

Northern

BRINGING YOU THE LATEST NEWS
FROM OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS
AROUND THE WORLD

news

SEPTEMBER 2010





Editorial Ramblings

We've had a fairly uneventful month. The weather has been even worse than last month, so we haven't been out very much. We're all back to normal after the holiday - work and school. Little Lad is taking after his Dad by not liking having to go to school and Dad not liking having to go to work either - and never has!

This month's magazine is much smaller than last month's bumper edition. Not that I expect anyone to notice, given the normal lack of response to our efforts in publishing our news. I did get ONE response from the last edition. This is about normal unless I publish something that causes folks to complain - I sometimes manage to get four responses if that happens. Given that this publication is sent out to at least 100 readers who are friends and family, 1% is a pretty poor response. This newsletter has been published every month since December 2006 - nearly four years. Before then it was only published a few times a year. I just wonder how much time has been wasted in compiling this magazine for so little purpose or response. It seems to have become a pointless exercise. I have other things to do. Maybe it's time to stop very soon.

Alan



Cover Photograph and Photograph overleaf: JP enjoying a ride on a traditional roundabout at the Shropshire Steam Rally on 30 August 2010

Photograph above: JP in front of the harvest display at his school, Christ Church Infants during their harvest festival service (*photograph by Grace*).





Buxton, Derbyshire



The Roaches



The Prince and Princess of Teck



The Queen's Chair is a seat hewn out of a boulder precariously set on the edge of a cliff above Rock Hall. Above the seat is a plaque carved in the rock (*photograph, left*) declaring that the Prince and Princess of Teck visited this site on Aug 23rd 1872.. Sir Phillip Brocklehurst of Swythamley invited the royal pair. The Prince was a minor german aristocrat and the Princess was the mother of Queen Mary wife of George V of England.

By the age of 30, Mary Adelaide (as she was known - *photograph, right*) was



still unmarried. Her unattractive appearance and lack of income were contributing factors, as was her advanced age. However her royal rank prevented her marrying someone not of royal blood. Her cousin Queen Victoria took pity on her, and attempted to arrange pairings.

Eventually a suitable candidate was found in Württemberg, Prince Francis (*photograph, below right*), Prince of Teck. The Prince was of lower rank than Mary Adelaide, and was also the product of a morganatic marriage and had no succession rights to the throne of Württemberg, but was at least of princely title and of royal blood. However with no other options available, Mary Adelaide decided to marry him. The couple were married on 12 June 1866, at Kew Church, Surrey.

Despite their modest income, Mary Adelaide had expensive tastes and lived an extravagant lifestyle of parties, expensive food and clothes, and holidays abroad. The debts soon built up and the Tecks were forced to flee the country in 1883 to avoid their creditors.

The Tecks returned from exile in 1885 and continued to live at White Lodge in Richmond. Mary Adelaide began devoting her life to charity, serving as patron to Barnardo's and other children's charities.

In 1891, Mary Adelaide was keen for her daughter, Princess Victoria Mary of Teck (known as May) to marry one of the sons of the Prince of Wales, the future King Edward VII. On the other hand, Queen Victoria wanted a British-born bride for the future king, though of course from royal rank and ancestry - and not some "lowly" noblewoman. Mary Adelaide's daughter fulfilled the rank criteria. After Queen Victoria's approval, May became engaged to the second in line to the British throne, Prince Albert Victor, Duke of Clarence. The death of the Duke of Clarence only six weeks later looked like a cruel blow. However, Queen Victoria was fond of Princess May and persuaded the Duke of Clarence's brother, and next in the line of succession, Prince George, Duke of York to marry her instead. (He became George V)



The marriage of May into the top rankings of the royal family, led to a dramatic revival in the fortunes of the Tecks, with their daughter one day to be Queen consort. Unfortunately Mary Adelaide never saw her daughter's coronation as Queen. Mary Adelaide died on 27 October 1897 at White Lodge, Richmond Park, Surrey, and was buried in the royal vault at St. George's

Francis (the Prince of Teck) died on January 21, 1900 at White Lodge[3]. He was buried next to his wife in the Royal Vault at St. George's Chapel, Windsor.

(Courtesy of URL: <http://www.roaches.org.uk/places5.html>).

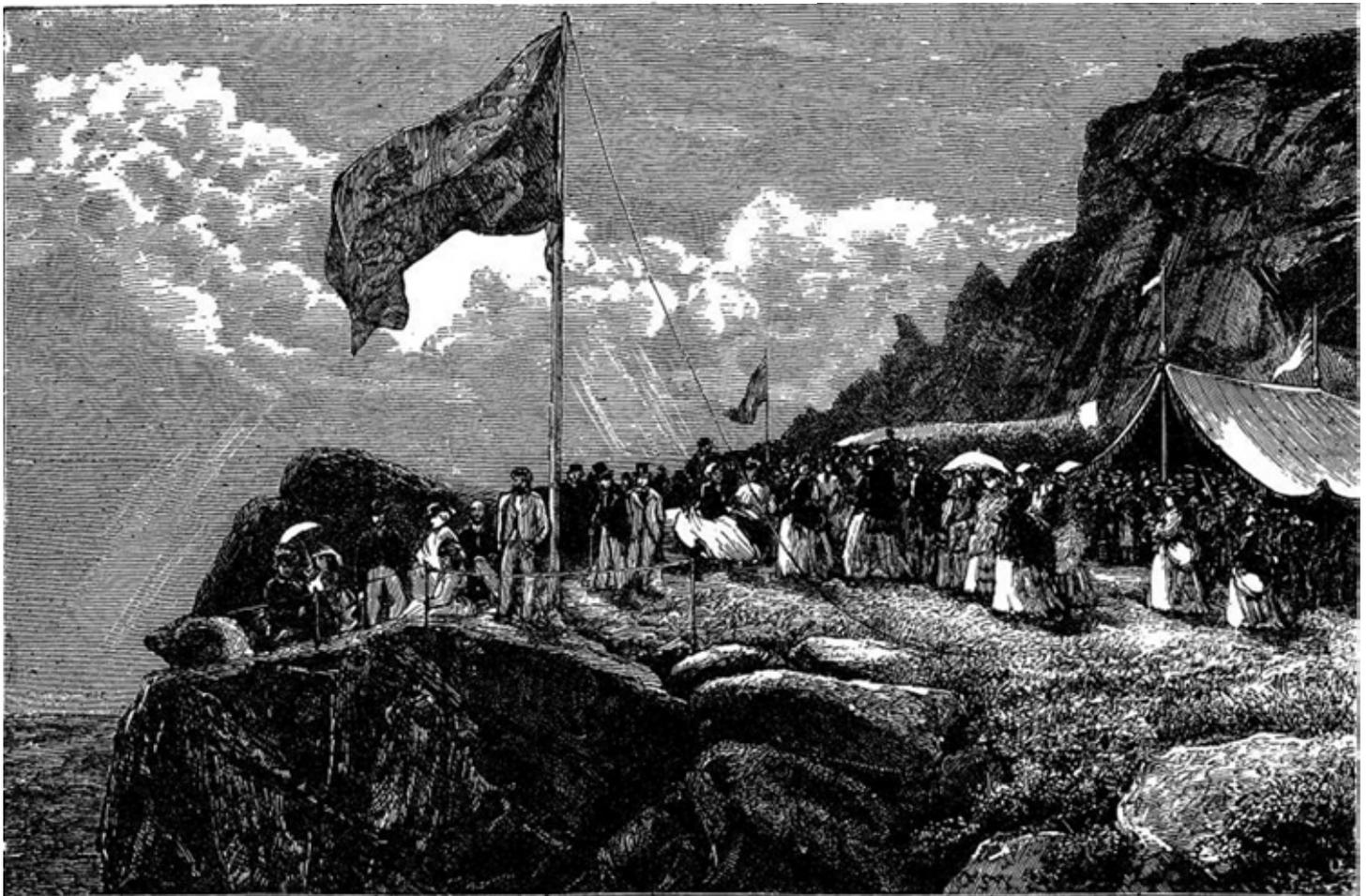
The Princess of Teck visits The Roaches

THE PRINCESS MARY OF CAMBRIDGE IN NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE

Our engraving represents the reception of H.R.H. the Princess Mary of Cambridge, by Philip L. Brocklehurst, Esq., of Swythamley Park, Staffordshire, at "the Roaches," which are a lofty and beautiful series of craggy peaks, on the moorlands of his estate. It having been intimated that during the stay of H.R.H. and the Duke of Teck at Alton Towers she would honour Mr. Brocklehurst with a visit to Swythamley, all arrangements were made for the 23rd of August. A road was specially constructed over the moor for a pony carriage, tents were erected, and the Royal standard hoisted high on a rock, where a rough seat was hewn for her Royal Highness, and doubtless appreciated after the ascent, the latter part having been a scramble up a steep rocky stair, where the Princess displayed capital mountaineering powers, assisted gallantly by the Duke of Teck, who had adroitly adjusted a rope for her support. The cheering of the people assembled below was very hearty, a Royal salute was fired from a large rock perforated for that purpose; and after luncheon the Royal visitors with a few of the party rambled further over the moor apparently enjoying the scenery and fresh air, the Prince and Princess being fortunate in finding white heather, a variety considered of lucky omen in that county. After spending several hours exploring the curiosities of the mountain side, and visiting an inhabited cave called Rock Hall, now a keeper's lodge, where the Royal party inscribed their names, the Princess graciously acceded to a request that she would plant a tree to commemorate her visit, and having presented some small mementos to Mr. and Miss Brocklehurst, the Royal party took their leave, having expressed their gratification for the pleasant day spent amongst the wild scenery of North Staffordshire.

The Graphic, Sept 14 1872, Issue 146

(Courtesy of URL: <http://www.roaches.org.uk/Roaches%20photos/1872%20Princess%20of%20Teck%20visits%20Roaches%20The%20Graphic%20Sept%2014%20Issue%20146.jpg>)



H.R.H. THE PRINCESS MARY OF CAMBRIDGE VISITING THE "ROACHES," SWYTHAMLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE

