

PARENGOD [Edm HT1, Edr HT1 {CTCE pl.12}]

The Æthelstan coin uses a Mercian form of Ð (diacritic crossing the curve rather than the vertical) in the king's name. The Edred coin at CTCE 140 appears in the general classification "Midlands and South" (i.e. not the north-eastern group but otherwise no indication). CG *Waringaud* F.1543, Morlet I 219 *Warengaudus*. It is possible that **Warin** above could be an abbreviation for this name.

#### Wethurard

PEÐVRADES genitive [Æthst CC {Blunt Ath 489}]

Legend reads MO TE; Tamworth has been suggested for the mint, but it may simply represent a *monetarius* contraction. Blunt places this coin in the "irregular" group but it is well made and legible. The obverse bears the *Rex Saxonum* title, and the letter M in the reverse field associates it with a Derby die centre. Feilitzzen accepts an OE element *wither* in the name of the Harold I moneyer \**Witherwine*,<sup>41</sup> but cf. Morlet I 221 *Widrehadus*, and Old Saxon *Wetherold*, Schlaug 160.

#### Addendum

The *British Numismatic Journal* register of finds for 2009 notes a metal detector find from Cambridgeshire, of a coin of Edmund, classified as 'East Anglian mint'. The moneyer (coin find 137) is correctly described as 'new', but the name there is transcribed as ANVGER. Personal correspondence with Dr Martin Allen of the Fitzwilliam Museum has established that the moneyer's name is in fact ANSGER (angular S misread), a well recorded CG name (F.126), which can now be added to the continental names in Edmund's reign.

## Society for Name Studies in Britain and Ireland

### Eighteenth Annual Study Conference: Falmouth 2009

The eighteenth annual study conference of the Society for Name Studies in Great Britain and Ireland was held at the Greenbank Hotel, Falmouth, from 27 to 30 April 2009. The programme was organized by the president of the Society, Dr Oliver Padel. The opening lecture by Mr Peter Herring (Truro) on 'Landscape in Medieval Cornwall' took an approach of stripping away modern layers from land-use maps, and illustrated how the practice of transhumance which was already fading in the tenth and eleventh centuries led to a different kind of distribution of habitative place-name elements from that familiar in England.

Dr John Baker (Birkbeck College, London) spoke on 'Warriors and watchmen: place-names and civil defence in Anglo-Saxon England', exploring the hinterland of the Burghal Hidage. Dr Simon Draper (Gloucester) gave a mainly archaeological exposition of 'The significance of *burh* in Anglo-Saxon England'. Dr Torsten Meißner (Bonn) spoke on 'Personal names on the Celtic fringe of the Roman Empire', comparing and contrasting fashions in Britain and the Rhineland. Mr John Davies (Glasgow) spoke on 'Old Testament names and their significance among the Britons' as showing conscious cultural continuity from Romano-British times. Mr James Butler (Glasgow) took a theoretical approach to 'Names in dystopian literature' and Miss Kelly Kilpatrick (Oxford) addressed 'Island names in Adomnán's *Vita Sancti Columbae*'. Dr Paul Cavill (Nottingham) anthologized 'Uses of personal and place-names in Old English poetry'. He took the view that *Dinges mere* in *The Battle of Brunanburh* meant not the Irish Sea but wetlands on the Dee near Chester.

Mrs Christine Leighton (Caldicot, Gwent), who spoke on 'Calendaring and indexing names in the Elizabethan patent rolls', and Mr Matthew Holford (Reading), on 'Place-names and the editor of medieval records: revisiting Hunnisett's guidelines', respectively loathed and liked the modes

<sup>41</sup> O. von Feilitzzen, 'Notes on the personal names on the coins' in C. E. Blunt and M. Dolley, *Sylloge of Coins of the British Isles*, 11, *University Collection, Reading: Anglo-Saxon and Norman Coins* (Oxford, 1969), p. 10.

of editorial normalization alluded to in Mr Holford's subtitle, which were also a matter of controversy at the Society's autumn day conference at Chichester. Saturday's programme concluded with reports on current projects. Drs Simon Taylor and Alan James and Mr Patrick Hanks gave updates on their similar contributions last year. Mr Paul Tempan (Belfast) reported on 'Conferences on early medieval toponymy in Ireland and Scotland' and Mr John Davies (Glasgow) addressed how personal names expressed 'The paradox of medieval Scotland, 1093-1286' as being the most anglicized part of the British Isles outside England but the one which retained its independence from English rule. Sunday's proceedings began as usual with the Society's Annual General Meeting. The first academic paper saw the place-name 'Scarborough revisited' by Dr Diana Whaley (Newcastle), who tended not to favour the personal-name etymologies offered by mediaeval Icelandic and English literature. Dr Carole Hough (Glasgow) analysed 'The name-type Maidenwell', choosing to deal with it in isolation from other names of watery point features qualified by words for young people of either sex. Mr Aengus Finnegan (Glassan, Athlone) spoke on 'Researching five baronies in County Westmeath: the townland names'. Dr Kay Muhr (Belfast) told stories from many periods about 'Some burial monuments in Ulster—their names and histories'. The afternoon excursion was riverine, going down the Fal to its near by mouth to see seals justifying the Cornish name *Carrak Ruen* for what English sailors from further out called Black Rock, and up past Malpas famed in the legend of Tristan and Isolde. In the evening Dr Bernard Deacon (Redruth) spoke on 'Surnames in early modern Cornwall'.

P. R. K.

### Margaret Joy Gelling (1924–2009)

Margaret Gelling (née Midgely) was born in Manchester on November 29th 1924, but the family (Margaret had two brothers) moved to Sidcup where Margaret attended the grammar school. Thence she went to St Hilda's College, Oxford where she read English. On graduating in 1945, Professor Dorothy Whitelock suggested that she became a research assistant to the English Place-Name Society as she was the sort of person who could be 'sat down in a corner and left to get on with it'. 'Getting on with it' was in fact editing the material collected by Doris Stenton for the two EPNS volumes of Oxfordshire which were published in 1953–4. In 1952 she married archaeologist Peter Gelling and they settled in Harborne, Birmingham, where Peter was a lecturer. Apart from housewifely duties, Margaret was able to pursue her work in place-names. She chose to study North-West Berkshire (now mostly in Oxfordshire) for her doctoral thesis, awarded in 1957, for the very good reason that 'it was next to Oxfordshire'. She went on to edit the three Berkshire volumes, published in 1973, 1974 and 1976, for the EPNS. This would have familiarised her with the Ock and Upper Thames valleys' early Anglo-Saxon archaeological sites and the topographical place-names which would be so important in her later thinking.

There was a long-held view that *-ingas* and *-ingaham* names such as Hastings and Wokingham and the place-names referring to Anglo-Saxon paganism were the earliest names given by the incoming Anglo-Saxons, but Margaret was prepared to challenge this view. Her review of P. H. Reaney's *The Origin of English Place-Names* and K. Cameron's *English Place-Names in Oxoniensia* 26–7 (1961–2) makes several important points, including a plea for more distribution maps. More significantly she noted that while Reaney, a generation older than Cameron, adhered to the established ideas about place-names, 'it is disturbing to find that Dr Cameron does not differ from him in any important particular. Has the subject really stood still for 30 years ... ?' After a discussion of the *-ingas* names she concluded: 'I suspect myself that it may be necessary to modify the tenet of faith which considers *-ingas* to refer to groups of settlers just arrived from the Continent'. John Dodgson's article of 1966 'The significance of the distribution of English place-names in *-ingas*, *-inga-* in south-east England' (*Medieval Archaeology* 10) put this hunch of Margaret's on a firm footing and brought it to a wider, sometimes hostile audience. Soon the question was asked if the *-ingas*, *-inga-* names are not the earliest, what are? A study by Barrie Cox of the earliest English place-names suggested that topographical names were much more important than anyone had thought (*Journal of the English Place-Name Society* 8 (1976)). Margaret's familiarity