

well, all this, & at times gazing into the
 embers, got me to thinking of why is
 it that, it seems, only you & me,
 of many, seem so utterly hooked
 on these things of old, in ye merrie(?)
 olde England. Well, there's no answer
 to that. No doubt, Helen Pendlope had
 something to do with it, but not all.
 I get quite obsessed - like made over
 dogs - & really almost find Jim
 living in twelve hundred odd, & not
 today. When I showed Raine William's
 photo, it touched nothing. So, I don't know
 why you & I are so hooked. Well, I
 find from the book, that one of
 Wm's daughters was an ancestress of
 the Chichester family, I'm trying to
 construct a tiny family tree of
 around William. But what fairly
 boggles my mind is that there's
 no definite mention that he had
 sons & why after a period there's

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no further mention of Brouse, until
a Geo. who turns up in last century.
Where were they procreating in all those
hundreds of years. I feel they must have
debunked to Cornwall & fallen on evil
times.

I'm sorry this writing is almost
unreadable, but I'm huddled, almost
in the fire. We're in arctic conditions
& have been off & mostly on for the last
six weeks. The rain goes on & on with
& rare fine day & the ground is like
a sponge. The broad beans & peas
I've put in for early spring (???) will
be rotting their substance away in
sludge. But it's the cold that has
really hit us. Thank heaven we've
plenty of wood. I'm glad to hear
that you're not cold enough to need
a hot water bottle, a find that hard
to understand for the South winds
must reach you. We're electric

years ago. Today it isn't nearly as wooded as many other parts of England. At present I'm reading a book on Surnames & it's very interesting - particularly about the MacGregors. The author maintains they'd be the purest blooded Scots there are & gives his reasoning (he's a professional genealogist) & their ancestry goes back to about 700 A.D. They've been an appallingly persecuted clan, so no wonder they ended up the vindictive cruel so & so's they are - maybe Ally ran true to type, but he should have reasoned better.

The next book I got is on heraldry to work out that coat of arms. Well I had no idea that heraldry is a complete language in itself & terms are all different from what we'd expect, this is too much for me. Anyhow, the coat of arms has

3 black rampant lions & the rest
I've yet to decipher - when I have
or found someone who can explain
it to me, I'll tell you & you can
draw it, as we think it might
be. The ruling King (Ed. I) when
W^m de Preuz was alive did go
on the 7th Crusade & did fight
in Scotland, so the last Reclot
would have been correct in what
he suggested in his letter. Really,
it gets more & more & still more &
more fascinating. I hunted & hunted
the map to find Halbelon where
W^m died & it would be
about 5 miles out of Newton
Serrans (where Nel. & Philip live)
I ask you!

This little book Peggy sent me
is a mine of information for
information & I must see where
one could get a photo copy of
William's will. I'm dead keen

to find out if he had sons.

Don't go feeling you've got to answer this letter - it is really to report on Mahe, & very joyful we were over her.

I've to go to dentist a couple of times this week & will have a tooth or two out. The brules have been patched till they can be no longer & one is playing up.

I have no qualms in the hands of "blue eyes". He is a kind dear boy & has offered us the use of their Whitianga house if we want it. He always let it except at holiday times, but now doesn't for the damage outweighs the rent.

Well, I must get to the store & get food & cooking for those sleeping souls.

Do hope all are well, & Kaith too, my kindests to her.

Love from us both,
Luff.

P.S. Do you remember those lob lettuce we had from Sheila once? I suggested saving the seed, & I wonder if you ever did. I lost it over the shift & if you saved any & still have it can I have a pinch please. Best co Joe ~~lover~~ ^{salter}.

^{my} And so this saga goes on. In this morning's mail a letter from the rector of Lustleigh & the same little brochure that you've got. I'll write out a copy for you to put in your archives. There is no post card of the effigy so we'll be left wondering, but there must be a photo in some book, some where, so one goes on searching. I'll write out what he sent on a separate piece of paper. It's added quite a bit more interest in old William, — he had a coat of arms, & now I must get a book on heraldry to understand what it's all about.

I truly will try & post this today.

Love.
Luff.

From letter from Rev. Deacon, Lustleigh
Rectory, Newton Abbot.

"The tomb of Sir W^m. de Brouz, with
recumbent effigy is positioned in
the south wall of Lustleigh Parish Church.
I have discovered that many years
ago it was possible to blazon the
arms on his shield - "sable 3 lions
rampant argent three & one".

Apparently it may be inferred
from the effigy that Sir W^m. took
part in the last crusade under
Edward I & that he may well
have fought in the Scottish wars.
He died at HOLBETON in 1316 &
was buried there. In his will
he had expressed the wish that he
should be buried in Lustleigh,
& 20 years later his body was
re-interred at Lustleigh. I assume
therefore that the original record of

2.

burial might be traced from
the records of Holbeton."

He goes on to give me the name
& address of the next vicar to
try etc....

Holbeton by the way is in
Plymouth.