

The 2006 Christmas Quiz

Composed, with a sense of fun, for the erudite readers of the Baronage eMagazine

With prizes donated by

Family History Monthly, Heirloom & Howard, Huntley & Palmers

Shipton & Heneage and The Scottish Liqueur Centre



The Baronage Press

Instructions

IN accordance with a tradition stretching all the way back to 2003, we here present the 2006 Christmas entertainment. For some newcomers we may need to explain that this is a quiz, not an examination, which is to say that it is intelligence and lateral thinking which should produce most answers, rather than an encyclopædic knowledge of heraldry, genealogy and heritage. (The Internet search engines will be very helpful for many questions, but their effective use does require a basic familiarity with heraldry.)

As in previous years, we have tried to make it fun (one question excepted) — but it clings to heraldry, a subject ranging wider than armory, which, of course, together with a large slice of Christendom's history, heraldry includes. This may need emphasis because some questions (such as the second perhaps) might not appear immediately to be heraldic, while knowing there to be a hidden heraldic theme can be helpful.

We have changed to a multiple-choice structure to allow computer-assisted marking, and, as this year there are prizes to be won, we have included a tie-breaker. The answer sheet will be posted online on December 1st at <http://www.baronage.co.uk/2006answerpaper.html>, the Quiz will close on New Year's Eve, and the answers will be published during the third week of January when the prizewinners will be notified privately (their names being published online only if they wish).

Question 1

The coronation of a King of Arms in England anciently included the anointment of his head with:

- a) oil
- b) salt
- c) wine
- d) water



Question 2

You're sitting on the cold **earth** in a forest watching a **small animal** sniffing at a flower rather like the one you once knew as **Old Plainsman**. It's **December**, and it's dark early, and you're **melancholic** and you feel **decrepit**, but the animal recalls a memory of **this girl**, perhaps **near Rome**, and you **wrestle** with thoughts of virtues you ought to honour. But which virtue is most appropriate here?

- a) Hope
- b) Charity
- c) Prudence
- d) Temperance



Question 3

You are a Member of The Queen's Body Guard for Scotland, The Royal Company of Archers, and it is time for you to prepare for the annual shoot. In the gunroom you have a rack holding six arrows of each of three colours and you intend to select a pair of the same colour — eighteen arrows, three colours, but you don't mind which colour you take so long as the arrows are a pair. It is very early in the morning, it is still dark, and the light switch does not work, but that doesn't matter because if you grab a handful of arrows you must find a pair among them, mustn't you?

So how many arrows to ensure you have a pair of the same colour?

- a) four
- b) seven
- c) thirteen
- d) fifteen



Question 4

Whose memory was commemorated by those who named these?



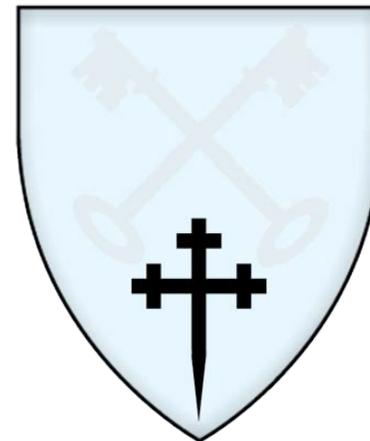
- a) The Black Douglas
- b) The Black Prince
- c) The Red Comyn
- d) William of Orange



Question 5

You are an itinerant herald painter in the late sixteenth century and on your first visit to Aberdeen where, to your surprise, you see this uncommon exemplification. You make a few enquiries and decide you should:

- a) Sympathise with the family?
- b) Deliver a lecture on basic heraldry?
- c) Offer some silver paint to hide the dirty marks?
- d) Offer some other paint to complete the work?



Question 6

Rugby and cricket and hockey and lacrosse are games, not sports. Sports are quite different. A fine Scotch whisky, it is claimed, is linked by these arms and this building to a now much-neglected sport and an inn-keeper. Which was the sport?



- a) hunting?
- b) boxing?
- c) shooting?
- d) fishing?

Question 7

These are the arms of four cities, the faces of two great men, and the skull of thousands. Which of the cities is associated with the intellectual marriage of these two men and the symbolism of this skull? (Not really a question for Christmas perhaps — in its significance more a question for all time.)



(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)



Question 8

Is the otter in these arms:

- a) naiant?
- b) salient?
- c) issuant?
- d) naissant?



The Tie-Breaker

“**Heraldry is the shorthand of history,**” Arthur Charles Fox-Davies is reported to have observed, but shorthand has almost vanished into history and today few young people appear to know what it is.

You are asked to compose a similarly memorable description of heraldry more appropriate to the twentyfirst century. The judges will be seeking wit primarily, but brevity and perspicacity will win points.

Question 9

How many charges are there on this shield?

- a) two?
- b) three?
- c) four?
- d) six?



Question 10

The principal figure in this exquisite picture is, unsurprisingly, not the subject of our question. We are not asking either for the identity of the lady kneeling devoutly before her and her son, although doubtless most readers will readily deduce that from the ample armorial evidence on show, and will be aware that she was the grandmother of a British king named either:

- a) Henry, *or*
- b) James, *or*
- c) Charles, *or*
- d) William

— but which?

*The picture serves additionally as
a seasonal card for our readers
to whom we wish
a Very Happy Christmas
and a Prosperous and
Successful 2007.*



Christmas 2006 — The Sponsors and the Prizes

Shipton & Heneage, purveyors of footwear for ladies and gentlemen, have donated a pair of velvet slippers as stylishly and comfortably worn in the Victorian era, lined with crimson satin and embroidered with the crest or badge of the winner's choice.



Heirloom & Howard, the internationally acclaimed authority on armorial porcelain and heraldic treasures, has supplied us with an antique engraving of the only Countess of Dorchester, witty mistress of James II until he became King, an early life peeress.



The Scottish Liqueur Centre, promoter of Scotland's finest and most famous exports, has donated a box of liquid delights which include bottles of its splendid Columba Cream Liqueur, Islay Malt, Highland Malt, Blaeberry Liqueur and a single cask malt.



Huntley & Palmers, a great British enterprise that achieved international fame as a manufacturer of the world's most wanted biscuits, and has been recently lauded for its resurrection of the Chocolate Bath Oliver, has given us one of its Christmas Hampers.



The *Family History Monthly* publishers, whose hugely popular magazine is published in conventional form together with the bonus of genealogical data, useful links and archived publications on CDs, have donated a free one-year subscription to FHM.





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Ancestral Portrait Engravings can be located with the help of The Baronage Press database.

[Click here for details.](#)

Before photography, which means before cinema and television were invented, portrait engravings were the only means we had to distribute the images of your ancestors – and of the diplomats and politicians, the distinguished scientists and eminent physicians, artists, poets and authors. Most of the portraits were engraved from oil paintings, but some were based on sketches from life. For historians they offer valuable insights into the contemporary interpretation of character, but for ancestor hunters they are often the only tangible item they can own of their origins. The Baronage Press has a computerised database listing twenty thousand of these engraved portraits produced between the late 17th and early 20th centuries, and may be able to find your ancestors among them..

Burke's Peerage



The change to modern printing technology made redundant the carefully chiselled printing blocks Burke's had used for the Peerage and the Landed Gentry directories since the early 19th century. Some were sold to the heads of the families represented in those books, and the remainder are now available for any family members who wish to preserve this unique memento of their history. The blocks may be kept for their original purpose, which was to print the full armorial achievement by which the family is known, or the metal may be removed from the wooden block and then polished, mounted on black linen or velvet, and framed as a picture for display. [Click here for details.](#)

The block illustrated here (at greatly reduced size) is that of H.R.H. The Prince of Wales.

Feudal Titles in Scotland

The title of Baron is the most widely recognised and yet least understood of all titles. Men who justify the use of the word *baron* as a description exist today in all structured societies, for the word generally refers to a powerful man. This has been true since its introduction into the British Isles in the eleventh century, but there are also rather more specific meanings for the word *baron* – and these can confuse.

In classical Latin *baro* means *clerk or servant* – but seriously in the senses of the greater nobles at the time of feudalism tended to be young men from noble families. As the feudal system became entrenched in Europe, this gave rise to three essential components: the concepts of land ownership, of hereditary rights and of service. A *baron* became a man, one of whom a superior relied – he was the superior's man and had sworn fealty.

The feudal system allowed the *baron* to hold land as a tenant-in-chief of his prince, a prince being a male who held his lands of no one. He need not be a king, he could be a bishop; the concept is that he is answerable to his prince. In the early feudal centuries this was intended to allow the king's *barons*, his tenants-in-chief, to have their own barons through a process of subfeudation, but the consolidation of this practice was restricted in England when King Edward I recognised the danger it represented to centralised power and fiscal efficiency. In Scotland, where the geographical factors and Gaelic writers created a different political environment, it continued for longer.

The English king ruled in Council, first summoning some of the greater *barons* (i.e. the more powerful

barons) to attend and advise them, and then, while retaining the Entry Council, extending the principle to bring to their Parliament much larger numbers of *barons*, together with representatives of the Church and the Knights and the Knights of the Shire. The concept of *peerage* did not develop immediately in Britain (unlike France and Flanders), and its subsequent evolution was haphazard and irregular. Those *barons* who first attended the Norman kings in Council came in a haphazard and irregular fashion, and the King's Council was not a permanent institution. It was not until the early thirteenth century that the concept of *peerage* was firmly established.

The Baronage Press accepts commissions for illustrated family histories and charts.

after the 1215 Magna Carta, the King's Council in England. In the early thirteenth century, the King's Council in England was not a permanent institution. It was not until the early thirteenth century that the concept of *peerage* was firmly established. In the early thirteenth century, the King's Council in England was not a permanent institution. It was not until the early thirteenth century that the concept of *peerage* was firmly established.

In Scotland, in the early days, it was quite impossible to distinguish clearly between those *barons* who were the equivalent of peers and those who were simply *barons* by tenure. Until the Statute of 1469, which recognised the *barons* created by these powerful *barons* with the smaller estates, all were expected to attend Parliament, but thereafter they were classified either

The answers to the Quiz will be uploaded in mid-January
to coincide with the prizewinners being notified.