

**“It was a
long time ago...”**

Talk to the AGFHS

By

Ken Baldry

August 2004

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This booklet is intended for those unable to come to or to hear the talk at the August 14th meeting of the AGFHS. It comprises the lecture notes with the slides included in the text.

'It was a long time ago...'

We have three 'types' of member here: those investigating suspected German ancestors, those who discover German ancestors & the spouses of these two. This is the story of a type 3 member, me, becoming a type 2.

Here are 3 of the things helpful to Family Historians

1. unusual names - both father & mother in my case
2. having people in the family who made their mark on history, no matter how small
3. having someone else doing the bulk of the work.

In my Father's case:-

1. The unusual name Baldry originates in East Anglia
2. The famous Sir Thomas Baldry, Lord Mayor of London in 1523 was no help whatsoever &
3. my 3rd cousin Dennis took our family back to 1667 by the traditional method of using the Family Record Centre files & parish records in Suffolk. There are Angles in East Anglia, of German origin but I cannot prove a connexion, so that's not who we are going to pursue today.

1. My Mother's maiden name was Dullforce. It sounds foreign & could have derived from Dollfuss (German-Austrian) or Delaforce (French).
2. The helpful people were my cousin's husband in the first instance & my distant cousin Patrick.
3. As for people who made their mark, we will certainly come across one or two.

Here's a bit of family tree.

James Thomas George DULLFORCE (1850 Old Ford, Bow - 1918) Soldier, Hong Kong policeman, Carpenter = (1880) **Louisa Jane Julia HURREN** (1855 - 1948)

<p>Henrietta DULLFORCE (Hettie) (1881 - 1965, <i>Seven Kings, Essex</i>) = Percy BENNETT (d. 1975 <i>Seven Kings</i>) after her sister Ethel died. After Hettie died, Percy married Edith.</p>	<p>Ellen Alice (Nellie) DULLFORCE = Bert STAMMERS etc</p>	<p>Ethel DULLFORCE = (1910) Percy BENNETT See also Hettie!</p>	<p>George DULLFORCE = Gerty WALLINGTON see next tree below</p>	<p>Minnie DULLFORCE (d 1970, <i>Isle of Man</i>) = 1. Percy MIDDLETON WWI hero pilot MC DFC 27 victories (22 with 20 sqd. RFC) = 2. Harold BRIDSON (d 1965 <i>Isle of Man</i>) accountant</p>	<p>Daisy DULLFORCE (7/6/1895 - 1/5/1966) = Leslie SMITH (4/11/1884 - 20/1/1959) draper</p>	<p>+ 2 died young</p>
					<p>Kathleen SMITH (b 7/10/1919)</p>	

George James DULLFORCE (27/8/1885 - 14/2/1965 *Wimbledon Cottage Hospital*) Composer = (18/9/1911) **Gertrude Rose WALLINGTON** (26/2/1888 - 6/4/1984 *Wimbledon*) known, rather to her disgust, as Gerty

<p>Eric DULLFORCE (18/9/1912 <i>Grantchester Road, Clapham</i> - 1974 near Paris in a Turkish DC-10 'plane crash) Liner manager = Elsie BOYD (24/7/1913 - 9/2003) etc</p>	<p>Evelyn Alice Louise DULLFORCE (29/12/1913 <i>Hornchurch</i> - 4/7/1993 <i>Conquest Hospital, Hastings</i>) = (23/12/1939) Herbert James 'Jim' BALDRY (5/12/1915 <i>50 Lampton Road, Hounslow</i> - 28/5/1993 <i>General Hospital, Volos, Greece</i>)</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="507 1066 1211 1814"> <tr> <td data-bbox="507 1066 855 1814"> <p>Kenneth James BALDRY (b 18/6/1943 <i>West Middlesex Hospital, Isleworth</i>) computer consultant & music composer, me = 1. (10/7/1965 <i>Slough RO</i>) Jane HAYTER (25/5/1942 <i>Windsor</i> - 2/9/1980 <i>Weissmies, Saastal, Switzerland</i>) government food scientist = 2. (23/8/1983 <i>Hounslow RO 2nd husband</i>) Avis Anne SALTSMAN (b 13/8/1935) visual artist (Avis Saltsman has two sons, Richard Alan (b 11/2/1961) & Jason Peter (b 28/10/1962) by a previous marriage to Alan WATKINS).</p> </td> <td data-bbox="855 1066 1211 1814"> <p>Geoffrey BALDRY (b 27/3/1948 <i>30 Sutton Lane, Hounslow</i>) market gardener & Internet services provider = (14/9/1981 <i>Hounslow RO 2nd husband</i>) Alida Juliana Maria KOUWENBERG 'Lida' (b 30/10/1947) multi-lingual secretary</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="866 1406 1200 1671"> <tr> <td data-bbox="866 1406 1026 1671"> <p>Zoi BALDRY (b 7/1/1980 <i>Lito Clinic, Volos, Greece</i>)</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1026 1406 1200 1671"> <p>Mara BALDRY (b 25/8/1982 <i>Lito Clinic, Volos, Greece</i>)</p> </td> </tr> </table> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Kenneth James BALDRY (b 18/6/1943 <i>West Middlesex Hospital, Isleworth</i>) computer consultant & music composer, me = 1. (10/7/1965 <i>Slough RO</i>) Jane HAYTER (25/5/1942 <i>Windsor</i> - 2/9/1980 <i>Weissmies, Saastal, Switzerland</i>) government food scientist = 2. (23/8/1983 <i>Hounslow RO 2nd husband</i>) Avis Anne SALTSMAN (b 13/8/1935) visual artist (Avis Saltsman has two sons, Richard Alan (b 11/2/1961) & Jason Peter (b 28/10/1962) by a previous marriage to Alan WATKINS).</p>	<p>Geoffrey BALDRY (b 27/3/1948 <i>30 Sutton Lane, Hounslow</i>) market gardener & Internet services provider = (14/9/1981 <i>Hounslow RO 2nd husband</i>) Alida Juliana Maria KOUWENBERG 'Lida' (b 30/10/1947) multi-lingual secretary</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="866 1406 1200 1671"> <tr> <td data-bbox="866 1406 1026 1671"> <p>Zoi BALDRY (b 7/1/1980 <i>Lito Clinic, Volos, Greece</i>)</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1026 1406 1200 1671"> <p>Mara BALDRY (b 25/8/1982 <i>Lito Clinic, Volos, Greece</i>)</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Zoi BALDRY (b 7/1/1980 <i>Lito Clinic, Volos, Greece</i>)</p>	<p>Mara BALDRY (b 25/8/1982 <i>Lito Clinic, Volos, Greece</i>)</p>	<p>Winifred Margaret DULLFORCE (b 21/4/1916 <i>Hornchurch</i>) Academic horticulturalist</p>
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This is me, here. This goes back to my Dullforce Great-grandfather, who I did not know, of course but I did know Louisa. My Mum hated her. Let's look at some of us:-



This is little me in 1945 I have put Ds on the Dullforces. These two chaps are my Grandad George (right) at his wedding in 1912, who is the patriarch in the big picture above & his father, below left, extracted from another wedding photo in 1910 & hence, of poor quality. However, apart from my Aunt Win, all the Dullforces look the same & the strength of their genes will show through the ages.



This is George's sister Hettie, the only Socialist in the family before me. Isn't she grand? Remember what she looked like when we get to the end.



Cousin John had followed the traditional route & also contacted, or was contacted by distant family members, attracted by the unusual name. One was Bernard Cullen & between them, they took us back to James Dulforce, born about 1795, a common labourer of Bow with 8 children.

<p>James DULFORCE (1st) (25-4-1790 - 24/9/1855 2, Johns Row, Old Ford, Bow) Labourer = (2/2/1812 St. George the Martyr, Southwark) Ann BODY (1787? or 12/1/1793? - 7/8/1844 Old Ford, Bow)</p>							
<p>James DULLFORCE (2nd) (30/12/1812 Mile End Old Town - ?) = (25/2/1839 St. Dunstan, Stepney) Emily THOROGOOD (1812 - ?)</p>	<p>Samuel DULLFORCE (19/8/1814 Mile End Old Town - ?) = (11/10/1835 St. John's, Hackney) Mary Ann NEIGHBOUR</p>	<p>Caroline Amelia DULLFORCE (22/10/1820 Bow - ?) = (21/5/1839 Hackney Parish Church) George KEMP</p>	<p>Elizabeth Jane DULLFORCE (24/8/1822 Bromley by Bow - ?)</p>	<p>Nathaniel DULLFORCE (1/8/1824 Bromley by Bow - ?) = (13/2/1848 St. Dunstan, Stepney) Rosina Ann WARNE (? - 1848)</p>	<p>George Thomas DULLFORCE (7/10/1825 Old Ford - ?)</p>	<p>Eleanor Belle DULLFORCE (9/5/1827 Bow - 6/12/1898 12 Staple St, Bermondsey, London SE1) = (19/8/1858 St. Mary's, Lambeth) John MAGRATH (1822 Soho Middlesex - 28/10/1871 Southwark, London SE1)</p>	<p>Alfred DULLFORCE (29/8/1829 Old Ford - ?)</p>
<p>James (3rd) Thomas George DULLFORCE (1850 Old Ford, Bow - 1918) = (1880) Louisa Jane Julia HURREN (1855 - 1948)</p>				<p>To Terry Dullforce's family</p>			
<p>See previous tree</p>						<p>To Bernard Cullen's family</p>	
<p>Most of this information supplied by Bernard Cullen, who is descended from Eleanor Belle Dullforce & Terry Dullforce</p>							

Bernard carried on with the work after he had a breakthrough at the end of 1999:-

Another 3rd cousin, Terry Dullforce, found a baptismal certificate for a Samuel Delforce among his father's effects. Checking the Meot Parish Register, he found a family of four brothers, the children

<p>William DELFORCE (b 1768) Butcher = (1786) Mary PERRY (25/4/1790 - ?)</p>			
<p>Samuel DULLFORCE (17/8/1788 St. Dunstan's, Stepney - ?)</p>	<p>James DULFORCE (1st) (25-4-1790 - 24/9/1855 2, Johns Row, Old Ford, Bow) Labourer = (2/2/1812 St. George the Martyr, Southwark) Ann BODY (1787? or 12/1/1793? - 7/8/1844 Old Ford, Bow)</p>	<p>Richard DULLFORCE (1794 - ?) = (1813) Elizabeth JOHNS</p>	<p>Thomas DULLFORCE (3/7/1796 - ?)</p>
<p>To the family tree above</p>			

of William Delforce & Mary Perry. Our greatX3 grandfather James was one of them.

Back to item 3 - someone doing the work for me. This couple feature in a book about the family by Patrick Delaforce. So it was probably a French name, not a German one. Errr...this is the AGFHS, so what has this to do with us? Well, we shall see.

Patrick did his research up to about 1980 & to get as far as John & Bernard had, he had gone through the old FRC records & had found 130 births, 192 deaths & 138 marriages. He made a card index of all of them & correlated them, using marriage witnesses as well as first parties . These were nearly all in the London area. But wills were also important, because they sometimes give information both forward & backward. This is John Delaforce's will.

In the Name of God Amen I John Delaforce of the Parish of Stepney in the County of Middlesex being of Sound and disposing Mind and Memory Prave be therefore given unto Almighty God To make and Ordain, that my present last Will and Testament in manner and form following that is to Say FIRST and Principally I Comend my Soul into the hands of Almighty God keeping through the Merit of my Saviour Jesus Christ to have full and free pardon and forgiveness of all my Sins & to Inherit Everlasting Life My Body I Comitt to the Earth to be decently buried at the Discretion of my Excutive hereinafter named, And as touching the Disposition of my Temporall Estate I Give and Dispose thereof as followeth (that is to Say) I Give and Will that my Debt and Funerall Charges be first paid and discharged THEM I Give and Bequeath to my Honourd Father and Mother Stephen and Mary Delaforce howerly Shillings a peice to buy each of them a Ring to keep in remembrance of me THEM I Give and Bequeath to my Brother Stephen and James Delaforce only the Sum of One Shilling each THEM I Give and Bequeath to my Sister Mary Green Wife of Peter Green of the Parish of Stepney in the County of Middlesex the Sum of One Shilling only And all the rest and residue of my Goods Chattells Lands Tenements and Whatsoevers which may or shall any wayes appear due payable owing or belonging unto me at the time of my Decease I Doe Give Give and Bequeath the Same unto my Loving Wife Mary Delaforce whom I Doe hereby make and appoint Sole Excutive of this my last Will and Testament And lastly Revoking all former and other Wills Testaments and Deeds of Gift by me at any time heretofore made either by word of mouth or in writing I Doe hereby Ordain Revolve and declare Myexecutors to Stand and be for and as my only last Will and Testament In Witness whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and Seal this twenty seventh day of November in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and Sixty

Signed Sealed Published
& Declared by the said
John Delaforce
Sam: Draper Not Publick

The said of
John + Delaforce

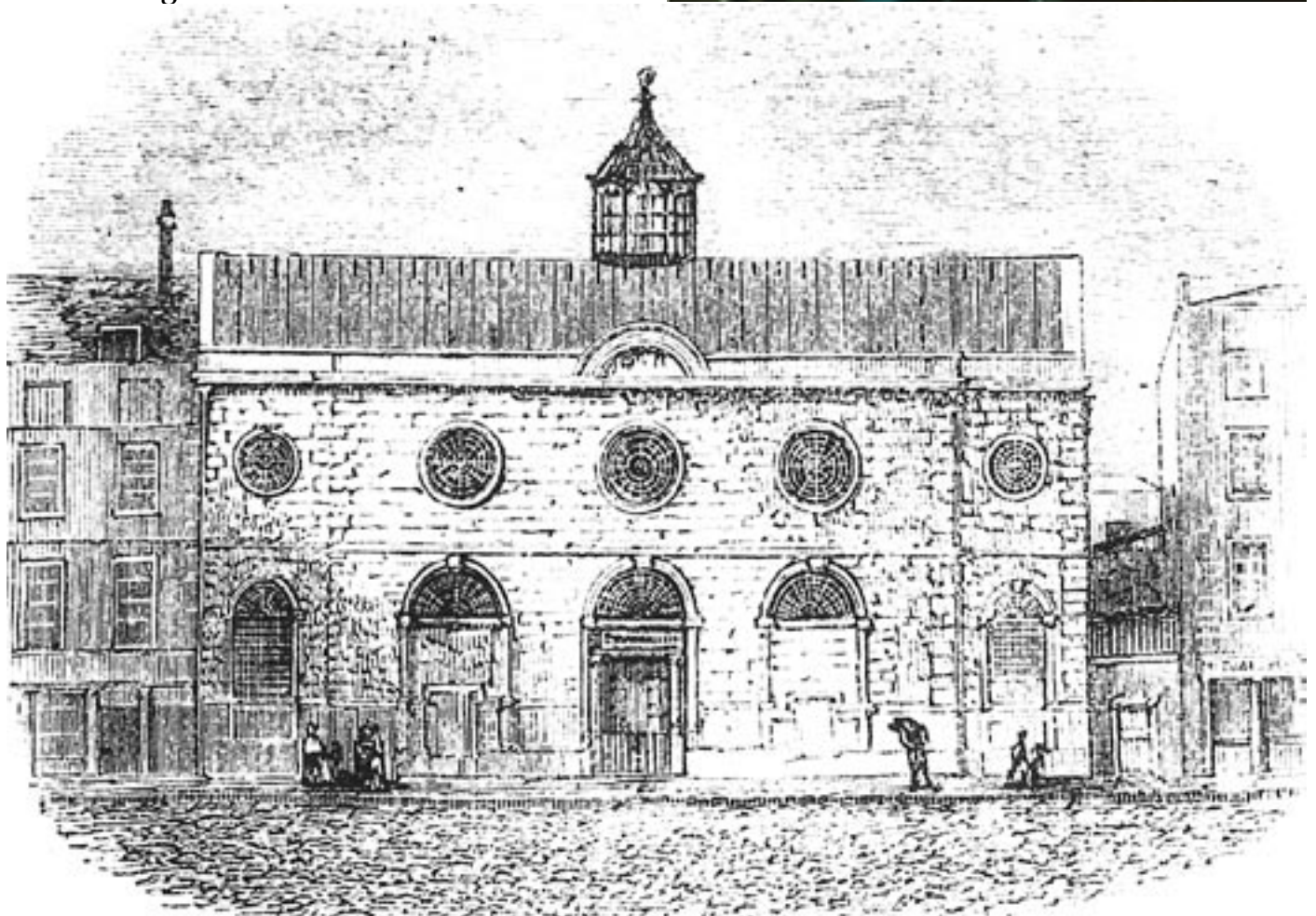
I Procalum fait luy mesme Vestement de
moyen de luy mesme le 27 de Novembre
l'an de France 1727 par devant
moy Notaire Jurey de la Cour de la
Paroisse de St. Martin de la Ville de
Paris

It was also helpful to Patrick that a Delaforce who married an Elizabeth Fleurriet turned up, as this wife's surname had filtered down through the family. Her husband Samuel was a pawnbroker, & was mentioned in various records, as he gave much money to charity.

These people were all Church of England & the French-sounding name lead Patrick to the records of the Huguenot Society. Although these records are largely from 1550 to 1750, one for the French Protestant Hospital goes up into the 20th century.

They also lead one to the sternly moralistic records of the Huguenot Churches where you can learn more than you need to know about the misdeeds, generally fornications, of one's ancestors. The Threadneedle St Church was founded in 1550. But the records also include new arrivals. However, it was the records of St. Martins in the Fields, the Poor Law Rate Book, which showed three generations of John or Jean Delaforce's arriving & starting to pay rates. This was the moment when Patrick realised that he had proof that we had come from France. There was another proof: the will of Stephen Delaforce also turned out to be a copy in English of the will of Etienne Delaforce (last 'e' pronounced but made silent when they came to England).

Right: Fournier Huguenot Church, now a mosque
Below: Threadneedle Street Church now no longer exists.



Ok, you know where he looked next - the Denization Rolls. These showed that the Delaforces had been in Guisnes, near Calais & there had been a well-known Huguenot Temple there, used as a safe house for emigrants. The slide shows the boats pulled up on the beach at Dover. In 1685, it was just like the Dunkirk Evacuation.



Although founded in the 1560s, the Huguenot Temple records only survive for 1668-1680. These revealed something very interesting after the question of pseudonyms had been sorted out. Huguenots used them to escape persecution & so we have several generations calling themselves 'Jennepin'. But the record shows "Jean Jennepin dit de la Force". Right.

Jean Jennepin DELAFORCE (1600 - 1678 *Calais*) = (about 1620) ?

Jean Jennepin DE LA FORCE (about 1620 *probably Guisné*) 'marchand' & British Agent in Calais = (1642 *Guisné*) **Judith BOUCQUOI**

Jean DE LA FORCE (1643 - ?) merchant = (1671) **Madeline JACOB**

see next family tree below

Abraham DE LA FORCE (b 1644) merchant = (1675) ?

Claude DE LA FORCE (b 1645)

Daniel DE LA FORCE (b 1646) emigrated to England

Judith DE LA FORCE (b 1656) = (1677) ?

All Jean Jennepin de la Force' children seem to have fled France in time after the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes. With reference to his work as the British Agent in Calais, the family seem to have been British agents back into the sixteenth century.

Jean DE LA FORCE (1643 - ?) merchant = (1671) **Madeline JACOB**

Sieur **Jean DELAFOUS** (1672 - 1730) Jeweller ex Guisné, Chatellrault etc left after the 1685 Revocation of the Edict of Nantes = (1702 in London) **Susanne MASSIENNE** of Paris

2 others

John DELAFORCE (1702 - 1779) = (1. 1726 *St Vedast , Foster Lane*) **Hester GALES** (d 1730?)

3 others

John DELAFORCE (1729 - ?) = 1. (1749) **Elizabeth**

six children

John DELAFORCE =2. (1780) **Sarah WILMORE**

four more children

William DELAFORCE (1730 - ?) = 1. (1750) **Ann BOWERS**

William DELAFORCE (1751 - 1751)

Ann DELAFORCE (b 1753)

William DELAFORCE (1756 - 1758)

Peter DELAFORCE (b 1760) = (1786) **Sarah ANE**

William DELAFORCE = 2. (18/5/1761) **Mary COFFEE**

William DELFORCE (b 1768) = (1786) **Mary PERRY** (25/4/1790 - ?)

see the tree on a previous page

James

Thomas (b 1770) = (1790) **Elizabeth ELIOT**

There was much to-ing & fro-ing of Delaforges across the channel, so Patrick had a look at the State Papers in the British Library. It's a long story but there are records showing that we had the 'Mermaid Inn' in Calais & a house in Dover. These were used as a pipeline for refugees from France when the big persecution started with the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685. But there were records showing that the Delaforges were in the pay of the English Government & these occasional payments went back a long way, into Tudor times.

However, the interest of the English Government was in helping the Huguenot cause in France, so there is a gap in the period when Henri IV of blessed memory was King. Although, as he said, 'Paris was worth a Mass', the Edict of Nantes was his doing & with the quality of records now at Patrick's disposal, we can see he employed Sieur Jean Delaforce as his War Minister. As they say, the value of shares can go down as well as up & in a few generations, my mother's ancestors went from Cabinet Minister to Common Labourer, in a direct male line.

The next interesting set of records are those of the Harleian Society. This was founded in 1868. It owns & publishes a huge rag-bag of ancient records. There is also the Gallia Christiania, which is French church records but which record events wider than just who was priest where, and that was to prove useful later. We don't have time to trace the story of each of the people on these trees but here is the next batch:-

<p>Sieur Jean/John DELAFORCE (1489 - 1537) Sieur de St. Eloy, Abbot, Conseilleur Emperor Charles V. Henry VIII's trouble-shooter = (1506) Louise LE BAILLY</p>			
<p>Sieur Jean/John DELAFORCE (1506 - 1572) Wealthy goldsmith, lawyer of Amiens, Protestant = (1524) Catherine de ST. THOUAY</p>	<p>Pierre DELAFORCE (1508 - ?) = (1528) ?</p>	<p>Marie DELAFORCE (1510 - ?) = (1530) ?</p>	<p>Marguerite DELAFORCE (1511 - ?) = (1530) ?</p>
<p>See chapter 20</p>			
<p>Sieur Jean/John DELAFORCE (1506 - 1572) Wealthy goldsmith, lawyer of Amiens, Protestant = (1524) Catherine de ST. THOUAY</p>			
<p>Sieur Jean DELAFORCE (1525-1609) Cure Ligeur of St. Bartholemew, Abbot, wrote professional political Journal = (1546) ?</p>	<p>Anthoine DELAFORCE (1526 - 1557) = (1546) ?</p>	<p>Marie DELAFORCE (1527 - ?) = Anthoine LENGLES</p>	<p>Francois DELAFORCE (1530 - ?) = (1550) ?</p>
<p>See the next tree below</p>	<p>Anthony DELAFORCE (1547- ?) = (1566) ?</p>		<p>Francois DELAFORCE (1551 - ?) = (1570) ?</p>
	<p>Anthony DELAFORCE (1567 - ?) & son were Prosperous traders of Paris & Rouen = (1586) ?</p>		<p>Sieur Francois DELAFORCE (1570 - ?) Sieur Du Fosse, echevin of Rouen = (1590) ?</p>
	<p>Anthoine DELAFORCE (1587 - ?) = (1606) ?</p>		<p>Sieur Francois DELAFORCE (1590 - 1670) Procureur General for Louis XIII, served French Kings for 50 years = (1610) ?</p>
			<p>Francois DELAFORCE (1612 - ?) Captain in Huguenot Horse Regiment in Ireland = (1630) ?</p>
<p>Sieur Jean DELAFORCE (1525 - 1609) Cure Ligeur of St. Bartholemew, Abbot, wrote professional political Journal = (1546) ?</p>			
<p>Sieur Jean DELAFORCE (1547 - ?) Minister of War and Camps to Henri IV, disgraced 1604, reinstated 1607. More about King Henri = (1570) Mary de CANTELEU</p>			<p>Louis DELAFORCE (1548-?)</p>
<p>Sieur Jean DELAFORCE (1574 - ?) Court Clerk Poitiers in his youth, alderman of Paris, St. Gervaise, Boisard, Collot = (1596) ?</p>			
<p>Sieur Jean Jennepin DELAFORCE (1600 - 1678) Calais. Fervent Huguenot, merchant, member of Rouen Parlement = (about 1620) ?</p>			
<p>You've seen this before</p>			

At the top is the well-recorded figure of John, who was a diplomat, treading the delicate path between Henry VIII of England, who needed to get rid of his Queen Catherine of Aragon & the Emperor Charles V of Spain, who needed to be kept on-board in England's 1000-year on-and-off War with France. Part of this job involved touring the Continent to obtain theological opinions supporting Henry's divorce plans. During this time, he met Philip Melancthon, the disciple of Luther who more-or-less codified 'Lutheranism' as we know it today. Philip converted him but the next couple of generations were not all convinced, so we have both Catholics & Protestants in the family during that period. John became a Huguenot, that is, a Calvinist, as did many French nobles but there was room for flexibility between the brands of Protestantism on offer, the doctrinal differences seeming trivial today.



Top left: John Calvin

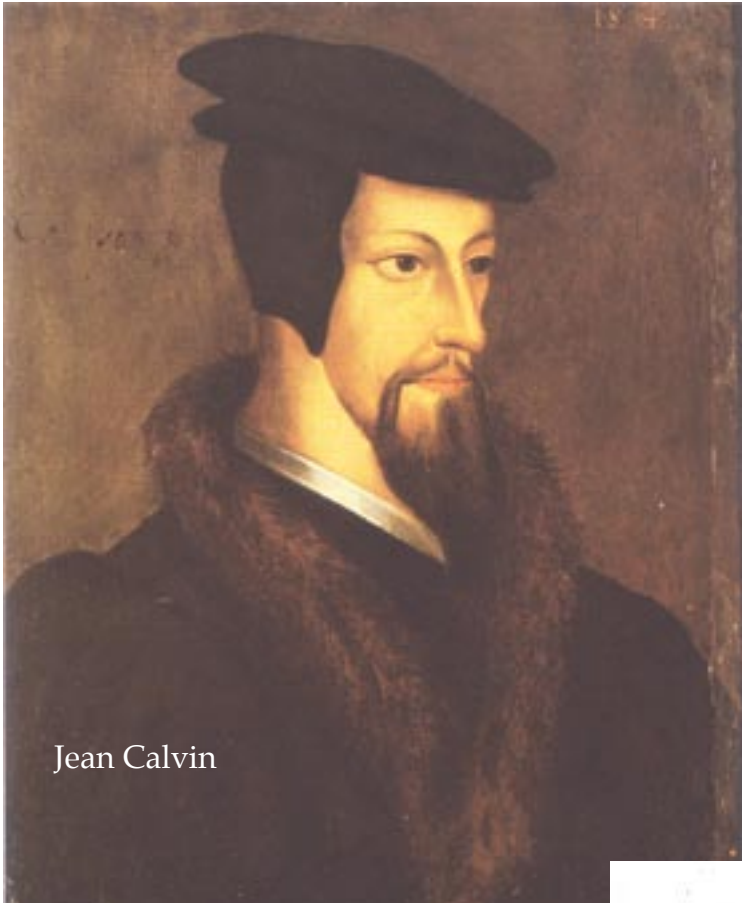
Above: Huldrych Zwingli

Left: The church where Luther nailed his Theses

Below: Erasmus' house in Freiburg in Breisgau



On the previous page are some Reformation items. Erasmus & the preceding generation of scholars went back to the earliest texts of the Bible & other documents. Between them & the invention of the printing press, which led to a sudden increase in literacy, they laid the foundations for the Reformation. It was not just the Luthers of this World but many newly literate laymen who now realised that the priests had been bull-shitting them for centuries. Zwingli the Swiss had a different doctrinal 'take' on the Eucharist from Luther & Calvin was a second generation followed of Zwingli. He taught that there was nothing people on Earth could do to influence God but, just in case you were one of the 'elect' who were to be saved, you had better behave yourself. Here's a rather better painting of Jean Calvin.



Jean Calvin

As the Sky Pilot who addressed us at the last meeting said, these chaps had to work it out as they went along & it really mattered to them to get it right. As an atheist, I still much admire their moral courage.

We now have three important generations: John's father Anthony, his father Bernard & his father, Bernard & then, a problem age.

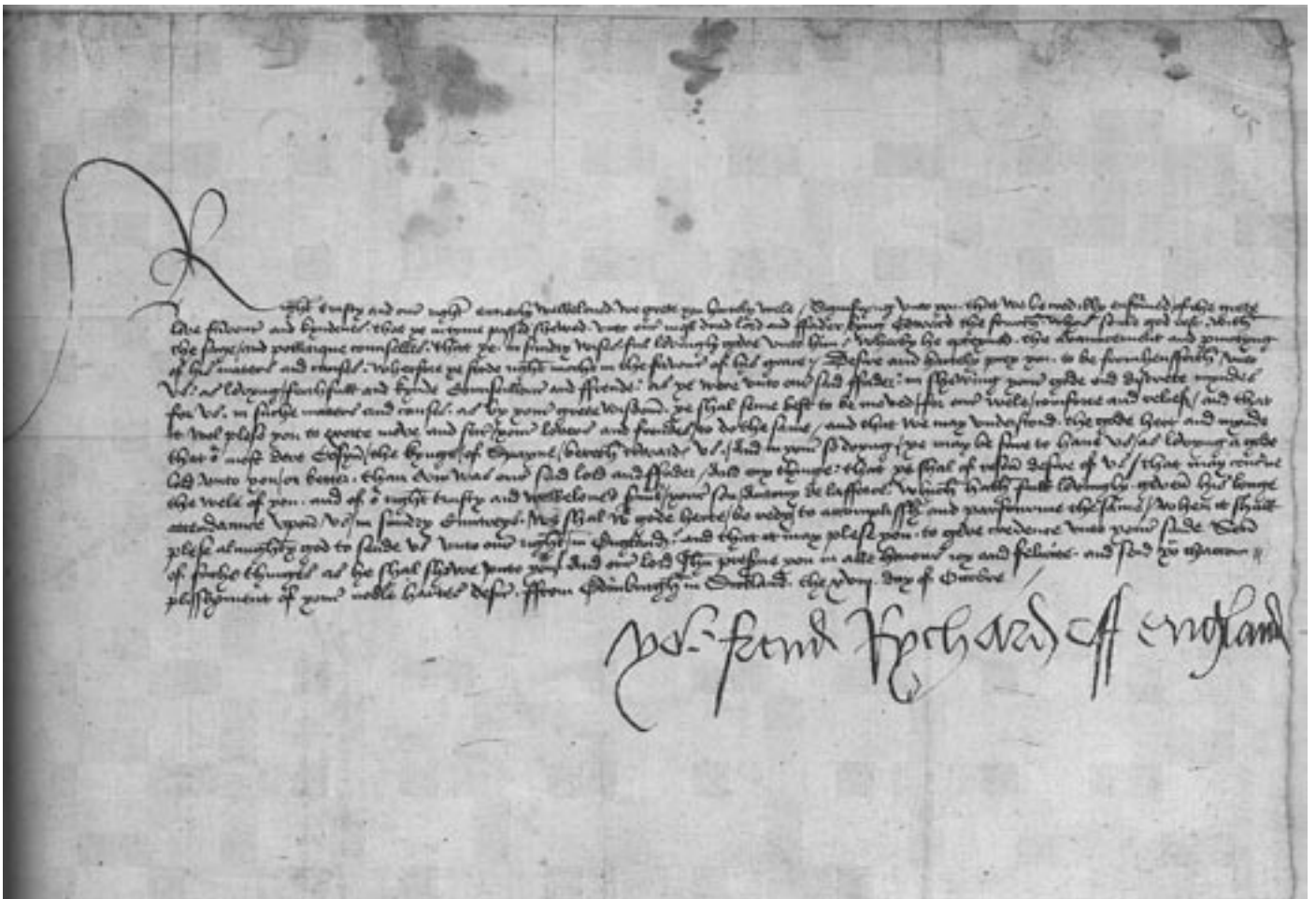
Anthony was a member of the Paris Parlement, a legal body but he is of more interest as a supporter of the man who may well have been Richard Duke of York, one of the Princes in the Tower but has come down to us as 'Perkin Warbeck':

a name given him by King Henry VII for no valid reason except the exigencies of propaganda. Anthony was slippery enough not to lose his head over his involvement. Despite family reasons, one is grateful that this conspiracy did not succeed. Neither Henry nor Richard-Perkin had a legitimate claim to the throne but Henry was a first class administrator & his son inadvertently rescued us from the Catholic Church. As we all now know, the legitimate King of England is a rice farmer in Australia.

Anthony's father Bernard was also a well-known diplomat, much used by King Edward IV, who, as we shall soon see, owed a debt of honour to Bernard's father, also Bernard. Richard Perkin wrote this letter to Bernard

**Below: Richard, Duke of York,
aka Perkin Warbeck**





which is now in the British Library because Richard addressed it to Bernard in Fuenterrabia in Navarre.

Fuenterrabia



Although this town is now on the frontier, the River Bidassoa, then it was in the centre of the Navarre coast. Bernard was used by both Edward IV & Henry VII for negotiations with Ferdinand & Isabella of Spain. This was for marriages, Edward's daughter to John of Castille, which didn't work out & Henry's son Arthur to Catherine of Aragon, which did, at least, to his younger brother, Henry VIII. Ferdinand was King of Aragon & Isabella, quite independently, Queen of Castille, two separate countries. The kingdoms only merged up to become Spain, more or less as we know it, when Isabella died & Ferdinand grabbed her kingdom. So, relations were good with Spain at that time.

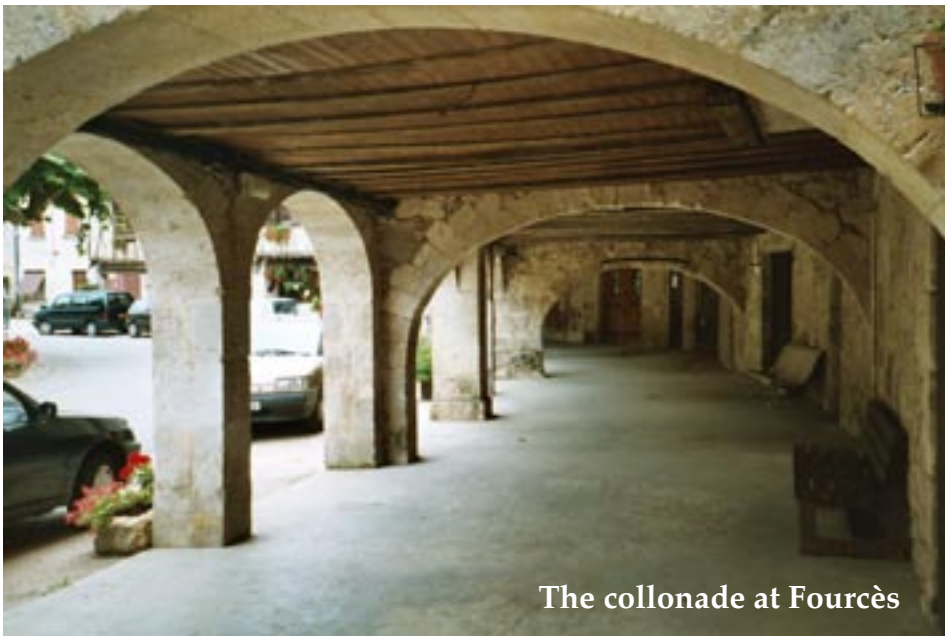
Navarre was swarming with Spanish agents ahead of Ferdinand's grab of Southern Navarre in 1512 & he got his hands on the letter, which he forwarded to Henry VII, as a goodwill gesture. Bernard seems to have been the most famous Delaforce of this millennium. He virtually retired in 1491 & what happened then is very interesting.

The village of Fourcès in Gascony is one of the most enchanting places you could ever hope to visit.



Fourcès





The collonade at Fourcès

The village first appears in the records in 1025 & sometime between 1086 & 1279, a circular bastide was built here in the loop of the River Auzoue, the only circular one in Gascony. This was quite a small castle, rather than the fortified village one normally understands by a bastide. In 1488, there were two joint squires of Fourcès, John Delaforce & someone unknown, who committed some offence which caused King Charles VIII to order the castle to be pulled down, which it was. Maddening not

to know who & why. A little wood was planted on the castle site. Meanwhile, a village had grown up outside the bastide. It is still there now.

You can see how it works with the colonnaded buildings surrounding the old castle site.

You didn't just retire in those days - you had to ask permission & King Charles granted Bernard one third of the village plus the right to rebuild the castle as a retirement home for himself. How he worded that permission we will come to later.

Bernard built his new chateau on the river bank, not in the middle of the village.

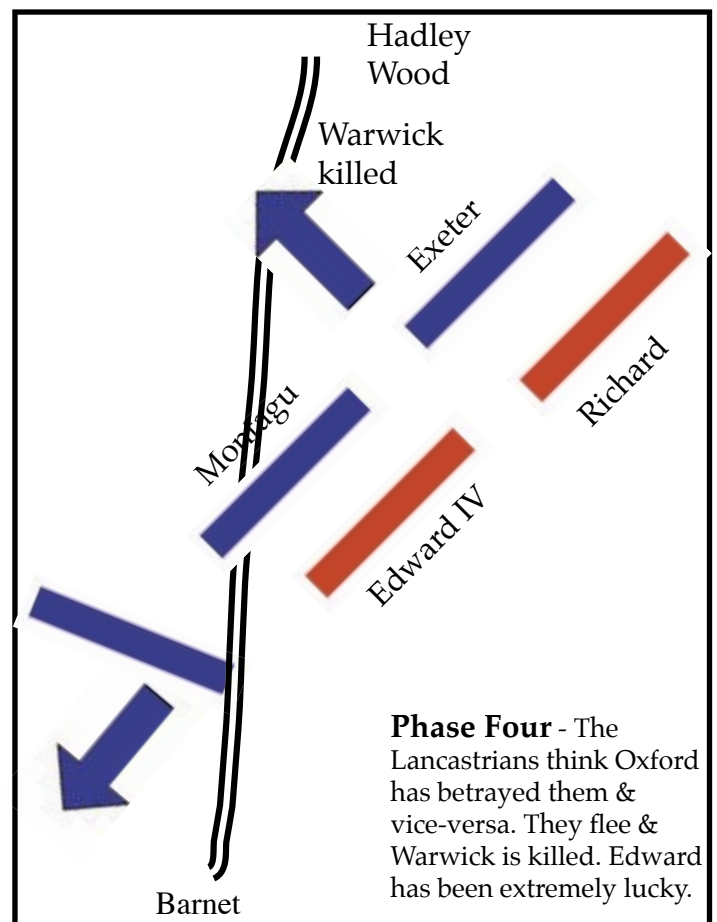
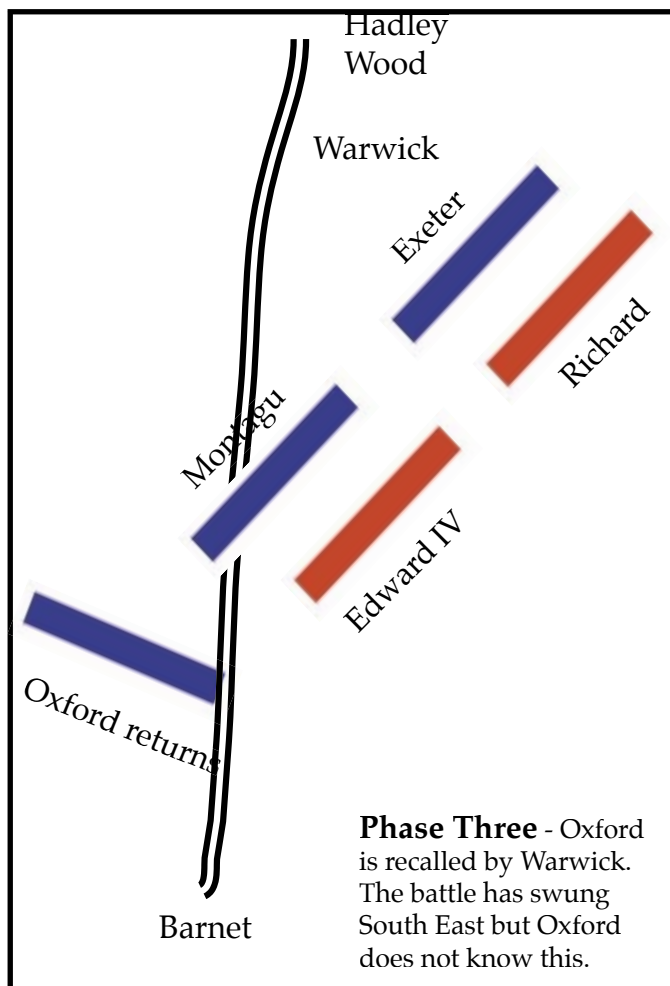
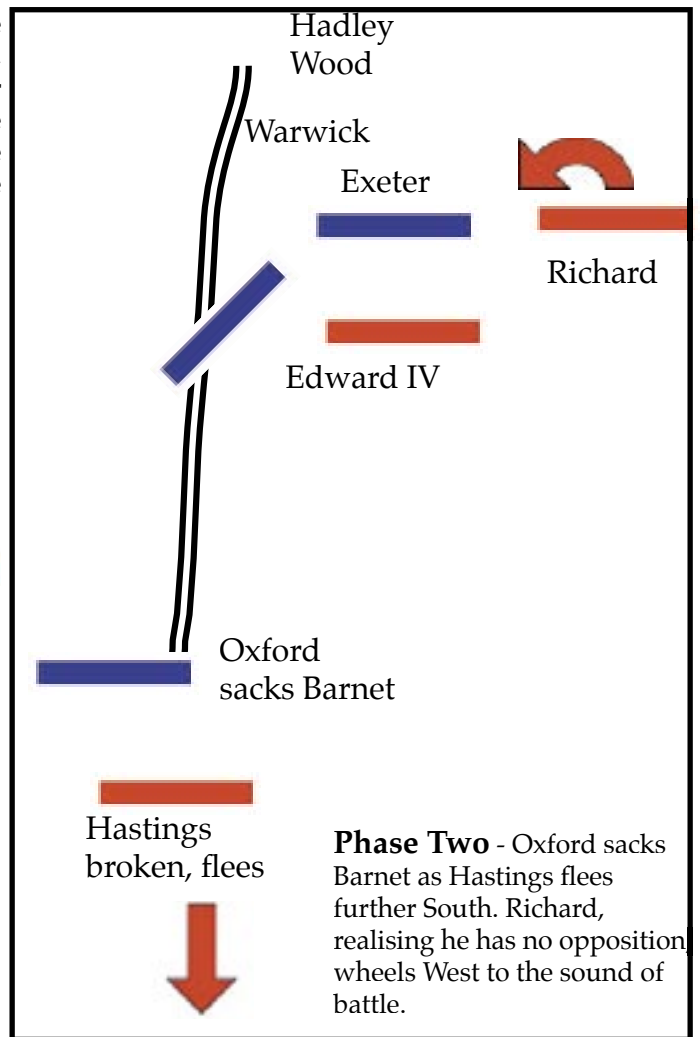
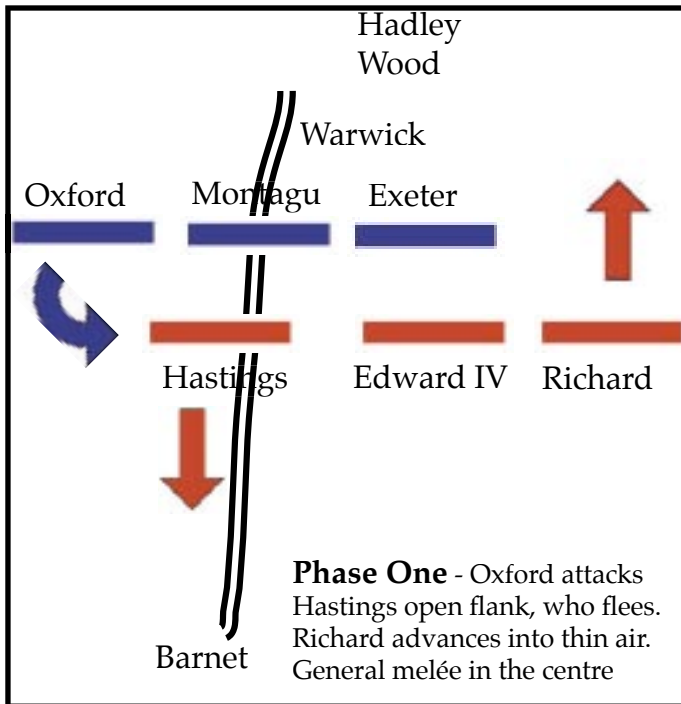


Why Edward IV owed Bernard is because of what happened to Bernard's father, also Bernard & in fact, there is now apparently a long succession of Bernards, very long. Owing to the machinations of Warwick the Kingmaker. Edward was chased off his throne in 1470 but he fled to France & started to recruit an army, including in Gascony, which had had a long, on & off relationship with England. Lord Bernard signed up & Edward invaded England in March 1471. On April 13th, he was in London but heard that Warwick was advancing down the A1, so he moved his army up to Hadley Common just North of Barnet



& which has not changed much, except that there is more grass, as the people of Barnet's pigs would have rooted up most of the grass in 1471. King Edward arrived in the dark & bivouacked much closer to the Lancastrian lines than he or they realised. The Lancs bombarded the empty space behind Edward's army all night by mistake. It was misty in the morning & to see what happened, go to the next page. Bernard died in the battle. I hope he knew we were winning before he bought it.

The Battle of Barnet - The Yorkists arrived at the battlefield late in the day on April 13th 1471 &, in the dark, bivouaced much closer to the Lancastrian lines than either side realised. The lines also overlapped. All night, the Lancastrians bombarded the empty ground between the Yorkists & Barnet, thinking that is where they were. We have no idea where Lord Bernard de la Force was.

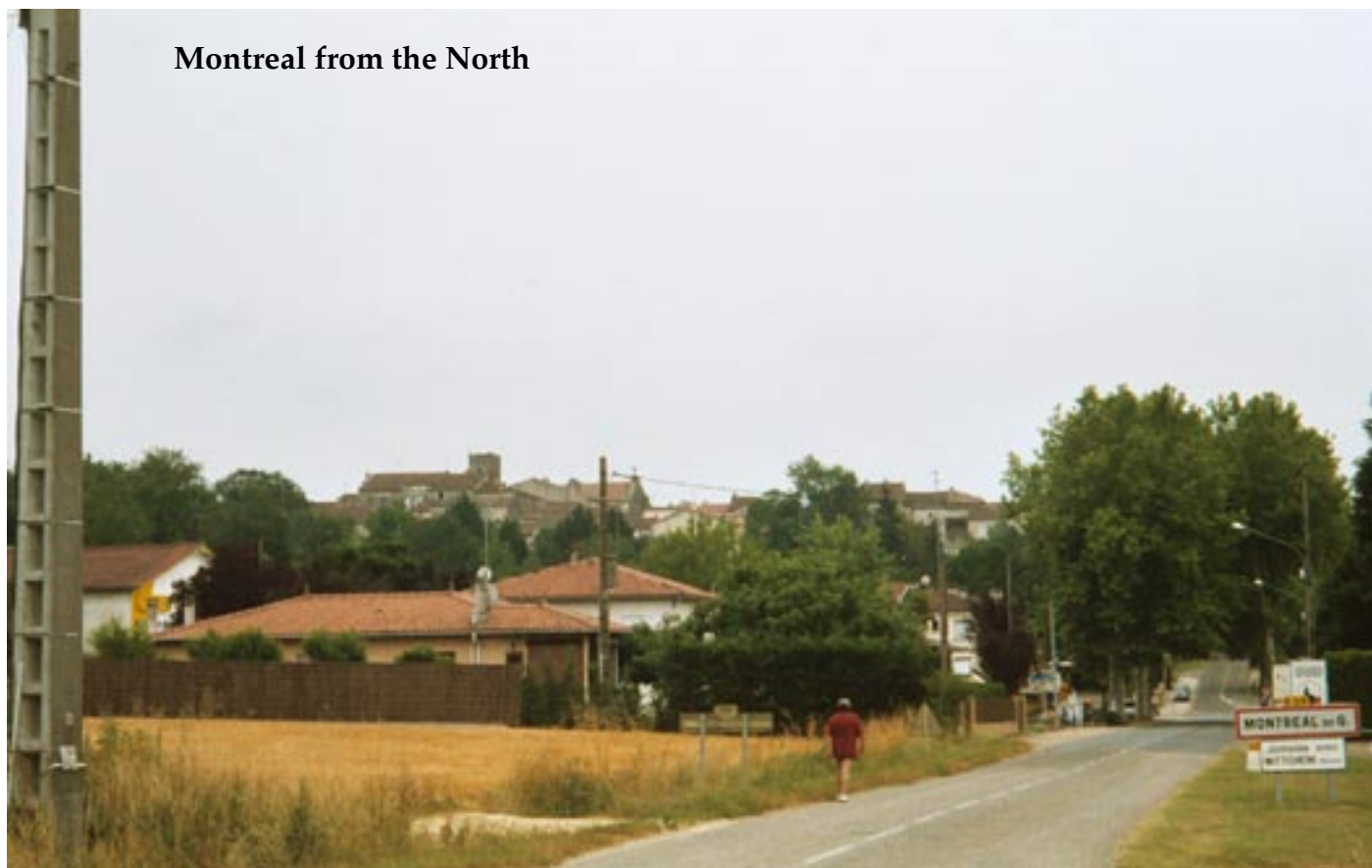


Now we had a big problem. The trail runs, not so much cold as vague. Lord Bernard had interests in the Auvergne & we know that there was a family connexion between the Gascons & the Auvergne. We have a Bernard Forthon who traded wine & may have been Bernard's father. Before him, we have two more Bernards from Gallia Christiana, father & son & so much for celibacy, as they were priests at Meymac (right) in the Auvergne. (The Second Lateran Council in 1139 laid down priestly celibacy but it was hard to enforce). This church looks brand new but it is at least 700 years old. The next Bernard de la Force, born about 1330, is well documented, A minor lord, he was also the priest at Montreal, 4km South of Fourcès.

If this seems a bit odd, people gathered offices, as land & power went with them. Montreal is a formidable bastide on what we would call a bluff, with only the East end needing strong fortification. The church is St Leonards & on one of the St James pilgrimage paths. It is built into the bastide wall.



Meymac



Montreal from the North

St Leonards Church, left, built into the bastide wall.



Remember the name 'de la Force' is uncommon & we have a series of Bernards going back to just before 1100. Then, there is a gap of perhaps one or two generations. We will come back to that shortly. We do know that the Lord of Fourcès in 1095 was involved in a revolt against William IX Duke of Gascony. William was the first Troubadour, as it happened, having picked up the ballad tradition from the Moors in Spain.

But there were a number of Delaforces associated with the area of Fourcès & Condom, just to the East, some of them not very nice. Peregrin Delaforce was Bishop of Condom &, by all accounts, a horrible man. All the records for this period are coloured by reports of the Black Death, represented by this contemporary wood cut, right. If you think about it, we are all descendants of survivors of the Black Death but many priests didn't, so record-keeping is mucked up during the following period. We were lucky that Bernard is well-recorded both before and after the plague.

If it had not been for the Black Death, it would have been reasonable to assume



that we Europeans were all related to everyone who lived before 1200 but the plague reduced the European population from 80 million to 30 million, so the date of common ancestors is pushed back to about 1000. This means that anyone I mention born before 1000 is related to everyone here, so I will be talking about your ancestors as well.

We do know that Delaforces accompanied the French General du Guesclin in 1369 into Spain to put Henry Trastamare on the Castile throne at the Battle of Najera. Enrique Trastamare was the bastard half-brother of the cruel King Pedro, & while he had no right to the throne, he made a much better king & established his family as a dynasty. This is a contemporary watercolour of the battle.



Meanwhile, both Patrick & I were searching for anyone with a name like Delaforce, de la Forssa, Fortz etc & this produced a line of chaps, some of whom were Earls of Albemarle who worked with Kings Richard I & John. One was an utter scoundrel who signed Magna Carta. But the line died with Aveline de Fortz who married Edmund Crouchback, a son of King Henry III. Another married Hawise d'Aumale, an exceedingly ugly but exceedingly rich woman who was descended from Malcolm Canmore, who killed Macbeth. This was Patrick's work but I found that that she was also descended from Charlemagne & Bernard Plantevelue, the brother of a real Delaforce ancestor woman. We had both spent a long time on the mysterious Albemarles but this was no help.

What did help, was discovering Bernard de Fourcès, born about 1005, just before the missing generations. Patrick guessed that Bernard was one of us but he did not know that Bernard appears at the same time as Fourcès, this being the time of its first appearance in the records, which are now

on the Internet. Nor did he know that King Charles VIII had granted Bernard the right to rebuild the castle 'in his ancestral village'. Quod erat demonstrandum or if you prefer, Bingo! This Bernard was rich & gave money to many ecclesiastical causes, so he & his family are shown all over the church & abbey records.

The point about connexions to aristocracy, which Bernard was, no matter how minor, is that the number of possible ancestors shrinks dramatically, as they have the Adam Problem - not much choice of wives. They need to marry within their social group & the trees become impossible to draw because of the criss-cross of cousin weddings. Recently, I followed the lines of Bernard & his wife, Azeline de Lomagne back using Internet sources, as far as I could. 27 generations for two people should produce over 134 million ancestors. Deducting those for lines that end before the 27 are up (usually wives lines, such as Aribert on the next page) leaves us with 36 million. In fact, I only have 404 because of the cross-marriages.

However, long before I assembled this, earlier this year, Patrick & I had both been independently hunting for possible family names, or what I called Fortun Hunting. We came up with different groups but eventually, it appeared that all were connected to the family in one way or another.

This is a good time to tell you of my involvement in the search. It was only in 2000 that Bernard Cullen told me we were connected to the book. As I had been helping Avis with her family, I now had a passing interest in mine & had been on the Force e-mail tree for a while. They all wanted Patrick's out-of-print book, so I rang him & asked him if I could put it on the Interent. He said he would be grateful if I would, so I did but he was very cagy about volume 2, so I picked up on the clues in the introduction to volume 1 & did some research myself. There were 3 clues:-

1. A Fortz had signed Magna Carta. That was easy & lead to the mysterious Albemarles.
2. One was the Prince of Verdun in 950ish. This was difficult. I found him & some family tree but no obvious connexion.
3. Three were Dukes of Gascony hung by Charlemagne. I started there, with Loup Sanche & worked up & down dozens of family trees, finding no connexion with the Albemarles except the one through Bernard Plantevelue & none to the Princes of Verdun.

Patrick only gave me the materials for volume 2 after we had explored Gascony & sent him a big picture book of our travels, whereupon I put the book together for him in time for last Xmas. As it stands now, it has errors but I am rewriting the whole thing.

Because of time, I am only going to trace back the blood lines. We will ignore interesting cousins & because of time, I am not going very far or deep, as there is material here for another talk.

Here is Bernard & Azeline's immediate family tree (next page):

Patrick had the father of **11Guillaume** as Donat Sanche, who turned out to be the same man as **20Garcia I SANCHEZ** King of Navarre. **17Arabi/Aribert**, **12Ricsinde**, & **9Adelias** seem to be lost to the historical record.

5	20Garcia I SANCHEZ King of Navarre (919 - 22/2/970 <i>Pequeña Gate, Church of San Esteban, in Castillo de Monjardín</i>) = 1. 21Teresa Endregoto Galindez Countess of Aragon (bfr 920 - 972) see page 13	18William I Garcias Count of Fezensac aka Guillaume GARCES (906 - 960) = 19Gersenda of Toulouse see page 11	20Garcia I SANCHEZ see left = 1. 21Teresa Endregoto Galindez	20Garcia I SANCHEZ left= 2. (bfr 943) 23Teresa of Leon (?927 - ?) see page 7	20Garcia I SANCHEZ see left = 1. 21Teresa Endregoto Galindez	
4	11Guillaume TERRIDE de FORTUN Vicomte de Terride Prince de Verdun (935 - abt 993) = 12Ricsinde	13Bernard-Odon de Fezensac 'Le Louche' Count in 970 (?928 - 970) = (960) 14Emeline	10Guillaume Sanche Comte de Bordeaux Duke of Gascony 960 (?925 - 997) = 15Urraca of Navarre (?950 - 12/7/1041) half brother & sister	16Odon (Donat, Odoat) 1st Vicomte de Lomagne (?940 - aft 1009) = (970) ?		
3	6Guillaume FORTUN Prince de Verdun (955 - ?) = (975) 17Arabi/Aribert	7Gerald TRENALON Comte d'Armagnac in 990 (?985 - 1013) link back = 5Toda Adélaïde (?991 - aft 1020)	8Arnold Vicomte de Lomagne (970 - 1011) = (990) 9?Adelias	10Guillaume Sanche see left above		
2	2Guillaume FORTUN Prince de Verdun Vicomte de Louvigny & Gimoez (980 - ?) = 3Bracheute d'Armagnac			4Arnold II Vicomte de Lomagne (990 - 1025) = (1014) 5Toda Adélaïde (?991 - aft 1020)		
1	1Bernard Baron de Fourcès (1005 - ?1062) = (1035) 167Azeline de Lomagne (1020 - ?)					

As you can see, already several people are the same. Bernard & Azeline share a great-great-grandfather & this man Garcia Sanchez is Bernard's thrice, although with two different wives.. I'm not going to point any more of these out, as there are too many of them. Back from Bernard, there are three generations of Princes of Verdun. It was one of the last places where the local headman could call himself "Prince" in France. Here is Verdun-sur-Garonne between Bordeaux & Toulouse, not the Verdun where the World War I battle was.

Verdun is a brick bastide. Let's have a map:





Garcia Sanchez 919 - 22/2/970 was King of Navarre & father of Guillaume Terride, the Prince of Verdun.

We have already come across the little kingdom of Navarre, occupying the NE corner of Spain & the SW corner of France. Its borders were pretty volatile but it survived until the 17th century. Henri IV was King of Navarre, the last, before he became King of France but, as we have seen, the South-Western bit was grabbed by Spain in 1512. But we are now in the 10th century.

Garcia Sanchez' father Sancho Garces, the 'Optimo Imperator' (family tree on the next page), battled to push back the Moors & the Banu Qasi. Garcia Sanchez' 2nd wife Toda wanted both her sons to be king of somewhere.

We had much difficulty tracking Teresa until we realised that a woman described simply as 'Andregoto' was her. Several of the lines above meet here. Because of generation overlap, this was easily the hardest tree to make sense of.

9	103Garcia Jimenez son of 380Jimeno Sanchez page 12 = ?	104Donat Loupa Count of Bigorre & Gascony (bfr 827 <i>Aude</i> - ?) son of 138Garcias Seguin II page 7 = 105Faquila de BIGORRE (abt 828 <i>Aude</i> - ?)	63Raimon I de Rouergue (?810 - 864) = 64Berthe de Reims (814 - ?) see above	107García Iñiguez I King of Pamplona, Duke of Gascony fr 864 (?810 - ?882) = 2. 109Urraca de Giménez	107García Iñiguez I see left = 2. 109Urraca de Giménez	110Lope ibn Musa see page 12 = 111Ayab Al-Bulatiya	52Aznar I Count of Aragon 809-838 abdicated (? - 839) = 113Onneca de Navarre see page 7	
8	96Jimeno Garcia = ?	97Lope I Count of Bigorre (?830 <i>Aude</i> - ?870) = ? de Toulouse de Rouergue (?840 - ?)	98Sancho Garcés of Leon = ?	99Fortun GARCÉS de NAVARRE 'The Monk' King of Navarre 880 (830 - 908?) = (845) 100Aurea (various spellings) bint Lope (abt 825? - ?)	101Galindo I Aznarez Count of Aragon 844 - 867 (? - ?867) = 102Guldregut	99Fortun GARCÉS = (845) 100Aurea see left		
7	89Garcia II (Inigo Iniguez) Jimenez Prince of Navarre (845 - 890) = 2. 90Dadildis de PALLARS		91Aznar Sanchez de LARRON (845? - ?) = (880) 92Oneca FORTUNEZ de Navarre (847? - ?) 2nd husband		93Aznar II Count of Aragon 867-892 (? - 893) = 92Oneca FORTUNEZ de Navarre (847? - ?) 3rd husband	89Garcia II (Inigo Iniguez) Jimenez Prince of Navarre (845 - 890) see far left = 1. 95Oneca Rebelle de Sanguesa		
6	85Sancho I 'Optimo Imperator' GARCÉS (865 - 11/12/925 <i>San Esteban de Resa</i>) = 86Toda Aznarez de LARRON (885? - aft 970)				87Galindo II Aznarez de Aragon = 88Sancha Garses (? - 960)			
5	20Garcia I SANCHEZ King of Navarre (919 - 22/2/970 <i>Pequeña Gate, Church of San Esteban, in Castillo de Monjardín</i>) = 1. 21Teresa Endregoto Galindez Countess of Aragon (bfr 920 - 972) see page 7							

Sancho Garces elder son, Sancho Abarca, became King of Navarre in his turn. Abarca means sandals & his troops moved surprisingly fast I think by using new technology sandals instead of the one-piece Roman type. Abarca's sister Urraca of Navarre is a Delaforce granny & here is his tomb on the next page.

Avis says he looks just like me, although he died on December 8th 994, so inside this sarcophagus, he won't be in great shape



Sancho Garces younger son, Ramon Garces, became King of Viguera, now known as La Rioja of wine fame. His grandson was Fortun, Vicomte of Larbord, who had attracted my interest early but his line lead nowhere. Below is Viguera village today. You enter it through the leftmost arch under the buildings. It is a very defendable place in spectacular scenery.



Names with "Fortun" in them now become common. Look at this couple (point out King Fortun & Oneca).

Page 13 - Garcias Sanchez of Navarre & Teresa Endregoto Galindez

We had much difficulty tracking Teresa until we realised that a woman described simply as 'Andregoto' was her. Several of the lines above meet here. Because of generation overlap, this was easily the hardest tree to make sense of.

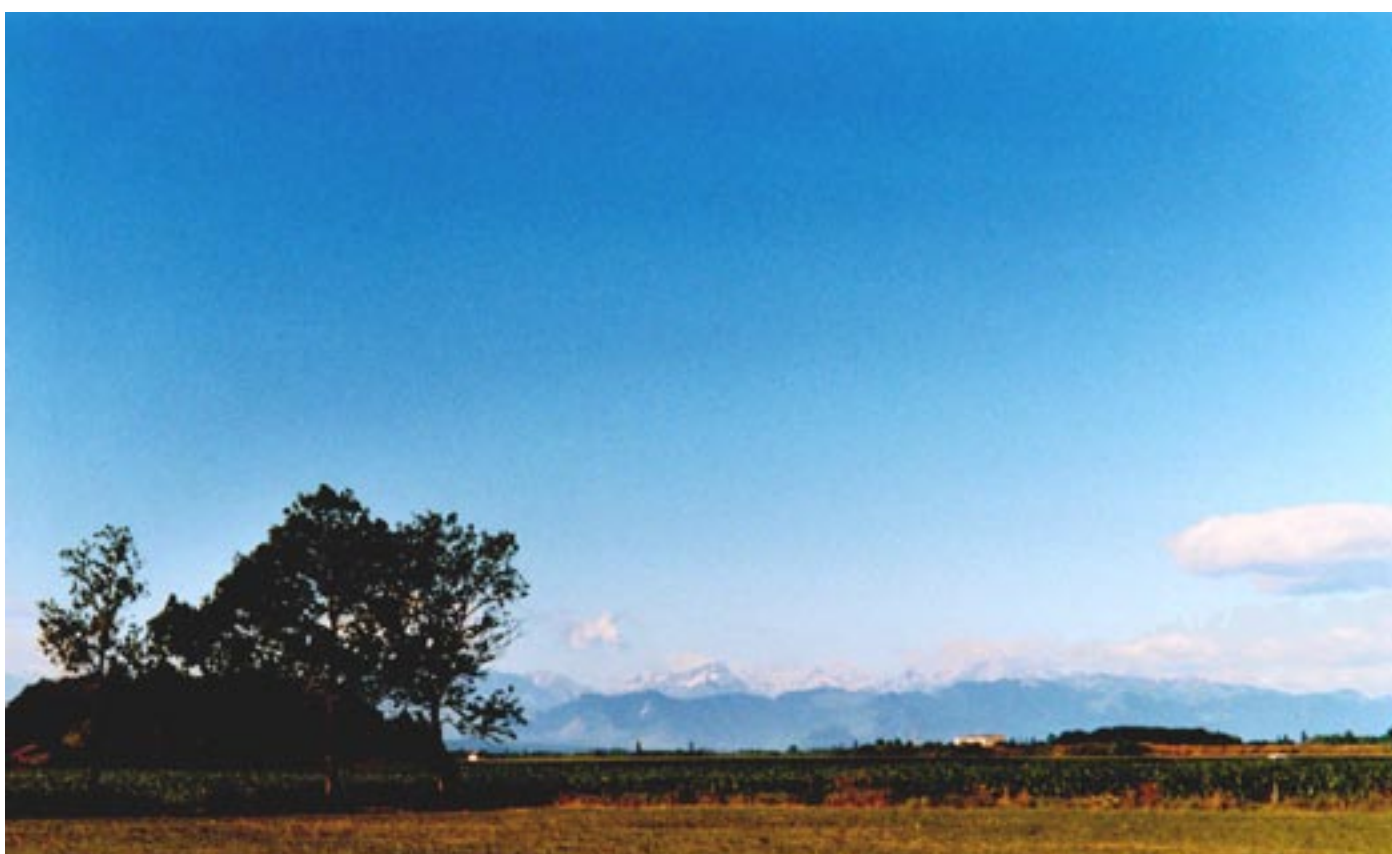
9	103Garcia Jimenez son of 380Jimeno Sanchez page 12 = ?	104Donat Loupa Count of Bigorre & Gascony (bfr 827 <i>Aude</i> - ?) son of 138Garcias Seguin II page 7 = 105Faquila de BIGORRE (abt 828 <i>Aude</i> - ?)	63Raimon I de Rouergue (?810 - 864) = 64Berthe de Reims (814 - ?) see above	107García Iñiguez I King of Pamplona, Duke of Gascony fr 864 (?810 - ?882) = 2. 109Urraca de Giménez	107García Iñiguez I see left = 2. 109Urraca de Giménez	110Lope ibn Musa see page 12 = 111Ayub Al-Buluchiya	52Aznar I Count of Aragon 809-838 abdicated (? - 839) = 113Onneca de Navarre see page 7	
8	96Jimeno Garcia = ?	97Lope I Count of Bigorre (?830 <i>Aude</i> - ?870) = ? de Toulouse de Rouergue (?840 - ?)	98Sancho Garcés of Leon = ?	99Fortun GARCES de NAVARRE 'The Monk' King of Navarre 880 (830 - 908?) = (845) 100Aurea (various spellings) bint Lope (abt 825? - ?)	101Galindo I Aznarez Count of Aragon 844 - 867 (? - ?867) = 102Guldregut	99Fortun GARCES = (845) 100Aurea see left		
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5	20Garcia I SANCHEZ King of Navarre (910 - 22/2/970 <i>Pequeña Gate, Church of San Esteban, in Castillo de Monjardín</i>) = 1. 21Teresa Endregoto Galindez Countess of Aragon (bfr 920 - 972) see page 7							

There are also clearly Basque names. The Optimo Imperator's mother was Dadildis de Pallars. Pallars is a Spanish county...

Pallars is very beautiful but not prime agricultural land. This church is a bit more recent than the time I am talking about, being built in 1049.



Dadildis' father & grandfather were Counts of Bigorre, a rich agricultural county illustrated below & backed by the Pyrenees but on the opposite side from Pallars, to which it is connected by a pass.



And what about this chap? Seems to have an Arab name. Here on the right is Jimeno Sanchez the Cruel, my Mother's earliest direct male line ancestor. He must have been pretty cruel to stand out in those cruel times. And here are more Arab-sounding names. If you are a Sunni, you believe that Ruqaya was the daughter of Mohammed the Prophet but if you are a minority Shia, you believe she was his niece. 85% of Moslems are Sunni, so take your pick.

Page 12 - The male Line & the Muslims

The appearance of Muhammed-the-Prophet was quite a surprise, a consequence of Fortun-hunting, but we had ruled him out originally, as King Fortun 'the Monk' of Navarre, who married the daughter of Lope & Ayab, did not appear to be an ancestor but his much-married daughter Oneca turned up in the wives' lines.

380 Jimeno Sanchez de Navarre 'El Fuerte' (the Cruel) is our earliest direct male line ancestor. These are shown with a bright yellow background below.

16		391 Uthman (Umayyad) ibn 'Affan = 392 Ruqayyah bint Muhammed (598? - 623?) dau. of 421 Muhammed-the-Prophet	186 Chinaswind King of the Visigoths 641-649 (?610 - 1/10/653) see above = 187 Rekiherga (?630 - ?653)	
15		387 Marwan I Caliph of Damascus (624? - 685?) = 388 Aisha bint 'UTHMAN	389 Theodofred Duke of Cordova = 390 Recilona Princess of Visigoths	
14		384 Musa ben Nuseir al-BEKIR = daughter of Marwan I of Damascus	385 Roderic last Spanish King of the Visigoths (?670 - 711 <i>Battle of Guadalete</i>) = 386 Egilona	
13	381 Cassius FORTUNIUS Count of Meark Founder of the Banu Qasi converted 714 (?685 - ?) a Visigoth = ?	382 Abdul Aziz (abt 670 - abt 717) Governor of Egypt, then King of Spain = 383 Egilona Visigoth princess		
12	378 Fortun Ibn Qasi FORTUNIUS (?710 - ?) = 379 Aisha (?715 - ?)		380 Jimeno Sanchez de Navarre 'El Fuerte' (?764 - ?) a Basque = ? see page 13	
11	377 Musa I ibn Fortun Chief of the Banu Qasi = 94?		376 Iñigo Jimenez = 94? widow of 377 Musa ibn Fortun left	
10	374 Musa II (?785 - 26/9/862) Chief of the Banu Qasi = 375 Assona INIGUEZ			
9	110 Lope ibn Musa = 111 Ayab Al-Bulatiya see page 13			

Garcia Iniguez & Urraca de Gimenez

11	376 Iñigo Jimenez son of 380 Jimeno Sanchez above = 94? widow of 377 Musa ibn Fortun above	22 Velasco de Pamplona = ?
10	135 Iñigo Arista de Pamplona considered the First King of Navarre from 824 (?790 - 851) = 136 Oneca de Pamplona	
9	107 García Iñiguez I King of Pamplona, Duke of Gascony fr 864 (?810 - ?882) = 109 Urraca de Giménez	

All these Catholic priests, Kings & now the Prophet Mohammed - it's pretty depressing for a committed Republican Atheist like me! However, on the right of the previousd pages tree, sits Jimeno Sanchez 'The Cruel', who is my Mother's earliest known direct male ancestor.

Anyway, getting back Lope of Bigorre, I came across him in the years of searching without Patrick's help. His father Donat obtained Bigorre by marrying Faquila, the daughter of Count Mancion. But Donat's father goes back to the Dukes of Gascony murdered by Charlemagne that I complained about on the Aachen Xmas Markets trip, some of you will recall. What I did not know then was that horrible Charlemagne was also in the family tree & I am not going into that now although we are now between Charlemagne's Coronation



in 800 & 476, the Fall of the Roman Empire, which are the official Dark Ages. A lot of things went on then & we know much about them. This will be the subject of another talk next year called, "How the Germans saved Western Civilisation". But let's go back to this slide

If we follow Gerald Trencalon's line from Bernard & Azeline's original tree, we go through cousins of Lope of Bigorre to this lady, Numabela of Cantabria born about 750, an obvious Goth & she was the first German person I found in my family tree, actually during my own search before I had Patrick's material and although observant readers will have noticed Goths on the previous tree, I did not find them until after I found Numabela. She was the wife of Loup II, the Duke of Gascony who, with his Basque allies, trashed Roland's rearguard at the Pass of Roncesvalles when Charlemagne retreated from sacking Pamplona.

As I said, it was a long time ago.

10	45Fruela of Cantabria, a Visigoth, father of Numabela, see right & page 3 = 46Gosendes	47Donat Count of Bueil (his father was Loup II, right) (?780 - ?) = ?	48Thierry d'Autun (?735 - 793) = 49Aldana de France daughter of 365Charles Martel	53Carloman King of Austrasia fr 771 (?751 - 771) son of 361Pepin the Short = ? see page 8	50Loup II (755 - 791) Duke of Gascony from 768 - 778 see page 5 = (abt 770) 51Numabela of Cantabria, dau. of 45Fruela see left	52Aznar Galindez d'Aragon (?775 - 839) Comte d'Aragon, Gascogne, Urgel, Jaca & Cerdagne = 113Onneca de Navarre see page 7	54Roricon I Count of Maine = ?	55Charlemagne (2/4/742 Ingelheim, Hesse - 28/1/813-4 Aachen) see page 8 = (?775) 56Hildegarde de Vintzau (?757 - 26/4/783)
9	37Rodrigo I Frolaz de Castille = 176Sancha	38Daton comte de Bueil (?800 - 850) = ?	39Guillaume 'le Saint' de Gellone (751 - 1/6/812 Gellone) = 40Cunégonde (?770 - 19/6/835)	41Lope Sancho Duke of Gascony 778 - 812 (?772 - 812) = 42Toda Aznarez De Aragón	43Roricon II Count of Maine = 44Rotrude (8/774 Aachen - 6/6/810)			
8	30Sanche Garcias Mitarra I Duke of Gascony King of Navarre (810 - 864) = 31Uracca Major SANCHEZ of Aragon (815 - ?)	32Garcia comte de Bueil (?820 - ?) = ?	33Bernard de Septimanie Duke of Narbonne & Count of Barcelona (?795 - 844 Aachen) = (24/6/824) 34Dhoude D'UZES (?804 - 843) Countess of Agen	35Roricon III Count of Maine (?790 - ?) = 36Blichilde				
7	26Sanche Garcias Mitarra II Duke of Gascony 852 King of Navarre in 901 (abt 830 - ?) = 27Urraca Galindez de ARAGON	28Roselinde d'Agen = 29Woulgrin de Taillefer Count of Perigord (?835 Maine - 3/5/886 Angouleme)						
6	24Garcia Sanchez 'le Courbé' Duke of Gascony (?850 - ?920) = 25Aminiana (Munia) d' Angoulême (?862 - aft 904)							
5	18William I Garcias Count of Fezensac aka Guillaume Garces (906 - 960) = 19Gersenda of Toulouse see page 14							