saw India and her inhabitants - not through the romanticized views of the Daniells, but as life was actually lived. The twelve sections into which 'Portraits' was divided show the ambitious scope of the artist. They include Bengali castes, servants to European families, costumes of men and women, vehicles, palanquins, fakirs, boats, 'various Modes of smoking', musical instruments and public festivals and funerals. Each picture was annotated by Solvyns, and the bulk of this book reproduces all the etchings, with the original explanations, and Professor Hardgrave's learned commentaries on each one. Living as he did, near the 'Black Town' in Calcutta, Solvyns was an acute and careful observer. He was the first artist to portray and describe the hijra, those bawdy eunuchs who still have the power to embarrass the unwary in India today. His two pictures of Sikhs, of whom there were few in Bengal at the time, are the earliest published depictions by a European artist. The section on different kinds of fakirs is fascinating. But one can see why 'Portraits' was never a best seller, inspite of Solvyns' efforts at repackaging it. The etchings are not very good. They are certainly accurate and full of interesting detail, but they lack animation and depth. Solvyns did his own etching, from original pencil sketches and watercolours, and while these have a certain vigour, this has not been translated into the etchings, which border on caricature. Most are drawn with the sightline focussed on the subject's knees, and there is a sameness about them, despite the different backgrounds and dress. But this is still a fascinating book, and certainly the definitive one on this hitherto little known man. Recommended. (RLJ)

2004 OUP New York ISBN 0-19-522041-2 £65.00 pp568
2004 Mapin Publishing Ahmedabad ISBN 81-88204-15-3 Rs 3950 pp568*

Frontier Legion – With the Khassadars of North Waziristan by Frank Leeson

There is a panache in this account that one does not often find in books, usually scholarly, as to the North-West Frontier. As a young officer, in the Sikh Regimental Centre at Nowshera, the author volunteered and was attached in 1946/47 to the North Waziristan Khassadars, an un-uniformed tribal force, tasked with assisting in the policing of this turbulent region, along with the Scouts, and, where applicable, the Regular Army. This eminently readable narration of Leeson's period has a Foreword by the late Sir George Cunningham, a very great Governor of the North-West Frontier Province. The author has a story worth telling 'of his year with the Khassadars', or as Cunningham succinctly encapsulates, 'that life was strenuous and not always safe was part of its fascination'. (Cunningham's Diary of the period was published in the 1960s after his death, on the initiative of his widow.)

In October 1947, the author recounts, 'incidentally my 21st birthday', a 'trivial but humiliating incident served to nourish the seeds of discontent which had been taking root in my mind since the Change of Power. It seemed as if both the Scout officers and the minor Political officials were annoyed by the independent status of the Khassadar officers and were doing their utmost to impede and embarrass them. It is also apparent that the new Muslim authorities were doubtful of the allegiance of these Britishers to the cause of Pakistan....after discussing the situation, Hoile (another Khassadar officer) and I decided to hand in our resignations.' Two chapters thereafter follow, 'The Sword of Islam, October/November 1947' and 'Operation Curzon'. Having been reverted to the Regular Army, he reported to the Pakistan Army HQ 'to speed my homeward progress'. He was initially deputed as the Pushtu-knowing liaison officer accompanying the Pakistan Army convoy organised at the behest of Sir George Cunningham that on 6th November 1947 brought back the survivors of the Baramula Convent Hospital in Kashmir which had been subjected to rapine and murder by marauding Pakistani tribesmen. The author does not give the full details of this rapine and murder, which HE Bates had subsequently made into a 'factionalised' novel, *The Scarlet Sword*, undoubtedly because Leeson may feel it is not completely relevant, though he does mention the shooting of Lieutenant Colonel and Mrs Dykes, her body being thrown into a well by the tribesmen. Nevertheless it is pertinent even at this belated period to mention some further details of the horrific sacking of the Convent Hospital (apart from the terrible sacking of the Baramula town) by these tribesmen, for its historical pathos as part of the tragedy of the Partition process.

There are six headstones in the Convent Hospital garden of those then killed by these tribesmen, at least three of the dead women having been raped, including a nun (there was a BBC Radio Four programme on this incident in August 2003). Lieutenant Colonel DOT Dykes of the Sikh Regimental Centre had moved his wife for her third confinement, and their two children, to the Baramula Convent Hospital before he moved the Centre to Ambala. He thereafter took leave from Ambala to be with his wife for her confinement. The planned tribal invasion of 22nd October 1947 was the cause of their demise. The First Battalion of the Sikh Regiment was flown into Srinagar on 27th October. The new Indian Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel DR Rai, had only taken over the previous day at Delhi from his British predecessor as the Supreme Commander's Headquarters had ordered that British officers could not be inducted into Kashmir. Lieutenant Colonel Rai, while his battalion was still concentrating at Srinagar airfield, gallantly led his tactical headquarters, with a platoon, in an endeavour to reach Lieutenant Colonel Dykes and his family, as they belonged to his Regiment, on 27th October itself before the tribesmen could do so. (He was unaware that the tribesmen had already reached and sacked the Convent before he set out.) Lieutenant Colonel Rai and most of his rescue mission were killed at Pattan (just short of Baramula); there was 'no small Sikh vanguard of the Indian Army...routed at Uri and bundled back into the Vale of Kashmir' (Uri is well west of Baramula; there is a Regimental monument to the late Lieutenant Colonel Rai and his gallant men at Pattan, which inspired the BBC Radio Four programme). The official Pakistani involvement in this tribal invasion of Kashmir is manifest from the late Governor's Diary (he being informed only after it had commenced) and Major General Akbar Khan's book Raiders in Kashmir (Karachi, 1970). The latter admits to planning this tribal invasion. Allowing for the difference in scale, the fundamentalist Faqir of Ipi of Leeson's days in Waziristan can in a way be said to be the precursor of Osama bin Laden of today. Like his successor Ipi evaded capture, until his natural death in 1960. Then, as now, there is treachery and violence in Waziristan as currently reported in the media. (SLM)

2003 Leeson Archive, 108 Sea Lane, Ferring, West Sussex BN12 5HB ISBN 1-904726-07-0 £10.00 plus postage pp233

Photographic Journeys in the Himalayas: Samuel Bourne ed. Hugh Rayner

This splendidly-produced compilation is a treasure trove about photography in 19th century India. The subject, Samuel Bourne, was born in 1834, and at the age of twenty-three was a bank clerk at Nottingham.

He there became a keen amateur photographer, entering prints for the Nottingham Photographic Society's first exhibition in 1858. In 1860, Bourne delivered a lecture to the Society's members entitled 'On some of the requisites necessary for the production of a good photograph', which is appropriately reproduced as an appendix in this book. In January 1863, Bourne arrived at Calcutta, and set off for Simla where he formed a partnership with William Howard, a professional photographer already well established in India. The partnership was initially known as Howard & Bourne, and then briefly as Howard, Bourne & Shepherd, when they were joined by Charles Shepherd, another well-known photographer in India. When Howard left in 1866 the partnership traded as Bourne & Shepherd, under which name it grew steadily under different owners, and became one of India's leading photographic studios. It is still in business today in Calcutta, under Indian management.

After settling at Simla, over the next seven years Bourne wrote a series of letters which were published in the *British Journal of Photography*, and are reproduced in this compilation. Bourne returned to England in 1870 by when he had made approximately 2,200 fine images of the landscape and architecture of India in general, and the Himalayas in particular. In his letters, he graphically describes his travels, and the travails of photography in India at the time. The letters have been felicitously grouped chronologically in four chapters a) Photography in the East, b) Ten weeks with a camera in the Himalayas, c) Narrative of a photographic trip to Kashmir and adjacent districts, d) A photographic journey to the Higher Himalayas. A comprehensive catalogue of Bourne's photographs (1863-70) has been compiled from three early Bourne & Shepherd catalogues. All the twenty-six illustrations, except two, in this book are from the Hugh Ashley Rayner collection of photographs. A cameo encapsulation of the work undertaken by one of the more talented English photographers active in India in the 19th century, contemporary, inter alia, with William Baker, John Burke, Fred Bremner, Albert Penn and Mela Ram. (SLM)

2004 (2nd edition) Pagoda Tree Press, 4 Malvern Buildings, Faifield Paark, Bath BA1 6JX, England ISBN 1-904289-17-7 £24.00 including postage pp182

Kelly's Burma Campaign by Desmond Kelly

"...in the Second World War, when the English were in deep adversity and the hill tribes showed them a loyalty as moving as any in history". These words, taken from Philip Woodruff's *The Guardians*, could well have served as an epigraph to this book. Desmond Kelly writes about his

father's life in the Chin Hills during the war. Norman Kelly was an officer of the Burma Frontier Service; he evidently possessed the qualities of a good BFS man, notably linguistic skills, self-sufficiency and initiative. He had lived among the Chins since 1939, where the village of Tiddim offered a life of idyllic simplicity for Norman, his wife and two small children.

When the Japanese invaded, seemingly unstoppable, left to his own devices Norman summoned the local chiefs and to them delivered a splendidly rallying speech asking for their support for the British cause. They did not let him down and as a consequence the Chin Levies were born. For the next couple of years Norman was by their side, often behind enemy lines, guiding them and encouraging their skills in reconnaissance and ambush. Norman was not alone; there were other civilian 'old Burma hands' like him, providing invaluable help to the military. Bernard Fergusson was to write of 'their virtues of knowledge, experience, confidence, enthusiasm and guts'. Desmond Kelly sketches several pen-portraits of these extraordinary men. His wide-ranging research, which included access to the National Archives in Rangoon, has produced a good deal of fresh information on this corner of the Burma campaign. The maps are excellent. But this is not just a military narrative. What happened to the family? Like thousands of others they made their escape to the Indian border. Desmond's sister Maeve writes colourfully of the hazardous trek to safety. The book is full of Norman's letters to his family, the anxious father worrying about their security, health and schooling for the kids, which somehow rounds off the portrait of this brave and resourceful man. All in all, an engrossing read. More than fifty years pass and Desmond revisits Tiddim. Among the old villagers, memories are stirred and it is clear that the affection and rapport are still there. Desmond leaves behind a fishing pool, whose owner was once Norman's table boy. It is called 'N. W. Kelly's Fish Breeding Pool'. Father would have been delighted. (JW)

2003 Tiddim Press, PO Box 28958, Mortlake, London SW14 8XE ISBN 0-9540238-1-1 £24 inc. postage pp367

Willingly to War by Paul Norris

This book is the account of a young Emergency Commissioned Officer's impressions of the Indian Army during the Second World War. First, as a Cadet at one of the three main Officers' Training Centres, where young aspiring officers from the home country mixed with those with family roots in the subcontinent – British, European, Indian and Anglo-Indian. Second, as a newly commissioned officer on the North-West Frontier, followed by a period on the North-East Frontier and Burma.

During this time he describes some of the moral issues confronting officers and men in the Indian Army, including the horrors of the Bengal famine, and the maintenance of loyalty and morale as Independence approaches. Paul Norris is well known to many as the author of two previously published BACSA books on his family's involvement in India, *Ulysses in the Raj* (1992) telling of the diaspora of many Greek families to Asia in the 19th century, including his own, and settling into the social/commercial fabric of the British Raj yet retaining their proud ancestral traditions; and, *Follow my Bangalorey Man* (1996), a personal account of growing up in the city now famous for its technology, his secondary education at the well-known St Joseph's European High School, and then sailing for England to complete his studies just as war breaks out. With *Willingly to War*, this completes the trilogy of his 'Odyssey' in India. All three books are being made available as a set on a strictly limited basis, while those who have enjoyed his two earlier books will be able to obtain *Willingly to War* separately as usual.

2004 BACSA ISBN 0 90779981 7 £12 plus £1 postage

Baxter's Guide: Biographical Sources in the India Office Records Ian Baxter

This book, now generally referred to simply as 'Baxter's Guide', has become an essential reference work for all who research the history of families connected with British India. Small enough to be easily handled, it contains a wealth of information clearly laid out. Its contents will guide genealogists and researchers to the enormous number of biographical sources scattered amongst the nine miles of shelving of the India Office Records at the British Library. Two previous editions of this guide sold out quickly, and the British Library decided that most of the information would be available on its website. However, FIBIS (Families in British India Society) felt that given the increasing interest in family history, that many new researchers would still welcome a chance to obtain the Guide in book form. Accordingly the British Library gave FIBIS permission to bring out a new, updated version.

This latest edition, therefore, includes a very useful glossary of terms used in the administration of British India (from 'adalats' – courts administering mainly Hindu and Islamic law, to 'zillah' – an Indian District). It gives the Ecclesiastical Returns areas, so one can establish where to start looking for baptismal, marriage and death certificates too. Main headings include Railway Staff; Non-Official Inhabitants; Royal Indian Air Force; Aden and the Persian Gulf, and many more of interest.

All this is well indexed, so if you had an apothecary in the family, for example, you would be guided to the Indian Subordinate Medical Service page. This book is invaluable not just for family researchers, but historians too, and armed with this, it should be possible to go straight to the indices on the shelves of the India Office Library. (RLJ)

2004 Families in British India Society in conjunction with The British Library. FIBIS, 14 Gableson Avenue, Brighton, East Sussex BN1 5FG ISBN 0-9547-116-0-2 £5.95 pp73

Books by non-members that will interest readers [These should be ordered direct and not through BACSA]

Paradise & Back: A Damfool Career (Vol 2) and Best Laid Schemes & Mountains: A Damfool Career (Vol 3) by JLC Strang

Born in Calcutta in 1923, the author arrived in Britain with his parents when he was one year old. In 1940 he joined the RAF, flying Spitfires and Hurricanes, and serving in the Western Desert. After the War, he originally opted for an extended service commission, but then decided to transfer to the Reserve of Air Force Officers, and sailed back to India to become a tea-planter in Assam, the 'Paradise' of the title. The fascinating multi-activity life there, including flying light planes between the estates, is the engaging basis of this ostensibly fictionalised autobiographical trilogy of 'Hamish MacStorm'. (The first volume *Events in the Womb of Time* (2000), was reviewed in *Chowkidar* Spring 2001.) The three volumes of A *Damfool Career* are, in totality, a memoir, which begins in 1947. Apart from descriptions of tea estate life, there are animated reconstructions of actual events, like the 1950 earthquake and the perennially turbulent rivers in the region. There are, interestingly, actual persona, planters with fictitious names, amidst the fictitious characters. Strang has a remarkable visual acuity for the flora and fauna of the wonderland that constitutes the Himalayan foothills, conjoined with affection for the tribal people on and off the tea estates, achieving genuine camaraderie with them. British planters worked in Assam for nearly three and a half decades after 1947 and this trilogy narrates how they lived, playing polo and rugby, and concomitantly shikar and fishing. Recommended for aficionados of the 'Paradise' in question, this is a truly dashing narration of the life of the debonair MacStorm, a remarkable personality. (SLM)

Vol 2 (2003) ISBN 0 9546253 0 7 pp228. Vol 3 (2003) ISBN 0 9546253 1 5 pp229. Each volume costs £15 plus £2 postage, from Mrs B Strang, Subansiri, 4 Maple Avenue, Bishop's Stortford, Herts CM23 2RR.

The Anglo Maratha Campaigns and the Contest for India by Randolf Cooper

This is clearly a book which has been long in gestation, and which requires commitment on the part of the reader. But it is unlikely that the author's analysis of that fascinating and turbulent period at the turn of the 19th century will be bettered for some considerable time. The Marathas represented the most serious threat to the expansionist policies of the East India Company, for the Mughals were already in terminal decline as the British moved from trading to conquest. The generally received view is that by employing European mercenaries, notably the Savoyard General Benoit de Boigne, the Maratha chief Mahadji Scindia was able to transform his army into a powerful fighting force, based on western lines, and using western technology for weaponry. Thus armed and drilled, the Marathas were a powerful force who were only defeated in 1803 by Arthur Wellesley in the Deccan, and Lord Lake in what was then called 'Hindustan', the area around Delhi and Agra.

Cooper shows that this is a simplistic view. He cites the Marathas' record of successful warfare long before Europeans came on the scene – their ability to fight even during the monsoon season and to throw up bamboo bridges over swollen rivers, their technical skill in using indigenous weapons, and their readiness to employ mercenaries of all races, Arab, Persian and African, as well as European. The author shows how Maratha warfare was part of the 'military economy' of South Asia, offering substantial opportunities for many, not just the soldiers, but the suppliers of animals, food, weapons, transport, and engineers. The battles themselves, between Maratha and Company troops, are examined in detail, indeed the author has walked over some of the battlefields. He says briskly on page 103 that he waded 'through water [at Assaye] that varied from knee to waist deep in some holes' his object being to establish that Wellesley had a choice of crossing points before this important British victory. Valuable evidence of the European mercenaries in Daulat Rao Scindia's army before the fall of Delhi to the Company has been garnered from examining pension records at the British Library. Names like Dudrenec, Hessing, Gardiner, Rotton, and, of course, Skinner, are here. Far from being a shameful occupation, as that of mercenary is today, pay and conditions in Scindia's army were considered to be as good or better than in the Company's Army. A short review cannot do justice to this book, the first modern analysis of the Anglo-Maratha wars, and an objective examination of documents not previously used. Highly recommended. (RLJ)

2004 Cambridge University Press ISBN 0 521824443 £55.00 pp437

Notes to Members

1. When writing to a BACSA officer and expecting a reply, please enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

2. If wishing to contact a fellow-member whose address is not known to you, send the letter c/o Hon Secretary who will forward it unopened.

3. If planning any survey of cemetery MIs, either in this country or overseas, please check with the appropriate Area Representative or the Hon Secretary to find out if it has already been recorded. This is not to discourage the reporting of the occasional MI notice, which is always worth doing, but to avoid unnecessary duplication of effort.

***Books from India:** where prices are given in rupees, these books can be obtained from Mr Ram Advani, Bookseller, Mayfair Buildings, Hazratganj PO Box 154, Lucknow 226001, UP, India. Mr Advani will invoice BACSA members in sterling, adding £3.00 for registered airmail for a slim hardback, and £2.00 for a slim paperback. Sterling cheques should be made payable to Ram Advani. Catalogues and price lists will be sent on request.
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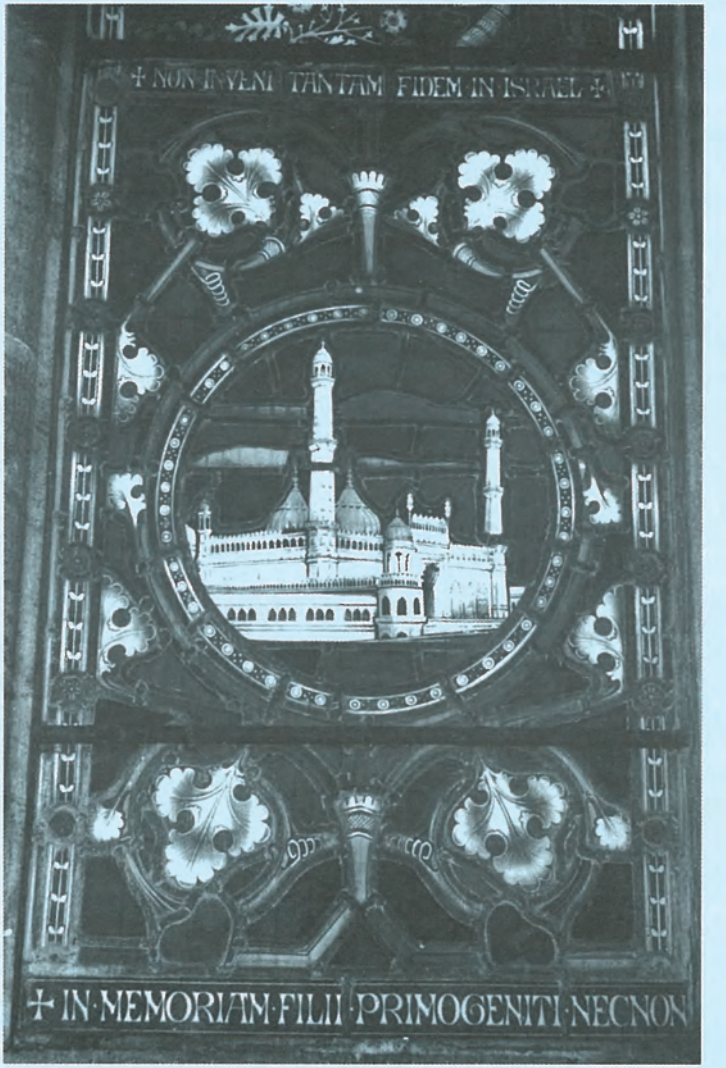

The stained-glass mosque at Stratfield Mortimer