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A little while ago Mrs Doris Roberts told me, in church, that she had come across some very interesting material on the history of the Hogben family, and because I have written quite a lot of history books she thought I might be interested.

Shortly afterwards, two envelopes were delivered to this house and I'm afraid I opened the one addressed to the Secretary of the Lyminge Historical Society by mistake. In the other one, addressed to me was same 'History of the Hogben family and name' but there was also a letter from Mrs Roberts. In it, she wrote:

I enclose herewith a copy of History of the Hogben family which came up on the Internet that my cousin's daughter was using in US .A. in tracing her descendents (I think she meant 'ancestors') and she sent it to me thinking we would be interested as there was so much history referring to Lyminge. I do not want it back as I have a copy.

Mrs Roberts asked me to pass on the envelope addressed to the Secretary but, rightly or wrongly, I felt this was really a matter for the Chairman of the Historical Society.

I have spoken at some length to old Honor Muller about the Miss Hogben who was living in. the village when we came here 40 years ago. She was a sacristan in the church and a well-known character. I understand that the President of the Society knows quite a lot about her.

Yours,  
John

## History of the Hogben family and name

Below is a newspaper article dated October 6th 1977 describing the history of the Hogben family as researched by Victor Hogben, my first-cousin-once-removed.

The Hogben line goes back 2,000 years. A Herne Bay pensioner claims direct descent from a native chieftan who was farming in the hills behind Folkestone when the Romans conquered Britain. Laid out in Mr Victor Hogben's sitting room at 62 The Broadway, a chart takes the family tree back to 47 AD, when an elderly Briton named Huckbone made a promise of tribute to the invaders to spare his life. Hotheads in the old man's family, however, "wiped out that bondage in Roman blood." They took the victim's shield to their settlement at Lyminge, adopting the lion rampant as their device.

The Huckbones, or Hogbens, have been farming in the same southern parts of Kent ever since. Mr Hogben told the Heme Bay Records Society's annual meeting last week that since his retirement - he is now 80 - he had been researching his ancestral history.

He said: "Kent has a few families whose genealogies go back 1,400 to 1,800 years. A descent from Huckbone, who died about 51 AD, seems to be quite in order in Kentish genealogy..."  
Actually, the Hogbens go back in a direct line, without a single break, to the fourth year of King Canute, i.e. 1020. Men and women were then beginning to acquire not only a name, but also some degree of character and individuality. But it was not until the 16th Century that national records began to take in everyone.

The name Huckbone, said Mr Hogben, referred to a peculiarity in the person's gait. A legend handed down from medieval times indicated that a Huckbone provided material for the founding of Queen Ethelburga's convent at Lyminge in the year 639. There are traces of the foundations still to be seen.

In 670, a Huckbone at Eastry discovered the bodies of the two murdered princes in King Egbert's palace, which led to the monarch making his famous confession to Archbishop Theodore who imposed penances.

Oswald Hugbene "Lord of the manor of Lyminge," is mentioned in Domesday. The title Baron Lyminge was conferred by Henry I on William Hogben, when the modern spelling of the name first came into use. In 1255 another William joined the Crusades and adopted the palm tree in his shield device.

Foulmead, in the parish of Sholden, came into the family possession when Dionys was created Baron de Foulmead by Edward I. A subsequent member of the family, Stephen, became Mayor of Romney and Chief Bailiff of Romney Marsh.

From about 1300 onwards, there were a dozen generations of Hogbens who were farmers and landowners. A William Hogben was Mayor of Folkestone in 1626. He succeeded to the title Baron Lyminge and registered the family coat of arms in the name of Lyminge in the reign of James I. A sister married into the Knatchbull family, ancestors of Lord Braboume who, of course, is related to the Royal Family through his wife, a Mountbatten. However, there were "black sheep" as in all families and in the late 18th Century, a James Hogben was a leading smuggler. He was eventually caught and sentenced to death, but was reprieved at the last moment as crowds waited to see him hanged on Penenden Heath. Oliver Stephen Hogben in 1866 married a cousin Augusta Mary Hogben, who claimed descent from the Vane family. He farmed Heronden, Eastiy and Foulmead farms.

In the year of Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee the couple had a son - Victor. "I am therefore present head of the house of Hogben," said Mr Hogben, who for years fanned at Foulmead. A magistrate, former chairman of Sholden Parish Council and a member of the now defunct Eastry Rural Council, he has also served on Canterbury Prison Committee and taken an active interest the rehabilitation of prisoners.

Mrs Hogben is a member of the Scottish family of Lucas, of which Sir Joseph, who wears the Lamont tartan, is chief of the clan. Mr and Mrs Hogben have a son Stephen, a graduate of Reading University, who has been teaching farming methods in Kenya and Zambia, and who has a son, Richard Stephen, to carry on the family name.

Early Hogben Ancestry,  
As researched by Victor Hogben.

4 BC - 51 AD Huckbone

The Roman invaders in 47 AD spared his life for a promise of tribute at the Villa on the East Cliff, Folkestone, Kent.

232 AD Huckbone

is mentioned as being a good farmer at Limeringe, Kent

405 AD Huckbone

Cut down trees and grubbed up the stumps for extending his land at North Limeringe

639 AD Huckbone

Chieftan. Attended Thanksgiving Service, Ethelburge Church Limeringe

670 AD Huckbone

Stayed at Eastrie with a relative and discovered the bodies of the two murdered princes in King Egbert's Palace, Eastrie

801 AD Huckbone

He was of fair skin, a good looking man, a good farmer, Limeringe

995-1039 Huckbone

Chieftan, had a wife from Elham

1020-1069 Oswald Hugbene

Landowner, a good horse rider

1047-1074 William Hugbene

Mentioned in Domesday Book 1086: "Lord of the Manor, Limeringe"

1071

Heruy Hogben=Ruth He enjoyed horse riding. Farmer.

1095 William Hogben=Ann

Created first Baron Liminge. Land was given to him by Henry I (Hogben's Farm, Aldington, Kent) for his services to the Royal House 1131. Had a good personality.

1118 Harold de Lyminge=Agnes

Built Robus House, Lyminge; landowner

1144 Thomas de Lyminge=Martha

1168 Henry de Lyminge=Alice

1202 William de Lyminge=Mary

Went to the Crusade and fought bravely in the Holy Land as Knight Hospitallers of St John.

1235 Thomas de Lyminge=Joan

Bought Foulmead Farm, Sholden, Deal in 1261.

Stephen de Lyminge=Mary

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Lord of the Manor, Lyminge, Mayor of Romney. On a Board in the Upper Court-Room in the old Town Hall, New Romney, named Stephen de Lyminge. He built a house in 1299 on the old site of Robus House, Lyminge. His younger brother Dyonyse married Frances; had a daughter Ann, born 1300. He was created Baron de Foulmead by Edward I, in recognition of public services.

1299 Stephen Hogben=Sarah

Farmer and landowner, Lyminge.

1322 Henry Hogben=Jane

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Horse doctor and farmer

1341 William Hogben=Margaret

The Black Death 1349 caused shortage of labour on the farms.

1367 Richard Hogben=Sarah

The wool trade boomed.

1391 Thomas Hogben=Maiy

Sold his wool from his Romney Marsh sheep to Ashford, Kent.

1424 John Hogben=Marion

A good farmer etc.

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