

Housman Society Newsletter

No. 50

September 2019

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The Wren Library, Trinity College, Cambridge

Visit to the Wren Library, Trinity College, Cambridge, 19 October 2019

Members and their guests are invited to a special poetry event at the incomparably beautiful Wren Library. If you haven't been before, this will be a wonderful opportunity to be in the library that Housman would have known so well.

In 1676 Christopher Wren designed not only the library but also its bookcases and furniture. The library opened in 1695. Features of special interest include decorative wood-carving by Grinling Gibbons, the celebrated marble busts of eminent Trinity men, the famous statue of Lord Byron, and overlooking everything is the renowned south-facing painted glass window.

Starting at 2.00pm, courtesy of the Wren Librarian and Society member Nicolas Bell, there will be a poetry reading of work by Housman alongside contemporary verse by Angela Leighton, Todd Swift, Michael Brown and Rebecca Watts. Nicolas predicts that "all four will have interesting things to say about Housman, in conversation at least."

Nicolas has prepared a special display on "Poetry at Trinity" which will set Housman in the context of the College's long poetic tradition from Andrew Marvell via Byron and Tennyson to Thom Gunn and other more recent poets.

We anticipate a tea break in late afternoon.

At 5.00pm there will be a lecture about A.E. Housman by Dr Christopher Stray. He is an Honorary Research Fellow in the Dept. of History and Classics at Swansea University and Senior Research Fellow at the Institute of Classical Studies, London University.

Those arriving at Cambridge in time for lunch are invited to join our party at St. Michael's House, Trinity Street, for a light lunch at 12.00 noon. Please let Max Hunt know if you have not already signed up for the visit maxhunt468@gmail.com

From the Secretary's Desk

Society members will, I hope, be encouraged by reading in this issue of the success of new relationships forged during 2019. After the breakdown of our link with the Hay Festival, where the annual Housman Lecture had been staged for some years, discussions with the organisers of the Evesham Festival of Words were reported in the March Newsletter. The result at the end of June proved to be a very successful Housman event coinciding with one of the hottest days of the summer.

Several of us arriving in Evesham during the morning of June 29th were able to enjoy Linda Hart's entertaining one-woman presentation on Dorothy Parker before finding lunch ahead of our

pre-arranged afternoon programme. Under a blazing sun we were given an instructive tour of the abbey site and, with Linda (now an Evesham resident), we reflected on the grisly fate of Simon de Montfort following the battle of 1265.

Special access had been arranged for us to the Evesham bell tower with its famous peal. The intricacies (and hazards!) of bell ringing were explained to us in fascinating detail by the Tower Master.

The subsequent venue for Julian Hunt's "Worcestershire Lad" afternoon presentation was the mercifully cool All Saints Church. An encouragingly sized audience of some 50 festival-goers seemed to enjoy Julian's light-touch introduction to the world of A E Housman and several showed interest in Society publications while sampling the Evesham cream tea which concluded the proceedings. The Housman connection was further strengthened four days later when several members returned to Evesham to join the local ramblers on Bredon Hill where they enjoyed the panorama of the "coloured counties" while yours truly recited the appropriate lines. Encouraged by this summer's experience we are already planning a similar collaboration with next year's Evesham Festival when we hope to welcome Peter Parker as the Housman Lecturer.

Another developing relationship of which we have had much hope is that with Trinity College Cambridge. Our 2017 Library Visit celebrated the college's acquisition of the cache of Housman letters put on the market by the Jackson family. Wren Librarian and now Society member Nicolas Bell has been organising a "Poets of Trinity" event for October 19th when Chairman Peter Waine and I look forward to meeting again with the dozen or so members who have booked places. Please see details on Page 1 of this *Newsletter*.

The Cambridge visit will be the last of our organised events for 2019 and plans are already coming together for next year when your Committee intend to build on recent successes. It would be particularly good to think we might attract more members to the Ludlow Commemoration and AGM at the end of April. This is, after all, your chance to influence directly the Society's future direction ---- as well as enjoy a convivial lunch.

Max Hunt

Forthcoming Events

Saturday 19 October 2019

Visit to Trinity College, Cambridge
See page 1.

Thursday 26 March 2020

Birthday Celebration, Bromsgrove, 12.30pm., followed by lunch courtesy of Bromsgrove School.

3-5 April 2020

Ludlow English Song Weekend

Thursday 30 April 2020

Housman Society AGM at 11.00am., followed by lunch and Housman Commemoration at St Laurence's Church, Ludlow at 3.00pm.

Saturday 27 June 2020

Evesham Festival of Words, with a lecture by Peter Parker, author of *Housman Country*, at 3.00pm.

Housman Birthday Celebration at Bromsgrove, 26 March 2019

The Birthday Celebration was held as usual beside the Housman statue in Bromsgrove High Street on 26 March 2019. Due to the unavoidable absence of our Chairman, Peter Waine, the ceremony was chaired by our Vice President Jim Page. Jim introduced the guest of honour, the Rev. Kelvin Price, Rector of Ludlow, a veteran already of two Housman commemorations at Ludlow. It turned out that Jim and Kelvin had more than Housman in common. Jim had done his national service in the Royal Green Jackets, based at Winchester. Kelvin, albeit a few years later, had been chaplain to the same regiment.

During the day, the Housman Poetry Cup was on display. The cup is remarkable in that it is an exact replica of the wine cooler presented to A.E. Housman in 1911 when he left University College, London, for his professorship at Cambridge. The replica was presented to the Society by the family of long-serving member, Raymond Grove, and was intended to be awarded to the winner of the Society's annual poetry competition. Now that the competition is in abeyance, the Society is looking for a suitable home or purpose for the cup.

Editor



Birthday Celebration, 26 March 2019

Housman Society AGM and Commemoration, Ludlow, 30 April 2019

This year's Annual General Meeting was held at the Dinham Hotel, Ludlow, at 11.00am on 30 April 2019. Chairman, Peter Waine, gave an upbeat review of the year and looked forward to Housman Society involvement in the Evesham Festival of Words in June and in the poetry event at Trinity College, Cambridge, in October. Secretary, Max Hunt, and Treasurer, Richard Aust, gave their customary reports. Elections to the Committee included Jo Slade, currently Reeve, but shortly to be Bailiff of Bromsgrove.

After the official business, our Journal Editor, Derek Littlewood, gave us an intriguing presentation entitled 'Housman and Ghosts.' An abridged version of the talk will appear in the next Housman Society Journal.

An excellent lunch was taken at the Dinham Hotel, before the company moved to St Laurence's Churchyard for the customary celebration of the life of A.E. Housman. The service was given by the Rector, the Rev. Kelvin Price and attended by the Mayor of Ludlow, Councillor and Mrs Tim Gill.

Editor

Butterworth's Shropshire Lad settings performed at Aylesbury

On 2 May, admirers of Housman's poetry had a wonderful surprise if they were at the regular weekly lunchtime concert organised by the Friends of St Mary's Church, in Aylesbury's town centre. Due to sickness, the advertised performers were replaced (at short notice) by a splendid baritone, James Newby, B.B.C. New Generation Artist, who chose to conclude his programme with Butterworth's setting of six poems from 'A Shropshire Lad.' The verse was beautifully rendered by James, with most sensitive modulations of tone, volume and pitch, matched with posture and facial expression. If only this moving performance could have been recorded to share with Housman Society members and other admirers of this poetry. There is an hour of music in the good acoustic of St Mary's at 12.45 every Thursday (except in August) free for under-18s and excellent value at only £5.00 for others. The music is always enjoyable, but seldom more so than that of James Newby, accompanied by Panaretos Kyriatzidis on the piano.

Graham Aylett



St Mary's Church, Aylesbury

The Housmans at Lyme Regis

Readers may be surprised to learn that the Editor of this Newsletter reached the venerable age of three score years and ten in May this year. To avoid any surprise parties, my wife, Mary, and I booked a cottage in the delightful Dorset resort of Lyme Regis. Along with the usual seaside attractions, there is a good bookshop and an excellent museum specialising in the amazing fossils to be found on the beach. I knew that the town had featured in Jane Austen's 'Persuasion,' published in 1818, and that it was the setting for the 1969 book 'The French Lieutenant's Woman' and the subsequent film starring Meryl Streep. I was also aware that there was a Housman connection, as the poet's grandfather, the Rev. Thomas Housman, had retired to Roseville, Lyme Regis, in 1867, and died there in 1870.

I found that the Lyme Regis Society had published a series of booklets on the town's historic houses. Part 3 included details of Rose Hill, an elegant villa with views across the town towards Lyme Bay. There was no mention of the Housmans, but the compiler noted that the house had previously been called Roseville or Rose Villa. I left my card with the Curator and almost as soon as I returned to the cottage, I received an e-mail from a member of the Lyme Regis Society, to which was attached a scan of a 1964 sale

catalogue. In the conditions of sale was an abstract of title going back to 1920, when Rose Hill was sold by Joseph Brettell Housman to the sitting tenant, Lionel Maling Wynch. It therefore transpired that the Housman connection with Lyme had lasted over 50 years.

I checked on 'Ancestry' and found that the Rev. Thomas Housman's widow Ann, and daughters Mary Brettell Housman and Jane Housman, were still living at Roseville in 1881. Ann Housman died in 1882, but her daughters remained at Roseville until 1888, when Mary Brettell Housman moved to lodgings in Broad Street, Lyme Regis.

Switching to 'British Newspaper Archive,' I found at this time the Bridport News was listing important visitors to Lyme. In September 1891, Mr Laurence Housman from London was a visitor to 'The Cottage.' More significantly, in July 1893, Professor Housman was staying at Clarence House, Broad Street with Miss Housman. I hope he enjoyed his visit to his aunt in Lyme Regis and I bet it was not his only visit there.

Editor

Rose Hill, Lyme Regis



Dorothy Parker at Evesham

The 2019 Evesham Festival of Words has already been mentioned, but I thought it appropriate to report on a non-Housman item in the programme on the 29 June. Several Housman Society members supported Society member and master wordsmith, Linda Hart, who gave her one-woman show as the wise-cracking literary critic, Dorothy Parker. She spoke in the incongruous setting of Evesham's sober Friends Meeting House. We learnt a lot about Parker's life and loves and that she could manufacture a cutting remark for any occasion. She apparently delivered the immortal line "Men seldom make passes at girls who wear glasses." To Linda, the New York accent and the confident manner came easily. The performance was enjoyed by a large and appreciative audience.

Editor

Housman Society Visit to Church Stretton, 13 July 2019

The Society's summer outing this year was inspired by the rediscovery of an article printed in our Newsletter back in 2009. During the course of some research into the Edwardian aspirations of Church Stretton to emulate the success of Buxton and Malvern as Spa towns, Alan Brisbane had stumbled on an intriguing story. For three weeks in July of 1899, Mr A.E. Houseman (sic), London, is recorded in the *Church Stretton Advertiser* as a guest at The Hotel, the most genteel of the establishments catering for fashionable visitors to the Shropshire town. So our visit on Saturday July 13th set out to explore the background to AEH's only known stay in the County to which his name is inextricably linked.

After mid-morning coffee and cake in "Jemima's" tea shop, our group of ten members gathered in the town's library where we were challenged by Linda Hart to unravel the mystery of Housman's visit. Why had he gone to Church Stretton and why for such an extended stay? One possibility might have been linked to the founding just a few months before of The Shropshire Society in London. Linda had discovered a strong connection here with Church Stretton "squire" and landowner, Ralph Benson. Perhaps an open invitation to the author of *A Shropshire Lad* had been part of a marketing ploy to enhance local development prospects. Other possibilities might have related to Benson's literary interests or perhaps the recommendations of Housman's

walking companion from Patent Office days, W.H. Eyre. Another possibility is that AEH was somehow connected with the Grand Fete and Bazaar held on the 27 July at the hotel where he was staying. The Bazaar was opened by Lady Lyttleton (widow of George Lord Lyttelton of Hagley, who died in 1876) and was in aid of a hospital at Cawnpore (now Kanpur). Was supporting this good cause perhaps a display of concern designed to impress his great friend Moses Jackson, who was at that time teaching at Sind College, Karachi?



Church Stretton Hotel, c. 1900

With curiosity stirred by Linda's excellent talk, we made our way to the town centre and the building that had been (until a major fire in 1968) The Hotel. In the Gallery now occupying the first floor members were able to take in the view across the town square from what would have been the Residents' Lounge. Lunch was taken in the basement --- now The Malthouse Bar and Restaurant --- where a great find was a hotel brochure dating from no later than 1910.

Amongst the various tariffs were offers of carriage drives into the surrounding countryside prompting speculation as to a possible itinerary for the poet checking out his knowledge of South Shropshire.

After lunch, while the more energetic members of the party emulated the Edwardians in an afternoon stroll through Rectory Wood onto the slopes of the Long Mynd, others found their way to Burway Books where proprietor Roz stocks the Society's publications. And so back to the Malthouse bar for tea before the party dispersed having enjoyed a tantalising insight into a literary mystery. With thanks to Linda Hart for her efforts in bringing to life the events of 1899.

Max Hunt

The Housmans of Worcestershire and Gloucestershire

The Bromsgrove Summer School, held at Bromsgrove School, 9-11 July 2019, was the ninth since its inception in 2011. It has been customary for one of the six courses offered to relate to A.E. Housman or to the Housman family. A modest number of six students had signed up to hear your Newsletter Editor claim that the County of Gloucester was at least as important an influence on A.E. Housman as Worcestershire or Shropshire.

The Housman course was scheduled for Tuesday 7 July, when the alternative speaker was to be Stephen Price, examining the timber-framed buildings, of Alvechurch, near Bromsgrove. Only days before the Summer School was due to begin, Stephen was rushed into hospital in Worcester with stomach pains. Although he was soon feeling better, he was in no condition to take on the Alvechurch course, on which no less than 30 students were enrolled. These historic buildings enthusiasts could hardly be expected to swap to the Housman course, so I volunteered to take them to Romsley, where they could examine the medieval church dedicated to St Kenelm and the ancient ridge and furrow on Romsley Hill. They could even look forward to afternoon tea with the Romsley and Hunnington History Society.

My brother Max agreed to lead the Housman course at Bromsgrove in my place. Max knows the subject matter very well, and easily mastered the Power-point presentation on the Housmans in Worcestershire and Gloucestershire. He was ably assisted by another Housman Society stalwart, Linda Hart, who spoke in the afternoon about Sophie Becker, the German governess whom Housman met at the home of his Godmother, Elizabeth Wise, at Woodchester in Gloucestershire. This deep friendship with the family's governess was renewed every year when A.E. Housman visited Mrs Wise and her children, Edward, Edie and Minnie. The relationship appears to have continued long after Sophie's pupils had grown up and she had returned to Germany.



Sophie Becker

The amended Bromsgrove Summer School programme went ahead, with two of the Alvechurch students swapping to the Housman course. They were very pleased with their choice, and learnt a great deal about their favourite poet. Readers will also be glad to hear that Stephen Price is now fully recovered and looking forward to giving his Alvechurch course at next year's Bromsgrove Summer School.

Editor

The Housman Society Book Exchange

Although the Book Exchange is in its eighteenth year I am aware that many members are unaware of the general arrangements under which the scheme operates on their behalf. Member's books are sold through these pages for a 10% commission on sale price, or the Society may be prepared to purchase material outright at 50% of an agreed retail value. There are no other fees and all advice is freely and honestly given. Please get in touch if you have any material that may be suitable for these pages.

I am pleased to report that the Society Book Exchange has been generously gifted some material from the descendants of Kate Symons, AEH's youngest sister, and these books appear in the second section of this listing. All of these books contain ownership signatures or dedications showing their provenance and a number contain very interesting annotations. In the third section of the listing are found a number of extremely rare, yet affordable, copies of A Shropshire Lad.

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 – SEPTEMBER 2019

Postage and Packing are additional to the prices quoted.

SECTION ONE: COLLECTABLES

ALLSOPP (Jane). THE LAND OF LOST CONTENT. Shropshire Books, Shrewsbury, 1995. 8vo. 104 pages. A description of the Shropshire landscape and villages that inspired Housman's poetry. Beautifully written and delightfully illustrated. Photographic covers. Very good. £10

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. Fine in a similar dust jacket. £25

BRINK (C.O.). ENGLISH CLASSICAL SCHOLARSHIP. James Clarke & Co. Ltd., Cambridge, 1985. First edition. 8vo. 243 pages. Reflections on Bentley, Porson and Housman by a successor Kennedy Professor of Latin. Fine in a very good dust jacket. £20

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. Fine. £20

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

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 owner's signature to cover but still very good. £40

HOUSMAN (A.E.) [contributes]. THE QUARTO. A VOLUME ARTISTIC, LITERARY AND MUSICAL, VOLUME III. J.S. Virtue & Co., 1897. First edition. 4to. 97 pages. Pale blue-green paper boards. On page 95 is the first printing of Diffugere Nives (The snows are fled away, leaves on the shaws). [This is Housman's only translation from the Latin – Horace, Odes, IV, 7].. The cover bears some bumps and minor wounds from the last 120 years but the book internally is very good. Scarce. £45

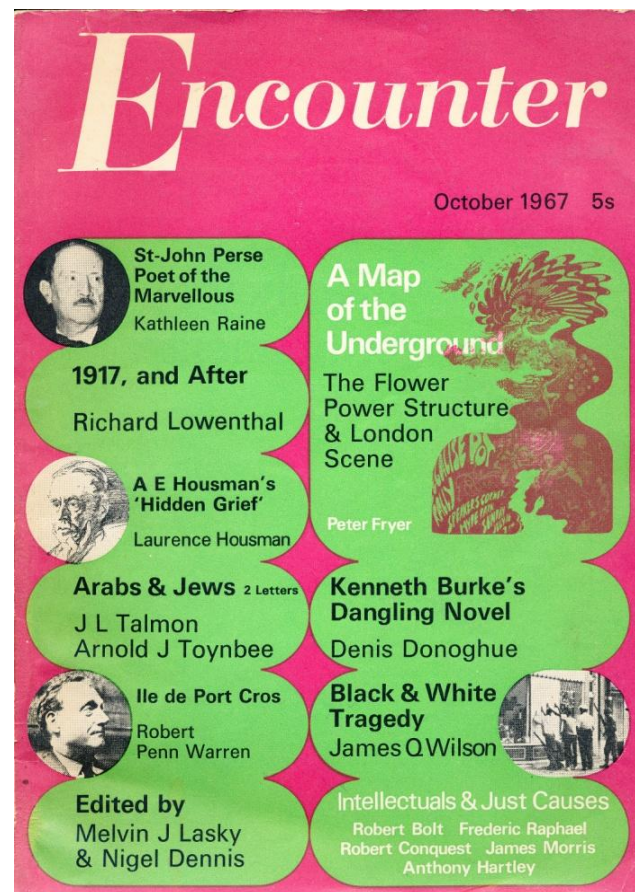
HOUSMAN (A.E.). LAST POEMS. Grant Richards Limited, London, 1922. First edition. 79 pages. Blue cloth in the cream dust jacket. The true first edition with the missing punctuation on

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.). *MORE POEMS*. Jonathan Cape, London, 1936. The limited edition. Number 37 of 379 copies. 8vo. 71 pages. Quarter leather, marbled endpapers, top edge gilt. Contains a manuscript facsimile of Tarry, delight, so seldom met, not included in the trade edition. An excellent copy of this edition in a very good undamaged dust jacket. £150

HOUSMAN (A.E.). *D. IVNII IVVENALIS SATVRAE*. Cambridge University Press, 1938. Third edition. 146 pages. Red cloth. Contains the preface to the 1905 edition together with the preface of the corrected edition. Previous professorial owner's signature. Missing the dust jacket. Very good. £40

HOUSMAN (Laurence) [contributes]. *ENCOUNTER MAGAZINE. VOLUME XXIX* No.4. Continental Publishers, London, 1967. 8vo. 96pp. Paper covers. On pages 33-41 is printed for the first time A.E. Housman's 'De Amicitia', annotated by John Carter. Very good indeed. £20



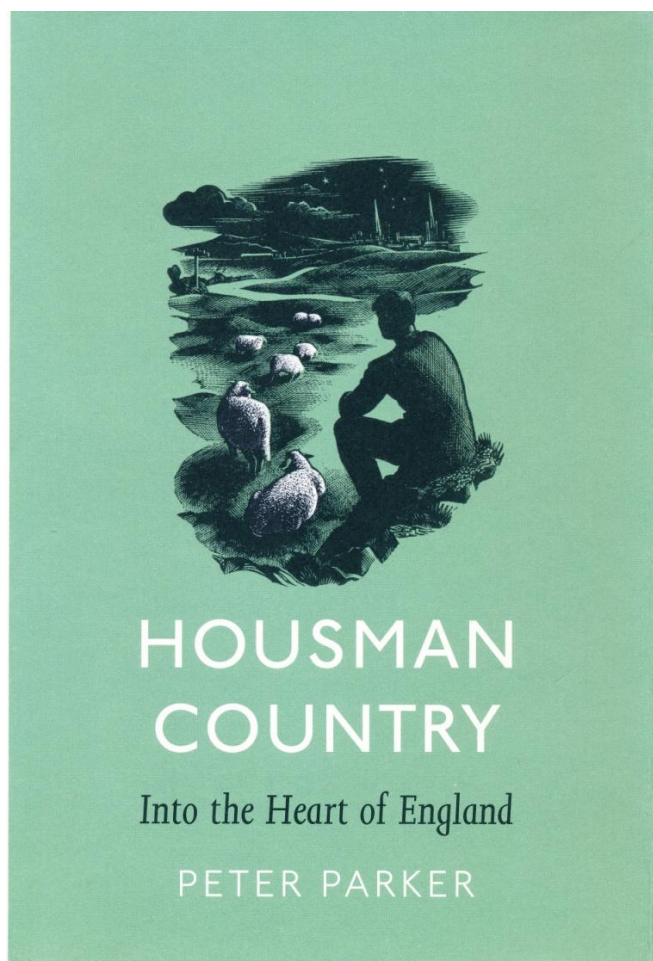
HOUSMAN (Laurence). *ALFRED EDWARD HOUSMAN'S "DE AMICITIA"*. The Little Rabbit Book Company, London, 1976. First edition. 8vo. 39pp. Laurence Housman's account of one aspect of his brother's life, written soon after Alfred's death and deposited at the British Museum in 1942, with the injunction that it remained sealed for twenty-five years. First published in *Encounter Magazine* in 1967, this unauthorised volume remains the only edition of the text in book form. A beautifully produced publication. One of 200 numbered copies. In fine condition. £65

HOUSMAN SOCIETY JOURNALS. *A FULL SET*. 1974 – 2018. After a few years of sorting, swapping and sweating the Society has managed to put together a full set of Journals which it now offers to the membership at a fraction of the cost that would be charged on the open market. Forty-four issues plus the 30th Anniversary supplement. The condition varies from Very Good to Mint. £180

MILLINGTON (Herbert). *TRANSLATIONS INTO LATIN VERSE*. London, George Bell and Sons, 1889. First edition. 83 pages. Ivory boards printed in red. In the preface Millington thanks A.E. Housman – “my old pupil and distinguished friend” – for looking through the book's proofs. “His keen eye and sound learning have detected not a few blemishes which might have disfigured these pages.” Cancelled University library bookplate. Some foxing to endpapers but internals fine. Very good indeed. Extremely rare. £50

NAIDITCH (P.G.). *A.E. HOUSMAN AT UNIVERSITY COLLEGE. THE ELECTION OF 1892*. E.J. Brill, Leiden, 1988. First edition. 261 pages. Soft covers. A monumental work. Essential reading and now very scarce. A fine copy. £60

PARKER (Peter). *HOUSMAN COUNTRY: INTO THE HEART OF ENGLAND*. Little, Brown; London, 2016. First edition. 8vo. 446 pages plus a printing of *A Shropshire Lad*. Black cloth in the dust jacket. An investigation into the life of Housman and his famous book. Mint condition. £10



ROBERTS (S.C.). *THE FAMILY: THE HISTORY OF A DINING CLUB*. Printed for the Club, Cambridge, 1963. First edition. 8vo. 34 pages. Brown cloth. An unread copy. Roberts was the Secretary of the dining club where AEH was a member from 1919 to 1936. We now have just two copies remaining of the donation from Trinity College. £10

ROWE (Antony) [editor]. *FOR LUCASTA, WITH RUE*. The Book Guild, Lewes, 1998. Second edition. 89 pages. An interesting exercise in intertextuality – the influence on one text on the mind of a reader who is grappling with another. Alternate poems in Latin by various authors and in English by A.E. Housman. One of 100 copies. In fine condition although the title page bears a dedication by Peter Stothard, Editor of *The Times*. £15

SYMONS (Katharine E.), POLLARD (A.W.), HOUSMAN (Laurence), CHAMBERS (R.W.), KER (Alan), GOW (A.S.F.), SPARROW (John) and SYMONS (N.V.H.). *ALFRED EDWARD HOUSMAN*. Bromsgrove School, 1936. First edition. 4to. 65 pages. The true first edition. Number 211 of 250 copies. Card covers with

deckled edges. The Housman Memorial supplement of the 'Bromsgrovian'. . Externally very good indeed and internally fine; almost certainly never read. An excellent example of a notoriously fragile publication. £60

TAKEUCHI (Y) [editor]. *THE EXHAUSTIVE CONCORDANCE TO THE POEMS OF A.E. HOUSMAN*. Shohaksusha Publishing Co., Tokyo, 1971. First edition. 157 pages. Three quarter cloth. An essential reference tool. With a dedication from the compiler to the Housman Society (we hold another copy). Small reference barcode to front endpaper, and bump to one corner otherwise fine. Rare. £70

WITHERS (Percy). *A BURIED LIFE*. Jonathan Cape, London, 1940. First edition. 8vo. 133 pages. Blue cloth with dust jacket. Withers first met Housman in 1917 at Cambridge and this book is a record of their association over the next twenty years. A notoriously difficult book to acquire, here offered with the very scarce dust jacket. Very good in a similar dust jacket. £45

ZEITLIN & VER BRUGGE. *A.E. HOUSMAN. WINTER CATALOGUE 1983*. Zeitlin & Ver Brugge, Los Angeles, 1983. 4to. Unpaginated. Card covers. This catalogue of 203 items is packed with interest for Housman enthusiasts. Fine condition. £20

SECTION TWO: ASSOCIATION MATERIAL

HOUSMAN (Clemence). *THE WERE-WOLF*. London, John Lane at the Bodley Head, 1896. First edition. 123 pages plus adverts. Original cloth. Clemence's first novel contains six illustrations by Laurence Housman. Covers worn and soiled with bumping to corners, some internal straining to spine and foxing to endpapers. Good. With the pencilled ownership signature of NVH Symons. £30

HOUSMAN (Clemence). *THE LIFE OF SIR AGLOVALE DE GALIS*. London, Methuen & Co., 1905. First edition. 308 pages plus adverts. Green cloth. Extensive foxing, some very heavy. Poor. With a manuscript dedication dated 1912 from Kate Symons to Jeannie Housman. £20

HOUSMAN (Laurence). SABRINA WARHAM. London, John Murray, 1904. First edition. 439 pages. Brown cloth separating at spine. Extensive foxing. Poor. With the ownership signature of Basil Housman. £10

HOUSMAN (Laurence). THE CLOAK OF FRIENDSHIP. London, John Murray, 1905. First edition. 192 pages. Green cloth. Heavy foxing at preliminaries. Good. With a manuscript dedication by the author to his nephew, Denis Symons. £20

HOUSMAN (Laurence). ANGELS AND MINISTERS. New York, Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1922. First American edition. 150 pages. Quarter cloth with paper spine label. Covers worn and stained, internally very good. Signed by Laurence Housman. £30

HOUSMAN (Laurence). UNCLE TOM PUDD. London, Jonathan Cape, 1922. First edition. 224 pages. Brown cloth. Very good. With a manuscript note by the author. £20

HOUSMAN (Laurence). LITTLE PLAYS OF St FRANCIS. London, Sidgwick & Jackson, 1922. First edition. 285 pages. Light brown cloth with paper spine label. Very good. With a manuscript dedication by the author to his nephew, Denis Symons. £30

HOUSMAN (Laurence). IRONICAL TALES. London, Jonathan Cape, 1926. First edition. 224 pages. Green cloth. Very good. With a manuscript dedication by the author to his nephew, Denis Symons. £30

HOUSMAN (Laurence). GODS AND THEIR MAKERS. London, George Allen and Unwin Ltd, 1937. Reprint. 221 pages. Green cloth. Good. Signed by Laurence Housman. £20

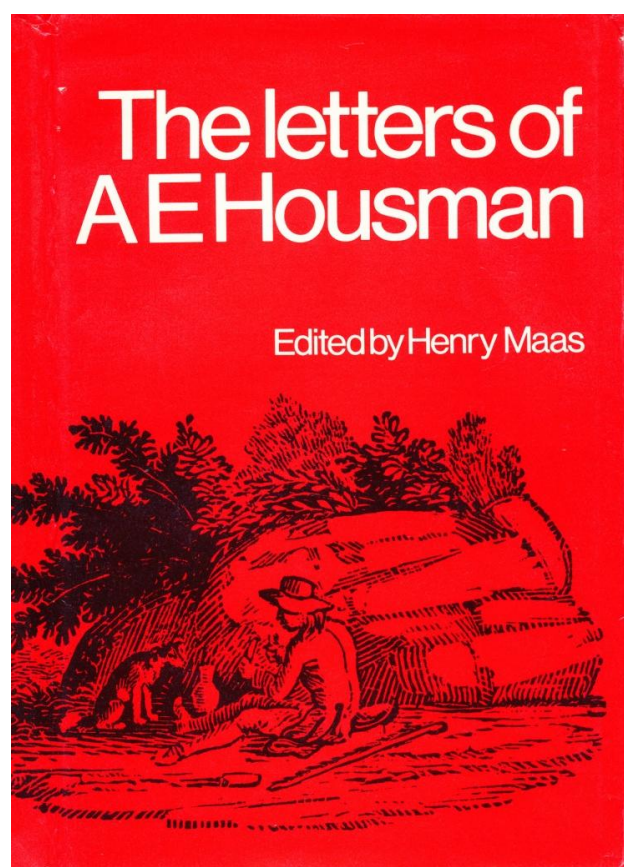
HOUSMAN (Laurence). THE GOLDEN SOVEREIGN. London, Jonathan Cape, 1937. First edition. 439 pages. Green cloth. Very good. With a manuscript dedication from the author to Jeannie Housman. £30

HOUSMAN (Laurence). THE LIFE OF HRH THE DUKE OF FLAMBOROUGH. London, Jonathan Cape, 1938. Second Impression. 287 pages. Purple cloth. Front cover part-faded but still very good. With a manuscript dedication by the author to his nephew, Denis Symons. £20

HOUSMAN (Laurence). GRACIOUS MAJESTY. London, Jonathan Cape, 1941. First edition. 222 pages. Blue cloth in the dust jacket. Some damage to covers and dust jacket but internally very good. With a dedication from the author to his nephew, Denis Symons. £20

HOUSMAN (Laurence). Four-page manuscript letter dated 11th September 1941 to his nephew Denis Symons. £20

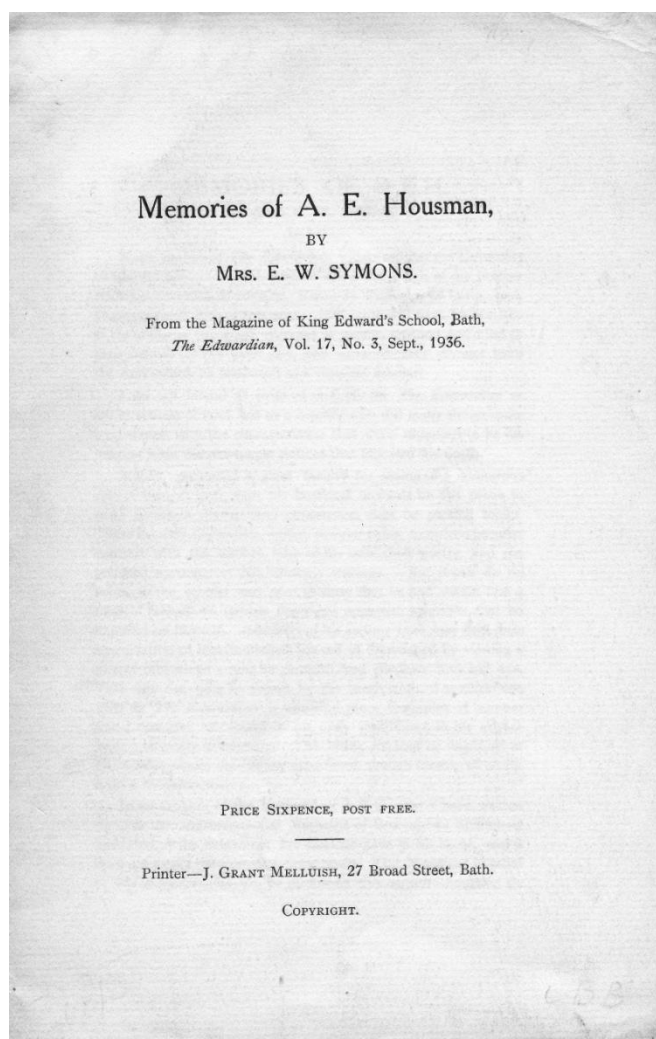
MAAS HENRY [editor]. THE LETTERS OF A.E. HOUSMAN. London, Rupert Hart-Davis, 1971. First edition. 458 pages. Red cloth in the dust jacket. Very good. With the pencilled ownership initials of NVH Symons and annotated by him throughout. £20



PUGH (John). BROMSGROVE AND THE HOUSMANS. Bromsgrove, The Housman Society, 1974. First limited edition. Number 27 of 100 copies signed by John Pugh. This copy is dedicated by the author to NVH Symons 'in friendship and gratitude'. 178 pages plus 84 pages of appendix. Black cloth. The book has suffered some water damage to the endpapers which does not affect the text. Annotations by NVH Symons at that time President of the Housman Society. £30

SKUTSCH (Otto). ALFRED EDWARD HOUSMAN 1859 – 1936. The University of London, The Athlone Press, 1960. First edition. 14pp. Blue paper wrappers. The text of an address delivered at University College to celebrate the anniversary of Housman's birth. Covers somewhat faded otherwise very good. Dated and initialled on the first free endpaper by NVH Symons. £20

SYMONS (E.W.). MEMORIES OF A.E. HOUSMAN. Grant Mellhuish, Bath, 1936. 8 pages. Paper covers. Pamphlet written by Housman's sister extracted from the magazine of King Edward's School. Bath. Contains the first appearance of seven of Housman's comic verses. Staples rusted as usual, the pages which are somewhat dog-eared contain a pencilled limitation statement. £20



SECTION THREE: A SELECTION OF SHROPSHIRE LADS

HOUSMAN (A.E.). A SHROPSHIRE LAD. Grant Richards, London, 1903. 96 pages. Two-tone boards with some rubbing and staining. Internally very good. Rare. £25

HOUSMAN (A.E.). A SHROPSHIRE LAD. Grant Richards, London, 1904. 117 pages. Orange cloth pocket edition, top edge gilt. From the Smaller Classics Series, the title of which upset Housman so much. Front cover starting to separate but the book is square and strong. Very Good. Rare. £30

HOUSMAN (A.E.). A SHROPSHIRE LAD. Grant Richards, London, 1904. 117 pages. Orange cloth pocket edition, top edge gilt. Identical printing to the previous item but as this example does not have a gilded top edge it stands slightly taller. Very good. Rare. £30

HOUSMAN (A.E.). A SHROPSHIRE LAD. Thomas B Mosher, Portland, Maine, 1906. 12mo. 91 pages. The first Mosher limited edition A Shropshire Lad is printed on Van Gelder paper in a run of 925 copies. A beautiful book in very good condition in the original, but defective, slipcase. With the bookplate of noted Housman collector Peter Morris. £50

HOUSMAN (A.E.). A SHROPSHIRE LAD. The Bodley Head, New York; John Lane Company, 1906. 96 pages. Green cloth. Very good. £30

HOUSMAN (A.E.). A SHROPSHIRE LAD. E. Grant Richards, London, 1907. 32mo. 101 pages. Red cloth, top edge gilt. Very good. One of the rare editions published under the name of Grant Richards' wife following his bankruptcy in 1905. Very good. £30

HOUSMAN (A.E.). A SHROPSHIRE LAD. Grant Richards, London, 1908. The first illustrated edition. 8vo. Richards persuaded Housman to allow this edition but, after publication, Housman wrote, "I do not care for the new edition. Coloured plates always strike me as vulgar." The illustrations are by William Hyde who also designed the cover and the illustrations for the end-papers. Housman approved of these endpapers though he remarked 'the horses seem to

be letting the man do all the ploughing.” White decorated buckram, stamped in gilt. The illustrations are in excellent order with the tissue guards still in place although the book has suffered extensive foxing. £15

HOUSMAN (A.E.). A SHROPSHIRE LAD.
Mitchell Kennerley, New York, 1914. 32mo. Red cloth, top edge gilt. Printed in England and furnished with a cancel title page. A clean fresh copy. Very good indeed. Very rare. £50

HOUSMAN (A.E.). A SHROPSHIRE LAD.
Grant Richards Ltd., London, 1918. 96 pages. Blue cloth. This rare 16mo edition, which is missing from many Housman collections, contains a gift inscription from 1919 and an anonymous manuscript verse on the rear free endpaper. Very good. Rare. £40

HOUSMAN (A.E.). A SHROPSHIRE LAD.
George Harrap, London, 1940. Proof Copy. 8vo. 99pp. With the evocative wood engravings by Agnes Miller Parker. Brown paper covers endorsed ‘Advance Proof Copy. Unrevised and Confidential’. An interesting and unusual survivor. £40

HOUSMAN (A.E.). A SHROPSHIRE LAD.
Waterville, Maine: Colby College Library, 1946. Limited edition of 500 copies. Red cloth stamped in gold. ‘The Jubilee Edition’, together with 43 pages of notes by Carl J Weber who had donated his collection of Shropshire Lads to the library. Dust jacket showing AEH at the time that the book was written. With the bookplate of noted Housman collector PB Morris. £30

HOUSMAN (A.E.). A SHROPSHIRE LAD. The Chantry Press, Leominster, 1991. 8vo. Unpaginated. Quarter leather. With an introduction by Norman Page and illustrations by Alison Dunworth. Number 17 of 50 copies. Fine, with the book-plate of Housman collector P.B.Morris. £50.

HOUSMAN (A.E.). A SHROPSHIRE LAD.
Oxford, Woodstock Books, 1994. A facsimile of the first edition. 12mo. 96 pages. With a splendid introduction by Professor Kelsey Thornton. In fine condition in a similar dust jacket. £20

WANTS

A Society member is looking for a copy of our Annual Journal number 9 from 1983.

The Book Exchange is always very interested in acquiring Housman books, letters, manuscripts and ephemera. If you have anything of interest please get in touch with Peter Sisley on telephone number 01299.841361 or by email at sisley.ladywood@talk21.com

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