



Hugh Blomfield Nicholson, Captain (1866-1957)

Character in the Sherborne Pageant: Gentleman in Eleventh Episode

Looking closely at the photograph above it is just possible to see four men on horseback alternating with the ladies around Sir Walter Raleigh and his lady. These are likely to be the four men listed as playing gentleman in episode 11. They were Herbert Crosse (aged 42), Reading Grantham (aged 52), Hugh Nicholson (aged 39) and Col. Robert Wallace (aged 60).

Helen Doble, a member of the SDFHS, and clearly an indefatigable seeker after information, first discovered Captain Nicholson when she was investigating the water supply, to the village of Uploders, where his initials (HBN 1921) can be seen on a water pump. Helen also became aware that the search is on for more information on those who took part in the Pageant and we are most grateful to her for providing the following:



A copy of this photograph is captioned— 'A Lady and Gentleman of Raleigh's train in Episode X1' in *The Story of the Sherborne Pageant* by Cecil P Goodden

Captain Hugh Blomfield Nicholson DSO JP

He attended Harrow School and Oxford. He joined Kings Royal Rifle Corps in 1892 and sailed for the Cape of Good Hope in 1896. He travelled to New Zealand in 1897 with family members as a Lieutenant and was a Captain by 1902. He was recalled to the colours in WW1 and promoted Major later receiving the British War Medal, Victory Medal and Star. He relinquished the acting rank of Major on ceasing to be employed on 1 Jan 1919 and was granted the rank of Major. In the London Gazette 3 January 1919 he was Captain H B Nicholson, ret. pay. In the 1911 census he was a Retired Army Captain, husband of Kathleen Nicholson (née Burke died 1936), living in Mappercombe Manor (1,495 acres), Melplash. He was High Sheriff of Dorset 1926. He reared Devon Cattle on the farm and is mentioned in the Devon Cattle Breeders Society. His sheep like his cattle were also exhibited at the Bath & West Show .

Water spout at No 50 Uploders.

WW1 photograph courtesy the Imperial War Museum

