

Housman Society Newsletter

No. 59

March 2024

From the Secretary's Desk

Amidst the routine administrative queries that regularly fill the secretarial "inbox", every now and again there pops up some intriguing item that prompts follow-up correspondence. Just such an item came my way in October from a retired clergyman in Ely. The Rev. Christopher Goodwins, who was a pupil at Norwich School in the 1950s, sent details of a school concert which had included "a mini-grand-opera in one act with words by A.E. Housman".

Housman as librettist was news to me, but after some delving the story became clear. Back in 1937 when Laurence Housman published his *A.E.H., a Personal Memoir*, he had included a selection of his brother's "light verse and parodies". In this material (which would later be collected together by the Society in the *Unkind to Unicorns* publication) was *A Fragment of an English Opera* originally sent to Laurence as something of a joke in 1909. Fast-forward another twenty years and the music master at Norwich School had set the piece as a one-act "mini-opera" scored for three voices and titled "Bedtime". Mr Goodwins had sent me the complete score explaining that, as a student about to take up a choral scholarship at St John's College, Cambridge, he had been persuaded to sing the soprano part as a counter-tenor!

Knowing little of the mysteries of "poco accelerando" or "recitativo" I sought the help of Ian Venables who endorsed the musical authenticity of the score for a performance which would occupy about fifteen minutes of stage time. Perhaps one day we may find an opportunity to stage a revival with a bass voice for father, a contralto for mother and a soprano for the reluctant daughter. In the meantime we are indebted to Mr Goodwins and I have promised him that the precious score will find a home with the Society's archives at The Hive in Worcester.



The Hive, Worcester

Photo: Janet Mackinnon

Mention of The Hive moves me swiftly on to our Society programme for the current year which appears elsewhere as Forthcoming Events. After a busy year marking our 50th anniversary I was apprehensive about maintaining the momentum going forward (as they say these days). The last of our 2023 events, the marvellous concert in Malvern jointly sponsored with the Gurney Society, is written up elsewhere and the outline for 2024 was circulated in January to all those members for whom I have email addresses. A visit to The Hive is scheduled for September 14th and will give members an opportunity to experience this impressive building where our archive material is now properly catalogued.

The usual Booking Form is included in the mailing and its prompt return will assist with planning all of our events. First up is the Bromsgrove Commemoration on March 26th when it will be good to welcome young Gregory Sidaway as our Guest. Members will have enjoyed reading his article in the latest Journal reflecting on a 21st century undergraduate's first encounter with A.E. Housman. Four weeks later our AGM gathering in Ludlow is set to be enlivened by a fascinating illustrated presentation developed by Linda Hart from her 2022 Journal article on

Housman and Ivor Gurney. We hope for a good turn-out on April 27th.

The outstanding date in our calendar is undoubtedly that of July 1st in Ledbury as part of the annual Poetry Festival. It is something of an achievement to get Housman into the programme for this major week-long event which has gained a national profile over the years since its inauguration in the mid-1990s. I am assured that full details of the festival schedule will be published in April and our opting for a Monday evening slot may tempt some members to make a weekend of it in this attractive corner of Herefordshire. In the meantime, it will be helpful to have your requests for the limited number of complimentary tickets available to members for our own sponsored event when Linda Hart and I will be making the case for the abiding appeal of A.E. Housman. Whether we go ahead with the final event in the calendar, the visit to the Maclean grave in Cradley, will be entirely dependent on the level of interest shown beforehand so do please complete those returns.

Finally, and outside our own programme, I will be attending the AGM of the Alliance of Literary Societies in the Lake District over the weekend of May 18/19. I hope those members for whom we have email addresses have enjoyed the ALS material we have been able to circulate over the last twelve months. The AGM which, this year, is being organised by the Arthur Ransome Society, presents an opportunity for networking with like-minded literary devotees – as well as an excuse for yours truly to wallow in childhood nostalgia in the company of Walkers and Blacketts!

I hope to be renewing acquaintance with many of you at one or other of our events over the coming months.

Max Hunt.

THE HOUSMAN SOCIETY: CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2024

Tuesday 26th March, 12.30 pm
BROMSGROVE COMMEMORATION
(Meet by the Statue at 12.20)
Afterwards for lunch at District Council Offices 'Parkside'.
Guest of the Day, Gregory Sidaway, Exeter College, Oxford.

Saturday 27th April, 10.30 for 11.00 am
(Coffee from 10.30)
The Methodist Hall, Broad Street, Ludlow. SY8 1NH.
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Followed by "A *Shropshire Lad* Travels from Gloucester to Cambridge".
A presentation by Linda Hart

Saturday 27th April, 3.00 pm
St Laurence's Church, Ludlow.
(Meet in church porch at 2.50)
LUDLOW COMMEMORATION

Monday 1st July early evening (time to be announced)
Burgage Hall, Church Lane, Ledbury.
LEDBURY POETRY FESTIVAL
A Worcestershire Lad's Abiding Appeal
A presentation by Linda Hart and Max Hunt.
(Limited number of complimentary tickets via the Secretary)

Saturday 14th September 2.00 pm.
VISIT TO THE HIVE IN WORCESTER
An introduction to the city's library facility by archivist Adrian Gregson with a display of recently catalogued Housman material.

Saturday October 19/26 -- subject to degree of interest
VISIT TO MALVERN
and to the grave of Henry Maclean at Cradley Church (see *ASL XLIV*)

Reflections on a visit to the grave of Henry Clarkson Maclean (1876-1895)

John Cartwright

Readers of the Journal would no doubt have been moved by Peter Parker's poignant and meticulously researched article (HSJ, Vol. 48, 2022, pp.46-54) about the death of Henry Maclean, a cadet at the Royal Military Academy whose suicide in 1895 was immortalised in A Shropshire Lad XLIV ("SHOT? So quick, so clean an ending"). I was intrigued enough to make my own visit to Maclean's grave that had been re-discovered by Parker and subsequently cleaned.



The church of St James the Great, Cradley

The grave lies in the churchyard of St James the Great in the village of Cradley, a peaceful spot situated about 4 miles northwest of Malvern. The pathos of having the poem to hand standing by the grave of its subject was strong to say the least. One of the many striking features of this story and its tangible monument is the contrast between the Christian message of hope on the tombstone taken from Psalm XXX - GRANT HIM THY PEACE/WEEPING MAY ENDURE FOR A NIGHT BUT JOY COMETH IN THE MORNING- and Housman's own atheistic vision in the poem:

"Turn safe to rest, no dreams, no waking;
And here, man, here's the wreath I've made:
'Tis not a gift that's worth the taking,
But wear it and it will not fade"

Admittedly, it is a conceit commonly used by poets and it brought to mind the final lines of Shakespeare's Sonnet 18:

Nor shall death brag thou wander'st in his shade,
When in eternal lines to time thou grow'st:
So long as men can breathe or eyes can see,
So long lives this, and this gives life to thee.



The grave of Henry Clarkson Maclean

So, what of Housman's "no dreams, no waking"? Very possibly correct, but what is certain is that the wreath of words that Housman wove has not faded yet – and indeed will not fade so long as Housman's poetry is read and enjoyed. I am sure that like me, readers are grateful for Peter Parker's article that has given new life to this story.

Special Event

THE CASTLE BOOKSHOP invites Housman Society members to a summer evening event – A.E. Housman – poems about love, landscape and Ludlow Readings by Linda Hart and Max Hunt

at 5 Castle Street, Ludlow SY8 1AS
Friday, 12 July, at 6.00pm in the Secret Garden behind the bookshop.

Tickets £7.50, with complimentary wine and juices. Full list of summer events at www.castlebookshopludlow.co.uk

Tel. -- 01584 872563

Email -- enquiries@castlebookshop.co.uk

Wearing white for Eastertide

by Linda Hart

It was a cold wet day at the start of February. I had no plans to think about the “Loveliest of trees” that would be “hung with bloom” when spring finally arrived. *A Shropshire Lad* would stay on the shelf, as I had other things to do. But my plans were upended when I received the monthly email newsletter that my MP sends to his constituents.

He is Nigel Huddleston, the MP for Mid Worcestershire. He has been rising up the ministerial ranks, in several government departments, and is now Financial Secretary to the Treasury. But he still devotes a great deal of time to his constituents and his constituency. I enjoy reading about the places he visits in the Vale of Evesham, and the people he meets throughout Wychavon District.

Summarising his activities in January 2024, the newsletter said that:

“A particular highlight was planting the first four of sixty cherry trees to be planted across Wychavon, thanks to the kind gift of the Sakura Cherry Tree Project and the Japanese people.”

Was it AEH who whispered in my ear that I should look into this matter? I googled the Project (<https://japanuksakura.org/>) – it sounded excellent. Over six thousand Sakura [that’s Japanese for cherry] trees would be planted all over the UK as a legacy for future generations. An enthusiastic statement of support from Japan’s Ambassador to the UK, Hajime Hayashi, said that the trees are “symbols of the strong bond that unites our two peoples and countries.”

I wondered if I should tell Mr Huddleston about Housman, his growing up in Worcestershire, and ASL II? But first I mentioned the Cherry Tree Project to our Secretary, Max Hunt. Imagine my surprise when he sent me a photo of a former Japanese Ambassador planting a cherry tree at Perry Hall in 1976, while John Pugh, Housman Society founding chairman, looked on (see photo). This coincidence spurred me on; I wrote to Mr Huddleston:

“This is not the first occasion when Worcestershire has been the focus for such a link with Japan. I attach a photo from 1976 when the

then Japanese Ambassador planted a cherry tree in the garden of Perry Hall in Bromsgrove. Perry Hall was the childhood home of A.E. Housman, whose book of 63 poems, titled *A Shropshire Lad*, has never been out of print since its publication in 1896. The second poem in the book, “Loveliest of trees, the cherry now”, is the most frequently quoted poem from *A Shropshire Lad*, and poetry-lovers in Japan know this poem well. In fact, the Housman Society has several members in Japan!

“Japan’s attachment to the cherry blossom as its national flower reflects a symbolism close to Housman’s own outlook on life. There is beauty in the blossoms but they are short-lived, and they reminded the poet that life itself is fleeting. His own love of the cherry led him to encourage the planting of an avenue of the trees in the grounds of Trinity College Cambridge where he held his Fellowship from 1911 until his death in 1936.”



Perry Hall cherry tree planting in 1976

An almost immediate reply from Mr Huddleston’s Constituency Assistant was full of interesting information. It seems that the Japanese Ambassador had accepted Mr Huddleston’s invitation to visit the area last summer, to learn about the Blossom Trail in the Vale of Evesham. From that visit, the idea grew to plant more cherry trees; the Sakura Cherry Tree Project was the perfect vehicle for doing this. Hence the recent planting in Evesham’s Abbey Park, a few minutes’ walk from my home. Accompanying my

MP was Robert Raphael, chairman of Wychavon District Council which is supporting the Sakura Cherry Tree Project to help mark Wychavon's 50th anniversary. This is the start of a two-year initiative during which the 60 trees will be planted in the district's parks and open spaces.

Cllr Raphael said that "planting the trees is a wonderful way to mark the friendship between our two countries, and the love of blossom that Wychavon shares with Japan." MP Nigel Huddleston echoed this sentiment, and noted that "The cherry trees we planted add to the beauty of Abbey Park in Evesham."



Nigel Huddleston MP, and Cllr Robert Raphael, chairman of Wychavon District Council, planting cherry trees in Abbey Park, Evesham, on 26 January 2024.

As my day was already upended, I decided to prolong the correspondence by sending Mr Huddleston a copy of ASL II via his helpful Constituency Assistant. I received an enthusiastic reply – she loved the poem, and told me that she had planted a cherry tree after her father's death to commemorate his love of cherry trees and of Japan.

Mr Huddleston has written to say: "I welcome the interest and enthusiasm of the Housman Society

with regards to the kind donation of the sixty Japanese Cherry Trees to Wychavon as part of the Sakura Cherry Tree Project. This will provide a lasting legacy of two cultures coming together over their shared love of blossom."

There are plans to have the Japanese Ambassador visit again, later this year, and I was asked if Mr Huddleston would be allowed to give him a nicely printed copy of the poem in a frame. This was above my pay grade, so I contacted the Housman Society chairman. Who better, as Peter Waine is the former chairman of the Tree Council and of the National Fruit Collection (at Brogdale) as well as past Master of the Worshipful Company of Gardeners. His reply confirmed my suspicion that he knows ten times more about cherry trees than I do. And he suggested that the Housman Society might want to take responsibility for the printing and framing of the poem as a gift to the Ambassador. No doubt the committee will discuss this as the nation's cherry trees briefly but beautifully blossom this year.

Worcestershire's Influence on English Song

Graham Trew reviews a concert at the Autumn in Malvern Festival

"Ivor Gurney to Ian Venables: A Journey through English Song"

Nicholas Pritchard – Tenor

Simon Lepper – Piano

Introduced by composer Ian Venables

I am used to visiting Malvern for the theatre and struggling to find anywhere to park. How relaxing to drive up Avenue Road on Saturday 7 October and be able to park outside Christchurch, a grade two listed Victorian building that is impressive both outside and in. The concert was sponsored by The Ivor Gurney Society and The Housman Society which gave their members free access. Peter Smith, the Founder and Artistic Director of the Malvern Festival, was at the door to offer a friendly welcome. The rear of this large church is given over to bookcase after bookcase of second-hand books to raise funds. You might imagine you had arrived in Hay on Wye. A good number of the

large audience knew each other and reminisced happily before the concert and in the interval. Those present heard the very sad news that a stalwart of English Song and the Housman Society, Jennie McGregor Smith, had died in a car accident and Ian Venables dedicated the performance of his 'Songs of Eternity and Sorrow' to her memory as Jennie had commissioned the piano arrangement of the songs for one of her Tardebigge concerts. Jennie was always a great support for my concerts and lecture recitals for the Housman Society and I worked for her at Tardibigge in her innovative concert series. She will be much missed.

Ian explained to the audience that the programme had been devised to explore how English Song had been influenced by the landscape of Worcestershire and by the poets and musicians who had lived there. Gurney, a Gloucestershire man, was influenced by Housman, and so Mark Pritchard and Simon Lepper began with four Housman settings. Christchurch is long and very high and it took a few minutes to adjust to the acoustic. Simon, always a sympathetic accompanist, was alert to this and the balance between voice and piano was effectively managed.

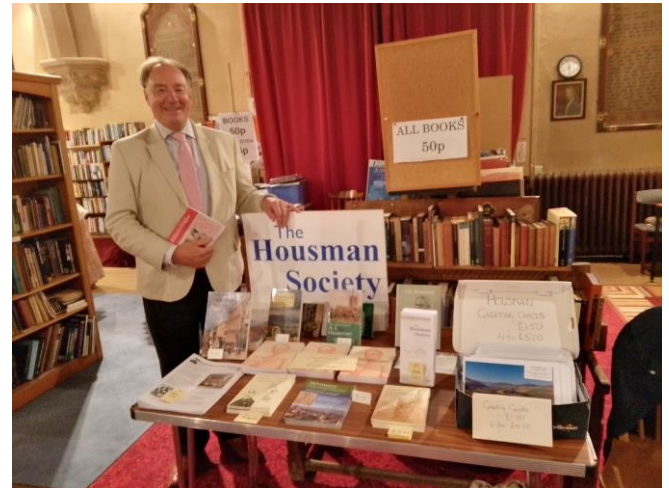
Nick Pritchard has a wide vocal range and his bright tenor coped well with the demands of the programme. His clarity of diction was very effective. These attributes were shown to advantage in 'The Seal Man', one of the fine settings of poetry by Rebecca Clarke. I recorded several of her songs for the British Music Society many years ago! Her setting of G.K. Chesterton's 'The Donkey' is worth looking out for and the setting of 'Tyger, Tyger' is comparable with Britten's setting of the poem in his 'Songs and Sonnets of William Blake'.

Ian Venables is an exemplary word-setter. *Musical Opinion* magazine calls him 'Britain's greatest living composer of art song'. Ian described the choosing and setting of four of A.E. Housman's lesser-set poems with wide-ranging emotions. They were originally for string quartet, piano and voice and follow the movement pattern of a string quartet with a particularly angry scherzo catching the mood of the trial of Oscar Wilde. These songs were dramatically performed

by Nick with Simon bringing out many of the string quartet colours.

After the interval the audience was treated to the premiere of Ian's atmospheric setting of John Masefield's poem 'On Eastnor Knoll', commissioned for an 80th birthday celebration.

Benjamin Britten set over 70 'folksongs'. Each, according to Graham Johnson's Guildhall lectures, contained a musical motif in the accompaniment which highlighted the mood of the setting. In fact, none of the choices in the programme was a 'folksong'. 'The Last Rose of Summer' is a poem by Thomas Moore, hiding an Irish Nationalist theme, highlighted by jarring chords in the Britten setting. 'Sally in our Alley' is a 1717 air written by Henry Carey and was sung at Drury Lane. Britten's upward motif seems to say 'Sally' all the time. 'The Plough Boy' comes from an opera by William Shield written in 1787 for Covent Garden. Britten invents a counter-theme for the whistling ploughboy, which has made the arrangement one of his most memorable melodies. The difficulty and darkness of the first two of these settings was well executed and the last was performed with agility by both singer and pianist.



Ian Venables beside the Housman Society bookstall at Malvern, 7 October 2023 Photo: Linda Hart

The recital ended with Gerald Finzi's 'Oh, Fair to See'. Finzi died in 1956 and over the ensuing years Howard Ferguson put 26 songs, still in manuscript, into publishable order. The seven songs of 'Oh Fair to See' were by various poets and were issued in 1965. Howard Ferguson was away in South Africa and so the first performance (in fact two, before and after supper!), was given

at Finzi's home, Church Farm, by Wilfred Browne and Herbert Sumsion. It is fitting that then, and in this programme, the recital ended with Finzi's last composition, a short poem by Robert Bridges, 'a perfect final love letter' said Stephen Banfield, to his wife, Joy.

Graham Trew, baritone, has given recitals for the Society which he joined in the 1980s, and has written several articles for the Journal. His debut recording of settings of *A Shropshire Lad* won a *Gramophone* award. In 1997 Graham gave short Housman lecture recitals on the stage of the National's Lyttleton Theatre before performances of Tom Stoppard's play *The Invention of Love*.

Subscription Reminder

Members are reminded that annual subscriptions to the Housman Society fall due in May. With today's crippling postal charges, separate renewal notices are no longer feasible and we rely on you to make prompt payment. The ideal, of course, is payment by Standing Order which avoids the bank charges now incurred with cheque payments. Subscriptions remain unchanged at £15.00 (£17.50 joint) or £ 20.00 overseas (£25.00 joint) for which PayPal is preferred.

The Paul Naiditch Collection

By Julian Hunt

Members who read Archie Burnett's obituary of Paul Naiditch in the 2023 Housman Society Journal will be pleased to hear that Paul's renowned collection of books and papers on A.E. Housman is to be preserved. Housman Society member, Linda Hart, tracked down Paul's sister in California, Wendy Naiditch Brickman, who referred her to Ivy Trent, the executor of Paul's will. She in turn introduced Linda to Paul's close colleague, Charlotte Brown, who was Assistant Head of Special Collections at the University of California Los Angeles, 1992-2001 and University Archivist, 1992-2014.



Peter Waine, Charlotte Brown and Nicolas Bell at Trinity College Library, 4 November 2023
Photo Linda Hart

Charlotte was given the task of sorting through Paul's house full of books, files and papers relating to Housman. When Charlotte said that she and her husband (Jerry Hoover) would be in London in early November, for a short visit, Linda arranged to meet her at Trinity College, Cambridge. There they met Nicolas Bell, the College Librarian, along with Housman Society Chairman Peter Waine, and Secretary Max Hunt. Nicolas was able to tell Charlotte a bit about the Housman collection at Trinity, and to hear her early reflections on possible options for the disposition of Paul's Housman collection.

The Housman Society Book Exchange

“Vanity, not avarice, is my ruling passion” said Housman to Grant Richards regarding his practice of refusing to take royalties from composers. On the same theme AEH noted “I always give my consent to all composers, in the hope of becoming immortal somehow”. But he was not a lover of music as is confirmed by Percy Withers who tells how AEH gave the ‘thumbs down’ to Beethoven’s Fifth Symphony. Writing to his brother, Laurence, he complains about “infernal music” and goes on, “Theatres are beginning to exhibit notices asking ladies to remove their hats: my patronage shall be bestowed on the theatre which goes a step further and requests the orchestra to be silent”.

And so it is ironic that I draw your attention in this listing to a rare piece of Housman memorabilia in the form of the programme for a Housman Concert given back in 1951 at St. Laurence’s Parish Church in Ludlow where AEH’s ashes lie against the North Wall. It is only the third example I have seen in my lifetime and comes from a new consignment received by the Book Exchange.

Also listed are the magnificent *Letters* edition of Professor Archie Burnett, some scarce offerings from H.B. Collamore, Carol Efrati and Philip Gardner together with some early Housman offprints. And I remind you that this listing is but a fraction of the Society’s stock holding. Please do get in touch if you are searching for a particular title.

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 2024

Postage and Packing are additional to the prices quoted.

New Consignments

BAYLEY (John). HOUSMAN’S POEMS. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 1992. First edition. 202

pages. A critical appraisal of Housman’s Poetry. Very good in a similar dust jacket although a newspaper clipping is attached to an endpaper. £30

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. Very good in a similar dust jacket. £20

BURNETT (Archie) [editor]. THE LETTERS OF A.E. HOUSMAN. Clarendon Press, Oxford, 2007. 8vo. First edition. Two volumes. 8vo. Volume 1 - 1872-1926. liv. 643 pages. Volume 2 – 1927-1936. 585 pages. Over 2200 letters are here listed and the notes and commentary are simply outstanding. A remarkable production. In very good condition. £125

BURNETT (Archie). A typed letter answering a query relative to his edition of *The Poems of A.E. Housman*. £15

CARTER (John). THE JOHN CARTER COLLECTION OF A.E. HOUSMAN. Lilly Library, Indiana University, 1965. First edition. 8 pages. 500 copies printed for the bookmen of Indiana and 100 copies printed for John Carter. An extremely rare item. Fine. £25

CARTER (John), SPARROW (John) and WHITE (William). A.E. HOUSMAN – A BIBLIOGRAPHY. St. Paul’s Bibliographies, Godalming, 1982. 8vo. 94 pages. An updated, revised and considerably enlarged version of the 1952 first edition. As new. £10

COLLAMORE (H.B.). A COLLECTION OF MANUSCRIPTS, LETTERS, PROOFS, FIRST EDITIONS, ETC. FORMED BY H.B. COLLAMORE OF WEST HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT PRESENTED TO THE LILLY LIBRARY INDIANA UNIVERSITY. No publishers imprint, no date, but Lilly Library, 1961. First edition. 8vo. 37 pages. A Catalogue of the donation of Collamore’s Housman Collection

to the Library. Card covers. Includes a 5-page footnote by John Carter and 'The Poet as House-Guest' by Fraser Bragge Drew. Very good. Scarce. £50

EFRATI (Carol). **THE ROAD OF DANGER, GUILT, AND SHAME. THE LONELY WAY OF A.E. HOUSMAN.** Farleigh Dickinson University Press, Madison, 2002. First edition. 8vo. 370 pages. A study of the man through his poetry. Very detailed – the bibliography runs to twelve pages of small print. A very scarce book. Very good in a repaired dust jacket. £45

GARDNER (Philip) [editor]. **A.E. HOUSMAN. THE CRITICAL HERITAGE.** Routledge, London, 1992. First edition. 437 pages. Published commentary on Housman from the 1890's to the 1950's. Essential reading. Fine in a very good dust jacket. Rare. £75

GOW (A.S.F.) **A.E. Housman – A SKETCH.** Cambridge University Press. 1936. First Edition. 8vo. 137 pages. Green cloth missing the dust jacket. A delightful sketch of Housman by a fellow professor, together with a listing of his writings and indexes to his classical papers. Very good. £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. Very good indeed. £25.

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. Good plus. £30

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. Mint condition. £25

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. £30

HOUSMAN (A.E.). **A SHROPSHIRE LAD.** The Hayloft Press, Birmingham, 1995. Landscape 8vo. 78 pages. With an introduction by Kelsey Thornton and illustrations by Claud Lovat Fraser. These 1920 decorations by Fraser for a proposed edition of *A Shropshire Lad* were rejected by Housman and here appear for the first and only time with the poems for which they were intended. One of 450 numbered copies. Fine. £50

HOUSMAN (Laurence). **A.E.H. SOME POEMS, SOME LETTERS AND A PERSONAL MEMOIR BY HIS BROTHER.** Jonathan Cape, London, 1937. First edition. 8vo. 286 pages. Blue cloth missing the dust jacket. LH's memoir of his brother includes the first printing of the additional poems. Good. £10

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. £10

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.
£60

LUDLOW PARISH CHURCH. A SHROPSHIRE LAD CONCERT. 12pp. 16mo. Programme booklet contained within 8vo. bifolium. Card covers with a reproduction of the Francis Dodd portrait laid down and further unattributed drawings. The concert was held at St. Laurence's Ludlow on 13th August, 1951. Incredibly rare; only the third example I have seen. Very good.
£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. Fine.
£45

NAIDITCH (P.G.). PROBLEMS IN THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF A.E. HOUSMAN. Krown & Spellman, Beverly Hills, 1995. First edition. 8vo. 244 pages. Blue cloth. No dust jacket – as issued. Seventy notes, articles and reviews on Housman. In mint condition.
£35

NAIDITCH (P.G.). AN INDEX TO ARCHIE BURNETT'S COMMENTARY ON 'THE POEMS OF A.E. HOUSMAN'. Bromsgrove, The Housman Society, 1998. 8vo. 26pp, Card covers. Mint condition.
£5

PAGE (Norman). A.E. HOUSMAN – A CRITICAL BIOGRAPHY. Macmillan Press Limited, London, 1996. First edition. 8vo. 236 pages. Cloth in the dust jacket. A beautifully written biography. Ex-Library although there are no ugly pockets and the disfigurements favoured by lending libraries. Very good.
£10

PUGH (John). BROMSGROVE AND THE HOUSMANS. The Housman Society, Bromsgrove, 1974. 178 pages plus 84 pages of appendix. First edition One of the 100 numbered copies signed by the author and with a signed

dedication on the first free endpaper. Mint in mint dust jacket.

£40
PUGH (John). INDEX TO BROMSGROVE AND THE HOUSMANS. The Housman Society, Bromsgrove, 1984. 13 pages. First edition. Soft covers.
In mint condition.
£10

RICHARDS (Grant). HOUSMAN 1897-1936. Oxford University Press, London, 1941. First edition. 8vo. 493 pages. In addition to Richard's reminiscences there is an excellent set of appendices by other hands. Foxing to endpapers otherwise good.
£10

SHAW (Robin). HOUSMAN'S PLACES. The Housman Society, Bromsgrove, 1995. 8vo. 127 pages. Softcover. Very good.
£5

STOPPARD (Tom). THE INVENTION OF LOVE. London, Faber and Faber, 1997. 8vo. 106pp. Paperback. The text of the play based on AEH that ran at the National Theatre. Contains a postcard from Stoppard relating to a query.
£20

SYMONS (Katharine) [contributes]. THE EDWARDIAN MAGAZINE, KING EDWARDS SCHOOL, BATH, Volume 17, number 3, September 1936. 8vo. 36pp. Contains the article 'Memories of A.E.H', which is more often found as the offprint, as below. Rare. Very Good.
£25

SYMONS (Katharine). MEMORIES OF A.E. HOUSMAN. Offprint of article printed in the Edwardian as above. 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. An excellent copy. Rare. Fine.
£20

SYMONS (Katharine). MORE MEMORIES OF A.E.H. Offprint of an article printed in the Edwardian, KES Bath, December 1936. 4pp. Contains a couple of AEH's humorous verses, *The*

Force of Habit and *Heliogabus*. A more difficult item to locate than the previous entry. Fine.
£25

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