

Housman Society Newsletter

No. 49

March 2019



Housman Society Members at St John's College, Oxford, 20 October 2018

Contents

	Page
From the Secretary's Desk	1
A Shropshire Lad spotted in Swanage, Dorset	2
Forthcoming events	3
Society members visit two Oxford college libraries	3
The Dyson Lecture	6
The Ludlow Weekend of Song	7
The Bromsgrove Summer School: <i>The Housmans of Worcestershire and Gloucestershire</i>	8
The Evesham Festival of Words	8
<i>A.E. Housman, the Worcestershire Lad</i>	
The Housman Society Book Exchange	9

From the Secretary's Desk

The bitter cold of a late January afternoon has driven me in from my motor workshop (as many of you will know one of my other preoccupations is with vintage motor cars) and to contemplation of the Society's updated programme of events.

We begin with the annual Bromsgrove Commemoration on March 26 when I am delighted that Rev. Kelvin Price from St. Laurence's in Ludlow will be our Guest of the Day thus forging a link between our two principal centres of activity. He will, of course, be officiating at the Ludlow Commemoration service on Saturday April 27 which will follow on from

the AGM, conforming to the pattern adopted two years ago. Details of both celebrations will be found in the events calendar.

Since the demise of our Hay Festival participation in 2017 the Committee has been exploring options for involvement elsewhere which would enable us to present Housman to a wider audience in pursuit of Society aims. It is pleasing to report that we have now negotiated a link with the annual Evesham Festival of Words in June.

Again details will be found elsewhere, but Saturday June 29 will see both Society member Linda Hart and our Newsletter Editor, Julian Hunt, making presentations to the Festival audience. In the latter case Julian will offer his talk 'A.E. Housman: the Worcestershire Lad' as a very suitable introduction in summertime so close to Bredon Hill. I hope that many of you will wish to join us in Evesham and take advantage of the complimentary tickets that will be available for members. If successful this initiative could be the beginning of a fruitful new partnership for the Society. Booking is essential via the usual form enclosed with the Newsletter. I have also learned that as part of the Festival's wider programme there will be a Bredon Hill walk on July 3 with a Housman focus. (Again see the events calendar.)

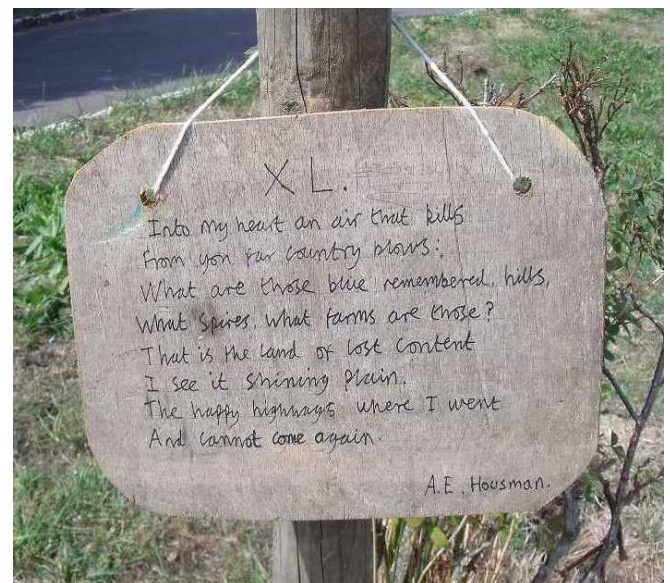
For the 2019 summer outing I thought it might be interesting to mark the 120th anniversary of what I believe is the only recorded instance of AEH enjoying an extended stay in the county with which he is most associated. Research by Alan Brisbourne some ten years ago into the tourism aspirations of Edwardian Church Stretton brought to light a series of Visitors' Lists published by a contemporary local newspaper. Prominent in these lists was information about guests at The Hotel, then the town's primary such establishment in the same family ownership as The Feathers in Ludlow. Hence it was revealed that in July of 1899, presumably as part of his summer vacation from UCL, Housman spent three weeks in the heart of the Shropshire Hills. The Hotel was largely destroyed in a tragic fire in 1968 but parts of the building remain. Our plan for this year's summer outing is therefore to recall AEH's visit, and then, after a pre-ordered lunch, to retrace his presumed steps in the Carding Mill Valley.

The recent autumn Library Visits have offered insights into Housman's academic life and we are hoping that the efforts of our Chairman, Peter Waine, to strengthen the relationship with Trinity College in particular might pave the way for a joint event in Cambridge in October. An account of the Dyson Lecture given in Pembroke College by Lord Smith appears elsewhere in this issue and we hope that the presence of your Chairman and Secretary on January 21 will be further encouragement for collaboration which might help us draw in some younger members.

So the year ahead looks promising and I hope members will wish to support the Committee in its various endeavours. It would be particularly encouraging to see a good turn-out for the Ludlow AGM on April 27 which is your principal opportunity to make your own views known and to influence future development.

Max Hunt

A Shropshire Lad spotted at Swanage



Housman Society member Linda Hart was walking on the coastal path around Durlston Head, near Swanage, last summer. She noticed that near the café and visitor centre someone had attached to a post a poem by John Clare, and later she noticed another poem on a post, this one by William Barnes. The following day she saw that another poem was at the entrance to the car park. She went to have a look, and was very surprised to see A Shropshire Lad XL.

Forthcoming Events

Tuesday 26 March 2019, 12.30pm

By the statue in Bromsgrove High Street

A.E.H. BIRTHDAY COMMEMORATION

The annual ceremony by the statue will be followed by a buffet lunch at Bromsgrove District Council Offices, Parkside. Our Guest of the Day will be the Rev. Kelvin Price, Rector of Ludlow.

Friday 5 to Sunday 7 April 2019

St Laurence's, Ludlow

LUDLOW ENGLISH SONG WEEKEND

Booking through the Assembly Rooms 01584 878141

Tuesday 9 April 2019 7.30 pm

LEAMINGTON LITERARY SOCIETY

Julian Hunt A.E. Housman: a Worcestershire Lad
Octagon, St Mary Magdalene's Church,
Lillington, CV32 7RH.

Saturday 27 April 2019, 11.00am

Dinham Hall Hotel, Ludlow

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Followed by a presentation by Dr Derek Littlewood entitled 'Housman and Ghosts', followed by lunch at 1.00 pm..

Saturday 27 April 2019, 3.00pm

St Laurence's Ludlow

LUDLOW COMMEMORATION

Guests the Mayor and Mayoress of Ludlow

Saturday 29 June 2019, 4.00 pm

EVESHAM FESTIVAL OF WORDS

Julian Hunt 'A.E. Housman: a Worcestershire Lad' All Saints Church, Evesham.

9 to 11 July 2019

BROMSGROVE SUMMER SCHOOL

The Housmans of Worcestershire and Gloucestershire.

Saturday 13 July 2019 SUMMER VISIT

Meet at Church Stretton 12.00 noon.

Wednesday 31 July 2019

BREDON HILL WALK led by Clive Bostle.

Details at www.eveshamramblingclub.org.uk

Saturday 19 October 2019

CAMBRIDGE EVENT to be arranged.

Society members visit two Oxford college libraries

by Linda Hart

Seventeen members of the Society gathered at St John's College Library on Saturday October 20. It was a pleasure to be met there by Professor Henry Woudhuysen, who has been the Rector of Lincoln College, Oxford, since 2012. He is a specialist in Renaissance literature, a Fellow of the British Academy, President of the Oxford Bibliographical Society, and he used regularly to contribute articles about libraries and books to the *Times Literary Supplement*. But from our point of view, Henry's most important credential is that his great-grandfather was Alfred W. Pollard, Housman's second greatest friend at Oxford.

Henry explained to us that Pollard was his mother's grandfather, and from her he had inherited a number of things relating to Housman that Pollard had saved. He sketched the links between AWP and AEH. They were both born in 1859; both arrived at St John's in 1877 as classics students; their rooms were on the same staircase in Canterbury Quad; in their final year they shared rooms with Moses Jackson in a house opposite St John's; and they took the same exams that resulted in AWP's success and AEH's failure. By the time Housman began working in a lowly job at the Patent Office, Pollard was beginning his splendid career at the British Museum (which culminated in his becoming Keeper of Printed Books in 1919).

Henry traced the post-Oxford friendship between the two Alfreds (which, it seems to me, would have been much closer if not for Housman's ability to keep people at a distance). When Pollard edited a book of *Odes from the Greek Dramatists*, he asked AEH to contribute three translations. This, along with a testimonial from Pollard, helped land Housman his teaching job at UCL and the start of his academic career.

Pollard's most decisive intervention in Housman's life was in 1895 when he suggested that 'A Shropshire Lad' would be a better title than Housman's proposed 'Poems by Terence Hearsay.' With what seems to me sheer brilliance, Pollard put together three words -- one article, one place name, and one noun -- that summarise everything about the 63 poems.

It was poignant to be in St John's College Library, 140 years since Alfred Housman and Alfred Pollard were there. But it is unlikely that they ever made jokes about both being named Alfred; during their 40 subsequent years of friendship, it appears that they never used first names. Henry had with him, and read to us, the original of AEH's oft-quoted letter of 17 January 1923, telling Pollard that Jackson had died. It begins "My dear Pollard" and ends "Yours sincerely, A.E. Housman."

This was one of several letters from Housman to Pollard that Henry brought with him and left on the table, so that anyone interested (me, for example) could pick them up, turn them over, and feel closer to AEH. It amazed me that six words could be so moving: "Jackson died peacefully on Sunday night...." This and four other letters from Housman to Pollard – printed for the first time – are in a fine-press volume that Henry edited, in which he explores the friendship between the two men. It's titled *AEH AWP: A Classical Friendship*, and was published in a limited edition of 350 copies in 2006. I highly recommend it.

Henry ended by summing up what for him are the most important things about Housman – his poetry, his classical work, and the wonderful acerbity of his writing. The nodding approvals around the room indicated that he was speaking for all of us.

The St John's College librarian, Petra Hoffman, had laid out on the table about thirty items for us to see, most of them donated by AEH's great nephew Michael Symons. These included AEH's typescript reply to a long questionnaire about his life and work, addressed to him in 1933 by a French student, Maurice Pollet. A copy of *Last Poems*, published by Grant Richards in 1922, was opened to poem XXVI where AEH had inserted a comma at the end of line 1 and a semi-colon at the end of line 2, with his initials in the margin. Housman's pithy criticism and humour were on display, three months before his death, in a letter to G. N. Moore who had complained to Housman that his request to quote from some poems had been turned down by the Richards Press. 'Permission to quote is one thing,' wrote Housman, 'permission to misquote is another.'

But it has to be said that what generated most interest were the letters and papers donated to St John's College by Martin Higham, son of Thomas Higham, an Oxford academic who had listed AEH's classical library for the bookseller Basil Blackwell. The collection includes some of AEH's personal papers overlooked by Laurence Housman when sorting his brother's library in 1936, including the infamous 'Paris card.' Martin Higham had given access to his father's papers to Richard Perceval Graves, whose book *A.E. Housman: The Scholar-Poet* was published in 1979. The meaning of the card, written by Housman in Paris in 1932, has generated much discussion and debate in our *Journal*. In his book Graves states almost categorically that it contains 'references to a number of male prostitutes...with a note of the price paid on various occasions....' (p. 155). His rush to judgment upset many people at the time. We saw a letter from Martin Higham to Sir Basil Blackwell on 4 January 1980, saying that he did not give his consent for Graves to use the card, and Graves 'has behaved reprehensibly in not asking my permission to use the material.' We also saw a letter from Norman Page who wrote to Higham about his own concerns over Graves' use and interpretation of the card. Page says he wants to see the document and draw his own conclusions. [In footnote 18 on p. 282 Graves says that his interpretation of the Paris card has been confirmed by H. Montgomery Hyde.]

Edgar Vincent was on our St John's visit, and I was reminded of how sensitively and carefully he deals with Housman's homosexuality in his recent book, *A.E. Housman: Hero of the Hidden Life*. Edgar and I talked afterwards, and his comments were so interesting – too interesting for me to stop and take notes – that I asked him to put pen to paper for the benefit of Society members.

The items we saw at St John's relating to Housman's alleged sexual adventures in Paris in 1932 caused me to reflect on the disparities between what some of us think should be spoken about candidly and what others think should be kept under wraps, and even more on our need to hang labels around people's necks because we find it easier to deal with them by stereotyping them.

In my book I examine differences in the sexual and emotional lives of some of Housman's contemporaries – Oscar Wilde, Maynard Keynes, Siegfried Sassoon, Laurence Housman, Ludwig Wittgenstein – to throw light on Housman. I concluded that what each required by way of physical pleasure and sexual or emotional satisfaction was startlingly different in kind and intensity. There is a spectrum of differing needs, Housman being at one end of the spectrum along with T.E. Lawrence and Ludwig Wittgenstein; Oscar Wilde is at the opposite end.

The social and religious attitudes of Housman's time produced rejection, imprisonment and suicide for people like himself. This caused Housman in *Last Poems* XII to voice his outrage at "The laws of God, the laws of man" which denied him the freedom to be as he was made.'

As an entrée to the main course at St John's we had a private visit to the Upper Library at Christ Church. We met Dr Cristina Neagu, the Keeper of Special Collections, in a huge galleried room which houses thousands of early printed books, most of them covering the years 1550 to 1700. She told us about the historic and architectural significance of the room. We were then able to admire close-up over a dozen fascinating items that she had laid out for us, and to benefit from her commentary on them.

We saw the 1528 Epistle Lectionary of Thomas Wolsey (the college's founder). This manuscript, with readings from the Epistles for feast days, is richly illuminated in all the colours of the rainbow. We saw one of the earliest versions of the Canterbury Tales. The text, in Middle English, was written on paper some time in the 15th century. All of the "tales" are here but in a different order from that encountered in most other manuscripts.

We saw a 14th-century book of hours, heavily decorated with embroidery. Even older than this was a small 12th-century Greek Psalter, written on parchment and bound in silk. It came from a monastery on Mt Athos, and the hand writing was tiny. To remind us of the main reason for our visit Dr Neagu had put on the table an edition of Marcus Manilius' *Astronomicon* printed in Paris in 1679.

I asked our chairman, Peter Waine, to sum up the day:

We were privileged to have a tour of the Upper Library at Christ Church. It is estimated that the collections comprise circa 80,000 works, many of which are over 500 years old. One of them, still in its original binding, was from the twelfth century (the oldest manuscript in the Christ Church collections is a Byzantine codex dating from the ninth century). Another was from the collection of the college founder, Cardinal Wolsey -- an order of service used for the wedding of Queen Mary to King Philip of Spain in 1554.



The 1528 Epistle Lectionary created for Thomas Wolsey



Housman Society members at the Old Library, Christ Church, Oxford, 20 October 2019

At St John's Library we saw some fascinating items from their Housman collection. Prof Henry Woudhuysen, Rector of Lincoln College and a Society member, gave an illuminating talk about his great-grandfather A.W. Pollard, who predicted that Housman's poems would still be in print 200 years later – a prediction very likely to come true. We were invited to the Rector's Lodging for refreshments afterwards and an opportunity to see some items relating to AEH.'

Further information:

To visit the Housman collection at St John's College Library, or to enquire about what has been digitised, contact the librarian, Petra Hoffman, at library@sjc.ox.ac.uk. The Christ Church Digital Library can be accessed at www.chch.ox.ac.uk/library-and-archives/digital-library

The Dyson Lecture, 21 January 2019

The Old Library in Cambridge's Pembroke College was the setting in January for the 2019 Dyson Lecture. This has been a series of lectures endowed in memory of Tony Dyson (1928-2002) the noted academic and literary critic who played a leading role in the campaign for homosexual equality in the 1960s and 70s. In educational circles he was more controversially well-known for his collaboration with Brian Cox in the publication of the Black Papers attacking "progressive education".

The Dyson Lecture has a specified continuing theme around the work of a number of English poets. This year was the turn of A.E.H. and the lecture was given by current Master of Pembroke, Lord Smith of Finsbury, who, as Chris Smith, was Culture Secretary in the first Blair government and gave the Society's own Name and Nature lecture at the Hay Festival in 2005.

Rehearsing previous thoughts about Housman's inheritance from the Romantics, Lord Smith

highlighted three characteristics from which he teased out relevance to present day political anxieties. The poetry he felt displayed the “craft of simplicity”; an apparent artlessness which was nowhere near as naïve as it seemed on the surface. Here parallels were drawn with Wordsworth, most particularly in the “Lines Written Above Tintern Abbey”. This thinking led on to a second characteristic reflecting a sense that poetry was ultimately mysterious, lying in a realm beyond obvious reason and hence incapable of categorisation or precise labelling. The third characteristic of the suggested inheritance was seen as the “transformational power of the imagination” or a sense that poetic imagination could “change the world into something new” and explore the extraordinary within the ordinary. Hence it didn't matter if much of Housman's Shropshire was an imagined construct. It lived essentially “in the life of the mind”. This was poetry which led to a deeper truth inside us and “deep inside the language of poetry itself”.

And so to reflection that whereas in past times impassioned political debate “drew out some of the characteristics that mark the power of poetry” such qualities had nowadays become hard to discern. With the suggested exception of the speeches of Barack Obama, Lord Smith argued that present day political discourse was confined to a “managerial” concern with tinkering, with “how to run things” rather than with how to change the world. At the same time politics now had to live in a world of certainties. Politicians were so constrained by media expectations of certainty that they could no longer afford open reflection or public expressions of doubt. The result had been a cheapening of political understanding and public discourse.

This degrading of the relationship between politics and “intellectual life” had nowhere been more evident than in the recent “Brexit” experience. Mario Cuomo, Mayor of New York in the 1980s, had once argued that whereas one might “campaign in poetry” one would inevitably “govern in prose” and in 2016 a Remain campaign characterised by economic statistics and reasoned advice had been outflanked by the essentially emotional and poetic appeal of the Leavers' slogan “take back control”. The lessons were obvious, if worrying. For the future we would,

Lord Smith concluded, do well to re-learn both the habit of acknowledging uncertainty and the ability to respect the opinions of others.

Max Hunt

Ludlow English Song Weekend

The Annual Ludlow English Song Weekend will take place from Friday 5 – Sunday 7 April 2019. The full programme and booking form can be found on the website www.ludlowenglishsongweekend.com

The main event from a Housman Society point of view is WHEN SMOKE STOOD UP FROM LUDLOW at 7.00 pm Friday 5 April at St Laurence's Church, Ludlow. The star performers will be: Rowan Pierce, soprano; Elgan Llyr Thomas, tenor; David Ireland, bass baritone; Michael Foyle, violin; and Iain Burnside piano.

The music will include:

Muriel Herbert *Loveliest of trees*

John Ireland *Hawthorn time*

Graham Peel *Soldier, I wish you well*

Rebecca Clarke *Eight o'clock*

E.J. Moeran *Ludlow Town*

When smoke stood up from Ludlow

Farewell to barn and stack and tree

Say, lad, have you things to do

The lads in their hundreds

Janet Hamilton *The cherry tree*

Bredon Hill

With rue my heart is laden

Ralph Vaughan Williams *Along the Field*

We'll to the woods no more

Along the field

Good-bye

With rue my heart is laden

John Ireland *The Land of Lost Content*

The Lent lily

Ladslove

Goal and wicket

The vain desire

The Encounter

Epilogue

Roderick Williams *Eight o'clock*

Morfydd Owen *When I came last to Ludlow* Elaine

Hugh-Jones *Queen of Air and Darkness*

The Bromsgrove Summer School

The 9th Bromsgrove Summer School will be held at Bromsgrove School from Tuesday 9 – Thursday 11 July 2019. Courses include *Alvechurch a Market Town* with Professor Chris Dyer and Stephen Price; Max Hunt on the Morgan Motor Company; *Worcester Street, Bromsgrove* with Jenny Townshend, the *Civil War in Worcestershire* with Professor Ian Beckett and 31 High Street Droithwich with Lynn Blewitt.

As usual, the Bromsgrove Summer School includes a course on A.E. Housman. This year Julian Hunt is offering *The Housmans of Worcestershire and Gloucestershire* on Tuesday 9 July. Julian will attempt to show that it was the hills and lanes of Worcestershire which most influenced the young A.E. Housman and that it was the regular visits to his godmother in Gloucestershire, which further promoted his love of the English landscape. Those members who took part in the visit to Woodchester in 2017 will appreciate how the summer parties at Woodchester House could have stimulated the social, cultural and literary ambitions of the young poet. The morning sessions will be held at Bromsgrove School, Worcester Road, Bromsgrove, but in the afternoon, students will be able to move to Housman Hall, Kidderminster Road, the former home of the Housman family, for poetry readings and discussion. Further details and a booking form can be found on the Bromsgrove Society's website www.bsoc.co.uk

The Evesham Festival of Words

Evesham Festival of Words is a celebration of words in all their forms – written, spoken, sung. Evesham's first Festival of Words was held in the summer of 2016. Since then, momentum has gathered and the Festival has evolved into something much bigger, using a variety of venues in the town and with 'fringe' events throughout the year.

The main Festival events in 2019 will be held during the weekend Friday 28 - Sunday 30 June. For all the details see the website at www.eveshamfestivalofwords.co.org On Saturday 29 June, two Housman Society members will be taking to the stage. At 12.00 noon, at the delightful Friends Meeting House,

Linda Hart will be giving her one-woman show, 'Dorothy Parker - Men, Misery and Mirth.' Dorothy Parker was an American poet, short story writer, critic and satirist based in New York; she was best known for her wit and wisecracks. Her one-liners are legendary: "Men seldom make passes at girls who wear glasses" and "I don't care what is written about me so long as it isn't true", to name but two. Reading from her works, Linda will reveal Dorothy's fascinating life, her struggle with depression, her career as a drama critic and book reviewer, and her involvement in politics.

Linda Hart moved from New York to England in 1975 and had various London-based jobs in countryside conservation. Since 1993 she has worked as a freelance writer, researcher, editor, lecturer and performer. She compiled and edited 'Once They Lived in Gloucestershire: A Dymock Poets Anthology.' At a further Evesham Festival event on 5 October 2019, she and John Burns will bring to life the famous correspondence in 84 Charing Cross Road, which began on 5 October 1949.

Also on the 29 June, at the beautiful All Saints Church, at 4.00pm, Julian Hunt will be giving his popular talk 'A.E. Housman, the Worcestershire Lad.' In this lavishly-illustrated talk, Julian will describe the poet's upbringing in Bromsgrove Worcestershire and how his view of the world was shaped by the early death of his mother, the financial failure of his father, and above all, by his hopeless attachment to a fellow student at Oxford.

Julian is the younger son of Joe Hunt, the co-founder of the Housman Society in 1973. Julian has worked as a librarian in Birmingham, Oldham and Aylesbury and has written books on Amersham, Beaconsfield, Buckingham, Romsley and Halesowen. He is currently working with local historian Jenny Townshend on a history of Bromsgrove.

If you are not familiar with Evesham, a trip to this important Worcestershire market town is highly recommended. You can admire the architecture of many different periods, stroll by the River Avon, and visit the site of Evesham Abbey. Why not make a weekend of it? On the 3 July, the local ramblers, led by Clive Bostle, will be climbing to the summit of Bredon Hill and reading the famous A.E. H. poem 'In summertime on Bredon.'

The Housman Society Book Exchange

Herbert Millington became Headmaster of the Grammar School of King Edward VI, Bromsgrove in 1873, midway through Housman's attendance at the School. In his final school report on his pupil Millington expressed the wish "May all my boys be like him". Following Housman's failure in his final examinations at Oxford Millington was instrumental in allowing Housman to teach the sixth form at Bromsgrove and, ten years later, supplied a testimonial in support of Housman's successful appointment as Professor of Latin at UCL. In 1889 Millington asked Housman to look through his book *Translations into Latin Verse*, a copy of which we are pleased to offer to the membership through these pages. In the preface Millington thanks Housman for his assistance with these words:

"I wish to acknowledge with gratitude the debt I owe to my old pupil and distinguished friend, Mr A.E. Housman, for his valuable criticism of these verses, which have been submitted to him before publication. His keen eye and sound learning have detected not a few blemishes which might have disfigured these pages. If I have not in every case deferred to his judgment, he will, I know, forgive the prejudices of his old chief: and I trust that any pleasure he may derive from reperusing my lines will not be altogether marred by the antiquated system of orthography which I have adhered to, in spite of his better judgment". Millington sent an inscribed copy of his book to Housman which now resides in the library of St John's College Oxford. A full description of the book we have for sale is listed below.

The Book Exchange has stock of most Housman books but I would like to reiterate that we offer a free and no-obligation book-finding service for any elusive volumes.

As always the items offered for sale are on a first-come, first-served basis irrespective of the means of contact used. All enquiries, please, to Peter Sisley at Ladywood Cottage, Baveney Wood, Cleobury Mortimer, Shropshire DY14 8HZ on telephone number 01299 841361 or e-mail at sisley.ladywood@talk21.com

SALES LIST – FEBRUARY 2019

Postage and Packing are additional to the prices quoted.

ASQUITH (Cyril). VERSIONS FROM 'A SHROPSHIRE LAD'. Basil Blackwell, Oxford, 1929. First edition. 12mo. 31 pages. Translations into Latin of twelve lyrics from A Shropshire Lad with the English original on the opposite page. Paper covers but with front cover missing. Very clean. Extremely rare. £50

BAYLEY (John). HOUSMAN'S POEMS. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1992. First edition. 202 pages. A critical appraisal of Housman's Poetry. University Library cancellation stamp. Fine in a similar dust jacket. £25

BELL (Alan) [editor]. FIFTEEN LETTERS TO WALTER ASHBURNER. The Tragara Press, Edinburgh, 1976. First edition. 8vo. 24 pages. Blue paper wrappers. Ashburner was an academic lawyer, a Professor of Jurisprudence at Oxford, a book collector and, like Housman, a gourmet. These letters were not featured in Maas. Number 56 of 125 copies. In fine condition. £50

BRYN MAWR COLLEGE LIBRARY. THE NAME AND NATURE OF A.E. HOUSMAN. Bryn Mawr College Library, Pennsylvania, 1986. First edition. 4to. 54 pages. With an introduction by Seymour Adelman. The catalogue of the amazing Housman collection donated to the College by Adelman. A superb work. Mint condition, still in the Library paper bag. £20

CARTER (John). A.E. HOUSMAN. SELECTED PROSE. Cambridge at the University Press, 1961. First edition. 12mo. 204 pages. Black cloth. Fine with a similar but spine sunned dust jacket. £25

DIGGLE (J) and GOODYEAR (F.R.D.). THE CLASSICAL PAPERS OF A.E. HOUSMAN. VOLUME I 1882 -1897, VOLUME II 1897 -1914, VOLUME III 1915 - 1936. Cambridge University Press, 1972. First edition. 8vo. Three Volumes totalling 1318 pages. Fine in near fine dust jackets. A beautiful set of books. £200

DIGGLE (J) and GOODYEAR (F.R.D.). THE CLASSICAL PAPERS OF A.E. HOUSMAN. VOLUME I 1882 -1897, VOLUME II 1897 -1914, VOLUME III 1915 - 1936. Cambridge University Press, 1972. Another set. First edition. 8vo. Three Volumes totalling 1318 pages. Fine in near fine dust jackets. A beautiful set of books but with remainder ticket to inside of dust jackets. £150

GOW (A.S.F.) A.E. Housman – A SKETCH. Cambridge University Press. 1936. First Edition. 8vo. 137 pages. Green cloth in the dust jacket. A delightful sketch of Housman by a fellow professor, together with a comprehensive list of his writings and indexes to his classical papers. Very good in a good jacket. £15

GRAVES (Richard Perceval). A.E. HOUSMAN ; THE SCHOLAR-POET. Routledge and Kegan Paul, London. 1979. First Edition, 304 pages. The first comprehensive biography. Very good in similar dust jacket. £10

HABER (Tom Burns). THE MANUSCRIPT POEMS OF A.E. HOUSMAN. The University of Minnesota Press, Minneapolis, 1955. First American edition. 8vo. 146 pages. Brown cloth in the green dust jacket. The first attempt at unravelling the notebook fragments. A lovely copy. Very good indeed. £20

HABER (Tom Burns). THE MAKING OF A SHROPSHIRE LAD. A MANUSCRIPT VARORION. Seattle, University of Washington Press, 1966. First edition. 8vo. 204pp. Black cloth in cream dust jacket. Haber returns to the manuscript fragments. Very good in a very good dust jacket. £20

HAMILTON (Robert). HOUSMAN THE POET. Sydney Lee, Exeter, 1953. First edition. 8vo. 74 pages. Paper covers. One of the earliest books to concentrate on an evaluation of Housman's poetry. Scarce. Previous owners signature to cover but still very good. £40

HOLDEN (Alan) and BIRCH (Roy). A.E. HOUSMAN. A REASSESSMENT. MacMillan, London, 2000. 8vo. 225 pages. Black cloth with dust jacket. A dozen essays on Housman have been brought together in this book, which although recently published is very difficult to acquire on the second-hand market. Fine in similar dust jacket. £20

HOUSMAN (A.E.) [contributes]. THE QUARTO. A VOLUME ARTISTIC, LITERARY AND MUSICAL. J.S. Virtue, London, 1897. First edition 4to. 97 pages. Green cloth. Contains the first printing of *Diffugere Nives* [The snows are fled away, Horace – ODES, IV.7.] later to appear as More Poems V. The cover bears some bumps and minor wounds from the last 120 years but the book is internally very good. Scarce. £45

HOUSMAN (A.E.). D. IVNII IVVENALIS SATVRAE. E. Grant Richards, London, 1905. First edition. 36 page preface followed by 146 pages of text. Original boards showing some wear and missing the

paper spine label. Spine fragile. Internally very clean. An extremely rare volume. Good. £100

HOUSMAN (A.E.). LAST POEMS. Grant Richards Limited, London, 1922. First edition. 79 pages. Blue cloth in the cream dust jacket. The true first edition with the missing punctuation on page 52 which so annoyed Housman and led to his accusation that bibliophiles were "an idiotic class". Very good in the very good and scarce dust jacket showing minimal wear. £50

HOUSMAN (A.E.). A SHROPSHIRE LAD [and] LAST POEMS. The Alcuin Press, Chipping Campden, 1929. Two volumes. 8vo. 91pp [and] 67pp. Plain light grey boards with linen spines and paper labels. The hand-numbered limited edition of 325 sets printed in black and red inks on heavy watermarked laid paper. This is the only matching edition of his poems ever approved by Housman and is often considered the best presentation of his work. A beautiful set. Very good indeed. With the neat Housman bookplate of noted Housman collector Peter Morris. £180

HOUSMAN (A.E.). M. MANILII ASTRONOMICA. EDITIO MINOR. Cambridge University Press, 1932. 8vo. First edition. 8vo. xiv. 181pp. Blue cloth missing the dust jacket. A sharp and clean copy. Very good. £50

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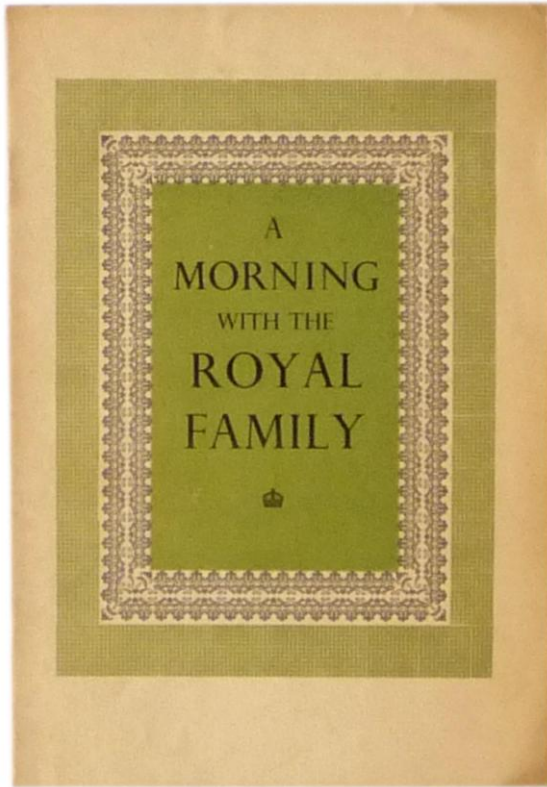
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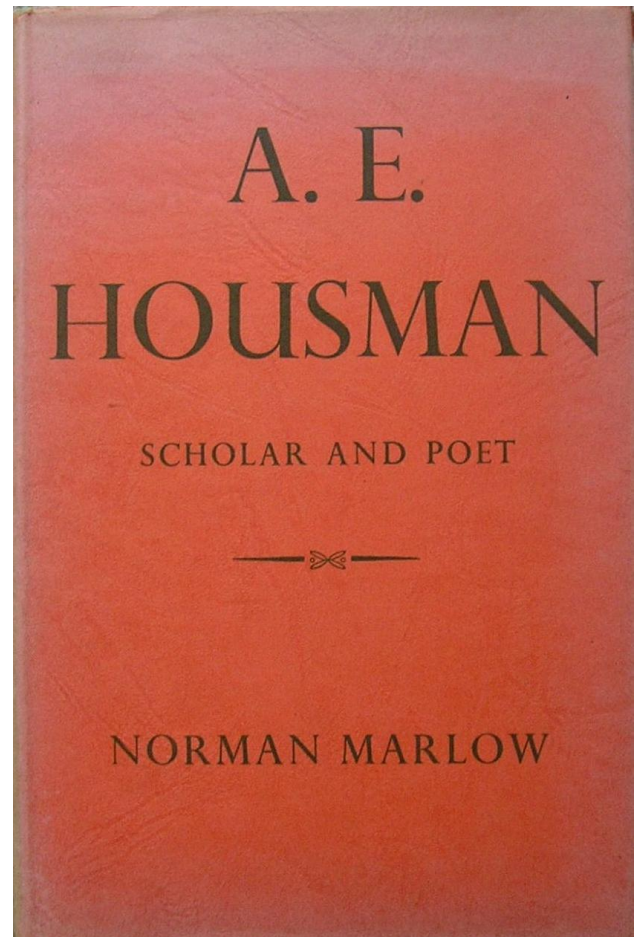
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And, to conclude, a difficult to obtain translation of *A Shropshire Lad*.

JONES (J.T.). Y LLANC O SIR AMWYTHIG. Bangor, J.T. Jones, 1939. First edition. 12mo. 96 pages. Brown card covers. In a letter to H. Parry Jones Housman writes "You are at liberty to publish the two versions – the more so, as Welsh translations of my poems are said to be better than the original". £10

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