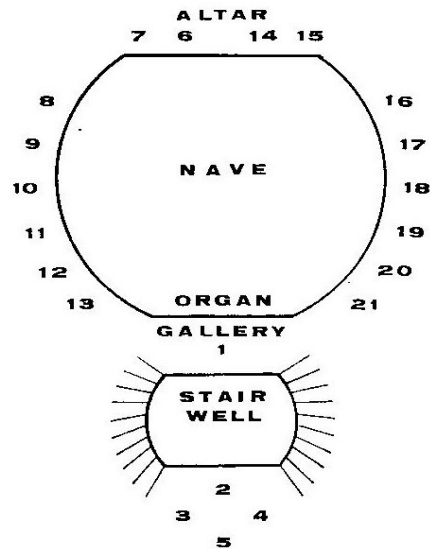


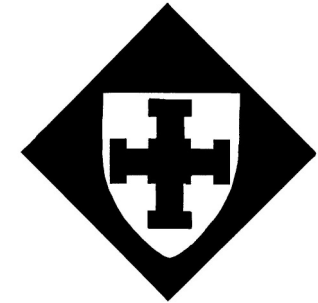
Identification of the Hatchments



- 1. SALT impaling MOULTRIE
Unidentified
- 2. SWINBURNE with SPEARMAN in pretence
Thomas Swinburne d.1825
- 3. MUCKLESTONE impaling JEFFERIES
Edward Mucklestone d. 1851
- 4. EDWARDS quartering SMITHEMAN
John Edwards d.1851
- 5. SWINBURNE quartering SPEARMAN
Charlotte Swinburne d.?
- 6. SCOTT quartering COCKBURN
Richard Scott d.1848
- 7. SCOTT with COCKBURN in pretence
Lucretia Scott d.1832
- 8. BEVAN impaling PIGGOTT
Major Henry Bevan d. 1807

- 9. EDWARDS quartering TUDOR TREVOR
& BASKERVILLE: in pretence SMITHEMAN
quartering BROOKE et al.
Benjamin Edwards d. ?
- 10. ROCKE impaling OWEN
John Rocke d. 1824
- 11. ROCKE impaling KINCHANT
Richard Rocke d. ?
- 12. WINGFIELD impaling ROCKE
John Wingfield d. 1862
- 13. WINGFIELD impaling BAGOT
Roland Wingfield d. 1818
- 14. EARDLEY impaling (unidentified)
Unidentified
- 15. SCOTT
Richard Scott d.1821
- 16. Unidentified
- 17. SCOTT impaling MORSE
George Scott d. 1811
- 18. LEIGHTON quartering BURGH ADAMS
& ST LEGER
Louisa Ann St. Leger d. 1834
- 19. LEIGHTON with ADAMS in pretence
impaling LEIGHTON
Francis Leighton d. 1813
- 20. LEIGHTON with ADAMS in pretence
Clare Leighton d. 1801
- 21. LEIGHTON quartering BURGH
& ADAMS and impaling ST LEGER
Francis Leighton d. 1834

The Hatchments of St Chad's Church and their origins in Heraldry



St Chad's Church is fortunate in possessing one of the finest collections of armorial Hatchments in the country. There are 21 in all.

You are welcome to walk through the church and examine them. They are dated between 1801 and 1862



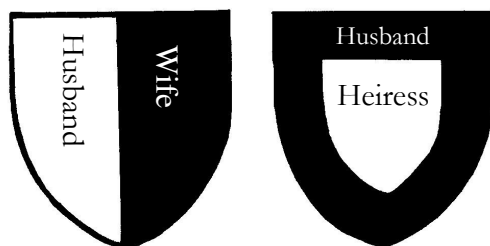
Open doors, open hearts, open minds.

Church Office 01743 365478
Registered Charity 1132443
www.stchadschurchshrewsbury.com



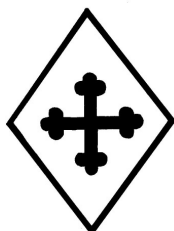
What is a hatchment?

The name 'hatchment' is a corruption of the French 'achèvement' meaning a display of Arms. In the Middle Ages, when Arms were actually carried in battle, it became the custom on the death of a knight for his Arms and weapons to be carried in the funeral procession and then hung above his tomb, as may be seen, for example over the Black Prince's tomb at Canterbury. By the 17th century such weaponry had been superseded, and so the Arms were painted on a wooden panel, the Hatchment, to be carried in a procession and later fixed above the entrance to the family home for a year's period of mourning. Many of them were then moved on to the walls of the Parish Church, presumably as a memorial.

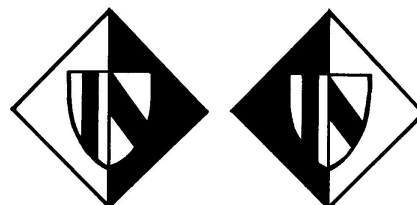


We can learn a lot about the deceased's family from the hatchment. Where the shield is divided vertically, the Arms to the left side are those of the husband, to the right of his wife: this is described as 'impaling'. If there is a small central shield it tells us that his wife was an heiress, and this is described as 'in pretence'. See 1 & 2 overleaf.

Arms shown on a lozenge (diamond shape) are those of a woman, for not being engaged in warfare she had no need of a shield.

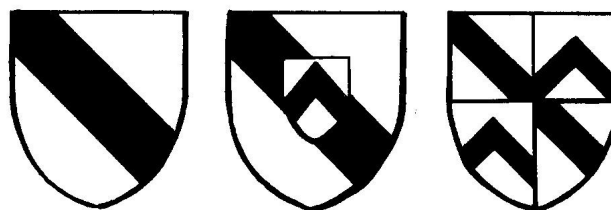


The background colouring is important: if the left side is black and the right side is white, then the husband has died and his wife has survived; if it the reverse, it is the wife who has died. If the whole background is black the survivor has died.



Husband alive **Wife alive**
Wife dead **Husband dead**

Quartering is a method of joining several different coats of arms on one shield by dividing the shield into equal parts and then placing different Arms in each division. See 4 overleaf.



Father's Arms **Father marries an Heiress** **Son inherits the Arms of Father and Mother**
Original Arms **Quartered Arms**

As well as the 21 displayed in St Chad's Church, other hatchments are displayed in

- Old St. Chad's (17),
- The Abbey (4)
- St Georges Church (1)
- St Julian's Church (2)

With full acknowledgement to Michael Holmes

An Introduction to Heraldry

Heraldry developed as a means of personal identification. It's origins are in the imprints left in sealing wax used on important documents, but in the mid-12th century it emerged as a military display on shields and helmets in war and later in tournaments. The right to bear Arms does not come from having the same name as one illustrated; Arms are a personal possession, handed down in direct succession through the main line of the family. Grants of Arms in England are made through the College of Arms. The romantic movement and Gothic revival beginning in the mid-18th century led to a rapid increase in grants so that today the majority of families legitimately bearing Arms have had them granted relatively recently. However, Shropshire has many families who can trace their Arms back to the early mediaeval period and several of these can be seen in St Chad's, notably Leighton, Rocke, Scott and Wingfield.

