

*TRANSACTIONS
OF
THE BURGON SOCIETY*



VOLUME 7
2007



THE BURGON SOCIETY

Founded to promote the study of Academical Dress

Information about the Burgon Society can be found on its website at
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Transactions of the Burgon Society Volume 7 (2007)

Edited by Alex Kerr

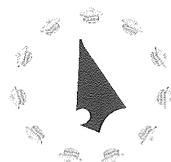
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Front cover: Sir William Browne, President of the Royal College of Physicians, 1765–66, painted by Thomas Hudson in 1767. This was the first full-length portrait of a PRCP wearing his robe of office. (*Reproduced by permission of the Royal College of Physicians.*)

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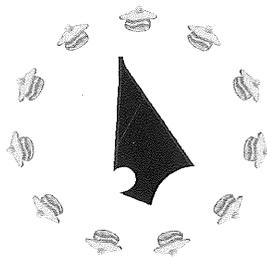
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From the Editor

This issue of *Transactions of the Burgon Society* contains a remarkable variety of topics and includes versions of three papers submitted for the Fellowship of the Burgon Society. We have another account of the development of dress at a particular university, but this time one outside the United Kingdom: Toronto. The question of academic dress for Lambeth degree holders is re-examined by a former Vice-Chancellor of the University of London. Academic and official dress in two spheres outside the universities is explored: the royal medical colleges and other societies and that unique institution, the Chapel Royal. In addition we are including reproductions of all the Wills cigarette cards, accompanied by critical annotations on Charles Franklyn's text.

I am very grateful for the cooperation and patience of our contributors and my colleagues on the editorial board, whose support is very much appreciated.

Alex Kerr



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Burgon Society Events in 2007

- 21 April** **Fellowship Study Day**
Victoria & Albert Museum, London
Programme included:
Talk by Susan North — *What's that stuff? The material culture of academical dress*
Presentations by Elizabeth Scott, David Baldwin and Colin Fleming — *How I earned my Burgon Society Fellowship*
Round table — *Secrets of a successful FBS* (speakers: William Gibson, John Horton, Alex Kerr)
- 7 July** **Garden Party**
St George's College, Weybridge
Programme included:
Auction of items of academical dress
Organ recital in the College chapel by Philip Aspden
- 9–10 September** **Visit to the University of Montpellier**
at the invitation of Professor Yves Mausen
Programme included:
Sunday 9th—Visit to the Château de l'Engerran vineyard and Aigues-Mortes
Monday 10th—*Séance académique* in the Faculty of Law (short talks by Peter Durant on British and Professor Jacques Michaud on French academical dress); visit to the Faculty of Medicine (to view a collection of portraits displaying academical dress); *Rentrée Solennelle* (opening ceremony of the academic year, with Burgon Society members and their hosts in full academical dress)
- 20 October** **AGM and Congregation**
Charterhouse, London
Annual General Meeting
Admission to the Fellowship of the Burgon Society:
Mary Shaw (*honoris causa*)
Arthur B. Casey (*honoris causa*)
Talk by Nick Groves — *The significance of robes recently acquired for the Burgon Archive*
Arthur Casey in conversation with Alex Kerr — *Academical dress: personal reminiscences*
Display of items from Arthur Casey's collection

Correction

In Bruce Christianson's article 'Doctors' Greens', published in Transactions of the Burgon Society, 6 (2006), pp. 44–48, a footnote was omitted from the final paragraph. The author pleads incuria; the editor offers his apologies. The paragraph should read:

Depending on one's point of view, the green doctor's robes of Leeds and of the other universities which currently use them²⁸ can thus be thought of either as a re-introduction of an ancient tradition, or as symbolic of a process only half completed.²⁹

²⁸ These include (inter alia) William and Mary VA, Michigan State MI, Portland State OR, Tulane LA, Washington St Louis MO, Wayne State MI, Hawaii Manoa HI, Tashkent UZ, and Unitec NZ.

²⁹ See Hopman, p. 563, n. 22, for more on such symbolism.

Burgon Society On-line Bibliography

www.burgon.org.uk/society/library/biblio.html

- The aim is to build up a comprehensive resource for those researching the design, history and practice of academical dress.
- The *Introduction* is a brief survey of the key materials on academical dress that are either in print or available in the larger public and university libraries.
- The *Alphabetical list* that follows is intended to cover what has been published on the subject since the beginning of the nineteenth century; earlier items are listed if they include engravings that provide important evidence of robes of the period.
- Suggestions for additions (or corrections) are welcome. Please e-mail webmaster@burgon.org.uk

