ARMORIAL ENSIGNS GRANTED BY H.M. TO GEORGE W. **HELON ESQUIRE OF** TOOWOOMBA

QUEEN'S CALL TO ARMS!

by George W. Helon Esquire. Armiger, Freeman of the City of London, Kentucky Colonel and Justice of the Peace (Qual.)

ust before his eldest daughter Catherine Middleton married His Royal Highness Prince William, the future Duke of Cambridge on 29 April 2011 in Westminster

Abbey, Michael Middleton was granted a coat of arms by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II as a personal gift.

On 25 May 2018 Meghan Markle, now the Duchess of Sussex was granted a coat of arms in her own right by the Queen; but in Meghan's case - and partly because of her unruly clan - the privilege extended neither to her father, nor her family.





By Letters Patent issued under Crown authority, I GEORGE WILLIAM HELON Esquire of Toowoomba have just been granted a coat of arms, crest, badge and the exemplification a standard by Her Majesty's College of Arms in London (College Reference: Grants 23/2019).

Her Majesty the Queen is the 'Fount of Honour' from whom all titles, grants of arms, orders of chivalry and honours are conferred; they are Our Sovereign's gift and prerogative.

Under English heraldic law, a coat of arms and armorial ensigns can be granted to persons of eminence or good standing in national

or local life and for exceptional service to society at large. A grant of arms confers upon a person and his or her legitimate descendants the exclusive right to bear a partic-

ular coat of arms or armorial bearings in perpetuity. Contrary to what some may have read on the internet and believe, there is no such thing as a coat of arms for a

particular surname; coats of arms belong to specific individuals, their families and descendants.

The Kings of Arms, Garter, Clarenceux, Norroy and Ulster were directed by Warrant of Her Majesty's Earl Mar-



shall His Grace Edward Fitzalan-Howard, the 18th Duke of Norfolk to design my armorial bearings.

The Earl Marshal is the head of Her Majesty's College of Arms and no coat of arms or other armorial ensigns may be granted by the Crown without his Warrant.

In the creation of my coat of arms and heraldic ensigns I worked closely with York Herald (Michael 'Peter' Desmond O'Donoghue) over a period of months to create a design that would be bold and as simple as possible, yet

personal representative of me in a subtle and allusive way.

Notwithstanding I am the holder and recipient of a number of ancestral and foreign nobiliary titles of honour and dignity, knighthoods, medals and awards (most of which carry with them appellations and post-nominals), the foregoing neither can feature, nor be alluded to in a coat of arms from the Crown as they do not fall in the ambit of State honours and awards within the Commonwealth of Nations.

Addition-'foreign' ally, and quartered



Art Nouveau digital rendition of Coat of Arms (displayed Couché, or diagonally orientated, shown above) granted to me by Her Majesty's College of Arms: London; 2019.

those arms, or bearing registered or controlled 'charges' (the likes of lions, roses, or heraldic devices of nations and states) cannot be granted from the Crown, so for the purposes of all my future activities within the Com-(and monwealth the fact that I was grant from Her

Ed. note: I made a special point of including the Armiger's standard, as I am quite often

asked about the "rules" for devising same. Technically, there are no hard-and-fast rules or guidelines that say you must put this here, and that there. It is common to use the "domiborn in Bridgnorth, nant" elements from the achievement, but I have seen those where an armiger also devel- of Golden Wattle England) I will de- oped a badge, just as the Armiger was granted, and that was included on the standard as Or. fer to my recent well. In this case, it is evident that the turtle badge held a place of higher importance to the armiger than the eagle on the shield or the owl-with-boomerang in the crest.

Majesty's College of Arms.

Being elaborately illuminated on vellum with exceptionally executed hand-painted renditions of the Arms of the Sovereign, the Arms of the Earl Marshal (His Grace) Edward William Fitzalan-Howard, the 18th Duke of Norfolk, Hereditary Marshal and 'First Peer of the Realm', and Head of Her Majesty's College of Arms) and the Arms of Her Majesty's College of Arms, my Letters Patent also feature the crowned Arms of Office of the granting Kings of Arms: Thomas Woodcock, Garter Principal King of Arms; Patric Laurence Dickinson, Clarenceux King of Arms, and Timothy Hugh Stewart Duke, Norroy and Ulster King of Arms.

The Letters Patent are ornately embellished, finely accentuated and flawlessly scrivened in the finest tradition of medieval manuscript illumination with a decorative border of fauna and flora that honours my parents; they

are signed by the granting Kings of Arms and sealed with their respective red Bee's Wax Seals of Office enclosed in skippets (gold screwlid containers) properly suspended from the vellum with blue grosgrain ribbons.

I am extremely honoured to know my accomplishments and contributions to society are worthy of acknowledgement and that I have attained sufficient eminence and good standing locally, nationally and internationally to have even been considered for a grant of arms.

So in addition to being a Freeman of the City of London and a Kentucky Colonel I am now an Armiger too!

The Blazon (i.e. the Formal Description) of my Granted Armorial Ensigns

ARMS (pictured): Gules an Eagle displayed Argent attached to each foot by a Manacle a broken Chain the Wings surmounting on either side a Scroll palewise Or.

CREST: Upon a Helm with a Wreath Argent and Gules Perched

in): HONORI ('For the Honour of Our Ancestors').

STANDARD (pictured): Fragment from the Letters Patent: the heraldic Standard – (L-R) the Escutcheon (Shield), the Badge, first line of the Motto (in Latin), the Crest, second line of the Motto (in Latin), and again the Badge

on the top of a

Tower Gules a

Rufous Owl affronty displayed

proper supporting

with the Wing Tips

a Boomerang Or.

doubled Argent.

tured): A Turtle

charged on the

Shell with a Sprig

BADGE (pic-

MOTTO (Lat-

AVORUM

Gules

Azure

M Α N

TLING:

palewise

Granting Authority: Kings of Arms Garter, Clarenceux, Norroy and Ulster; Her Majesty's College of Arms: London; 2019. College Reference: Grants 23/2019

Preferred Style – by Letters Patent: George William Helon Esquire.

The meaning, history and symbolism of the Armiger's granted armorial ensigns and Letters Patent are fully explained at his website georgehelon.com.

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