

The Membership of 'The Rummer', Charing Cross

The Rummer Tavern, a few doors down from 'Locket's', a popular London eating house, was situated roughly midway between the Royal Palace, coffee houses and taverns of St James's to the north, and the government's offices and Parliament to the south.¹ It was also a short stroll from Horse Guards, built by command of Charles II in the 1660s and in the eighteenth century the *de facto* headquarters of the British Army. The buildings occupied part of what had been the old Tilt Yard off Whitehall and comprised three imposing three-storey wings surrounding an open courtyard. A cavalry contingent, the Horse Guard, was stabled in the north wing, and a company of infantry, the Foot Guard, barracked opposite.

The Rummer's membership reflected its location: a combination of parliamentarians, army officers, aristocrats and merchants. They were largely men of financial substance and of a Whiggist political outlook. Comparing the 1723 and 1725 membership lists, five new names appear in the 1725 list with thirteen names from the 1723 list no longer present. The data does not necessarily indicate a loss of members: the lists submitted to Grand Lodge by its subordinate lodges recorded those present at the date of census.

Many eighteenth-century London inns and taverns hosted masonic lodge meetings and it is probably not a coincidence that the Rummer features in Hogarth's *Night*, a painting centring on a drunken Master and his Tyler staggering home from a lodge meeting. Hogarth used imagery and allusion purposefully, and the location, Charing Cross, and sign, a Rummer, may suggest that the venue was well-known, not least for masonic indulgence.

The presence of a Grand Master, the Earl of Dalkeith, and influential parliamentarians and officials, not least Colonel Martin Bladen,² suggest that the lodge had stature. The following compilation is designed as a companion to Chris Powell's *The Earliest Members of Lodge IV*,³ revisited and extended in AQC 128 as 'The Influence of the Members of Lodge IV on Freemasonry between 1717 and 1740'. As Chris notes, in the light of the tercentenary of the founding of the first Grand Lodge it is appropriate to look at those who were members of London's more influential lodges. As with its companion piece, this reference paper should be regarded as a work in progress.

¹ Michael Stevens and Honor Lewington (eds), *Roger Whitley's Diary 1684-1697* (Bodleian Library, Ms Eng Hist C 711J, 2004) January-1690. Also G.H. Gater and E.P. Wheeler (eds), *Survey of London: Volume 16, St Martin-in-The-Fields I: Charing Cross*. (London: HMSO, 1935), pp. 87-92.

² Although Bladen sold his colonelcy in 1710 he continued to be accorded the courtesy title.

³ Christopher Powell, *The Influence of the Members of Lodge IV on Freemasonry between 1717 and 1740*, AQC 128 (2015).

The Rummer, Charing Cross⁴
1723 Membership List

Colonel Innwood, Master
Colonel Purcell, Senior Warden
Mr Sherigley, Junior Warden

Sir John Osburne	Captain Furnes
Sir George Cook	Captain Phillips
Colonel Watkins	Captain Earle
William Bucknall Esq.	Colonel Moreton
Captain Robertson	Colonel Houghton
Jos. Taylor Esq.	Mr [Martin] Bladen
Mr [George] Graham	Major Godolphin
John Grove Esq.	Captain Innes
Thomas Howard Esq.	Mr Blackburne
Dr Alex Stewart Esq.	Captain William Herbert
Thomas Church Esq.	Mr Emilly
George Milburne Esq.	Lord Drogheda
William Billers	Mr Villers
Mr Viner	Captain Rigby
Sir William Middleton	Mr Cook
Colonel Pitt	Colonel George Churchill
Captain Lucy	Mr White
Mr Crowch	Captain Thomas Herbert
Lord Belhaven	Richard Croft
Sir John Buckworth	Sir Henry Bateman
Mr Twizelton	Captain Rodney
Captain Gendrault	Sir Sydenham Fowlke
James Bryan Esq.	Mr Alex. Strahan
Mr Charles Hayes	Mr Jos. Handcock
Dr Pettiward	Captain Stapleton
Captain Pearce	Mr Heathcote
Mr Reynolds	

⁴ The lodge appears in the 1723 and 1725 lists but not thereafter. It is named 'The Rummery' in the first list of lodges at the beginning of *QC Antigrapha*, volume X, p. 8), and the 'Rummer Tavern' in the Engraved Lists 1723-24 and 1725. The names of lodge members are taken from W.J. Songhurst (ed), *Quatuor Coronatorum Antigrapha*, volume X (London: QC Lodge No. 2076, 1913), (*QC Antigrapha*).

***The Rummer, Charing Cross
1725 Membership List***

Colonel Houghton, Master
Major Godolphin, Senior Warden
J. Hancock, Junior Warden

Francis, Earl of Dalkeith	William Bucknall Esq.
Ald. Billart [Billers]	Sir John Buckworth
Sir Henry Bateman	Mr Bryan
Mr [Martin] Bladen	Mr Blackbourn
Sir George Cook	Thomas Church Esq.
Mr Crouch	Edward Coke Esq.
[Colonel] George Churchill Esq.	Captain Earle
John Emilie Esq.	Captain Furnace
John Groves Esq.	Captain Gendrault
Thomas Herbert Esq.	Charles Hay Esq.
[George] Heathcote Esq.	William Herbert Esq.
Colonel Innwood	Captain Innes
John Lumley Esq.	Geo. Milbourn Esq.
Sir William Middleton	Colonel Moreton
Captain Phillips	Colonel Pitt
Mr Pethward	Captain Rodney
Francis Reynolds Esq.	Alexander Stuart MD
Abraham Shrigley Esq.	Alexander Strahan Esq.
Captain Stapleton	Mr Twistleton
Jos. Taylor Esq.	William Thompson Esq.
Mr Viner	Mr Villars
Colonel Watkins	Mr [John] White

The Masters

Colonel Thomas Inwood

Colonel Thomas Inwood (*d.*1747?),⁵ in 1723 the Master of the lodge, commanded a company in the 1st Regiment of Foot Guards.⁶ He had been commissioned an ensign in the regiment in 1707 and promoted to second major in 1718.⁷ The 1st Foot was prestigious and home to several prominent Freemasons including the Hon. Colonel George Carpenter (c.1694-1749), later 2nd baron Carpenter of Killaghy, MP for Morpeth from 1717 until 1727.⁸ The Regimental Colonel from 1715 through to 1721 was John, 2nd Duke of Montagu, Grand Master of Grand Lodge in 1721-2.

Inwood, the son of a wealthy City coal merchant,⁹ lived in Stanmore where he was part of James Brydges, the Duke of Chandos' social set.¹⁰ Brydges had gained appointment as Paymaster of the Forces from 1705-13 and amassed a considerable - £600,000 - fortune as a result. It was at the Duke's estate, Cannons, that Inwood was introduced to John Theophilus Desaguliers, the Duke's chaplain and engineering adviser, known more widely as the third Grand Master and later Deputy Grand Master of Grand Lodge.¹¹ Inwood later leased a property from Chandos close to the Rummer at Scotland Yard at an annual rent of £50.¹²

Inwood's first wife died in 1731 and the following year he married Annabella Brydges, Chandos' niece.¹³ Her dowry included 40 shares in the Sun Life Company valued at £700, an annuity and £3,000 cash.¹⁴ Inwood also benefited directly from Chandos' patronage, appointed Deputy Clerk of the Hanaper, an office in Chancery and a sinecure in Chandos' gift.¹⁵

⁵ The church burial records at Great Stanmore show a date of burial for a Thomas Inwood of 10 October 1746 however press notices in the *London Evening Post*, 26 – 28 March 1747 and *Whitehall Evening Post or London Intelligencer*, 2- 4 April 1747, give a later date in March 1747. It is possible that the October 1746 burial notice was in respect of a son.

⁶ *Daily Courant*, 18 May 1721; *Evening Post*, 2 – 4 August 1722; *Parker's Penny Post*, 10 March 1727; the regiment was renamed 'The Grenadier Guards' in 1815. A company comprised three commissioned officers, three sergeants, three corporals, two drummers and seventy-five privates.

⁷ William Yonge, *A List of the Colonels, Lieutenant Colonels, Majors, Captains, Lieutenants, and Ensigns of His Majesty's Forces on the British Establishment* (London: T. Cox, 1740), p. 12.

⁸ Grand Warden in 1729 and a member of the Horn Tavern lodge.

⁹ *Universal Spectator and Weekly Journal*, 27 March 1731.

¹⁰ James Brydges, Duke of Chandos (1673- 1744). The eldest child of Sir James Brydges, 3rd Bt., he was created a duke in 1719. He accumulated some £600,000 as Paymaster to the Queen's Forces under Queen Anne.

¹¹ David Hunter, *The Lives of George Frideric Handel* (Woodbridge: Boydell Press, 2015), p. 202. Cf. also, Ric Berman, *Foundations of Modern Freemasonry* (Brighton: Sussex Academic: 2012), chapter two.

¹² C.H. Collins Baker and M.I. Baker, *The Life and Circumstances of James Brydges First Duke of Chandos* (Oxford: OUP, 1949), p. 375).

¹³ Rosemary O'Day (ed), *Cassandra Brydges, Duchess of Chandos, 1670-1735: Life & Letters* (Martlesham: Boydell & Brewer, 2007), p. 275, fns 10, 11, 12.

¹⁴ Ibid.

¹⁵ *Weekly Miscellany*, 19 June 1736.

A Thomas Inwood, probably the same person, sat as a Justice of the Peace on the Middlesex Bench,¹⁶ and appointment that underlines his Whig credentials.¹⁷

Colonel Daniel Houghton

Colonel Daniel Houghton (*d.*1748), the Master of the Rummer in 1725, was commissioned a lieutenant in 1708 and in 1724 promoted to second major in the 1st Foot having served as captain and captain-lieutenant.¹⁸ He was Senior Grand Warden in 1725 when Desaguliers was Deputy Grand Master and later a member of the pivotal Grand Charity Committee.

Like Inwood, Houghton was also a magistrate, appointed in 1724,¹⁹ as were at least thirteen of the Rummer's fifty-six members.²⁰ He was also a vestryman for St George, Hanover Square alongside numerous members of the great and good, including several fellow Freemasons, not least Martin Bladen.²¹

Houghton was subsequently promoted brigadier general and became colonel of his own regiment of Foot, 'Houghton's Regiment', the 56th, later renumbered the 45th, established in 1741 for service during the War of Austrian Succession.²² The regiment was posted to Gibraltar in 1745 and Nova Scotia in 1747. Houghton died the following year. His Will was proved at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on 15 January 1748.

The Peers and Baronets

Earl of Dalkeith

Francis Scott, 5th Earl of Dalkeith and 2nd Duke of Buccleuch (1695-1751), was installed as Grand Master in 1723 in succession to the Duke of Wharton. He later instigated and was a member of the Grand Charity Committee, which was given responsibility for the day-to-day management of Grand Lodge's affairs. Daniel Houghton was another member of the Committee.

Dalkeith was the grandson of James Scott, the 1st Duke of Monmouth, the eldest illegitimate son of Charles II who was later beheaded by James II. Styled as Earl Dalkeith, he succeeded to as Duke of Buccleuch in 1732.

¹⁶ Middlesex Sessions Papers - Justices' Working Documents, 6 September 1714: London Metropolitan Archives, London Lives [LL] ref: LMSMPS01410009.

¹⁷ Berman, *Foundations*, chapter three.

¹⁸ *Weekly Journal or Saturday's Post*, 11 July 1724 et al.

¹⁹ *Weekly Journal or Saturday's Post*, 25 August 1724.

²⁰ Colonel Houghton, Sir Henry Bateman, Sir William Billers, William Bucknall, James Cook, Sir George Cook, Captain Giles Earle, Charles Hayes, Francis Reynolds, Alexander Strahan, Joseph Taylor, Robert Viner and Colonel George Watkins. Others (e.g. Reynolds and Hayes) were appointed to the bench at later dates.

²¹ Acts of Parliament Relating to the Parish of St. George Hanover Square (London: HMSO, 1813), pp. 21-3.

²² NA, SP 41/13/13; 41/13/126.

Dalkeith was wealthy, well-connected and an ardent Hanoverian,²³ his loyalty rewarded with admission to the Privy Council in 1725 and investiture as a Knight of the Thistle, Scotland's premier chivalric order. He was also a Fellow of the Royal Society (elected in 1724), and a member and patron of the Spalding Gentleman's Society. Senior Freemasons were associated with both organisations, not least Desaguliers.

Dalkeith maintained a large house in Albemarle Street and later Grosvenor Street in London, but was essentially a Scottish peer who spent most of his time at his Scottish estate south-east of Edinburgh. He was absent on the date of his installation as Grand Master but attended all subsequent meetings of Grand Lodge during his year in office. The date of Dalkeith's initiation as a Freemason is not known but pre-dated 1723, when Stukeley records his attendance at the Fountain Tavern in the Strand. Dalkeith is also listed in the 1723 *Constitutions* as the Master of the Rummer - lodge XI - in Anderson's list.²⁴

Dalkeith's period in office as Grand Master allowed Desaguliers, his Deputy, to re-establish Whig control after the Duke of Wharton's disruptive tenure and the Grand Lodge *Be Minutes* provide evidence of Desaguliers' drive to cement greater centralisation: no new lodge nor its Master and Wardens would be recognised unless 'regularly constituted' by Grand Lodge; 'no Brother belonging to any lodge within the Bills of Mortality [would] be admitted to any lodge as a Visitor unless he be known to ... that lodge'; and 'no Strange Brother, however Skilled in Masonry [would] be admitted without taking the Obligation over again'.²⁵

Desaguliers accompanied Dalkeith during his year in office and on each occasion that he attended Grand Lodge thereafter. The first such meeting was in November 1724 - the first Quarterly Communication at which past Grand Masters were permitted to attend. Dalkeith used the opportunity to recommend the establishment of the Grand Charity to which a slate of Desaguliers' supporters would later be appointed.²⁶

Lord Belhaven

Lord Belhaven was John Hamilton, 4th Lord Belhaven and Stenton (*d.*1764), a Scottish peer. He succeeded to the title following the death at sea of his father in November 1721 on route to Barbados where he had been appointed Governor.²⁷ Belhaven was Commissioner for the improvement of trade and from 1735-64 held the office of General of the Mint for Scotland. He died unmarried.

Lord Drogheda

²³ In addition to his own assets, he also inherited an income of £12,000 per year on the death of his mother in 1724: *Parker's London News or the Impartial Intelligencer*, 13 April 1724.

²⁴ Cf. *Grand Lodge Minutes I, Preface*, p. ix.

²⁵ Cf. *Grand Lodge Minutes I*, p. 146; also pp. 91, 102, 105, 128 and 134.

²⁶ At the February 1735 meeting of Grand Lodge, Dalkeith was recorded in the *Minutes* as the Duke of Buccleuch. He donated £27 10s to the General Charity with a recommendation that charitable assistance be given to a member of the Rummer. The payment was later made by Grand Lodge on Desaguliers' proposition.

²⁷ 3rd Lord Belhaven and Stenton had been a Scottish Representative Peer and a Lord of the Bedchamber to Prince George, Prince of Wales. Belhaven was appointed Governor of Barbados in 1721 but the vessel carrying him to the Caribbean struck the Lizard on the outbound journey and all those on board, bar three, were drowned. Cf., among many reports, *Evening Post*, 25 - 28 November 1721.

Henry Moore, 4th Earl of Drogheda (1700-1727), was MP for Camelford 1722-7. Wealthy in his own right, he inherited the Monasterevan estate (Moore Abbey) from Lord Loftus, his grandfather, in 1725. Moore succeeded to his own title and estates in 1713 and was sent on the Grand Tour in 1716. He was a dissolute drunk and on his return his grandmother obtained a release from responsibility from the Irish Lord Chancellor: 'he exceeds all the youth that ever went before him for wickedness'.

Moore dissipated much of his family's wealth in gambling and debauchery and died at Dublin in 1727. He had married but died without issue. His debts at probate exceeded £180,000, the equivalent of over £100 million using real earnings as a measure of inflation, and his successor was obliged to sell most of the family's estates in Co. Louth to satisfy his creditors.²⁸

Sir Henry Bateman

Sir Henry Bateman (d.1729), a merchant, had been knighted in 1717. He was a loyal Whig and was appointed a Justice of the Peace for Middlesex in September 1722.²⁹ He was active on the bench and the London press and Middlesex Sessions' Papers record numerous court cases.

Sir William Billers

Part of the 1727 intake to the London magistrates' bench, Sir William Billers (1689-1745), has been portrayed as part of the 'big bourgeoisie of Hanoverian London'.³⁰ He was a senior figure in the Worshipful Company of Haberdashers and in City politics, elected a City Sheriff in 1721, an Alderman in 1722 and Lord Mayor of London in 1734.³¹ Another loyalist, Billers commanded the Honourable Artillery Company, the oldest regiment in the British army and a principal safeguard against the London mob. As Lord Mayor, he also commanded the Blue Regiment of Trained Bands, one of six militia regiments under the Mayor's jurisdiction.

Billers was later sworn to the Privy Council and his fealty to the government's cause and less than forgiving judicial approach is set out in over seven hundred contemporary press reports running from 1727 until his death. He was elected FRS in 1726, proposed by Robert Nesbitt, his physician.

Sir John Buckworth

Sir John Buckworth (1700-1758), served in the 1st Foot Guards as a Lieutenant and Captain.³² After standing unsuccessfully for Heytesbury in 1722, he was returned as MP for Weobley in

²⁸ R. Sedgwick (ed), *The History of Parliament: the House of Commons 1715-1754*, 'Moore, Henry, 4th Earl of Drogheda (1700-27)'. Cf., also, Anne, Countess of Drogheda, *History of the Moore Family* (Belfast, 1902), pp. 112-6, 145.

²⁹ *London Journal*, 15 September 1722; *Weekly Journal or Saturday's Post*, 22 December 1722.

³⁰ Nicholas Rogers, 'Money, Land and Lineage: The Big Bourgeoisie of Hanoverian London', *Social History*, 4.3 (1979), 437-54, esp. 448-9.

³¹ John Noorthouck, *A New History of London* (London, 1773), vol. I, pp 889-93.

³² *Post Boy*, 31 July 1722 - 2 August 1722.

1734, a district with 93 electors. Buckworth sat as a magistrate at the Middlesex Sessions, sharing the bench with Henry Fielding.³³ His affluence is suggested by his ownership of large properties at Rathbone Place in London and West Sheen in Surrey.

Sir George Cook

Sir George Cook (16..?-1740), was also a mainstay of the new bourgeoisie, holding office as Chief Prothonotary or chief administrator of the Court of Common Pleas from his legal chambers in the Temple.³⁴ He was affluent, owning a townhouse in Lincoln's Inn Fields and a substantial estate in Uxbridge,³⁵ and close to the Whig establishment, gaining the Duke of Newcastle's recommendation to represent Middlesex in Parliament, albeit that his election bid was unsuccessful.³⁶

Sir Sydenham Fowke

Born in Cumberland, Sir Sydenham Fowke (c.1679-1743),³⁷ was married to Frances, the youngest daughter and wealthy co-heiress of Edward Progers (d.1713), briefly MP for Breconshire and the holder of numerous sinecures. It was Fowke's second marriage. In addition to his estates in Wales, Progers had been Lord of the Manor of West Stow in Suffolk, properties that Fowke inherited through his wife.³⁸

Fowke had been a Captain in the Earl of Galway's Foot³⁹ and was knighted in 1723,⁴⁰ probably to mark his status and influence in Suffolk and to reward his political loyalty. In 1727 he received the prestigious sinecure of Gentleman in Ordinary to His Majesty's Privy Chamber.⁴¹

Sir William Middleton

Sir William Middleton, 3rd Bt. (c.1700-1757), inherited estates at Belsay in Northumberland and the family seat at Belsay Castle. These had been held by the family since the thirteenth century. The Middletons had represented the county in Parliament since the fifteenth century and Sir William, who succeeded to the baronetcy in 1717, sat for Northumberland from 1722 until his death. He voted with the government on every occasion barring the Excise Bill in 1733 and the Place Bill in 1740.

Despite a strong Presbyterian family tradition, Middleton was a member of the Jockey Club and established a successful stud farm, importing Arabian horses. He appears in the Duke of

³³ Middlesex Sessions: Sessions Papers - Justices' Working Documents, May 1749; LL ref: LMSMPS503950023.

³⁴ <http://www.oldbaileyonline.org>: *Proceedings of the Old Bailey*, 16 April 1740.

³⁵ *London Evening Post*, 10 – 12 March 1737.

³⁶ *Daily Journal*, 15 December 1721; *Weekly Journal or British Gazetteer*, 13 January 1722; *Evening Post*, 8 March 1722, et al.

³⁷ He was not born a baronet. His parents were commoners: Richard Fowke and Elizabeth Sydenham.

³⁸ B.D. Hemming, *The History of Parliament: the House of Commons 1660-1690* (Boydell & Brewer, 1983), 'Progers, Edward (1621-1713), of Bushy House, Hampton, Mdx'.

³⁹ William A. Shaw & F.H. Slingsby (eds), *Calendar of Treasury Books, Volume 32, 1718* (London: HMSO, 1962), pp. cccxcviii-cdxvi, 'Declared Accounts: Army Debentures, 29 September 1717 to 1 March 1723-4'.

⁴⁰ *Daily Courant*, 4 February 1723; *Daily Post*, 4 February 1723.

⁴¹ *London Journal*, 14 October 1727.

Newcastle's Secret Service accounts in 1754, receiving an annual pension of £800. It is unclear when this commenced.⁴²

Sir John Osburne

Sir John Osburne [Osborne] (d.1743), 7th Bt., succeeded his brother in 1719. An Anglo-Irish member of the Irish House of Commons, he represented Lismore from 1719-27, and Waterford County from 1727-43, both constituencies being close to his main estate at Tipperary. Osborne married Editha, the daughter of the wealthy William Proby, a former Governor of the East India Company's Fort St George in India, whose descendants were subsequently ennobled as the Earls of Carysfort in the Irish peerage.

Military Officers

Colonel George Churchill

Colonel George Churchill (c.1690-1753), was the illegitimate or natural son of Admiral George Churchill (*bap.*1654-1710), a younger brother of the Duke of Marlborough. He was a cousin of Colonel (later General) Charles Churchill and likewise pursued a career in the army, commissioned into the 2nd Regiment of Foot as a lieutenant on 12 January 1707,⁴³ becoming second major in 1739,⁴⁴ and first major the following year.⁴⁵

Churchill was promoted lieutenant colonel of the regiment in 1743⁴⁶ and made brigadier general the year after. He was subsequently promoted to major general and lieutenant general. His wife was the sister of Sir John Hobart, MP for St Ives and, like Martin Bladen, a Commissioner at the Board of Trade.

Colonel George Watkins

Colonel George Watkins was appointed to the Middlesex bench in June 1721. He had been a major in Sir Robert Rich's Regiment of Foot,⁴⁷ commanded a regiment of Grenadiers⁴⁸ and was later appointed Governor of South Sea Castle, Henry VIII's fort at the mouth of the Solent.⁴⁹

Watkins' censure by Parliament in 1714 for misappropriation of Army funds did not have a noticeably negative impact on his career:

⁴² Sedgwick, *The History of Parliament: the House of Commons 1715-1754*.

⁴³ William Yonge, *A List of the Colonels, Lieutenant Colonels, Majors, Captains, Lieutenants, and Ensigns of His Majesty's Forces on the British Establishment* (London: T. Cox, 1740), p. 14.

⁴⁴ *London Gazette*, 14 – 17 July 1739.

⁴⁵ *London Gazette*, 27 – 30 December 1740.

⁴⁶ *London Evening Post*, 23 – 26 April 1743.

⁴⁷ William A. Shaw and F.H. Slingsby (eds.), *Calendar of Treasury Books* (London, 1960), vol. 32, p. 402. Cf., also, *Foundations*, 89, 127-8, 130; and W.R. Williams, 'Rich, Sir Robert, fourth baronet (1685–1768)', rev. Jonathan Spain, *ODNB* (Oxford: OUP, 2004; online edn, Oct 2007, accessed 20 April 2016).

Sir Robert Rich (1685–1768): doi:10.1093/ref:odnb/23496. Rich was also a senior member of the Horn.

⁴⁸ *Post Boy*, 1 – 4 November 1707.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*, vol. 31, p. 145.

Colonel Watkins alledges [sic] for himself, 'That his Regiment never complained for want of Cloathing; that to the best of his Remembrance he took care, that every Man in his Regiment, should be furnished with Cloathing, according to the Custom of the Army: But that he can give no Account thereof, by Reason of the Distance of Time. Since the Colonel pretends not to offer any Proof sufficient to confront or weaken the Evidence above-stated, we are left to suppose, that out of these two Contracts, he hath applied above Four Thousand Pounds to his own private Use.'⁵⁰

Colonel Moreton was probably the Hon. Lewis Ducie Moreton, of the 3rd Regiment of Foot Guards and later Colonel of Moreton's own Regiment of Marines.⁵¹ He was the younger son of Lord Ducie ; his older brother, Matthew, sat as MP *inter alia* for 'the venal borough' of Cricklade (1721-2), Calne (1723-7) and Tregony (1729-34), voting with the administration on all occasions.⁵²

Colonel Pitt was probably Colonel Thomas Pitt (1688-1729), of Pall Mall in London. He was commissioned into Captain Killigrew's Regiment of Dragoons in 1709 at a cost of 1,000 guineas, and became Colonel of his own Regiment of Horse from 1715-26 (renamed Her Royal Highnesses' Regiment of Horse in 1716⁵³), and of the 3rd Foot from 1726 until his death. He was appointed Governor of the Leeward Islands in 1728. Pitt was MP for Wilton (1713-27) and for Old Sarum (1727-28).

A possible alternative is Colonel John Pitt (c.1698-1754), the 'good-for-nothing colonel', who was commissioned into the 1st Regiment of Foot Guards in 1717 as a Captain and Lieutenant Colonel and became a favoured ADC to the King in 1722.

Major William Godolphin, Senior Warden in 1725, was also a member of the lodge at the Mitre, Reading,⁵⁴ and the ranking officer in the 1st Troop of Horse Grenadier Guards. Other members of the Mitre from the same regiment include Captain John Nangle, the Adjutant, and Captain John Duverneth, a Huguenot and the Senior Captain-of-Horse who in 1746 was appointed lieutenant colonel.⁵⁵

Captain Phillips was probably Edward Phillips, a captain in General Whetham's Regiment of Foot. He had been commissioned as a lieutenant in 1712 and purchased his captaincy in 1722.⁵⁶

Captain Innes may have been either James Innes, commissioned into Colonel Bland's Regiment of Foot in 1722, or George Innes, commissioned into His Majesty's Royal Regiment

⁵⁰ *The History and Proceedings of the House of Commons: Volume 5, 1713-1714* (London: Chandler, 1742). Cf., British History Online <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/commons-hist-proceedings/vol5/pp78-106>, accessed 18 March 2016.

⁵¹ Yonge, *A list of the Colonels...*

⁵² Sedgwick, *The History of Parliament: the House of Commons 1715-1754*.

⁵³ *British Weekly Mercury*, 25 January – 1 February 1716.

⁵⁴ In keeping with pre-eighteenth century practice, at least one member of the lodge, in this case, a Jonathan Hicks, was also an operative mason. The point is substantiated by a classified advertisement seeking the return of an absconded stone mason's apprentice published in the *London Journal*, 22 May 1725.

⁵⁵ Cf., *Foundations*, p. 131.

⁵⁶ Yonge, *A list of the Colonels...*

of Foot in 1720. However there are at least two other possibilities, including Robert Innes and William Innes.⁵⁷

Captain William Herbert (c.1696-1757), was the fifth son of Thomas Herbert, 8th Earl of Pembroke. He was commissioned a lieutenant into the 1st Life Guards (Montagu's regiment) in 1722 and made a captain and lieutenant colonel of the 1st Foot Guards in 1738. He was later ADC to George II (1745) and successively colonel of the 6th Marines (1747), 14th Foot (1747-53) and 2nd Dragoon Guards (1753-d.) A loyal Whig, he was elected MP for Wilton (1734-57), voting with the government in all recorded divisions. His sinecures included Groom of the Bedchamber (1740-d) and Paymaster to the Gibraltar Garrison (1740-d).⁵⁸

Captain Thomas Herbert (1639-1739), William's brother, was the fourth son of the 8th Earl of Pembroke. He was commissioned into the 1st Regiment of Foot in 1719 as a lieutenant and captain, and became a captain and lieutenant colonel in 1730. He preceded his brother, William, as Paymaster to the Gibraltar Garrison (1735-d.) and served as equerry to the king (1735-d.). His loyalty as a government supporter – he sat as MP for Newport (1726-39) – was rewarded with a position as a Commissioner of Revenue from 1737 until his death, notwithstanding that he absented himself from the parliamentary vote on the Excise Bill in 1733.⁵⁹

Captain Earle was probably Giles Earle (c.1678-1758), Whig MP for Chippenham (1715-22) and Malmesbury (1722-47). He was the sixth son of Sir Thomas Earle, a highly successful merchant and later Lord Mayor of Bristol. Earle was commissioned a captain into the 33rd Foot in 1702 and obtained a captaincy in the more prestigious Royal Horse Guards in 1711. He was a professional soldier and was late promoted to Commissary of Musters and Commissary-General in Spain (1711) and Minorca (1712-17). Earle was granted the position of a Groom of the Bedchamber to the Prince of Wales (1718-20) and numerous other sinecures, including Commissioner of Irish Revenue (1728-37) and High Steward of Malmesbury (1741-2). He chaired the influential Parliamentary Committee of Privileges and Elections (1727-41) and was made a Lord of the Treasury (1737-42).⁶⁰

Captain Lucy may have been George Lucy, commissioned an ensign in 1720, however, he was only promoted to a captaincy – in Colonel Dallway's Regiment of Foot – in 1731. A better alternative may be Captain Theophilus Lucy.⁶¹

Captain James Gendrault was commissioned a captain in 1715; he joined Colonel St George's Regiment of Foot in 1725.⁶²

Captain Henry Stapleton was commissioned as in the 25th Foot in 1712.⁶³

⁵⁷ George Dalton, *George the First's Army, 1714-1727* (London: Eyre & Spottiswoode, 1910), pp. 133, 364.

⁵⁸ Sedgwick, *The History of Parliament: the House of Commons 1715-1754*.

⁵⁹ Ibid.

⁶⁰ Ibid.

⁶¹ Dalton, *George the First's Army, 1714-1727*, p. 301.

⁶² *London Evening Post*, 15 – 17 November 1739.

⁶³ Dalton, *George the First's Army, 1714-1727*, p. 307.

Captain Charles William Pearce served in Colonel Irwin's Regiment of Foot; he was commissioned as an ensign in 1703 and became lieutenant colonel of the regiment in 1736.⁶⁴

Captains Rodney and Rigby are not mentioned in Yonge's *List of Colonels etc.* They had either left the army by the date of publication – 1740 – or were possibly naval rather than army officers. A Captain Rodney was in command of HMS Sheerness in 1744;⁶⁵ and a Captain Charles Rigby commanded the *Enfield*, an East India vessel.⁶⁶

Although a *Captain Robertson* commanded the *Dolphin*, a South Sea Company vessel,⁶⁷ and later the *Tokeley*, inbound from Ancona,⁶⁸ given the nature of the lodge's membership a more probable Captain Robertson may be Jonathan Robertson, who was commissioned a captain in the army in 1715,⁶⁹ or Captain-Lieutenant John Robertson of Colonel Cornwallis' Regiment of Foot.⁷⁰

Captain Furnes was probably George Furnese, commissioned a captain in the King's Own Regiment of Horse in 1717.

Among other lodge members, the more notable include:

Martin Bladen

Martin Bladen (1680-1746), had a military career in Ireland, Spain and Portugal. He was commissioned an ensign into Colonel Fairfax's Regiment of Foot, the 5th, in 1697, and promoted to captain then major under Sir Charles Hotham, who took over command of the regiment. Bladen was promoted to colonel in Spain 1709.

Bladen sold his colonelcy in 1710 to stand for Parliament. He was initially unsuccessful but was appointed to the position of Comptroller of the Royal Mint in 1714 and finally elected to represent Stockbridge in Hampshire in 1715, the same year he was elected to the Irish House of Commons as an IMP for Bandon (1715-27) and sworn to the Irish Privy Council.

Bladen rejected Walpole's offer of a position as Britain's envoy to Switzerland and instead chose to serve as Joint Secretary to the Irish Lord Justices (1715-17) alongside Charles Delafaye. He was thereafter was appointed by Newcastle to the Board of Trade and Plantations and represented Britain at the 1719 Paris Conference that demarcated certain of the boundaries between British and French North America.⁷¹ In 1732, Bladen was Britain's principal representative at the Antwerp Conference that agreed multi-lateral tariffs between Britain, the Austrian Netherlands and the United Provinces.⁷²

⁶⁴ Yonge, *A list of the Colonels...*

⁶⁵ *Daily Gazetteer*, 15 September 1744.

⁶⁶ *British Journal*, 23 July 1726; *Universal Spectator and Weekly Journal*, 31 May 1729.

⁶⁷ *Evening Post*, 23 – 26 July 1726.

⁶⁸ *Daily Journal*, 10 May 1727.

⁶⁹ Dalton, *George the First's Army, 1714-1727*, p.

⁷⁰ *Daily Post*, 16 March 1732.

⁷¹ NA, SP 78/166/1.

⁷² Cf., for example, NA, SP 77/85, 86, 87.

Bladen's influence as a Commissioner at the Board of Trade was almost tangible and his dedication to the management of colonial affairs known widely. Horace Walpole's pun was that Bladen was so effective at his job that he was 'Trade' and his less impactful colleagues merely 'Board'.⁷³

Bladen influenced colonial patronage in the North American colonies and ensured that his friends and family benefited. His second wife, Frances Foche, brought a dowry of substantial plantation holdings in the West Indies and Bladen (temporarily) became wealthy as a consequence. He was elected for Maldon in Essex in 1734 and was rewarded further for his loyalty to Walpole and Newcastle in 1741 with the gift of the safe Admiralty seat of Portsmouth, which he held until his death.

George Graham

George Graham (1673-1751), one of Britain's most influential and skilled horologists and scientific instrument makers, had been elected Master of the Clockmakers Company in 1722. He was elected FRS 1721 and sat on the Society's Council in 1722, 1724, 1726, 1728 and 1730. Graham's election had been proposed by Martin Folkes of the Bedford Head lodge, a Vice President and later President of the Royal Society.

Alexander Stuart

Alexander Stuart (c.1673-1742), a physician and natural philosopher, practised as a naval then military surgeon and was the first physician at the Westminster Hospital (1719-33). He was appointed Physician-in-Ordinary to Queen Caroline in 1728 and in 1733 co-founded St George's Hospital where he was the principal physician from 1733-36. Stuart received numerous honours and was appointed a foreign member of the French Academy of Sciences. He was elected FRS in 1714, proposed by Hans Sloane, and received the Copley Medal in 1740. Stuart proposed several fellow Freemasons for election to the Royal Society, including William Graeme in 1730 and Martin Clare in 1735. Other Freemasons did the same, most notably Martin Folkes, who proposed at least eleven other Freemasons for election, and William Jones, who proposed at least nine.⁷⁴

John White

John White (1699-1768), succeeded his father as MP for Retford in 1733 and the same year became a Trustee of the Georgia colony; he represented Retford until his death. A dissenter and 'no friend to [the] church establishment', White resigned from the Georgia Council in 1736, although he remained a Trustee, after objecting to the policy of endowing the Church of England with land in the colony. He was a Whig and a firm political ally of the Duke of Newcastle who voted with the government consistently.⁷⁵

George Heathcote

⁷³ Horace Walpole, *Memoirs of the Reign of King George the Third* (London: Richard Bentley, 1845), volume 2, pp. 69-70.

⁷⁴ *Foundations*, chapter four.

⁷⁵ Sedgwick, *The History of Parliament: the House of Commons 1715-1754*.

George Heathcote (1700-1768), a nephew of Sir Gilbert Heathcote, Governor of the Bank of England, was a West India merchant and one of the wealthiest commoners in Britain. He sat as MP for Hindon (1727-34), Southwark (1734-41) and London (1741-47), and was elected Lord Mayor in 1742. He was regarded as a loyal Whig until 1730 when he spoke out against the government, and was thereafter viewed as 'one of the most frequent and violent speakers for the Opposition'.⁷⁶

Heathcote's West Indian interests were complemented by a directorship at the South Sea Company (1730-33) and membership then election as Master of the Salters' Company. He was elected FRS in 1729, proposed by James Douglas, a member of the King's Arms lodge, Sir Hans Sloane and William Sloane, a member of the Dolphin, and became a Trustee of the Georgia colony in 1732.

Thomas Watkins

Thomas Watkins (*fl.* 1714-1759), the mathematician and natural philosopher, was elected FRS in 1714, proposed by Richard Waller and William Jones, a fellow mathematician and a member of the Queen's Head lodge in Hollis Street.

And of the remainder,

Mr Abraham Shrigley [Sherigley], Junior Warden in 1723, is not readily identifiable. The name is Irish in origin and a Mr Sherigley was in 1717 Deputy Muster Master General of Ireland.⁷⁷ Phonetic spellings range from Shrigly and Shregly to Sherigley.

The most probable candidate for *William Bucknall* is the successful London brewer of that name.⁷⁸ Bucknall had an estate at Oxney in Hertfordshire⁷⁹ and in 1716 was appointed Sheriff of Hertford.⁸⁰ He served as a magistrate on the Middlesex bench in the 1720s and 1730s.⁸¹ His Will was proved at Canterbury in April 1746.⁸²

Given the relative affluence of most members of the Rummer, *Mr Viner* was probably Robert Vyner of Swakeley near Ickenham in Middlesex. His father, Thomas, had extensive property holdings at Uxbridge and Ickenham to the west of London which were inherited by his son,⁸³ and the Berkshire Record Office holds a record of a bond of £10,000 placed with Vyner in 1720 to secure repayment of a loan of £5,250 to a John Lansdell of the Tower of London.⁸⁴ Vyner was appointed a magistrate in 1719 but was only moderately active; the Middlesex Justices' Working Documents contain less than a dozen instances of him sitting between 1724 and 1730.

⁷⁶ Ibid.

⁷⁷ *Daily Courant*, 14 September 1717.

⁷⁸ *Daily Post*, 16 March 1724; *Daily Journal*, 31 October 1727 et al.

⁷⁹ *London Evening Post*, 22 March – 25 March 1746.

⁸⁰ *Weekly Journal or British Gazetteer*, 17 November 1716.

⁸¹ Cf., for example, Middlesex Sessions' Justices' Working Documents, April 1726; LL ref: LMSMPS502340056.

⁸² Wills Proved at Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 24 April 1746: LL ref: wills_1740_1749_2531300_552154.

⁸³ LMA: ACC/0503/445 1720 and LMA: ACC/85/351 31 July 1741; ACC/85/350 & 377 31 July 1741.

⁸⁴ Berkshire Record Office: D/EZ 77/3/4.

Dr Pettiward is likely to have been the Rev. Dr Daniel Pettiward of Putney, whose family had vast landholdings across West London in Putney and West Brompton.⁸⁵

Alexander Strahan was the London-based colonial/army agent responsible for obtaining military and other supplies for the New York colony. He worked as Governor Hunter's London agent from at least 1712,⁸⁶ and is recorded receiving funds from James Brydges, the Paymaster for the Forces.⁸⁷ Strahan kept in close touch with the Board of Trade and Plantations, intermediating between New York and London, and Bladen's presence in the lodge suggests that there were masonic as well as professional connections. Strahan was appointed a magistrate on the Middlesex bench in 1719.

Francis Reynolds lived in Clifford Street, St James's, and was active as a magistrate from 1724⁸⁸ through to the 1750s. The connection with Bladen indicates that he may be the same Francis Reynolds who with his brother held the position of Provost Marshal General of Barbados and was Marshal of the Vice Admiralty Court in his own right.⁸⁹

Charles Hayes of Harrow-on-the-Hill was appointed a director of the Royal African Company in 1721, becoming its Deputy Governor in 1732. Martin Bladen and the Duke of Chandos were also directors of the Company.⁹⁰ Hayes was appointed a magistrate in November 1727 in a list headed by the Duke of Richmond, and the following year stood for but failed to be elected to Parliament.⁹¹ He was nonetheless appointed a Gentleman of the Privy Chamber to His Majesty and in 1729 had the luck to marry a 'Mrs Taylor of Soho Square', 'a lady of £30,000'.⁹² Hayes' self-advertised departure overseas in 1733 was preceded by the auction in December 1732 of the contents of his house at Soho Square, an event marked by numerous classified advertisements in the press.⁹³ However he appears not to have ventured abroad and the 1734 election results for the Royal African Company declared a new address at Bloomsbury Square in London. The auction may have been to raise funds, something suggested by the sale two years later of 'certain Estates, in the County of Essex ... for satisfying Debts and Incumbrances'.⁹⁴

⁸⁵ *The Environs of London: Volume 1, County of Surrey* (London, 1792), pp. 404-35.

⁸⁶ Joseph Redington (ed), *Calendar of Treasury Papers, Volume 4, 1708-1714* (London: HMSO, 1974), pp. 415-24; Cecil Headlam (ed), *Calendar of State Papers Colonial, America and West Indies, Volume 27, 1712-1714* (London: HMSO, 1926), pp. 70-85; and *Calendar of State Papers Colonial, America and West Indies, Volume 28, 1714-1715* (London: HMSO, 1928), pp. 61-2; 182-98.

⁸⁷ William A. Shaw and F.H. Slingsby (eds), *Calendar of Treasury Books, Volume 28, 1714* (London: HMSO, 1955), pp. 140-8, 11 February 1714.

⁸⁸ *Evening Post*, 22 – 25 August 1724; Middlesex Sessions: Sessions Papers - Justices' Working Documents.

⁸⁹ Cecil Headlam & Arthur Percival Newton (eds), *Calendar of State Papers Colonial, America and West Indies, Volume 35, 1726-1727* (London: HMSO, 1936), pp. 129-39.

⁹⁰ *Applebee's Original Weekly Journal*, 21 January 1721 et al.

⁹¹ *Evening Journal*, 4 December 1727.

⁹² *Country Journal or The Craftsman*, 25 October 1729.

⁹³ *Daily Post*, 14 December 1732 et al.

⁹⁴ *Journal of the House of Lords Volume 24, 1732-1737* (London: HMSO, 1767-1830), pp. 585-595, 20 February 1736.

Richard Croft, a vintner, was the landlord of the Rummer.⁹⁵ He suffered several financial losses and issued a number of notices in 1724 that advertised the theft of a silver porringer 'stolen between the hours of three and ten last Monday from ... the Rummer Tavern, Charing Cross ... with an inscription ... of his name and place of abode and a crest and wyvern on the handle'.⁹⁶ It was one of several pieces that were stolen and led to Croft offering a reward of £10 for the conviction of the thief. A Thomas Upton was prosecuted for the crime a decade later; found guilty, he was sentenced to transportation.⁹⁷ Croft appeared before the bankruptcy commissioners in 1726 and was made bankrupt the following year.⁹⁸ There is no evidence that he was discharged.⁹⁹

William Thompson is a common name but given the nature of the other members of the lodge he may have been either William Thompson (1680-1744), of Humbleton, Yorkshire, or William Thompson (c.1676-1739), of the Middle Temple. Both sat as MPs; the former as a Whig representing Scarborough; the latter, another Whig, for Orford (1709-10), then Ipswich (1713-14, 1715-1729).

William Thompson (1680-1744), MP for Scarborough, represented the borough from 1701-1722, and again from 1730-1744. Although a Whig, he was active in Yorkshire freemasonry and is mentioned by Neville Barker Cryer in that connection.¹⁰⁰ He held office as governor of Scarborough Castle, 1715-44; was a warden of the mint, 1718-29; and a commissioner of the Victualling Office from 1729 until his death.

William Thompson (1676-1739), MP for Ipswich, held senior legal office as Solicitor General (1717-20). He was made Cursitor Baron of the Exchequer in 1726 and appointed a Baron of the Exchequer three years later, giving up his parliamentary seat.

The identification of other lodge members is currently uncertain.

⁹⁵ *London Gazette*, 11 – 15 August 1724.

⁹⁶ *Daily Journal*, 30 November 1724 et al.

⁹⁷ Old Bailey Proceedings: Accounts of Criminal Trials, 4 December 1734; LL ref: t17341204-32.

⁹⁸ *London Gazette*, 17 – 20 December 1726.

⁹⁹ *London Gazette*, 1 – 5 April 1729.

¹⁰⁰ Neville Barker Cryer, *York Mysteries Revealed* (published privately, 2006), pp. 220-1.

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